

**SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
Via Conference Call  
JANUARY 27, 2021  
11:00 a.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:** Chair Joyce Evans called the meeting to order and welcomed Executive Committee members, staff 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 Executive Committee members' name. He asked that council members respond with "here or present" so a quorum could be determined. After he checked the roll, he asked that guests and staff present please state their names. Results are shown below:

**Members in Attendance:**

Duke, Buddy  
Evans, Joyce  
Gowen, Lee  
King, Barbara  
Seale, Matt  
Stone, Keith  
Taylor, Steve

**Staff Present:**

Cribb, Lisa  
Schultz, Kelly  
Strom, Chris

**Guests:**

Nick Valenti

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 24, 2020 MEETING MINUTES:**

Chair Evans called the meeting to order and then reminded those present that the minutes of the June 24, 2020 Executive Committee meeting were emailed to members for their review (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Barbara King made a motion to accept the minutes, and Buddy Duke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF SGRC ANNUAL AUDIT:** Chair Evans called upon Nick Valenti of Valenti, Rackley and Associates, LLC to review the SGRC's annual audit for the year ending June 30, 2020. Mr. Valenti referred those present to a copy of the completed audit (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). He directed the committee to the independent auditor's report on roman numeral pages 4, 5 and 6. He stated that the financial statements are materially correct and are a reliable and fair representation of the financial position of the SGRC. Mr. Valenti said that Valenti, Rackley, and Associates provided a clean opinion of the financial statements. Mr. Valenti then gave a thorough report on the audit. He also shared that no difficulties, disagreements with management, findings, issues, or other matters were encountered during the audit. Chair Evans thanked Mr. Valenti for presenting a thorough report on the audit and asked the committee for questions. There being no questions, Matt Seale

made a motion to recommend approval of the audit to the council. Steve Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

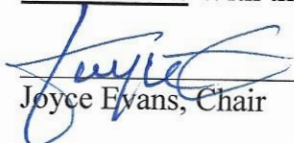
**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF SALE OF SAVANNAH AVE. PROPERTY:**

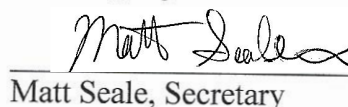
SGRC Assistant Executive Director Chris Strom referred those present to a copy of the Resolution of the Sale of Savannah Ave. property included in their council packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Mr. Strom shared that staff has completed moving out of the Savannah Ave. building and are in the new building on Carlton Adams Drive. He reminded the council that the intention had been to sell the Savannah Ave. property and put that income towards the payment of the loan for the new office building. The Savannah Ave. property consists of three tracts for a total of .85 acres and the building. Mr. Strom stated that Lowndes County DPH has been interested in the Savannah Ave. property. In May 2017, SGRC had the property appraised, and that appraisal came back with a value of \$219,000. Lowndes County has tentatively agreed to purchase the property for the appraised value of \$219,000.

Mr. Strom shared Lowndes County and RC attorneys have been in contact to prepare for this transaction. Mr. Strom told the committee that the first step would be to ask the council to approve the sale of the property at 327 W. Savannah Ave. with .85 acres for a sale price of \$219,000 to Lowndes County. He then asked the committee if there were any questions. Buddy Duke asked Mr. Strom to clarify if the property to be sold will contain both properties (McKey Street and Savannah Ave.). Mr. Strom explained that the sale is for just the Savannah Ave. property, which consists of the three tracts that he referred to in the meeting packet as exhibits. Chair Evans asked for a motion to recommend the sale of the Savannah Ave. property to the council for approval. Buddy Duke made a motion to recommend approval of the sale of the Savannah Ave. property to the council. Matt Seale seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL ATTENDANCE EXCEPTION DURING PANDEMIC:** SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb reminded the committee of the attendance requirements for council members outlined in the SGRC By-Laws. The By-Laws state that when a council member misses three consecutive meetings during the fiscal year, SGRC sends a notice to that council member. For the private sector appointments, SGRC mails notices to the appointing officials and the member. Ms. Cribb explained that she would like to present the possibility of allowing an exception to the attendance policy due to current restrictions prompting meetings to be held virtually or by teleconference. She stated that the Executive Committee would need to vote to recommend approval to the full council the exception to the attendance policy while in a virtual meeting setting. Ms. Cribb explained that the exception would need to be approved by the council to take effect. Chair Evans asked for a motion for the recommendation of council attendance exception during pandemic while in a virtual meeting setting to the council. Barbara King made a motion to recommend approval of the exception to the council. Steve Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:** With there being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Joyce Evans, Chair

  
Matt Seale, Secretary