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**RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING River
Valley Regional Commission, Columbus Office
September 23, 2020
10:30 A.M.
Minutes Summary**

Members Attending in

Columbus Office

Randy Howard, Sumter, RVRC Chairman
Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Muscogee, RVRC Vice Chairman
Melvin Crimes, Webster

Knox Blackmar, Talbotton
Tameka Harris, Taylor
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart

Members Attending via

Teleconference

Carvel Lewis, Quitman
James Davenport, Clay
Doug Etheridge, Harris

Jayson Griffin, Macon
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph
Kevin Brown, Buena Vista
Mickey George, Macon
Harry Lange, Harris

Pam Jordan, Talbot
Richard McCorkle, Marion
Terrell Hudson, Dooly
Tony Kennedy, Webster
Kenneth Sumpter

Members Not Attending

A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
Barry Whitley, Butler
Bruce Hill, Oglethorpe, RVRC
Secretary
Chip Jones, Stewart
Clay Jones, Sumter
Damon Hoyte, Chattahoochee
Danny Blackmon, Quitman

Dr. Edward Lee, Chattahoochee
Eddie Daniels, Vienna
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot
Greg Barineau, Schley
Greg Dominy, Ellaville
James Morton, Chattahoochee
James R. “Bump” Welch, Marion
Jeanie Bartee, Cordele
Jimmy Babb, Lumpkin

Julie Brown, Hamilton
Maggie McGruther, Sumter
Matt Gunnels, Marion
Nelson Brown, Americus
Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp
Skip Henderson, Muscogee
Steve Whatley, Cuthbert
Tom Queen, Taylor

Others Attending via Video Call

Clara Hall, Phoebe Health
Bill Twomey, ACCG

Mac Moye, Stewart County

Staff Members

Jim Livingston, Executive Director
Sarah Wall, Assist. Executive Dir.
Katie Howard, AAA Director

Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
Tammy Collins, Finance Officer
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
John Morgan, Bike/Ped Planner

Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist
Janice West, WIOA Director
Tenisha Tookes, WIOA Specialist
Becky Holmes, Office Manager

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WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Randy Howard, Chairman, brought the River Valley Regional Commission Council meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He thanked everyone for joining the meeting either in person or by teleconference. Those joining by tele-conference were able to ask questions by e-chat or messaging Jim Livingston, Executive Director, on his telephone.

Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Vice Chairman, then gave the invocation and led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Council reviewed the minutes of the August 26, 2020 council meeting which were either mailed or emailed to council members the previous week for their review and included in the council packet available at the meeting. Jim Livingston, Executive Director, said that Tony Kennedy was in attendance at the August council meeting but was not listed as attending and requested that he be added to the minutes.

Randy Howard, Chairman, requested a motion to approve the August 26, 2020 council minutes with the addition of Tony Kennedy at the August council meeting.

Knox Blackmar, Talbotton, made the above requested motion; Melvin Crimes seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

APPROVAL OF RVRC BY-LAW ADJUSTMENTS*

Randy Howard, Chairman, explained proposed changes to the RVRC By-Laws. The proposed changes were emailed to council members and included in the council packet available at the meeting.

Randy Howard, Chairman, request approval of RVRC By-Laws adjustments, as discussed.

Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Vice Chairman, made the above requested motion; Knox Blackmar, Talbotton, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

APPROVAL OF APPROVAL OF RVRC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADJUSTMENTS*

Randy Howard, Chairman, presented proposed changes to RVRC Policies and Procedures. The proposed changes were emailed to council members and included in the council packet available at the meeting.

Randy Howard, Chairman, requested approval of RVRC Policies and Procedures adjustments, as discussed.

Melvin Crimes, Webster, made the above requested motion. Joe Lee Williams, Stewart, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

Randy Howard, Chairman, introduced Bill Twomey, ACCG. Mr. Towmey gave a presentation explaining the local government the Covid-19 CARES Act funding being distributed by the State of Georgia. Funding is distributed on a per-capita basis to communities for reimbursement of expenses due to the pandemic. Full participation is required to obtain the funding.

UPDATE OF AGING SERVICES DURING THE PANDEMIC

Katie Howard, AAA Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the council on new and expanded services for seniors in the region. Area Agency on Aging is now offering. An additional 9,985 meals were served in FY20 and 109,859 meals will be served in FY21. Clients that were being served meals in the senior centers are now receiving them in their home. New services being offered are home modifications, telephone reassurance, and material aid. AAA staff is also addressing social isolation and are increasing Outreach through a new AAA website and Facebook.

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REGIONAL PLAN ANNUAL REPORT

Rick Morris, Planning Director, presented the River Valley Regional Commission's Regional Plan Annual Report and gave highlights of accomplishments. The draft Annual Report for FY 2020 was emailed and included in the council packet available at the meeting. He explained that a notice of public hearing is scheduled on Monday, September 28, 2020 and has been sent to all local governments and newspapers.

Staff Reports

Staff members Emily Chambers, Finance Director; Katie Howard, AAA Director; Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director; Rick Morris, Planning Director; and Janice West, WIOA Director; presented staff reports for their departments.

ADJOURN

Randy Howard, Chairman, requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Melvin Crimes, Webster, made the above requested motion. Harry Lange, Harris, seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.