

MINUTES

Middle Georgia Regional Commission
Council Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, Georgia

MEMBERS PRESENT

BALDWIN COUNTY

Lee Slade
John Westmoreland
Richard Mullins
Derek Williams
Denese Shinholster

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Charles Westberry
Jay Andrews
Paul Chapman

HOUSTON COUNTY

John Harley
George Slappey
Tommy Stalnaker
Clifford Holmes

JONES COUNTY

Frank Duke
Francis Adams
Ed Barbee

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Robert Reichert
Jim Manley
Yolanda Latimore
Dominique Johnson

MONROE COUNTY

Eric Wilson
Richard Bazemore
Melvin Lawrence

PEACH COUNTY

Martin Moseley
James Khoury
James Richardson
Barbara Williams

PULASKI COUNTY

Tim Young
Henry Cravey
Brooks Bailey
Butch Hall

PUTNAM COUNTY

Stephen Hersey
Paul Van Haute
Billy Webster
Gary Sanders

TWIGGS COUNTY

Ken Fowler
Kathryn Epps
Shannon Hart

WILKINSON COUNTY

Marty Dominy
Mark Dupree
Emma Bacon

MIDDLE GEORGIA

James Vaughn
Nancy Nash
Charles Sims

GUESTS PRESENT:

Carlos Tobar – County Manager, Baldwin County
Emily Davis – Commissioner, Baldwin County
Janie Reid – Councilwoman, City of Eatonton
Mary Dixon – Guest of Mayor Barbara Williams
Bubber Epps - Georgia State Representative, District 144
Andrew Ross- Field Representative for Senator Johnny Isakson
Pam Andrews- Wife of Jay Andrews

STAFF PRESENT:

Matt Beal - GIS Analyst
Greg Boike – Director of Public Administration
Kevin Brown – Attorney
Lisa Datoc - Data and Performance Analyst
Jen Doran – Office Manager
Sara Dusenberry - Government Services Specialist
Matt Garvin – Director of Finance
Michelle Grembowski – Director of Technology Services
Julie Hall - Director of Area Agency on Aging
Terrilyn Hannah – Director of Workforce
Andrea Jones- Career Development Specialist
Kimberly Lowe- Sr. Government Services Specialist
Laura Mathis – Executive Director
Kim Stanton – Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Butch Hall called the January 11, 2018, meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Executive Assistant Kim Stanton reviewed the attendance log and indicated that a quorum was present with 25 voting and 17 non-voting members.

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 January 11, 2018, Council meeting.

c. Introduction of New Members/Guests

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

Carlos Tobar – County Manager, Baldwin County
Emily Davis – Commissioner, Baldwin County
Janie Reid – Councilwoman, City of Eatonton
Mary Dixon – Guest of Mayor Barbara Williams
Bubber Epps - Georgia State Representative, District 144
Andrew Ross- Field Representative for Senator Johnny Isakson
Pam Andrews- wife of Jay Andrews

STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

There were no corrections to the minutes of the November 9, 2017, Council meeting. They were unanimously approved on a motion by Dick Bazemore and second by Charlie Westberry.

b. Old Business

None

c. New Business

i. Council Member Appointments

Council Chairman Butch Hall reported on the 2018 Council appointments that have been received since the November meeting.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Paul Chapman - County Member
Jay Andrews – Municipal Member
Charles Westberry – Non-Public Member
Brent Lowe – Associate Member
Robert Ray - Associate Member

HOUSTON COUNTY

Tommy Stalnaker - County Member
John Harley - Municipal Member
George E. Slappey - Non-Public Member
Randy Toms - Associate Member
Clifford Holmes - Associate Member

JONES COUNTY

Chris Weidner - County Member
Ed Barbee - Municipal Member
Jimmy Roberts - Non-Public Member
Francis Adams - Associate Member
Frank Duke - Associate Member

MACON-BIBB COUNTY

Robert Reichert - County Member
Bert Bivins III - Municipal Member
Jim Manley - Non-Public Member
Yolanda Latimore - Associate Member
Dominique Johnson - Associate Member

MONROE COUNTY

Gregory Tapley - County Member
Eric Wilson - Municipal Member
Richard Bazemore - Non-Public Member
Melvin Lawrence - Associate Member
Edd Norris - Associate Member

PEACH COUNTY

Martin Moseley - County Member
Barbara Williams - Municipal Member
James Khoury - Non-Public Member
James Richardson - Associate Member
LeMario Brown - Associate Member

