

MINUTES

Middle Georgia Regional Commission
Council Meeting
Thursday, February 9, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT

BALDWIN COUNTY

William Millians
John Westmoreland
Richard Mullins
Derek Williams
Denese Shinholster

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Charles Westberry
Paul Chapman
Becky Smith
Robert Ray

HOUSTON COUNTY

John Harley
George Slappey
Tommy Stalnaker
Clifford Holmes

JONES COUNTY

Jimmy Roberts
Frank Duke
Chris Weidner
Francis Adams

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Robert Reichert
Lonnie Miley

MONROE COUNTY

Gregory Tapley
Eric Wilson

Richard Bazemore
Melvin Lawrence
Edd Norris

PEACH COUNTY

Martin Moseley
James Khoury
James Richardson
Carolyn Biggs
Barbara Williams

PULASKI COUNTY

Tim Young
Henry Cravey
Lee Slade
Butch Hall
James Colson

PUTNAM COUNTY

Alan Foster
Billy Webster
Gary Sanders

TWIGGS COUNTY

Ken Fowler
Shannon Hart

WILKINSON COUNTY

Marty Dominy
Mark Dupree
Charles Brack
C.L. Brooks
Emma Bacon

MGRC Council Meeting

February 9, 2017

Page - 2 -

MIDDLE GEORGIA

Nancy Nash

James Vaughn

Charles Sims

GUESTS PRESENT:

Paul Tanner - Georgia Department of Transportation

Eric McRae – Carl Vinson Institute of Government

STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Mathis – Executive Director

Brent Lanford – Deputy Director

Terrilyn Hannah – Director of Workforce

Michelle Grembowski – Director of Information Technology

Julie Hall - Director of Area Agency on Aging

Greg Boike – Director of Public Administration

Jen Doran – Office Manager

Britt Aliperti- Government Services Specialist

Kimberly Lowe - Government Services Specialist

Jasmine Campbell - Government Services Specialist

Kayleigh Sullivan - Government Services Specialist

Brittany Bullock - Government Services Specialist

Robert O’Neil – GIS Analyst

Lisa Datoc – Data and Performance Analyst

Andrea Jones - Career Development Specialist

Matt Garvin – Director of Finance

Kevin Brown – Attorney

Kim Stanton – Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Butch Hall called the February 9, 2017 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Executive Assistant Kim Stanton indicated that a quorum was present with 27 voting and 20 non-voting members present.

OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Crawford County Council Member Paul Chapman gave the invocation and the Council followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Welcome

Council Chairman Butch Hall welcomed everyone to the February 9, 2017 Council meeting.

c. Introduction of New Members/Guests

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

Paul Tanner - Georgia Department of Transportation
Eric McRae – Carl Vinson Institute of Government

GUEST SPEAKER

Brent Lanford, Deputy Director for the MGRC introduced Paul Tanner, Georgia Department of Transportation and Eric McRae, Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIOG). Mr. Tanner and Mr. McRae thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak about the MAP-21 program of work. Mr. Tanner expressed the importance of the collaboration with the CVIOG and the assistance from the regional commissions to validate the road information. Mr. Tanner reported that the MAP-21 mandate is on the State of Georgia from the Federal Highway Administration and that GDOT is obligated to deliver the MAP-21 requirements, meaning all governments including local governments have the responsibility to ensure they are met. Through the partnership of GDOT, CVIOG and the Regional Commissions, Georgia will lead the nation in compliance.

STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2017 Council meeting

There were no corrections to the minutes of the January 12, 2017 Council meeting. They were unanimously approved on a motion by John Harley and second by Mark Dupree.

b. Old Business

None

c. New Business

i. Report from Nominating Committee

George Slappey reported that the Nominating Committee met prior to the Council meeting to develop a slate of members to fill the vacancies the Executive Committee that will serve through 2018. The vacancies will be filled by Bert Bivins, Macon-Bibb County, Barbara Williams, Peach County, Walter Rocker, Putnam County, and James Vaughn, Regional.

