

## MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM  
MAY 25, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ernest Riley, Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Eddie Moore, Rick Laughridge, Ted Mattison, Carthel Crout, Francis Crowder, Ed Elliott, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, Frank Harris, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Don Godbey, Dan Rawls, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Neil Smith, Larry Bagwell, Dale Culbreth, Chet Morris and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT:

David Mueller, Appalachian Development Corporation; Jennifer Miller, Upstate SC Alliance; Joel Dill, Greenville County; Mayor Perry Eichor, City of Simpsonville.

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Chip Bentley, Beverly Allen, Carol Andersen, Dirk Reis, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Riley. The invocation was offered by Mr. Butler. On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Crout, the minutes of the April 27, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved.

### **Status of Economic Development in the Region and Activities of the Upstate SC Alliance**

Jennifer Miller, Vice President of the Upstate SC Alliance, addressed the current state of economic development in the region. She stated that the Alliance was formed in 2000 and is a public/private regional economic development organization designed to market and brand the 10-county Upstate region. The Alliance attracts new investment to the region through its aggressive, innovative and comprehensive global marketing strategy.

Ms. Miller stated the Alliance has a five-year goal to assist in the recruitment of 18,000 new jobs and \$4.5 billion in capital investment by 2015. To date they are more than half way there. The Alliance is setting up task forces for targeted industries comprised of Upstate leaders with knowledge and experience in that area. They will serve as the sounding boards for the investment recruitment officers to observe what works, what does not work, and who to contact when it comes to the Upstate.

### **Appalachian Development Corporation Semi-Annual Report**

Mr. Mueller, Executive Director of the ADC, gave a brief report on their activities and the status of loan programs. He stated that their most recent projects include two loans for Manufacturing/Construction, three loans for Retail, and six loans for Wholesale/Services. ADC's annual meeting will be June 21, 2012.

### **South Carolina Legislative Update**

Mr. Burns provided an update on legislation pending in the General Assembly, with emphasis on items of interest to local governments, which included: budget, flexibility proviso, a proviso limiting local government's ability to lobby, and prospective primary filing change.

### **ACOG Board Letter in Support of the Port of Charleston**

Chairman Riley stated that at the request of the Board at its last meeting, staff had drafted a letter to support the appropriation of funds for dredging at the Port of Charleston.

Mr. Dill made motion, seconded by Mr. Godbey, for staff to draft a letter stating that the ACOG Board supports the appropriation of funds. On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Godbey, the Board unanimously approved the letter of support for the dredging at the Port of Charleston.

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**Appointment of an At Large Position to the ACOG Board Executive Committee**

Chairman Riley stated that this appointment will be made at the next board meeting.

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

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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.