

MINUTES

Middle Georgia Regional Commission
Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
Claystone Park, Lake Tobesofkee, Macon, GA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Francis Adams, Jones County
Michael Bilderback, Monroe County
Charles Brack, Wilkinson County
Paul Chapman, Crawford County
Henry Cravey, Pulaski County
Marty Dominy, Wilkinson County
Frank Duke, Jones County
Mark Dupree, Wilkinson County
John Harley, Houston County
Shannon Hart, Twiggs County
Butch Hall, Pulaski County
Preston Hawkins, Jones County
Clifford Holmes, Houston County
James Khoury, Peach County
Melvin Lawrence, Monroe County
Bill Millians, Baldwin County
Richard Mullins, Baldwin County
Edd Norris, Monroe County
Robert Reichert, Macon-Bibb County
James Richardson, Peach County
Jimmy Roberts, Jones County
Walter Rocker, Putnam County
Terry Schwindler, Putnam County
Denese Shinholster, Baldwin County
Lee Slade, Pulaski County
George Slappey, Houston County
Becky Smith, Crawford County
Jimmy Smith, Twiggs County
Randy Toms, Houston County
Alfredia Walker, Peach County
Melvin Walker, Peach County
Billy Webster, Putnam County
John Westmoreland, Baldwin County
Barbara Williams, Peach County
Eric Wilson, Monroe County
Tim Young, Pulaski County

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GUESTS PRESENT:

Farley Anderson	Melissa Camp	Alex Ferrand
Telina Allred	Don Carter	Helen Fetrow
Alonzo Allen	Doris Carter	Lori Fincher
Fred Ammons	Anita Cauthen	Brad Fink
Will Anderson	Brenda Chapman	Brenda Floyd
Jay Andrews	Thad Childs	Donald Floyd
Pam Andrews	Sarah Christ	Dan Forrester
Donna Asbell	Heath Clark	Tamica Freeman
Jimmy Autry	Brian Cole	Ashley Fry-Mitchell
Al Baggarly	Tiffany Collins	Denise Goodman
Jan Baggarly	Jonathan Corso	Jeff Goodman
Brooks Bailey	Alyson Cozart	Bennie Gray
Lindsay Bailey	Sundy Cravey	Denise Griffin
Othilla Bailey	Joe Daniel	Jeff Griffin
Charles Baker	Ray Daniel	Taylor Grimsley
David Ballengee	Carlos DeSilva	Andrea Griner
Sharylle Ballengee	Cole Davis	Allen Gudenrath
Lauren Barber	Emily Davis	Myrtle Habersham
Kevin Barkley	Rebecca Davis	Ezell Hall
Daniel Bergoffen	Steve Davis	Jesse Hall
Shelly Berryhill	Freddie Densley	Benson Ham
Eva Bilderback	Sylvia Densley	Rhonda Hamrick
Nevaeh Bilderback	Cynde Dickey	Bill Hamrick
Esperanza Boswell	Robert Dickey	Elizabeth Hardin
Stephen Boswell	Rolando Dixon	Shirley Harley
Pat Brannen	Michael Dodd	Arnita Harris
Judieth Braswell	Betty Douglas	Dan Hart
Sterling Braswell	Dori Dowd	Kathy Hart
Emmit Brice	Bonnie Duke	John Hartmann
Brenda Broach	Debbie Dupree	June Hawkins
Angela Brooks	Terry Eady	Derick Hayes
Neil Brooks	Melba Eady	Donavan Head
Deeda Brown	Kelsee Eady	Jansen Head
Kevin Brown	Calvin Echols	Emilio Hernandez
W. L. Brown	Chris Edwards	Chris Hewett
Joe Brownlee	Craig Ellard	Susan Hewett
Susie Brundage	Debra Elliot	Shavonda Hill
Juanita Bryant	Russ Elliot	Pete Hill
Cynthia Burnham	Patti Faircloth	Richard Hill
Marsha Buzzell	Jimmy Faircloth	George Hogan
Wayne Buzzell	Martha Farley	Patricia Hogan

