

SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
SPORTS COMPLEX AND CIVIC CENTER, PEARSON, GEORGIA
May 24, 2018
11:00 a.m.

WELCOME MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Chair Joyce Evans called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Evans called upon Mr. Matt Seale to give the invocation and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

<u>Atkinson County</u>	<u>Bacon County</u>	<u>Ben Hill County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Futch, Lace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hutto, Andy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taylor, Steve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnson, Robert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Murphy, Peggy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Puckett, Jim
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McKinnon, Janice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coley, Lisa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dunn, Jason
<u>Berrien County</u>	<u>Brantley County</u>	<u>Brooks County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sumner, Doc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harris, Skipper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exum, Myra
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richbourg, Michael	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johns, Diane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennard, Nancy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Studstill, Janet	Vacant	Vacant
<u>Charlton County</u>	<u>Clinch County</u>	<u>Coffee County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Everett, James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McClaine, Kenton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dovers, A.J.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gowen, Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kennedy, Tom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moore, Bob
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Malin, Dawn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardee, Willie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Adam
<u>Cook County</u>	<u>Echols County</u>	<u>Irwin County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purvis, Dwight	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corbett, Stanley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whitley, Joey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke, Buddy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garner, Cheryl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seale, Matt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bennett, Derry	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paulk, Mona
<u>Lanier County</u>	<u>Lowndes County</u>	<u>Pierce County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fender, Dennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evans, Joyce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bennett, Neal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darsey, Bill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Miller-Cody, Vivian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larson, Dick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fitton, John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payton, Anthony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brannen, Andy
<u>Tift County</u>	<u>Turner County</u>	<u>Ware County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thompson, Grady	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denham, Nick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nelson, Carlos
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Julie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lumpkin, Sandra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knox, John
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marlowe, Brian	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> King, Barbara

<u>Governor's Office</u>	<u>Lt. Governor's Office</u>	<u>Speaker's Office</u>
Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone, Keith	Vacant
Vacant		
Vacant		

Staff Present

Cribb, Lisa
 Godwin, Ariel
 Hendricks, Tonia
 Hobbs, Kimberly
 Schultz, Kelly
 Strom, Chris

Guests Present

Benefield, Alpha
 Bennett, Latrice
 Ellis, Keven
 Grady, Peggy
 Hanks, Gwen
 Hill, Elizabeth
 James, Jaclyn
 Lane, Kelly
 Mikell, Nan
 Purvis, Scott
 Westberry, Diane

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL 26, 2018 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the April minutes had been emailed to all council members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Mr. Matt Seale made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Carlos Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF APRIL 2018 REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT: Chair Evans referred those present to a copy of the April 2018 Revenue and Expense Report included in their member packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Janice McKinnon made a motion to accept the April Revenue and Expense Report. Mr. Matt Seale seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Chair Evans began her report from the nomination committee by reminding council members of the two vacancies on the Executive Committee. She informed those present that the two nominations resulting from the April nomination committee meeting were Mr. Steve Taylor from Ben Hill County and Mr. Neal Bennett from Pierce County. With no questions from the council, Chair Evans called for a motion to install Mr. Taylor and Mr. Bennett as members of the executive committee. Mr. Carlos Nelson made such motion, and Mr. Matt Seale seconded that motion. Chair Evans called for discussion, and with none offered, called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Evans welcomed Mr. Bennett and Mr. Taylor in membership to the executive committee.

REVIEW OF DRAFT SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2019 BUDGET: RC Executive Director, Lisa Cribb referred council members to a page in their packet summarizing the estimated budget for FY2019 (copy attached and made part of these minutes). Ms. Cribb explained that the material before the council was only an overview of the projected budget at this point. She explained that the RC Finance Director, Ms. Kelly Schultz, had met with program directors to arrive at this large-scale view of the projections for FY2019. These projections, she explained, include the consideration of staff salary projections in the different program areas as well as any expected direct charges for the upcoming fiscal year. She also explained these estimates include any pass-through funds for program areas. Ms. Cribb told the council that over the next

month, Ms. Schultz and staff will continue working to refine this information so that a more specific line-by-line budget can be assembled in more detail for each program area including related contracts, grants and projects. Ms. Cribb explained that at next month's council meeting, there will be a line item budget prepared for presentation and review of the council. Ms. Cribb concluded her report and encouraged council members to review and become familiar with the summary provided.

