

# **MINUTES**

FULL BOARD MEETING  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013 - 10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ernest Riley, Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Eddie Moore, Rick Laughridge, Ted Mattison, Francis Crowder, Ed Elliott, Henry Jolly, Rufus Foster, Grady Butler, Don Godbey, Dan Rawls, Lillian Flemming, Gaye Sprague, Perry Eichor, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Mike Forrester, Elbert Tillerson, Loretta Smith, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT: Toni McKinley, McKinley, Cooper and Associates; Brad Schneider, Appalachian Development Corporation, and David Mueller.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Chip Bentley, Dirk Reis, Karen Carter, Beth Lewis, Carol Andersen, 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. Elliott, the minutes of the October 25, 2013, meeting were unanimously approved.

## **Recognition of Employees with Over Ten Years of Service with ACOG**

Mr. Riley recognized Carol Andersen with 18 years of service and Beth Lewis with 14 years of service.

## **Appalachian COG FY 2103 Audit Presentation**

This Finance Committee met with Ms. McKinley prior to the Board meeting to receive a briefing on the ACOG FY 2013 Annual Audit.

Ms. McKinley stated that the 2013 audit report is now categorized as an unmodified opinion instead of the former term of unqualified opinion, based on the fair presentation of the financial statements, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Ms. McKinley stated that operating revenue actually exceeded expenditures by \$35,258, an increase of \$20,401 over the budget projection of 14,857. However, netted against non-operating building maintenance and repair outlays of \$170,360, total expenditures reduced the Council's fund balance by \$135,102.

### **South Carolina FY 2015 State Budget Outlook**

Mr. Pelissier stated that each year at the SCARC conference, Mike Shealy, staff director of the Senate Finance Committee, provides a very informative presentation on the state budget outlook. Mr. Pelissier gave a brief summary of Mr. Shealy's report, which stated that the U.S. economy has been slow to rebound and hire after a downturn, leaving workers to flail for years in a weak job market. State and local governments provide most educational services from kindergarten through graduate school. The State government administers the unemployment insurance program and most income taxes are derived from wage withholdings. He stated that the State's budget in FY 12-13 totaled \$23.0 billion and in FY 13-14 will total \$22.5 billion.

### **Appalachian Development Corporation (ADC)**

Mr. Schneider assumed the role of interim executive director on October 28<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he has implemented several changes to the Development Corporation to enhance the performance and financial management of the agency. Mr. Schneider stated that due to advice from legal counsel, he was unable to go into any specific details at this time but stated that he would continue to give reports to our Board in the future.

### **Consideration of Providing Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, as a One Time Holiday for ACOG**

Mr. Pelissier stated that the ACOG Board of Directors has established December 24 and 25<sup>th</sup> as holidays for employees. He stated that since the 23<sup>rd</sup> falls on a Monday this year he requested authorization from the Board to observe the 23<sup>rd</sup> as a holiday for this year only. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board voted unanimously to give staff this one time extra holiday.

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Pelissier stated that this year's SCARC Annual Conference was informative and enjoyed by all. He encouraged the Board members to plan to participate in this conference in the future.

Next, Mr. Pelissier stated that Ed Elliott was nominated as the president of the SCARC Board and that Senator Thomas Alexander was honored with the Volunteer of the Year award.

**Other Business**

Mr. Riley stated that on motion by Mr. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Sprague, the Board went into Executive Session at 11:25 a.m. to receive a legal briefing.

The Board exited the executive session at 12:25 p.m. Mr. Riley stated that no action had been taken during the session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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Chairman

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