

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Eddie Moore, Ted Mattison, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, Grady Butler, Don Godbey, Gaye Sprague, Perry Eichor, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Larry Bagwell, Jeff Martin, Mike Forrester, Dale Culbreth, O'Neal Mintz, Elbert Tillerson, Chet Morris, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT: Michael Hunter, Jeff Hullinger, Dennis Maloatta, Chris Roberts, and Jeramine Smith, Greenville Police Department and FBI Gang Task Force; and Jeff Shacker, Field Services Manager, Municipal Association of South Carolina.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Dirk Reis, Chip Bentley, Donna Kazia, Debra Brown, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Hall in Mr. Riley's absence. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Morris, the minutes of the January 24, 2014, meeting were unanimously approved.

Overview of Gang Activity in the Upstate

Several members from the Greenville Police Department and FBI Gang Task Force provided information on gang activity in the region, as well as law enforcement activities to combat gangs.

Their information was not classified; however, due to the sensitive nature of their report the Board did not receive any handouts and they did not share their Power Point presentation. Attached is some information from the internet about a particular gang in the region and general gang dynamics.

Overview of Local Option Taxes Available to Local Governments in South Carolina

Mr. Shacker, Field Services Manager with the Municipal Association, provided the board with information on the various local option sales taxes available to local governments, their purposes, and procedures for implementation. The list of taxes include: local option sales tax (LOST); capital project sales tax (CPST); local property tax credit sales tax; personal property tax relief sales tax; local option tourism development fee; local transportation projects sales tax; local hospitality and accommodations tax; education capital improvement sales tax; and schools district sales tax.

Unfortunately, Mr. Shacker wasn't able to complete his report due to time constraints. A copy of his Power Point is available on the COG website www.scacog.org.

South Carolina Legislative Update

Mr. Burns provided a report on activities of the 2014 term of the SC General Assembly, with emphasis on items of interest to local governments. Those items included: Department of Administration – signed by the Governor; abandoned buildings; ethic reform – approved by the Senate; budget; roads and bridges; and education.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Chair

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