

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ernest Riley, Dennis Claramunt, Jane Hall, Eddie Moore, Francis Crowder, Ed Elliott, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Don Godbey, Lillian Flemming, Gaye Sprague, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Jeff Martin, O'Neal Mintz, Elbert Tillerson, Chet Morris, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT:

David Mueller, Appalachian Development Corporation; Reno Deaton, Greer Development Corporation; Perry Eichor, Mayor of Simpsonville; and Mark Metcalf, Spartanburg County Future's Group.

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Dirk Reis, Chip Bentley, Karen Carter, Carolyn Breeze, David Shellhorse, Debra Brown, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Riley. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Moore, the minutes of the June 28, 2013, meeting were unanimously approved.

Recognition of Employees with Twenty to Thirty Years of Service with ACOG

Mr. Riley recognized three employees who have over 20 years of service with ACOG. Debra Brown for 22 years of service, Dirk Reis for 21 years of service, and Steve Pelissier for 23 years of service.

Mr. Mueller with the Appalachian Development Corporation announced a couple of updates. He stated that ADC has a new website www.adcloans.com. Their Board had approved three new projects for funding, and a new loan program offered through the Small Business Administration called Community Advantage.

Aging Services Update

Ms. Carter stated that the Regional Aging Services Plan will be presented to the Board in October and gave the Board an overview of some of the challenges facing the Aging Program. She stated that procurement for services contracts beginning in January, 2014, had been planned for this fall. However, the State Office on Aging has advised that its staff is completing a new policy and procedures manual, which will affect procurement. The State office anticipates the manual to be complete by the end of December. As a result, the existing contracts will be extended through the spring, with procurement taking place in early 2014. She stated that the Aging Department is experiencing federal budget cuts due to sequestration and she has two Long Term Care Ombudsman position vacancies and will only be able to fill one of them.

Ms. Carter stated that October 15th thru December 7th is Open Enrollment for Medicare. This is an extremely busy time for staff and approximately 30 volunteers have been trained to assist with open enrollment throughout the region. She stated that staff will be receiving training on the Affordable Care Act beginning October 1st and will also do a needs assessment survey to make sure that clients' needs are being met.

Middle Tyger Area Water Quality Issue Update

Mr. Bentley informed the Board that following discussions over the last two months between all parties involved in the Lyman/Wellford sewer issue that a settlement is close. In light of the potential settlement, the Mayor of Wellford has requested that the 208 Plan Amendment request be postponed in order to give additional time to complete this process. Mr. Bentley explained that details of the agreement have not been discussed outside of the parties involved, so there was no additional information to provide on the terms of the settlement.

South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA)

Mr. Reis stated the RIA is a new state agency that provides grant funds for infrastructure development in rural portions of the state that are most in need. He stated that applicants are expected to cost-share in project activities. At a minimum, all planning, engineering, permitting, acquisitions, legal or other non-construction related costs will be the sole responsibility of the applicant. He stated that Economic Infrastructure applications are due September 9, 2013; Basic Infrastructure applications are due February 3, 2014; and Emergency Infrastructure and

Economic Impact grant application will be accepted any time during the fiscal year beginning August 1, 2013.

Economic Development Impacts of the Inland Port and the GSP Facility Enhancement

Mr. Reno Deaton, Executive Director of the Greer Development Corporation, discussed the significant ongoing economic development related activities and their impacts for the region. He stated that the Inland Port will allow shipping containers to come by rail from the port in Charleston and be put on trucks, planes or other trains to be shipped across the country and the world. The \$25 million center is a key part of a 10-year, \$1.3 billion plan to improve the S.C. Port Authority's facilities. The goal for the distribution center is to get containers from boats in Charleston on a train to the Upstate and ready to ship in 12 hours, bypassing an increasingly crowded Interstate 26. The Norfolk Southern trains will head back to the port also. Leaders commented that this new center will directly help the Upstate and the Lowcountry as well as other areas in the State. Mr. Deaton stated that in addition to the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport renovations, the airport owns 3,500 acres of land and is only using 500 of them. Most of the land will be used for new development and the airport will be very selective about who gets to develop the land and will establish strict design guidelines.

There being no further discussion, 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.