

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015 – 10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Neil Smith, Francis Crowder, Ed Elliott, Rufus Foster, Ted Mattison, Henry Jolly, Dennis Stroupe, Lottie Gibson, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Butch Kirven, Don Godbey, Lillian Flemming, Gaye Sprague, Willis Meadows, Bennie Cunningham, Ernest Riley, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Bill Brockington, Ensley Feemster, Elbert Tillerson, Jan Scalisi, Justin Bradley, and Roger Nutt.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dr. Kris Frady, Clemson University Center for Workforce Development, and John Lummus, Upstate SC Alliance.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

The meeting was called to order to Chair Hall. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Crowder, the minutes of the January 23, 2015, meeting were unanimously approved.

Upstate SC Alliance

Mr. John Lummus, President of the Alliance, provided an overview of current initiatives and activities of the Upstate SC Alliance. He stated that the Alliance was formed in 2000 and is a public/private regional economic development organization designed to market the 10-county Upstate region to the world. Their vision is to position and market the Upstate SC region to successfully compete for business investment globally. Their goal is to spearhead an aggressive, innovative and comprehensive global marketing strategy to attract new investment to the Upstate by creating a powerful brand and image for the region. He commented that increased opportunities will ultimately lead to greater investment, enhancing the prosperity and quality of life for the entire Upstate. He stated that funding for the Alliance comes through two sources: member counties/cities and private sector business partners, which total 170 individuals and companies/organization. Mr. Lummus expressed his appreciation for all that the ACOG has done to help the Alliance and noted that they heavily depend on ACOG for its outstanding research abilities.

Clemson University Center for Workforce Development

Dr. Frady, Director of Operations, stated that their mission is to support demand-driven education, research, dissemination and outreach. Their goal is to advance economic development and enhance employment opportunities by South Carolinians, thereby providing industry with a highly qualified talent pool of next generation engineers and scientists. The center engages university, technical college, P-12 institutions, statewide industry and federal agencies to deliver workforce development tools.

Update on Aging Services and FY 2016 Procurement

Ms. Carter gave a report on the status of aging services in the region. She stated that Pickens County Meals on Wheels has re-done a building that will become the new Liberty Senior Center. A company called ResCare was procured to provide light housekeeping services for FY15. Early on, there were several issues with this provider being able to adequately provide their services. After several meetings, they have resolved the issues they were experiencing. Ms. Carter stated staff will be sending out RFP's for FY 2016 services providers. This year staff will procure catering for all of the counties except Pickens and transportation for Cherokee, Greenville and Pickens counties.

South Carolina Legislative Update

Mr. Burns provided an overview of the 2015 South Carolina legislative session, with emphasis on matters of importance to local governments. Those items included: budget (local government fund, roads, and schools), ethics reform, road maintenance, and government transparencies.

Board Officer Elections

Mr. Riley, Chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that the committee was in unanimous agreement and is recommending to the full Board to re-elect the current officers for another year. The current officers are: Jane Hall, Chair; Dennis Claramunt, Vice Chair; and Neil Smith, Secretary/Treasurer. Ms. Flemming seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation. Mr. Riley made motion to close the nomination and Mr. Jolly seconded. The Board unanimously voted to approve.

Recognition to an Employee with 25 Years of Service to ACOG

Chair Hall recognized Steve Pelissier who recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with the organization.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Chair

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