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RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Josh Gibson Center
116 Rogers Street
Buena Vista, Georgia
May 23, 2018**

Summary

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 14 Counties)
A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
Barry Waters, City of Ft. Gaines
Barry Whitley, City of Butler
Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman Co.
Chip Jones, Stewart County
Danny Blackmon, Georgetown-Quitman
Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee
Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
Harry Lange, Harris County
Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee
Jayson Griffin, Macon County
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee Co.,
RVRC Secretary
Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
Melvin Crimes, Webster County
Mickey George, Macon County
Nelson Brown, City of Americus
Pam Jordan, Talbot County
Randy Howard, Sumter County,
RVRC Vice Chair
Richard McCorkle, Marion County
Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, ACCG
Tom Queen, Taylor County
Tony Kennedy, Webster County

Wally Summers, Sumter County
Walt Rosso, Cusseta-Chattahoochee Co.

Members Not Present

Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
Clinton Perry, Jr. Taylor County, RVRC Chair
Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion Co.
Greg Barineau, Schley County
Doug Etheridge, Harris County
Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion Co.
Jason Hoch, Schley County
Jeanie Bartee, City of Cordele
Jimmy Babb, City of Lumpkin
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
Lee Hubbard, Clay County
Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
Tameka Harris, Taylor County

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Others Present

County and City Representatives
Commissioner Lynne Riley, GA Department of Revenue
Representative Debbie Buckner, Georgia, District 137
Representative Bill McGowan, Georgia, District 138
Representative Buddy Hardin, Georgia, District 148
Representative Gerald Greene, Georgia, District 151
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, Georgia, District 12
Senator Ed Harbison, Georgia, District 15
Field Representative Bret Smith (for US Congressman Drew Ferguson)
Field Representatives Laura Gower (for US Senator Johnny Isakson)
Representative Elaine Gillispe (US Congressman Sanford Bishop)
Director Kenneth Cutts (US Congressman Sanford Bishop)
Sarahlyn Stafford, DCA
Casey Bean, DCA Representative, Region 8
River Valley RC Staff

Welcome and Recognition of Visitors

Randy Howard, Vice Chair, brought the meeting to order. He welcomed council members, distinguished guests and visitors. Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Secretary, led the council in prayer and Kenneth Cutts, representative for Congressman Sanford Bishop, led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Minutes*

Council reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2018 council meeting that was mailed or emailed to council members the previous week for their review.

There being no additions or changes, Vice Chair Randy Howard, requested a motion to approve the April 25, 2018 council minutes. Harry Lang, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

Staff Recognition

Several staff members were recognized for their years of service with the River Valley Regional Commission. Patti Cullen, Executive Director, recognized staff members with five years or more in five year increments. They were Grace Grant, 40 years of service, Tammy Collins, 25 years of service, and Bill Weathers with 5 years of service.

Comments from the Department of Revenue

Commissioner Lynne Riley, GA Department of Revenue, updated the council on taxes collected, income tax credits available, tax reform, and other services thru the Department of Revenue.

Legislator’s Remarks

Randy Howard, Vice Chair, introduced the following legislators and field representatives who updated the council and guests about legislative matters.

Representative Debbie Buckner, Georgia, District 137
Representative Bill McGowan, Georgia, District 138
Representative Buddy Hardin, Georgia, District 148

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Representative Gerald Greene, Georgia, District 151
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, Georgia, District 12
Senator Ed Harbison, Georgia, District 15
Field Representative Bret Smith (for US Congressman Drew Ferguson)
Field Representatives Laura Gower (for US Senator Johnny Isakson)
Director Kenneth Cutts (for US Congressman Sanford Bishop)

Vice Chair Randy Howard then asked Director Kenneth Cutts, representative for US Congressman Sanford Bishop, to give the blessing. Lunch was then served.

Date

Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair

Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Secretary

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