

SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
SGRC OFFICE • WAYCROSS, GA
JUNE 23, 2022
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Chair Joyce Evans called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Evans asked Tony McBrayer to give the invocation, and then he led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

<u>Atkinson County</u>	<u>Bacon County</u>	<u>Ben Hill County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Willis, Buddy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foskey, Richard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taylor, Steve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holt, Jason
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone, Robbie	<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"/> Gaskins, Ronnie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harris, Skipper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Folsom, Patrick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clayton, John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maefield, Barbara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morgan, Don
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smart, Lisa	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deshazor, Zurich
<u>Charlton County</u>	<u>Clinch County</u>	<u>Coffee County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Everett, James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metts, Roger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dovers, AJ
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gowen, Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blicht, Brooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paulk, Tony
Vacant	<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"/> Walker, Bobby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver, Scott
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke, Buddy		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hudgins, Horace
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bennett, Derry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garner, Cheryl	<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"/> Brooks, Keith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fitton, John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payton, Anthony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul, Steven
<u>Tift County</u>	<u>Turner County</u>	<u>Ware County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McBrayer, Tony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whiddon, Dana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thrift, Elmer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Julie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lumpkin, Sandra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James, Michael-Angelo
Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Giddens, Brandi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> King, Barbara

<u>Governor's Office</u>	<u>Lt. Governor's Office</u>	<u>Speaker's Office</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lovein, Norman "Bo"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone, Keith	Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daughtrey, Guy		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jones, Johnathon		

Staff Present

Backe, Elizabeth
 Courson, Scott
 Cribb, Lisa
 Hull, Corey
 Jacobs, Justin
 Rodgers, Kimberly
 Vining, Kim

Guests Present

Barnard, Steve
 Goree, King
 Lane, Kelly
 Lucas, Timothy
 McLean, Elizabeth
 Norton, Lee
 Rubenbauer, Jason
 Westberry, Diane
 Wright, Doris

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MAY 26, 2022 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the May 26, 2022 minutes had been emailed to members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Vivian Miller-Cody made a motion to approve the minutes. Michael-Angelo James seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MAY 2022 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the May 2022 Revenue and Expenditure Report was emailed to council members and included in their council packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Barbara King made a motion to accept the May financial report. Vivian Miller-Cody seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF DRAFT SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2023 WORK PROGRAM BY DIVISION: Chair Evans called on SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb to introduce the FY2023 Work Program. Ms. Cribb referred those present to the PowerPoint slides in their packets (copies attached and made part of these minutes) for reference during the presentations. Georgia State law requires that the SGRC compile a work program for planned activities in the upcoming fiscal year. She then introduced the following program representatives sharing PowerPoint presentations highlighting the various activities for their department for the upcoming fiscal year: Elizabeth Backe, Planning Director; Corey Hull, Transportation and Environmental Director; and Justin Jacobs, Regional GIS Coordinator.

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION FOR SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2023 WORK PROGRAM: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred council members to their packet material detailing the proposed FY2023 Work Program and the resolution for adoption (copy attached and made part of these minutes). She reminded council members that a copy of the FY2023 Work Program was emailed earlier in the week. Ms. Cribb explained that since the first presentations in April, no changes had been proposed or made. This month, she

stated, it is appropriate to ask the council for the adoption of this work program. Ms. Cribb shared that the Executive Committee reviewed the draft work program at their meeting earlier that day and asked if there were any questions. With no questions, Chair Evans called for a motion to adopt the SGRC FY2023 Work Program. Vivian Miller-Cody made a motion to adopt the RC FY2023 Work Program, and Neal Bennett seconded the motion. With no other discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2023 BUDGET: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred council members to the handout in their packets summarizing the proposed FY2023 Budget (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Cribb reminded the council that she had presented a preliminary budget at the May council meeting. She explained that the document before them included more detail about specific line items in the FY2023 budget. She continued with an overview of the changes in revenue in the proposed FY2023 budget. Ms. Cribb explained that the deficit in revenues from EDA CARES funding is due to the ending of a two-year grant, which has been extended from June 30, 2022 to December 31, 2022. There was a decrease in DOT 5311 - DHS Regional Public Transit revenue in the amount of \$900,000, and there is a corresponding decrease in expenditures for the carryover Regional Public Transit. There was a decrease in other income of \$200,000; this decrease is due to the sale of the McKey Street property, which was a one-time transaction in FY2022. Other major changes in revenue are reflected in the pass-through to service providers. There was an increase in DHS-Aging pass-through to service providers in the amount of \$1,354,338 and an increase in DOT/DHS – Regional Public Transit in the amount of \$1,676,077; there are corresponding increases in expenditures for these amounts, also. These increases are due to increased ridership and an increase in contracts for Medicaid trips. Pass-through to service providers for Workforce Development Contracts revenues reflect a decrease of \$497,461; there is a corresponding decrease in expenditures.

