APPALACHIAN
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Minutes

APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Full Board of Directors Meeting
ACOG Board Room, Greenville, SC
Friday, May 25, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

Members Present:

Rep. Anne Thayer, Cindy Wilson, Mack Durham, Ted Mattison, Mayor Henry Jolly, Ed Elliot, David Cauthen, Willis Meadows, Butch Kirven, Joe Dill, Lillian Brock Flemming, George Fletcher, Don Godbey, Grady Butler, Ennis Fant, Sen. Thomas Alexander, Edda Cammick, Bob Winchester, Ernest Riley, Dana Moore, Rep. Neal Collins, Ensley Feemster, Margaret Thompson, Rep. Mike Forrester, Roger Nutt, Larry Chappell, Jane Hall, Elbert Tillerson

Guests Present:

Dr. Sue Limber | Olweus Bully Prevention Program, Mr. Dustin Tucker | Cyber Security: What Local Officials Need to Know, Eric Dillon, Brian Gregory, Joel Dill, Daniel Gambrell

Staff Present:

Steve Pelissier, Chip Bentley, Brooke Ferguson, Bryana Mistretta, Arlene Young, Don Zimmer

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Dill. The invocation was offered by Mr. Elbert Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Ernest Riley, seconded by Mr. Grady Butler, the minutes of the April 27, 2018, meeting were unanimously approved.

Olweus Bully Prevention Program

Dr. Sue Limber, Distinguished Professor, Clemson University Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life, presented the Olweus Bully Prevention Program. The goal of the program is to reduce and prevent bullying and its effects, as well as to improve peer relations at school.
- o Dan Olweus defined the act of bullying as written below:
  "Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself."
  - There are three traditional types of bullying, Verbal, Physical, and Relational, the most common is verbal.
    - 21%, or more than 1:5 teens have been bullied in the last school year
    - 1:10 teens have been frequently bullied
    - 1/3 of bullied kids haven't told anyone
  - Cyberbullying is online bullying most prevalent on social media platforms. The perception of anonymity, distance, accessibility, audience, reward (likes), and less reporting have encouraged Cyberbullying.

- Parents are considered Digital Immigrants. They are less familiar with social media and are therefore less aware of ways to protect their kids online.
  - ConnectSafely (connectsafely.org) provides parent guides to social media platforms that their children may be using.
- Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is evidence based and works because it focuses on the whole school, assesses bullying at school, forms a group to support prevention, trains staff, establishes and enforces rules and policies on bullying, involves children in regular discussions, increases adult supervision at "hotspots", and intervenes consistently and appropriately in bullying situations.

Cyber Security: What Local Elected Officials Need to Know

Mr. Dustin Tucker, Virtual Chief Information Officer, VC3 presented on the challenges and strategies to protecting local governments against cyberattacks.

- Cyber security is a set of techniques used to protect the integrity of networks, programs, and data from attack, damage, or unauthorized access.
- In recent events, municipalities such as Savannah, Atlanta, Loganville, Hinesville, Spring Hill have been attacked by malware or ransomware that have compromised data, computer and phone systems.
  - 27.7% of local governments are attacked hourly or more
  - 29.1% of local governments don't know how often they are attacked
  - On average, 57 confidential records are lost every second (4,924,800 records a day)
  - The average cost for organizations reporting data breaches in 2017 was $3.62 million dollars per breach
  - Overall, most local governments are not well prepared to respond to a cyberattack
- Build a security framework including Prevention, Detection, and Response. There should be physical security measures in place to prevent unauthorized use of data.
  - Prevention: Solutions to Pro-actively identify weakness in your IT infrastructure and alert to issues that may be security related.
  - Detection: Technologies used to detect suspicious traffic or behaviors.
  - Response: Solutions and processes that help mitigate the impact of a security incident. Prepare an Incident Response Plan to identify the impact, contain the incident, eradicate it, recover, and complete an incident report.

South Carolina 2018 Legislative Update

Ms. Brooke Ferguson addressed the legislative activity of the 2018 session of the South Carolina General Assembly with emphasis on items of interest to local governments.

- 2017-2018 SC Legislative Session adjourned on May 10th
  - Any bills that were not signed into law will have to be reintroduced unless included in the sine die resolution
    - VC Summer, tax conformity, election for offices or vacancies in any offices following the elections, gubernatorial votes, conference reports, and the budget
  - Lawmakers will return on June 27th-28th to vote on the budget. In the meantime the conference committee will be hard at work to come to an agreement on issues such as: teacher pay raises, SLED forensics lab, funding for maintenance at state colleges and universities, how to spend SC Lottery dollars, and the TERI Program

Appalachian Council of Governments Marketing and Branding Efforts

Over the past several months, the ACOG Staff has been working to enhance marketing efforts, improve its website, and update branding. Ms. Brooke Ferguson presented the new ACOG Branding Initiative and next steps towards new ACOG collateral (letterhead, business cards, shirts, etc), website development and launch, and development of a marketing strategy.

Executive Directors Report

Several of our municipalities have been awarded grants for rural infrastructure improvements:
- Anderson: $47,000
- Honea Path: $270,000
- Clemson: $500,000
- Six Mile: $350,000

The Executive Committee Retreat meetings will be June 8th starting at 9:30 am. The next Board Meeting will be at 10:30 am on June 22nd.

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

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Mr. Joe Dill, Chairman

The South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments has complied with the Freedom of Information Act in scheduling and conducting this meeting.