

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2015 – 10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jane Hall, Dennis Claramunt, Ted Mattison, Francis Crowder, Cindy Wilson, Ed Elliott, Henry Jolly, David Cauthen, Lottie Gibson, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Butch Kirven, Don Godbey, Lillian Flemming, Gaye Sprague, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, Bill Brockington, Larry Bagwell, Margaret Thompson, Ensley Feemster, Mike Forrester, Elbert Tillerson, Loretta Smith, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Curt McPhail, Northside Initiative Project Manager; Mark Pleasant, Director of Planning and Penny Phillips, Assistant Program Manager with SCDOT; Amy Turner, Senior Centers of Cherokee County; Elizabeth Edwards, Congressman Duncan's office; and Bob Harkruder and Caroline Paris with Spartanburg County Planning.

STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Chip Bentley, Tim Womack, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hall. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Elliott, the minutes of the April 24, 2015, meeting were unanimously approved.

Spartanburg Northside Initiative

Mr. McPhail provided an overview of this effort to fundamentally transform the Northside Community, which is two blocks from downtown Spartanburg. He stated that the city's Northside is already noteworthy for the remarkable convening of residents, institutions, organizations, and non-profits that perhaps for the first time in history have joined together for a singular purpose – the comprehensive transformation of a neighborhood long beset by poverty and its associated challenges. He stated that when the Virginia-based Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, or VCOM, announced it had selected the former Spartan Mills site on Howard Street, over Charlotte, for the location of its Carolinas Campus, it provided the impetus for a larger discussion about what was possible. With VCOM, the Mary Black Foundation, City of Spartanburg, and several community institutions formed the Northside Development Corporation. He commented that this process will be heavily dependent on citizen participation and will ultimately create a specific vision for the future of the Northside.

South Carolina Multimodal Transportation Plan

Mr. Pleasant provided an update to the Board on the SC Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP) that will guide the SCDOT's work moving forward. He stated that areas examined by the plan include: interstate development, freight movement, strategic corridors, public transit, and freight rail and established integrated strategies for improving multimodal transportation systems in the State.

Report from the Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) on FY 2016 Aging Services Procurement and Approval of a Contractor to Provide Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Services to Cherokee County for FY 2016.

Mr. Womack stated that Cherokee County is the only county in the region for which ACOG has not provided non-emergency medical transportation services in the past. He stated that for FY 2016 it is the ACOG's desire to expand this service into Cherokee County as a pilot project. ACOG issued an RFP to solicit a service provider and only one response was received, Senior Centers of Cherokee County. The procurement committee met and viewed the addition of non-emergency medical Transportation in Cherokee County as a valuable benefit for seniors. The committee believes that the respondent has the knowledge, familiarity, and capacity to successfully provide the service and sees it as complementary to the agency's current mission.

Mr. Dill stated the Regional Aging Advisory Committee accepted the recommendation from the Procurement Review Committee with little discussion. Mr. Dill, as Chairman of the RAAC Committee, made motion to endorse the recommendation of contracting with Senior Centers of Cherokee County. Mayor Jolly seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

South Carolina Legislation Update

Mr. Burns provided an overview of the 2015 South Carolina legislative session, with emphasis on matters of importance to local governments. Mr. Burns stated that with the legislative session almost over, the budget is tied up until road issues and capital projects are determined.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Pelissier stated that the Executive Committee Retreat will be held in at the ACOG office on June 12, 2015, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Dress is casual.

The next Board meeting will be held on June 26, 2015, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The Personnel Committee meeting following the Board meeting.

Executive Session to Discuss Personnel and Contractual Matters

On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mayor Jolly, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session. The Board emerged from executive session at 11:58 and Chair Hall responded that a personnel matter had been discussed, with no action taken.

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

Chair

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