2016-2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Butch Hall	MGRC Chairman	Eric Wilson	Monroe County
Robert Reichert	MGRC Vice-Chairman	Barbara Williams	Peach County
Dick Bazemore	MGRC Secretary	Lee Slade	Pulaski County
Richard Mullins	Baldwin County	Walter Rocker	Putnam County
Charlie Westberry	Crawford County	Shannon Hart	Twiggs County
George Slappey	Houston County	Mark Dupree	Wilkinson County
Jimmy Roberts	Jones County	James Vaughn	Regional Candidate
Bert Bivins	Macon-Bibb County		

Mr. Slappey opened the floor for nominations to the Executive Committee. Hearing none, nominations were closed. The Executive Committee for 2016-2018 as presented by the Nominating Committee was approved.

ii. Chairman's Appointments

Council Chairman Butch Hall reported that there are several vacancies on the Aging Services Committee. In accordance with the Bylaws, the following persons are appointed to the Aging Services Committee:

Melvin Lawrence – Monroe County
Barbara Williams- – Peach County
Billy Webster – Putnam County
Emma Bacon – Wilkinson County

In addition, Butch Hall appointed Grady Clements to continue as the Aging and Disabilities Advisory Council Chair.

Also, a change is needed on the Budget, Audit and Personnel Committee. Billy Webster will continue serving as an Ex-Officio member and Johnny Westmoreland will continue serving; however, he will be the county member. No other changes are needed to the Budget, Audit and Personnel Committee.

No action is required by the Council on these appointments. Butch Hall stated, "I appreciate everyone's willingness to serve."

iii. Local Assistance Requests

Greg Boike presented the following local assistance requests that have been received since the January Council meeting:

Community: Baldwin County

Project Description: Assistance with the preparation and submission of an application for the Smart Supervision Program.

Community: City of Fort Valley

Project Description: Assistance with the preparation of CDBG application to fix the sewer system.

Community: City of Fort Valley

Project Description: Assistance with the preparation of grant for funding a new fire station on Houser's Mill Road.

Community: City of Hawkinsville

Project Description: Assistance with the creation of a new logo for the City of Hawkinsville Economic Development.

Community: City of Irwinton

Project Description: Assistance with the preparation of a GDOT Multi-model and Safety Access Grant.

Community: Jones County

Project Description: Assistance with developing ideas for the old Maggie Califf School in the City of Gray

Community: Macon Bibb County

Project Description: Assistance with establishing a "Transformational Community" in the area around Tindall Heights to support residents and attract new businesses.

Community: City of Perry

Project Description: Assistance with pursuing the PlanFirst designation through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

Greg Boike also reported on several projects which were previously approved and have been completed.

- The Area Agency on Aging was able to have a wheelchair ramp built to code for a client that could return to her home funded by the Money Follows the Person.
- The Area Agency on Aging transitioned 15 people from October - December out of nursing homes through Money Follows the Person.
- Comprehensive Plans were approved by DCA for Crawford, Houston, Peach, and Pulaski counties.
- Work Force had three students pass their board certification exam to become nurses.
- Baldwin County was awarded a \$500,000 grant through the Employee Incentive Program.

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

iv. Preparation and Submittal of FTA Section 5310 Application

Matt Garvin reported that, in the past, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission has requested grant funding assistance from the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) for the purpose of providing transportation services to eligible DHS Division of Aging Services clients as part of the Section 5310 Coordinated Transportation Program. The program provides vital public transportation services to the following counties: Baldwin, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Macon-Bibb, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Twiggs, and Wilkinson. Putnam County does not provide transportation services to DHS Division of Aging Services clients but does provide transportation services to eligible clients in other areas of the Coordinated Transportation Program.

WHEREAS, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Applicant” has requested grant funding assistance from the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) for the purpose of providing transportation service to eligible DHS Division of Aging Services clients; and

WHEREAS, this project is considered to be important and necessary to public transportation in Baldwin, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Macon-Bibb, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Twiggs and Wilkinson counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Applicant, while making application to or receiving grants from the Federal Transit Administration, will comply with the federal statutes, regulations, executive orders and administrative requirements as listed in Appendix A of the FTA Circular FTA C 9070.1C, and as also included in Appendix B of the Georgia Department of Human Resources State Management Plan and Application Package for Elderly and Disabled Transportation inclusive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Laura Mathis, Executive Director, is empowered to sign contracts on behalf of the Applicant and that she may sign on behalf of the Applicant any assurance, certification, or other documentation that may be required as a part of the application submitted.