PULASKI COUNTY

Butch Hall - County Member
Henry E. Cravey III - Municipal Member
Brooks Bailey - Non-Public Member
Tim Young - Associate Member
James Colson - Associate Member

PUTNAM COUNTY

Stephen Hersey - County Member
Walter Rucker - Municipal Member
Paul Van Haute - Non-Public Member
Billy Webster - Associate Member
Gary Sanders - Associate Member

TWIGGS COUNTY

Ken Fowler - County Member
Charles Williams - Municipal Member
Shannon Hart - Non-Public Member
Kathryn Epps - Associate Member
Tracy Jackson - Associate Member

WILKINSON COUNTY

Mark Dupree - County Member
Charles Brack - Municipal Member
Marty Dominy - Non-Public Member
C. L. Brooks - Associate Member
Emma Bacon - Associate Member

Eric Wilson made a motion to accept the Council appointments. The motion was seconded by Mark Dupree and unanimously approved.

Council Chairman Butch Hall reported that several members are leaving the Council, he expressed his appreciation to them for their service.

Alan Foster
Robby Fountain
Lonnie Miley

Bill Millians
Carolyn Peacock Biggs
Bill Sharp
Becky Smith
Jimmy Smith
Stephen Tingen

Council Chairman Butch Hall made a motion for a resolution of recognition and appreciation. The motion was seconded by Mark Dupree and unanimously approved.

ii. Election of Officers

George Slappey, chairman of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Committee met prior to the Council meeting to select a slate of Officers and Executive Committee members. Mr. Slappey stated that the Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for office.

2018-2020 OFFICERS OF REGIONAL COMMISSION

Chairman	Robert Reichert	Macon-Bibb County
Vice-Chairman	Dick Bazemore	Monroe County
Secretary	Shannon Hart	Twiggs County
Treasurer	John Harley	Houston County

Attorney Kevin Brown opened the floor for nominations to the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee. Hearing none, nominations were closed. Upon motion by Mark Dupree and second by Clifford Holmes, the slate of officers for 2018-2020 as presented by the Nominating Committee were approved.

iii. Election of Executive Committee

Mr. Slappey presented the slate of members to the Executive Committee as follows:

2018-2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dick Bazemore – Executive Committee Chair, Council Vice Chair
Robert AB Reichert – Council Chair
Shannon Hart – Council Secretary
Johnny Westmoreland - Baldwin County
Charlie Westberry - Crawford County
George Slappey – Houston County
Ed Barbee-Jones County
Jim Manley- Macon-Bibb County
Eric Wilson- Monroe County
Barbara Williams- Peach County

Butch Hall - Pulaski County
Walter Rucker - Putnam County
Ken Fowler- Twiggs County
Mark Dupree- Wilkinson County
James Vaughn - Regional/Ex-Officio

Mr. Brown opened the floor for nominations to the Executive Committee. Hearing none, nominations were closed. Upon motion by Shannon Hart and second by Mark Dupree, the Executive Committee for 2018-2020 as presented by the Nominating Committee was approved.

iv. Local Assistance Requests

Kimberly Lowe presented the following local assistance requests that have been received since the November Council meeting:

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|----------------------|---|
| Community: | Baldwin County |
| Project Description: | Assistance with submitting an Assistance to Firefighters Grant. |
| Community: | City of Byron |
| Project Description: | Assistance with rewriting the city's Vehicle Operator Policy. |
| Community: | City of Centerville |
| Project Description: | Assistance with facilitating a strategic planning retreat for the City of Centerville. |
| Community: | Crawford County |
| Project Description: | Assistance with preparing bylaws and operating procedures for the Crawford County Development Authority. |
| Community: | Crawford County |
| Project Description: | Assistance with a CDBG application for road or water improvements. |
| Community: | Crawford County |
| Project Description: | Assistance with the compilation of a leave donor policy between employees. |
| Community: | Crawford County |
| Project Description: | Assistance with developing a support agreement between the county and Keep Roberta Clean and Beautiful for operating the new conference center. |
| Community: | City of Eatonton |
| Project Description: | Assistance with conducting a feasibility study on consolidation of the City of Eatonton and Putnam County governments. |

