

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY, OCTOBER, 24, 2014 – 10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Neil Smith, Francis Crowder, Ed Elliott, Dennis Moss, Henry Jolly, David Cauthen, Dennis Stroupe, Joe Dill, Don Godbey, Lillian Flemming, Gaye Sprague, Thomas Alexander, Bennie Cunningham, Ernest Riley, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Bill Brockington, Jeff Martin, Dale Culbreth, O'Neal Mintz, Elbert Tillerson, Junie White, Jan Scalisi, and Elaine Harris.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Zozera Kegler, Wallgreens Distribution; Van Whitehead, Upstate Forever; Paul Clark, Upstate Carolina Angel Network; and Neil Collins.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hall. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Elliott, the minutes of the September 26, 2014, meeting was unanimously approved.

Upstate Blueways Initiative

Mr. Whitehead stated that the purpose of this four-year initiative is to cultivate among the general public a stronger appreciation for our limited water resources and a fascination of the ecological richness of our rivers. The initiative will educate and inform the Upstate with the following programs: Blueway Mapping; Upstate Adopt-A-Stream; and will also support or coordinate at least six events to draw people to the local rivers. He stated that additionally, the blueway mapping effort will focus on existing access, but in the course of evaluation, they will capture recommendations and create a plan for enhancing river access in the areas evaluated. Mr. Whitehead stated that going forward they would support local planning and community efforts to see those recommended enhancements come to fruition.

Upstate Carolina Angel Network

Mr. Clark stated that this network is a group of individuals who invest their own money to help small business entrepreneurs. Angel financing is a key resource for start-up companies in their initial stages of development. Resources are used to advance a company to a place at which it can approach venture capitalists or banks for financing ongoing.

Executive Session

The board met in Executive Session to discuss potential contractual and/or personnel matters.

The Full Board meeting reconvened at 11:50 a.m. No action was taken.

Agreement for Revolving Loan Services

Mr. Pelissier stated that the Appalachian Regional Commission, with input from the SC Department of Commerce and ACOG, has developed an agreement for the continuation of the small business revolving loan fund program. On motion by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board voted unanimously to accept and support the agreement for Revolving Loan Services.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Pelissier stated that there is an issue in the by-laws for county allocations to ACOG. This was assigned to the By-Laws Committee by Chair Hall.

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

Chair

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