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Howard Holleman
Henry Howard
Marc Humphrey
Melvin James
Sam James
D'Lyn Jones
Rick Jones
Paul Jossey, Jr.
Anita Kapoor
Marie Keith-Winters
Erin Keller
Rusty Kidd
Dexter King
Gwen King
Rayceen King
Ross King
Duane Lance
Javonna Latimore
Catherine Lawrence
Trudy Lawrence
Bruce Leicht
Blake Lisenby
Cynthia Marlow
Darlene McLendon
Tom McMichael
Ralph McMullen
Lee Mertins
Susan Miller
Joe Minitie
Blake Minor
Leighanne Mitchell
Tonya Mole
David Moore
Melissa Moulton
Ophelia Mullins
Lynn Murphey
Pat Muse
Randy Nichols
Ralph Nix
Janelle Norris
Debra Osborne

W. D. Palmer
Sandra Parham
Tiffany Peavy
Stuart Pippen
Cloyce Pittman
Robbie Purser
Lisa Rackley
Giles Ragsdale
Pat Raines
Nikki Randall
Barbara Redden
Dele Reichert
Janie Reid
Sarah Richardson
Jason Rizner
Frances Roberts
Pam Roberts
Rebecca Rocker
Andrew Ross
Janice Ross
Wilbur Rumph
Helen Rutledge
Ned Sanders
John Sayles
Darrie Schlesinger
Larry Schlesinger
Robin Sergent
Phil Shannon
Val Shannon
Roy Shepard
Scotty Shepherd
William Sheppard
Cliff Sheppard, Jr.
Judy Sherling
Ron Shipman
Darien Shuler
Chris Simmons
Aundrea Simmons
Jeff Simmons
Kim Simmons
Charles Sims

Ashley Slaton
Annette Smith
Beulah Smith
Chantea Smith
Dianne Smith
Ernie Smith
Eugene Smith
Green Smith
Jack Smith
Patty Smith
Terry Smith
Tammy Sosebee
Cheri Sparks
Will Stanford
Bill Stenbridge
Eddie Stephens
Eva Stephens
Al Stewart
Spencer Strickland
Andy Stroud
Bonnie Sturgeon
Jeff Surler
Stephanie Surles
Greg Tapley
Gloria Taylor
Patti Temple
W. P. Thompson
Ahmad Thorpe
Jane Toms
Pat Topping
Barbara Towles
Terry Towles
David Tufts
Charlotte Tufts
Brian Utley
Rick VanAtta
Ben Vaughn
Beth Vaughn
James Vaughn
Virginia Villatoro
Dale Walker
Jay Walker, III

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Jeraldine Walker	Nikki Whipple	Johanna Wise
Mary Walker	Mary Ann Whipple-Lue	Ashley Wooley
Mike Wallis	Connie White	Jared Wozny
Josh Walton	Jeff White	Otis Wright
Marge Webster	Nancy White	George Wynn
Chris Weidner	John Williams	Sherri Wynn
Renee Weidner	Laverne Williams	Jody Yarbrough
Janice Westmoreland	Peter Williams	Nancy Young
Doretha Whipple	Louise Wimberly	Greg Ziesenhenn

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Butch Hall called the 2016 Annual Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Welcome

Chairman Hall welcomed everyone to the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission at Lake Tobesofkee.

b. Introduction of Special Guests

Butch Hall recognized some long-time friends, supporters and special guests that were in attendance: Representatives from the 78th Air Base Wing of Robins Air Force Base, Officials from the Economic Development Administration Atlanta Regional Office, State Senators and Representatives from the region, Congressional Field Representatives and Representatives from both the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Labor.

He extended a very special thank-you to Macon-Bibb County Mayor Robert Reichert, Lake Tobesofkee and Macon-Bibb Facilities Management and Recreation staff for making the facility available and preparing it for our use.