- Community:** **City of Forsyth**
Project Description: Assistance with providing a facilitator for the Forsyth Convention & Visitors Bureau Annual Retreat.
- Community:** **City of Hawkinsville**
Project Description: Assistance with the completion of the Opportunity Zone Report.
- Community:** **City of Milledgeville**
Project Description: Assistance with submitting a Firefighters Grant.
- Community:** **Monroe County**
Project Description: Assistance with mapping and technical support for an internet study committee.
- Community:** **Peach County**
Project Description: Assistance with preparing a 2018 CDBG for financial assistance for funding repairs and improvements to the Peach County Health Department.
- Community:** **City of Perry**
Project Description: Assistance with preparing and administering a Public Works Construction grant through the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for expansion of a natural gas line.
- Community:** **Pulaski County**
Project Description: Assistance with submitting a Firefighters Grant.
- Community:** **City of Roberta**
Project Description: Assistance in getting the city ordinances codified per Georgia Code.
- Community:** **Town of Toombsboro**
Project Description: Assistance with updating the city charter, job descriptions, employee handbook, and a website for the city.
- Community:** **Wilkinson County**
Project Description: Assistance with submitting a grant to the Cal Ripkin Foundation for the County Recreation Department.

Kimberly Lowe also reported on several projects which were previously approved and have been completed.

- The City of Perry was designated a Rural Zone by the Department of Community Affairs and is the only designation in Middle Georgia.

- The Better Business Bureau publication of recognized businesses in Middle Georgia is available on the table in the lobby.

The local assistance requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Robert Reichert and second by Dick Bazemore.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

a. Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Report

Michelle Grembowski gave a brief description of the process for submitting the 2020 Census Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) registration forms. Ms. Grembowski stated that in preparation for the 2020 Census, each local government has the opportunity to participate in LUCA. LUCA is the only mechanism for reviewing and updating the address listing that the Census Bureau will use for distribution of the Census forms. Ms. Grembowski reported that there has been 100 percent participation in the region.

b. Executive Director's Report

Laura Mathis presented the Executive Director's report with updates since the November Meeting.

Business Activity Disclosure

Ms. Mathis reported that all Regional Commission employees are required to disclose business activities of themselves or family members with local governments each year in accordance with OCGA 50-8-63. For 2017, Selentria Kendrick reported business activities in accordance with state law. This is presented for information purposes only.

Performance Audits

Ms. Mathis stated that OCGA 50-8-38 requires that the State Auditor conduct performance audits of state funds received by the Regional Commission. Under agreed upon processes, for each of the last three years, the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) has issued a report on their findings. In 2015, Middle Georgia Regional Commission was selected for a field audit. For FY 2017, Middle Georgia was only evaluated on the "balanced scorecard", which uses data to compare regional commissions in the state. A copy of the full report was included in the meeting package.

In summary, Middle Georgia Regional Commission has continued to be in the top 25 percent in financial and customer service and has seen improvements in internal business processes. The Learning and Growth measure includes specific *planning* degrees and certifications. While we have numerous staff with advanced degrees, DOAA does not evaluate Regional Commissions on anything other than planning.

Below is a comparison chart of Middle Georgia Regional Commissions’ standings from the past four years of audits. In addition, in January, the management team will review the findings from the field audits in comparison to the practices and policies of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to determine if any policy amendments are warranted.

Category	2014	2015	2016	2017
Financial	1	1	1	1
Customer	1	1	1	1
Learning and Growth	3	3	4	4
Internal Business Processes	4	3	2	1

Ms. Mathis stated that each Chief Elected Official should have received a copy of the Performance Audit Report released in December 2017 by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

Alzheimer Project – Memory Assessment Clinic Pilot

Ms. Mathis stated that the Georgia Alzheimer Project is working to establish five Memory Assessment Clinics; one will be located in Macon. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission has proposed a pilot project where a ADRC Counselor will have regular office hours at the Macon Memory Assessment Clinic to help patients and their caregivers connect with resources in their home community. The goal is for the Memory Assessment Clinic to open in spring 2018.

Regional Transportation Sales Tax (TSPLOST)

Since the final regional roundtable transportation meeting, the Regional Commission has been working on a Frequently Asked Question guide and with the Election Superintendents across the region.

Pension Committee

The Regional Commission Pension Committee met in December to approve an application for previous employees requesting benefits.

Opioid Epidemic Lawsuit

Ms. Mathis reported that there is additional information available to the local governments on an opioid epidemic multi-jurisdictional lawsuit that is pending in federal court.

Recognition

Laura Mathis and Robert Reichert presented a plaque to the outgoing Council Chair, Butch Hall, for his service as Chair of the Commission for the past two years. Chairman Butch Hall thanked the Council for allowing him to serve.

MGRC Council Meeting

January 11, 2018

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Orientation

1. Thursday, January 18, 2018, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
2. Wednesday, January 24, 2018, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Next MGRC meeting will be February 8, 2018.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the January Council meeting was adjourned until February 8, 2018.