

SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
Via Conference Call
April 22, 2021
11:00 a.m.

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

PROTOCOL FOR VIRTUAL MEETING: Chair Evans called upon SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb to review the procedures to be used during the conference call. Ms. Cribb explained to all that called in to make sure they: mute their phone when not speaking; state their name when making a motion or second; and unmute their phone to make motions/seconds, to participate in discussions, and to vote.

ROLL CALL: Chair Evans asked SGRC Assistant Executive Director Chris Strom to call the roll. Mr. Strom stated that he would call each council member's name (by county). He asked that council members respond with "here or present" so a quorum could be determined. After calling the roll, he asked that any guests and staff present to state their name. Results are shown below in the table.

<u>Atkinson County</u>	<u>Bacon County</u>	<u>Ben Hill County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Futch, Lace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hutto, Andy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taylor, Steve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Puckett, Jim
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McKinnon, Janice	<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
Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maefield, Barbara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennard, Nancy
<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"/> Paulk, Oscar
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gowen, Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardee, Willie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moore, Bob
Vacant	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Adam
<u>Cook County</u>	<u>Echols County</u>	<u>Irwin County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rowe, Audie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walker, Bobby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver, Scott
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke, Buddy		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seale, Matt
<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"/> Brannen, Andy

<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"/> Michael-Angelo James
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marlowe, Brian	Vacant	<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

Adams, Larry
Backe, Elizabeth
Courson, Scott
Cribb, Lisa
Dorsey, Rex
Hobbs, Kimberly
Schultz, Kelly
Strom, Chris
Strom, Rachel
Vining, Kim

Guests Present

Dark, Melissa
McIntyre, Neal
Moore, Darrell
Shinholster, Lisa
Rubenbauer, Jason

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MARCH 25, 2021 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the March 25, 2021 minutes had been emailed to members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Bill Darsey made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2021 meeting. Barbara Mae field seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH 2021 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the March 2021 Revenue and Expenditure Report had been emailed to council members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Barbara Mae field made a motion to accept the March financial report. Janice McKinnon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF DRAFT SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2022 WORK PROGRAM BY DIVISION: Chair Evans called upon SGRC Community and Economic Development Director Kimberly Hobbs to start the Work Program presentations. Ms. Hobbs referred those present to the draft work program and PowerPoint slides in their packets (copies attached and made part of these minutes) for reference during the presentations. Georgia State law requires the SGRC to compile a work program for planned activities in the upcoming fiscal year. The council will vote on the resolution to adopt the Work Program in June. Each RC department will give detailed overviews of their programs and planned activities for the upcoming fiscal year over several meetings, allowing the council time to review the draft work program, make suggestions, or ask questions before adopting it. The following program directors presented PowerPoint presentations highlighting the various activities for their department for the upcoming fiscal year:

Kimberly Hobbs, Community & Economic Development Director; Rachel Strom, GIS Director; and Larry Adams, IT Director.

RESOLUTION TO DE-FEDERALIZE EDA RLF: Chair Evans called on SGRC Lending Director Rex Dorsey to present the resolution to De-Federalize EDA RLF. Mr. Dorsey referred those present to the resolution included in their meeting packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). He stated that the new RLF Act that recently passed in Congress allows certain revolving loan funds to be de-federalized should they meet certain criteria. Mr. Dorsey said this essentially means less reporting on the RC end, and it will relieve some administrative and regulatory burdens. He stated that the resolution to de-federalize EDA RLF was created with the help of a representative from EDA so that all of the criteria required for the request were met. He then asked for questions. There being no questions, Barbara Mae field made a motion to approve the resolution to de-federalize EDA RLF. Anthony Payton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF CURRENT YEAR BUDGET AMENDMENT: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred those present to the pages in their packets (copy attached and made part of these minutes) that detailed the proposed budget amendment and reminded everyone they received these in their email earlier in the week. Ms. Cribb reminded the council that the SGRC prepares a budget ahead of the fiscal year, but changes occur throughout the year. Examples of this, she stated, might be a grant award for a different amount than anticipated and the timing of contracts. Other factors influencing the budget amendment include staff changes and turnover. Also, this past year, COVID restrictions have presented a significant difference in the approved budget versus the revised for FY21. She explained that an annual budget amendment reconciles our expected revenues and expenses from the start of the fiscal year with the reality of what has happened throughout the year. Ms. Cribb mentioned that while some of the line item adjustments were rather large, these decreases in revenues also had a corresponding reduction in expenditures to offset them.

The total adjustments Ms. Cribb explained reflect a deficit of \$16,398 in the proposed budget amendment. With an overall budget of approximately \$15 million, that adjustment is relatively small. She then told the council that the Executive Committee reviewed the budget amendment during their meeting and recommended approval of the budget amendment. Barbara Mae field made a motion to adopt the current year's budget amendment. Vivian Miller-Cody seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no other discussion.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF DUES SCHEDULE FOR FY2022: Chair Evans called on SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb to explain the consideration of the dues schedule for FY2022. Ms. Cribb stated that a copy of the dues schedule for FY2022 had been emailed to council members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She explained that the Department of Community Affairs requires that RCs use the latest population figures from the Census Bureau to compute dues, and this schedule reflects those latest figures. She explained that per-capita dues would remain at \$1.25 for FY2022, as it has been for the past eleven years or so. Dana Whiddon made a motion to approve the dues schedule for FY2022. Vivian Miller-Cody seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/UPDATES:

Grants: SGRC Community and Economic Development Director Kimberly Hobbs 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. Hobbs stated that the project status list shows funded projects and projects that have been applied for in our region, grouped by county. She mentioned that the CDBG application deadline is June 4, 2021. She then reminded the council members of the list of the non-negotiable threshold requirements for CDBG applications to DCA that must be met or their applications would not be reviewed. Ms. Hobbs advised those present to contact SGRC Community and Economic Development staff regarding projects listed in their packet or any potential projects that 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, as well as 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 to 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.

ADJOURN: As there was no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned.


Joyce Evans, Chair


Matt Seale, Secretary