

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
MARCH 26, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Gilstrap, Ed Elliott, Dennis Claramunt, Ted Mattison, Bob Waldrep, Carthel Crout, Henry Jolly, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Don Godbey, Bill Wylie, Ernest Riley, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, G. Neil Smith, J. Connie Bowers, Tom Hendricks, James Jackson, Mike Forrester, O'Neal Mintz, Jane Hall, Bob Briggs, Renee Cariveau, Elbert Tillerson, and Loretta Smith.

GUESTS PRESENT: Dean Hybl, Executive Director, Ten at The Top; and Angela Davis, Greenville News.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Joe Newton, Carol Andersen, Chip Bentley, Dirk Reis, Beverly Allen, Becky Hall, Carol Rice, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Gilstrap. The invocation was offered by Mayor Jolly. On motion by Mr. Bowers, seconded by Mayor Godbey, the minutes of the February 26, 2010, meeting were unanimously approved.

Overview of Ten at the Top

Mr. Hybl, Executive Director at Ten at the Top, stated that Ten at the Top is an outgrowth of the Upstate Together partnership and the Upstate Reality Check exercise, which was held in April 2009. Its purpose is to create and implement a vision for the ten-county Upstate region. He stated that their mission is to build regional trust and consensus through data-driven research and regular convening of leaders and citizens. The primary objectives are: to build trust among leaders and residents across the ten

counties of the Upstate; develop through public consensus a Shared Regional Vision for Upstate S.C. that protects and enhances the economic vitality, natural and cultural resources and assets, and quality of life within the region; and advocate for, initiate, convene, and facilitate activities that foster regional collaboration, coordination, and cooperation.

Their priorities are regional vision/values, regional collaboration/leadership, regional transportation/infrastructure, regional sustainability, and vibrant, competitive regional economy.

Legislative Update

Mr. Newton provided an update of legislation being considered by the General Assembly during its 2010 term. Emphasis was given to issues of importance to local governments, which included: 2011 budget, local government fund, cigarette tax, point of sale – property tax, texting, and tax reform – Act 388.

Report from the Budget Committee

The Budget Committee met on February 26, 2010, to discuss the retention of an audit firm for the next three years, and to discuss some capital and personnel items. Mr. Bowers, Chair of the Budget Committee, stated that the Committee is recommending in the form of a motion, to keep the current audit firm of McKinley Cooper and Company for the next three years. Mr. Riley seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Next, the Committee is recommending in the form of a motion, that the Capital Budget be amended to allow the purchase of four computers for the Finance Department. Mayor Godbey seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Lastly, the Committee is recommending in the form of a motion, to amend the budget to increase funding of unemployment compensation by \$12,000. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Resolution Commending SCDOT Fourth District Commissioner for his Service to the Region and State

Mr. Pelissier stated that at the February Board meeting, staff was asked to draft a resolution commending Commissioner Hugh Atkins for his service. On motion by Mayor Godbey, seconded by Mayor Jolly, the Board unanimously passed the resolution.

Election of Board Officers for the 2010-2012 Term

Mr. Dill, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented a recommended slate of officers for the term running from April 2010 through March 2011. The committee is recommending Ed Elliott, Chairman; Renee Cariveau, Vice-Chair; and Ernest Riley, Secretary-Treasurer. On motion by Rep. Forrester, seconded by Mr. Tillerson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the new slate of officers.

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.