

## MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016 – 10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Claramunt, Joe Dill, Mack Durham, Cindy Wilson, Ed Elliott, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, David Cauthen, Grady Butler, Brandy Amidon, Thomas Alexander, Ernest Riley, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Bill Brockington, Ensley Feemster, Neal Collins, Mike Forrester, and Elbert Tillerson

GUESTS PRESENT:

Andrea Smith, Executive Director, Senior Action, Greenville; Joel Dill, Greenville; Danielle Simprole, Michael Baker and Associates; Nick Hollingslad; Keith Mauer, Brian Baughner, and Matt Hines, Parallel Financial Partners

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Pelissier, Chip Bentley, Don Zimmer, Tim Womack, Donna Kazia, Glenda Manigault, and Debbie Courson

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Claramunt. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Dill, the minutes of the August 26, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved.

### Greenville County Senior Action

Andrea Smith, Executive Director at Senior Action, provided an overview of Senior Action, its services, programs and issues facing aging services. She stated that Senior Action is a non-profit

organization that has provided programs and services for seniors in Greenville County since 1967. Five downtown churches joined with the City of Greenville and Greenville County to form the organization. The first in the state, Senior Action is designated by the State of South Carolina Unit on Aging as the “Council on Aging” for Greenville County. United Way of Greenville County has been a partner with Senior Action for over 30 of those years. Services are currently provided in 12 locations spread throughout Greenville County and in the homes of seniors.

She stated that the programs and services offered at Senior Action are comprehensive in nature, with the goal of assisting seniors with a wide array of needs. Senior Action activities range from health promotion and prevention programs, fitness programs, daily meals, transportation (to and from centers, medical appointments, as well as basic errand assistance), home care, care management, social opportunities, lifelong learning and volunteerism.

### **US and South Carolina Economic Outlook**

Mr. Baughner, Principal, Parallel Financial Partners, provided an economic forecast for the nation and South Carolina. He stated the central banks rule the world and shape the economy; elections have little economic impact; housing is strong and there are no signs of change; no signs of recession; and retail is not buying this market. In conclusion he stated that though there are no signs of recession, the economy is not strong.

### **Approval of the Appalachian Regional Comprehensive Development Strategy (CEDS) 2016 Annual Progress Report**

Mr. Godbey, Chair of Economic Development Committee, stated that the committee had met prior to the Board meeting and recognized Mr. Bentley to give the report. Mr. Bentley stated that ACOG staff has been monitoring the progress of projects identified on the 2013-2017 CEDS Plan. He stated that the overview of the findings of the Annual progress Report and summary of recommended amendments of the goals and priorities were discussed at the August meeting. ACOG staff is working to brief each County Council on the CEDS Progress Report. The Board of Directors is being asked to approve the finalized CEDS for submission to the Economic Development Administration, following endorsement from each county council. The Board unanimously approved the CEDS Progress Report.

Mr. Bentley stated that the full report is available online for review through the front page of the SCACOG website.

**Approval of a Revised Agreement between ACOG, the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Appalachian Development Corporation.**

Mr. Pelissier stated that the agreement between ACOG, the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Appalachian Development Corporation has been revised. It is apparent that ADC cannot make the re-payments to ARC for improper use of program funds, and ARC has agreed to write off the debt. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Foster, the Board unanimously approved the revised Repayment Settlement Agreement.

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Pelissier stated that at the August Board meeting, staff was requested to revise a draft letter to federal legislators representing the region (to express concerns with rights granted to railroads in federal law) to provide more detailed language concerning a request for specific action. After two corrections were made to the second draft, Ms. Wilson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brockington, the Board unanimously approved to submit the seconded draft letter to the federal legislative delegates.

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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.