

MINUTES

Middle Georgia Regional Commission
Council Meeting
Thursday, April 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT

BALDWIN COUNTY

John Westmoreland

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Charles Westberry
Paul Chapman
Brent Lowe

HOUSTON COUNTY

George Slappey

JONES COUNTY

Jimmy Roberts
Frank Duke
Chris Weidner
Francis Adams

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Robert Reichert

MONROE COUNTY

Gregory Tapley
Eric Wilson
Richard Bazemore
Melvin Lawrence

MIDDLE GEORGIA

Charles Sims
James Vaughn
Nancy Nash

PEACH COUNTY

Martin Moseley
James Khoury
Carolyn Biggs

PULASKI COUNTY

Tim Young
Butch Hall
Henry Cravey

PUTNAM COUNTY

Billy Webster

TWIGGS COUNTY

Katherine Epps
Shannon Hart
Ken Fowler

WILKINSON COUNTY

Marty Dominy
Mark Dupree
Charles Brack

GUESTS PRESENT:

Rusty Haygood – Deputy Commissioner Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Shavonda Hill - Field Representative for Sanford Bishop

Carolyn Dallas - Field Representative for Jody Hice

STAFF PRESENT:

Britt Aliperti- Government Services Specialist

Brittany Bullock - Government Services Specialist

Jasmine Campbell - Government Services Specialist

Jen Doran – Office Manager

Julie Hall - Director of Area Agency on Aging

Kayleigh Sullivan - Government Services Specialist

Kevin Brown – Attorney

Kim Stanton – Executive Assistant

Kimberly Lowe - Government Services Specialist

Laura Mathis – Executive Director

Marsellas Williams - Government Services Specialist

Matt Garvin – Director of Finance

Robert O’Neill – GIS Analyst

Terrilyn Hannah – Director of Workforce

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Butch Hall called the April 13, 2017, meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Executive Assistant Kim Stanton indicated that a quorum was present with 19 voting and 11 non-voting members present.

OPENING CEREMONIES

- a. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Pulaski County Council Member Tim Young gave the invocation and the Council followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Welcome

Council Chairman Butch Hall welcomed everyone to the April 13, 2017, Council meeting.

c. Introduction of New Members/Guests

Council Chairman Butch Hall acknowledged the following guests at the Regional Commission Council Meeting:

Rusty Haygood – Deputy Commissioner Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Shavonda Hill - Field Representative for Sanford Bishop
Carolyn Dallas - Field Representative for Jody Hice

GUEST SPEAKER

Laura Mathis introduced Rusty Haygood, Deputy Commissioner Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Haygood thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak about the importance of bringing state resources closer to the people and regional collaboration in community and economic development. Mr. Haygood reported that 111 CDBG applications were received this year. The applications propose to benefit Georgians by providing needed infrastructure improvements, building construction and renovations, and housing rehabilitation in neighborhoods across the state. Mr. Haygood also reported on the 2017 Legislative priorities of the Department and the 2018 budget.

Mr. Haygood explained the start of the 2020 Census process and the importance of the Local Update of Census Address (LUCA) process that will begin this summer. Lastly, Mr. Haygood discussed the importance of local governments filing the required reports to maintain qualified local government status and eligibility for state programs.

STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes of March 9, 2017, Council meeting

There were no corrections to the minutes of the March 9, 2017, Council meeting. They were unanimously approved on a motion by Mark Dupree and second by Ken Fowler.

b. Old Business

None

c. New Business

- i. Resolution of Certification that the Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund is being operated according to policies and procedures.

Matt Garvin reported that every six months, as part of the reporting to the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Council must certify that it is operating the Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the Revolving Loan Fund plan.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission met on April 13, 2017, in Macon, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that the Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund, Project No. 04-39-03867, for the six months ending March 31, 2017, is consistent with and supportive of the area's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Revolving Loan Fund is being operated in accordance with the policies and procedures contained in the Revolving Loan Fund Plan, and the loan portfolio meets the standard contained therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED and determined that this Council hereby certifies to this determination.

The resolution on the EDA Revolving Loan Fund was unanimously approved on a motion by Mark Dupree and second by Billy Webster.

- ii. Local Assistance Requests

Brittany Bullock presented the following local assistance requests that have been received since the March Council meeting:

Community: City of Byron

Project Description: Assistance with submitting the city's list of TSPLOST projects.

Community: City of Forsyth

Project Description: Assistance with locating grants for the Leadership Monroe Project 2017 that would Retrofit Field #8 at the Monroe County Recreation Department to create access for both children and adults with special needs.

Community: City of Forsyth

Project Description: Assistance with the submission of an EDA Grant.

Community: City of Forsyth

Project Description: Assistance with the submission of a GEFA loan for water meters.

Community: City of Hawkinsville

Project Description: Assistance with updating city cemetery records.

Community: City of Jeffersonville

Project Description: Assistance with the completion of an application for the recognition of a residence in Jeffersonville for acceptance in the National Register for Historic Places.

Community: Macon Bibb County

Project Description: Assistance with updating the 2016 Urban Redevelopment Plan.

Community: Putnam County

Project Description: Assistance with creating a new website for the Eatonton Putnam Water and Sewer Authority.

Ms. Bullock also reported on several recent projects.

- Thanks to the hard work of our Finance Department, the Regional Commission has been awarded the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. **The is the 22nd consecutive year that the Regional Commission has received this certificate.**
- The Department of Public Administration successfully submitted six Community Development Block Grant applications for the cities of Forsyth, Fort Valley, Ivey, and Irwinton, the Town of Danville, and Peach County. These projects include requests for funding critical water, sewage, and storm water infrastructure improvements and the renovation of a health department.
- The Map-21 project previously discussed by the Council will begin in May.
- The Area Agency on Aging will host their Senior Day Expo on May 18. The event will be from 10:30 am – 2:00 pm at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry. This event is an opportunity for local senior service organizations and businesses to inform and educate our older adults about services available in our area. We hope you will join us and our seniors for a fun day filled with entertainment, food, and games.

The local assistance requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Charlie Westberry and second by Mark Dupree.

iii. Development of Regional Impact #2661

Kimberly Lowe reported that the Middle Georgia Regional Commission has responsibility under its contract with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to facilitate regional reviews of large-scale projects that may have regionwide impacts; this is known as the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review process.

Since the last MGRC Council meeting, the regional review process was completed for DRI #2661, a proposed Medical Waste Processing Facility in Macon-Bibb County. MGRC received responses to its request for comment from the Georgia Department of Transportation, Macon Water Authority, City of Centerville, Crawford County Development Authority, and the City of Danville. MGRC also provided one advisory comment related to site planning.

Ms. Lowe stated that no action is required by the Council.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

a. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Mathis presented the Executive Director's report with updates since the March meeting.

- TSPLOST projects are to be submitted by April 14, 2017. Once the projects have been submitted, Regional Commission staff will conduct a completeness check before sending the list to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.
- There will be a Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) session May 4, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- The management team has initiated work on the final FY 2017 budget amendment and the FY 2018 initial budget.
- Regarding the status of the actions approved related to the Georgia Small Business Lender, Ms. Mathis reported that since the March 2017 meeting, a number of activities have been either initiated or completed. She stated that the USDA loan has been paid off and the USDA microloan funds have been returned. The MGRC has been working with the various offices at SBA and Capital Partners on the details and mechanics of the merger/transfer.

- The Sector Partnership Grant that the region received from the Georgia Department of Economic Development Workforce Division will undergo federal monitoring next week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next MGRC meeting May 11, 2017.
- b. Senior Day Expo on May 18, 2017, at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the April Council meeting was adjourned until May 11, 2017.