



Columbus Office

710 Front Avenue, Suite A
P. O. Box 1908
Columbus, GA 31902
Phone (706) 256-2910
Fax (706) 256-2908
TDY (706)256-2944

Americus Office

228 West Lamar Street
Americus, GA 31709
Phone (706) 256-2910
Fax (229) 931-2745
Fax (229) 931-2917

www.rivervalleyrc.org

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
Marion County Commission Office
100 East Burkhalter Avenue, Buena Vista, Georgia
Minutes
October 25, 2017

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 16 Counties)
Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County
Chip Jones, Stewart County
Clinton Perry, Jr. Taylor County, RVRC Chair
Danny Blackman, Georgetown-Quitman County
Debbie Stone, Stewart County
Doug Etheridge, Harris County
Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
Harry Lange, Harris County
Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
Jayson Griffin, Macon County
Jeanie Bartee, City of Cordele
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
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
Richard McCorkle, Marion County
Shirley Ann Christian, City of Fort Gaines
Tameka Harris, Taylor County
Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, ACCG
Tom Queen, Taylor County
Tommy McKenzie, Macon County

Members Not Present

A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
Barry Whitley, City of Butler
Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
Greg Barineau, Schley County
James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
Jason Hoch, Schley County
Lee Hubbard, Clay County
Nelson Brown, City of Americus
Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
Tony Kennedy, Webster County
Wally Summers, Sumter County

Others Present

Kelvin Mullins, State TIA Administrator
Kenneth Franks, TIA Regional Coordinator
Megan Haley, Census 2020 Program Consultant, DCA
Linsey Glisson, Deputy Clerk of Council, Muscogee County
Kathy Burns, Senator Perdue's Representative
Sarah Lee Crumbs, Georgetown-Quitman County Family
Connections Coordinator
Ricky Hood, City of Hamilton
Paul Farr, Director of Business & Industry Services, SGTC

Staff Present

Patti Cullen, Executive Director
Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
Allison Slocum, Senior Planner
Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist
Jim Livingston, Community & Economic Development Dir.
Tenisha Tookes, WIOA Specialist
Becky Holmes, Office Manager

[Chattahoochee](#) | [Clay](#) | [Crisp](#) | [Dooly](#) | [Harris](#) | [Macon](#) | [Marion](#) | [Muscogee](#)
[Quitman](#) | [Randolph](#) | [Schley](#) | [Stewart](#) | [Sumter](#) | [Talbot](#) | [Taylor](#) | [Webster](#)

Equal Opportunity Employer

Welcome and Recognition of Visitors

Clinton Perry, Vice Chair, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone and recognized Megan Haley, Census 2020 Program Consultant with the Department of Community affairs and Linsey Glisson, Deputy Clerk of Council, Muscogee County. Mr. Perry then asked Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Secretary, to lead the council in prayer. Randy Howard, Vice Chair led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Minutes*

Council reviewed the minutes of the September 27, 2017 council meeting, which were mailed or emailed to council members the previous week, for their review.

Harry Lane, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Update of TIA Projects in the Region

Kelvin Mullins, State Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Administrator, and Kenneth Franks, TIA Regional Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting some of the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) projects that have been completed, are in progress, or are future projects planned in the region.

Upcoming 2020 Census

Megan Haley, Census 2020 Program Consultant with the Department of Community Affairs, spoke to the council about the importance of each county and city registering with LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses) program. The deadline for registration is December 15, 2017.

Maryiana Kostov, GIS Specialist, gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the benefits the cities and counties in the region will receive by registering with LUCA. If not registered, counties/cities will not be able to add new addresses such as new subdivisions that have been built since the 2010 census. She explained that the regional commission will help to complete the paperwork required to update addresses. Maryiana said that if the LUCA packet had not been received she has blank forms available for registration.

Approval to Apply for an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Assessment Grant

Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director, explained that the regional commission would like to submit an application for Crisp, Dooly, Macon and Sumter counties for a Brownfield Assessment Grant. He said this grant would assist the communities to identify brownfield site and secure funding for environmental assessments of these properties.

Jim then requested approval of the council to submit the Brownfield Assessment Grant application. Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, made a motion to approve submittal of the Brownfield Assessment Grant application; Mickey George, Macon County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[Chattahoochee](#) | [Clay](#) | [Crisp](#) | [Dooly](#) | [Harris](#) | [Macon](#) | [Marion](#) | [Muscogee](#)
[Quitman](#) | [Randolph](#) | [Schley](#) | [Stewart](#) | [Sumter](#) | [Talbot](#) | [Taylor](#) | [Webster](#)

Staff Reports

Jim Livingston, Economic and Community Development Director, Tenisha Tookes, Workforce Specialist for the WIOA program; Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director, and Gerald Mixon, Planning Director, updated the council on activities in their departments. Patti Cullen, Executive Director, presented the staff report for the Finance Department in the absence of Emily Chambers and Tammy Collins, Finance Directors.

Clinton Perry, Chair, explained to the council that the Executive Committee had met before the council meeting to discuss emails and phone calls that council members of the RVRC had been receiving. He assured the council that the allegations were unfounded and that the Executive Committee was seeking legal counsel. Randy Howard, Sumter County, updated the council concerning reimbursements of EMS-911 payments. He explained the Middle Flint E-911 Center's reimbursement was short \$46,000 and statewide there was a shortage of \$5 million. He said it is now being investigated. Jerry "Pops" Barnes explained that yearly funding is being slashed for many senior programs and that everyone should advocate for these programs. He announced there would be a Coalition of Aging Advocates meeting held in the River Valley Regional Commission office, in Columbus, on November 3rd, at 10:00 a.m. and urged everyone to attend.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the council, Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to adjourn; Melvin Crimes, Webster County, seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.