The entertainment was provided by Mid-Life Chryslers and the meal was prepared by Kudzu Catering, owned and operated by Lee and Kelly Clack.

c. Recognition of Sponsors

Butch Hall gave a special thanks to the sponsors for their generous contributions and support. He stated that without each of them, the event would not have been possible.

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Terry Smith with AT&T, a presenting sponsor, thanked the Regional Commission for the opportunity to be part of this event and reported on the constantly changing world of technology. They are working to provide services for healthcare, education, public safety and consumers.

Chris Edwards with McNair, McLemore and Middlebrooks, a presenting sponsor, gave a few remarks. He is proud to have been working with the MGRC for over 25 years.

Gold sponsor representatives from Central Georgia Joint Development Authority, Community Health Works, Georgia Power, Georgia Small Business Lender, Morris Bank and Southern Equipment were invited to the podium to briefly tell about their organization.

Melissa Camp with Community Health Works stated that they are proud to support the work of the Regional Commission. Ms. Camp reported on programs that will be offered to the citizens that are uninsured; they will be able to reach out to the residents more effectively.

Ron Shipman with Georgia Power stated that they are proud to be a sponsor and to be part of the Middle Georgia region, on behalf of all of the employees at Georgia Power.

Jeff Surles with Southern Equipment reported that they are proud to be a sponsor and appreciate the hard work of the Regional Commission. Southern Equipment performs demolition work and cleans up properties purchased by the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority.

Chairman Hall thanked all of the sponsors and mentioned that they will be featured on the Regional Commissions website. He also recognized the Regional Commission staff for their commitment to excellence and service to Middle Georgia.

BUSINESS MEETING

a. Approval of September 8, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes

Chairman Hall noted that the Agenda was posted at the registration table. There were no corrections to the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Council meeting and they were unanimously approved on a motion by Preston Hawkins and second by John Westmoreland.

b. Local Assistance Requests

There were several requests from member governments for assistance, which staff reviewed and recommended for Council approval. The Chairman called for a motion approving these local assistance requests. The local assistance requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Lee Slade and seconded by Eric Wilson.

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

Chairman Hall asked for approval of a Resolution No. RC-14-19 certifying that the EDA Revolving Loan Fund is being operated according to adopted policies and procedures. The resolution for the EDA Loan Fund was unanimously approved on a motion by Frank Duke and seconded by John Harley.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Hall said that 2016 has proven to be among the most productive years of providing services to Middle Georgia cities and counties. He encouraged everyone to read the Annual Report, which provides a more extensive overview of the Commission's activities for the year. Annual reports were in the gift bags and also at the registration table.

Chairman Hall stated that the Regional Commission has successfully met all of its contractual obligations. The FY 2016 Audit is already in the draft stage and will be presented at the November Council meeting. The staff expects no findings or material weaknesses to be reported.

Looking ahead, it appears governments at all levels will continue to have major challenges as they struggle with transportation needs, water resources, clean air, education, and fiscal constraints. Ultimately, many of these will require regional solutions, but he is confident that with good leadership, cooperation, and commitment we can be successful. He thanked everyone for continued support and leadership of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. RC Council appointments for Non-Public and Associate members are due at the November 10 Council Meeting.
- b. GARC Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 2 – 4, St. Simons Island, GA.

INVOCATION

Chairman Hall called on Paul Chapman, Chairman, Crawford County to give the invocation.

Kind heavenly father, we give you praise and thanks for who you are in our individual lives. We thank you Lord that we are gathered here today as we come together to enjoy the food and the fellowship. Lord, we thank you for all of the blessings that you have bestowed upon this country, this state and each of our individual communities.

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Lord, we give you praise and thanks. We ask you Lord that you be with us during the next election cycle. There are some of us that may not be with us next year and to be with them and their families. Lord, bless those who are newly elected to guide and direct them to make wise decisions and to help each and every one of us to vote our consciences and that whatever we do will be great and good for America.

We are all Americans and give you praise in Jesus' name. Amen!

Following the invocation and the brief ceremony, dinner was served.

ADJOURNMENT

The business portion of the 2016 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 for food, fun, and fellowship.