The FTA Section 5310 Application Update was unanimously approved on a motion by Robert Reichert and second by Ken Fowler.

v. Resolution Approving Submission of FY 2018 Area Plan

Julie Hall reported that the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services, all Area Agencies on Aging must submit Area Plans which documents goals related to service delivery within the public service region. This process is completed every four years with annual updates and revisions. Adoption of the resolution gives Middle Georgia Regional Commission the right to submit the document to the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services following review of the Aging Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission (RC) has served as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) since 1977; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission has provided program planning and development, technical assistance, coordination, administration, and fiscal accountability for program services to older citizens of Middle Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the services provided through subcontracts administered by the Area Agency on Aging have directly or indirectly benefited a large portion of the Middle Georgia population; and

WHEREAS, the work program and services of the Area Agency on Aging are reviewed and approved by the Middle Georgia Regional Commission Council prior to implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services requires preparation of an annual plan which identifies the types and quantifies the level of services needed by the older citizens of Middle Georgia; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Middle Georgia that an FY 2018 Area Agency on Aging Area Plan Revision is developed and submitted to the Division of Aging Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, by the adoption of this resolution, does hereby proclaim its commitment to serving the senior citizens of Middle Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, Vice Chairman or Executive Director of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission is empowered to sign contracts, assurances, certifications or other documents, as may be required to administer Area Agency on Aging programs.

The submission of FY 2018 Area Plan was unanimously approved as presented on a motion by John Harley and second by Billy Webster.

vi. Resolution of Support for the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historic Park

Greg Boike reported that on Monday, January 30, 2017, the House of Representatives voted on and passed H.R. 538, "a bill to re-designate Ocmulgee National Monument in the State of Georgia and revise its boundary, and for other purposes." The bill specifically provides for a re-designation of the "Ocmulgee National Monument" to the "Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park" and a boundary adjustment to include 2,100 acres within the park.

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the United States of America has re-designated the Ocmulgee National Monument in the State of Georgia and revised its boundary in the "Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2017"; and

WHEREAS, the Ocmulgee Old Fields Traditional Cultural Property of the Muscogee Creek Nation surrounding the newly designated Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park is among the nation's richest archaeological areas; and

WHEREAS, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park is both a regional and national treasure and is one of Middle Georgia's most visited destinations for historians, educators, and tourists; and

WHEREAS, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park provides important outdoor recreation opportunities for hunters, anglers, hikers, bird watchers and paddlers on the rowing Ocmulgee Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park is a valuable addition to the entire National Park System, and elevates Middle Georgia's status as a national and international tourist destination; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission Council understands and values the importance of working regionally to maximize the protection, educational and economic benefits of the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Middle Georgia Regional Commission Council hereby formally supports H.R. 538, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2017.

The resolution supporting the Ocmulgee Mounds National Park was unanimously approved as presented on a motion by Mark Dupree and second by Marty Dominy.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

a. Quarterly Financial Report

Matt Garvin presented the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2016. Mr. Garvin reported that State Revenues are at 26 percent of budgeted revenues, local revenues stand at 50 percent of the budgeted revenues, federal revenues are at 28 percent of the budgeted revenues, and expenditures are at 40 percent of budgeted expenditures.

b. Executive Director's Report

Laura Mathis thanked Paul Tanner and Eric McRae for attending the Council meeting and for their partnership.

Ms. Mathis presented the Executive Directors report with updates since the January meeting.

- The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Scrap Tire Reimbursement Program has funds to remove and recycle scrap tires dumped along rights of way and for amnesty events. Detailed information will be provided to all local governments.
- The MGRC is working on a partnership with DCA to update and revise the Regional Plan Regulations.
- Each year the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts, Performance Audit Division, in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-8-38, conducts a performance review of the 12 regional commissions. As part of this review, they survey municipal and county governments throughout the state to assess their satisfaction with the commissions. Staff recently provided names and contact information to the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts to receive the survey. Over the past three years, Middle Georgia has had the highest participation rate of local governments and we sincerely hope that all local governments will participate.
- Each local government should receive an Information Guide and a Contact Form from Local Update Consensus Address (LUCA) for the preplanning for 2020 Census. Please submit a technical assistance letter requesting assistance with the completion of LUCA form if needed.
- The MGRC received notification for funding from the US Department of Commerce and Economic Administration to help support economic development.
- A budget amendment will likely be presented at the March meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next MGRC meeting March 9, 2017

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the February Council meeting was adjourned until March 9, 2017.