Ms. Cribb continued with an overview of the changes in the expenditures. She shared that increased travel expenditures are due to staff returning to in-person training and meetings. Another increase in the expenditures, Ms. Cribb stated, was a 5% budgeted increase in health insurance. A five percent increase is estimated, but the actual health insurance cost is unknown now. Overall the FY2023 Budget reflects an excess in revenues over expenditures of \$15,813. She stated that RC Finance Director Kelly Schultz reviewed the budget in detail with the Executive Committee before the council meeting. The Executive Committee recommended submitting this budget to the full council for approval. She asked for questions from the council. There being no questions, Chair Evans called for a motion. Michael-Angelo James made a motion to adopt the Southern Georgia RC FY2023 Budget. Vivian Miller-Cody seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

INITIATION OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Executive Director Lisa Cribb explained to council members that a copy of a performance evaluation is included in their meeting packets (copy attached and made part of these minutes). As required by law, regional commissions must initiate annual performance evaluations of the commission and its Executive Director to be completed by their councils. Ms. Cribb explained that the performance evaluation would be emailed to all council members for ease of responding. Members who prefer a hardcopy document should notify staff. She encouraged members to complete and return the evaluation and thanked them for their participation.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/UPDATES:

Grants: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred those present to a copy of the project status list included in their member packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Cribb stated that the project status list shows funded projects and projects that have been applied for in our region, grouped by county. Ms. Cribb advised those present to contact SGRC Community and Economic Development staff regarding projects listed in their packet or any potential projects they may be interested in for their communities.

Planning: SGRC Planning Director Elizabeth Backe referred those present to a handout listing the various plans that local governments are required to submit and the deadlines for submission (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She encouraged council members to review the schedule for upcoming deadlines for their communities and contact SGRC Planning staff with any questions.

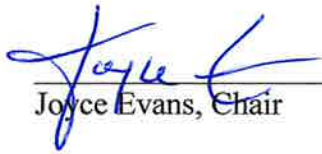
Division Reports: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred those present to the division reports in their packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Cribb asked those present to review the reports to see what the RC is doing in the region each month.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) **Recognition of Guests:** Chair Evans recognized Kelly Lane, DCA Region 11 representative, Lee Norton, representing Congressman Buddy Carter's office and Elizabeth Mclean from the Georgia Department of Economic Development and thanked him for attending the SGRC council meeting.
- 2.) **Recognition of Representation:** Chair Evans recognized Charlton, Lowndes and Ware counties for having 100% representation at the council meeting.
- 3.) **ACCG Update:** James Everett stated that a South Georgia Policy Committee Meeting would be held August 17th – 18th at the UGA Campus in Tifton, and The Leadership Institute would be offered in July at the Great Wolf Lodge in LaGrange from June 30th – July 1st and from July 14th – 15th.
- 4.) **GMA Update:** Barbara Maefield reminded the council that the GMA Annual Convention would be held in Savannah from June 24th – 28th. She then announced that Julie Smith, Mayor of Tifton, is the new GMA Board of Directors President, and Mona Paulk, City of Ocilla council member, is the new district eleven President.
- 5.) **DCA Update:** Kelly Lane reminded those present that OneGeorgia Equity applications deadline of July 8th was fast approaching and that Rural Zone Program applications would be due by August 19th.
- 6.) **GDEcD Update:** Elizabeth Mclean shared that nominations for the 2023 Small Business ROCK STARS would be open from August 8th – October 31st. The Georgia Small

Business ROCK STARS program recognizes the outstanding, unique and impacting small businesses in Georgia.

ADJOURN: As there was no further business to conduct, Chair Evans asked Willie Hardee to bless the meal, and the meeting adjourned.



Joyce Evans, Chair

Keith Stone, Secretary