RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
Josh Gibson Center
Summary
February 22, 2017

Members Attending/Representing
(Representing 15 Counties)
A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
Barry Whitley, City of Butler
Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County
Cecil “Butch” McMickle, Marion County
Danny Blackman, Georgetown-Quitman County
Debbie Stone, Stewart County
Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
Harry Lange, Harris County
Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
James R. “Bump” Welch, Marion County
Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Muscogee County
Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
Lee Hubbard, Clay County
Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
Melvin Crimes, Webster County
Mickey George, Macon County
Pam Jordan, Talbot County
Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
Randy Howard, Sumter County
Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
Shirley Ann Christian, City of Fort Gaines
Terrell Hudson, Dooly County
Tommy McKenzie, Macon County
Tony Kennedy, Webster County
Tom Queen, Taylor County

Members Not Present
Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
Chip Jones, Stewart County
Clinton Perry, Jr., Taylor County, RVRC Chair
Doug Etheridge, Harris County
Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
Greg Barineau, Schley County
Jason Hoch, Schley County
Jeanie Bartee, City of Cordele
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
Nelson Brown, City of Americus
Richard McCorkle, Marion County
Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
Tameka Harris, Taylor County
Wally Summers, Sumter County

Others Present
Andrea Winston, New Horizons Behavioral Health
Susan Gallagher, New Horizons Behavioral Health
Paul Farr, South Georgia Technical College
Elaine Gillispie, Representative for Senator Bishop
Ricky Hood, City of Hamilton
Vickie Wainwright, City of Butler
Candy Head, GA Dept. of Labor Region 8
Laura Gower, Representative for Senator Isakson
Jayson Griffin, Ameris Bank
Kevin Brown, Marion County Family Connections Coordinator

Staff Present
Patti Cullen, Executive Director
Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
Katie Howard, AAA Director
Rick Morris, Planning Director
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
Janice West, WIOA Director

Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist
Lance Renfrow, Environmental Planner
Jim Livingston, Community & Economic Director
Allison Slocum, Historic Preservation/Planner
Kia Barrow, ADRC Coordinator/CCSP Specialist
Cheryl Maddox, GACARES Coordinator
Becky Holmes, Office Manager
Laura Schneider, Intern
Welcome and Recognition of Visitors
Patti Cullen, Executive Director, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. She said Mr. Perry was not able to attend the meeting due to an emergency at work and that the vice chair and secretary positions were vacant. She welcomed the council and visitors. Patti then asked Harry Lange, Harris County, to lead the council in prayer and Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, to then led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Minutes*
Council reviewed the minutes of the January 25, 2017 council meeting. There being no changes to the minutes, Patti requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2017 meeting.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Evelyn Turner-Pugh, Muscogee County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Enter into FY18 Contract with DHS for the Provision of Aging Services*
Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director, explained that a resolution was included in the council packet and that she was requesting approval to enter into the FY18 contract with the Department of Human Services (DHS) for the provision of Aging Services. She explained this contract was brought before the council each year.

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, asked for a motion to approve a resolution to enter into the FY18 contract with DHS for Aging Services. Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Muscogee County, made a motion to approve the resolution; Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of RVRC Officers and Executive Committee Members*
Harry Lange, Chair of the Nominating Committee, said that there were many people that would do a great job as RVRC officers and executive committee members. He said the Nominating Committee had met and proposed the following slate of officers: Randy Howard, Sumter County Commission Chair, as Vice Chair and Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Columbus Councilman, as Secretary. The nominating committee also recommended Bruce Hill, Mayor of Oglethorpe, and Patricia Goodman, Randolph County Chamber of Commerce, a private appointee, as executive committee members.

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, asked for a motion to approve the nominees for the RVRC Officers and the Executive Committee. Tom Queen made a motion to approve the nominees as presented; Tommy McKenzie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Patti then asked the new officers and executive committee members to join her at the front table.

Volunteers Needed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Advisory Council
Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director, explained that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee was in need of two volunteers to fill vacant positions on the committee. She asked that anyone interested to contact her at the RVRC office.

RVRC Council Member Training
Patti Cullen, Executive Director, explained that there would not be a speaker at the meeting but instead a councilmember training was planned. She said that tables were set up, by department, around the room with information pertaining to each RVRC department. Staff members Patti Cullen, Executive Director; Emily Chambers, Finance Director; Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director; Sarah Walls, Assistant Director; Janice West, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Director (WIOA); Gerald Mixon, Planning Director; Rick Morris, Planning Director; Lance Renfrow,
Environmental Planner; Allison Slocum, Historic Preservation and Senior Planner; Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist; and Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director gave a PowerPoint presentation for their departments.

Adjourn
Patti thanked everyone for attending the Council Training and asked them to speak with staff members after the meeting. She also reminded everyone that the March Council meeting will be held at the regular meeting place – the Marion County Commission Office on Burkhauler Avenue. The meeting then adjourned.

March 22, 2017
Date

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Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair

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Randy Howard, Vice Chair