REVIEW OF DRAFT SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2019 WORK PROGRAM: Chair Evans called upon Kimberly Hobbs, Community and Economic Development Program Director to provide this review. Ms. Hobbs informed the council that her presentation would provide an overview of the planned activities for the upcoming fiscal year. Ms. Hobbs then referred those present to the work program handout in their packets (copy attached and made part of these minutes) for reference as she proceeds through her presentation. Ms. Hobbs then delivered a power point presentation that highlighted the various activities in each programmatic area of the RC. She stated that at the June 2018 Council meeting, a resolution to adopt the work program will be presented for consideration by the council. After concluding her formal presentation, Ms. Hobbs encouraged members to contact her with any questions, comments or suggested changes to the work program. Ms. Hobbs answered a question from the audience regarding aging services and thanked the council for their attention.

APPROVAL TO TRANSMIT REGIONAL PLAN TO DCA: Chair Evans called upon Ariel Godwin, Senior Planner, to address this agenda item. Mr. Godwin reminded the council that the regional plan is updated every five years and that this plan serves as a roadmap for future development of the region. The regional plan, he stated, contains a wealth of information including goals, opportunities, areas requiring special attention, statistics and other valuable information relevant to planning for the future of the southern Georgia region. Mr. Godwin provided more background of the current regional plan including that it was kicked off in August of 2017, and since then there have been listening sessions and workshops in which many council members and communities participated and provided input. The result of this process, he stated, was an updated draft regional plan document. The final public hearing he stated, was held on May 23rd at the SGRC Valdosta office. Mr. Godwin explained that this particular regional plan is the first in Georgia to be completed to the newest specifications of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Mr. Godwin explained that with the draft completed, the next step in the process is to submit this document to DCA for their official review. A formal transmission letter signed by the council chairperson, he explained, must accompany this submission. He advised a copy of this letter was included in members' packets for their reference. On that note, he informed Chair Evans an action was necessary, and Chair Evans called for a motion for approval to transmit the regional plan to DCA. Ms. Janice McKinnon made a motion for approval to transmit the regional plan to DCA, and Mr. Carlos Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION ON OPIOID LAWSUITS: Chris Strom, Assistant Executive Director, informed the council that due to an unexpected scheduling conflict, Judge Chase Daughtrey was unable to attend and sends his regrets.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/UPDATES:

Planning: RC Senior Planner, Ariel Godwin informed the council that SGRC is in the final stages of drafting comprehensive plan documents for Tift County and Coffee County and the next comprehensive plan to be updated is for Irwin County. Mr. Godwin referenced the handout in member packets illustrating the various planning-related deadlines for each community. Mr. Godwin stated that the planning staff is working on approximately ten hazard mitigation plans as well as a few special projects that are underway. Mr. Godwin concluded his update by reminding those present that the RC planning staff are available for questions and are eager to assist communities anytime the need arises.

Grants: RC Community and Economic Development Director, Kim Hobbs directed those present to turn to the grants report in their packets (copy attached and made part of these minutes). Ms. Hobbs reminded council members that her department completed 19 CDBG grant applications recently. She encouraged those in attendance to review the projects in the regionwide grants report and examine the various types of projects for which the Community and Economic Development Department can assist. Ms. Hobbs offered the help of her program to any community that may benefit from a grant project.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) **Recognition of Guests and Representation:** Chair Evans announced that Ben Hill County, Atkinson County, Cook County and Brooks County has 100% representation at the council meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Chair Evans also recognized guests Kelly Lane from DCA and Scott Purvis from Georgia Power.
- 2.) **GMA Update:** Ms. Peggy Murphy reminded council members of the upcoming GMA training June 22nd through June 25th in Savannah and encouraged everyone to register and attend.
- 3.) **Other Announcements:** Ms. Lisa Cribb announced that the Regional TSPLOST was voted on in the recent referendum and was passed by a majority of voters across the southern Georgia region. She explained that this tax would take effect in October of this year.

ADJOURN: As there was no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.


Joyce Evans, Chair


Peggy Murphy, Secretary