

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
JANUARY 27, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Elliott, Ernest Riley, Billy O'Dell, Eddie Moore, Ted Mattison, Carthel Crout, Francis Crowder, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, J. Frank Harris, Grady Butler, Butch Kirven, Don Godbey, Dan Rawls, Thomas Alexander, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Neil Smith, Dale Culbreth, O'Neal Mintz, Jane Hall, Elbert Tillerson, Loretta Smith, Chet Morris, Junie White, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Brad Schneider, Appalachian Development Corporation; Kim Turner, Congressman Trey Gowdy's Office; Chad Hardaway, USC, Office of Technology Commercialization; and Mayor Perry Ray Eichor and Russell Hawes, Administrator, City of Simpsonville.

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Pelissier, Don Zimmer, Doug Burns, Carol Andersen, Dirk Reis, Chip Bentley, Beverly Allen, David Shellhorse, Jamie Guay, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Ms. Smith, the minutes of the December 9, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved.

Sen. Alexander made motion to add an agenda item, a report from the Board Officers Nominating Committee. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Nominating Committee Report

Sen. Alexander, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Committee is recommending that the following members serve as the new slate of officers for the ACOG Board. Ernest Riley-Chairman, Jane Hall-Vice-Chairman, and Dennis Claramunt- Secretary/Treasurer. The Board unanimously approved. Their term will begin April 1st.

Services of the University of S.C. Office of Technology Commercialization

Mr. Hardaway, Associate Director of Licensing, gave a brief overview of services offered by their organization. He stated that they are the designated U.S. Economic Development Administration's university center for South Carolina. Their role in that capacity is to help entrepreneurial businesses in the state to succeed. Services they offer to start-up businesses include business plans, help in securing patents, grants, prototype funding, and investment.

Federal Budget Picture for Programs of Interest to Local Governments

Mr. Pelissier provided a brief summary of a report recently released by the National Association of Development Organizations. He gave an overview of the federal budget picture for programs of interest to local governments.

2012 South Carolina General Assembly Legislative Update

Mr. Burns provided a report on activities of the 2012 session of the South Carolina General Assembly, with emphasis on issues of importance to local governments, which included: Ports Authority, Department of Administration, elected officials recall/initiative petition, county incentive program, Local Government Funds, State Pension Fund, \$900 million surplus, pay off state debt, restore state agencies and pay increases for state employees.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Chairman

THE SOUTH CAROLINA APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS HAS
COMPLIED WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IN SCHEDULING
AND CONDUCTING THIS MEETING.