

**MINUTES OF THE
COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL
August 10, 2016
Richmond Hill City Center, Richmond Hill, GA
10:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Thomas Ratcliffe, Jr., called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Invocation was provided by Mayor Ken Lee, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Ratcliffe, Jimmy Burnsed, David Stevens, Shaw McVeigh, Ken Lee, Walter Gibson, Sean Register, Jimmy Starline, Donald Lovette, Phil Phillips, David Boland, Allen Brown, Dan Coty, Graylan Quarterman, Herb Jones, Harold Fowler, Charles Frasier, Ray Howard, Rosa Romeo, Julie Martin, Chris Blaine, and Jan Moore.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Coley, Reggie Loper, Preston Dees, Hugh Hodge, Dwight Gordon, Priscilla D. Thomas, Chap Bennett, Eddie DeLoach, Dale Provenzano, Jordy Evans, John Morrissey, Allen Amason, Craig Root, and Gwendolyn Davis.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Dorothy Glisson, Screven County and Ron Elliott, Fort Stewart.

GUESTS: Margaret and Osal Evans; Dina McKain, Fort Stewart; Stephanie-Dammen Morrell, Hussey, Gay & Bell; Eric Landon, Camden County; Jennifer Fordham, DCA; Kathleen Kosmoki, Ogeechee Tech; and Joe Parker, Freelance Reporter.

STAFF PRESENT: Allen Burns, Executive Director; Lupita McClenning, Planning & Government Services Director; Hunter Key, GIS Manager; Lena Geiger, Finance Director and Colletta S. Harper, Administrative Services Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 8th meeting.

Motion: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed
Second: Commissioner Walter Gibson
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL of NON-PUBLIC AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS *(See Attachment 1, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Ratcliffe referred members to the blue handout. A motion was made to approve the Non-Public & Ex-officio appointments as listed.

Motion: Mayor Ken Lee
Second: Commissioner Rosa Romeo
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL OF CADD A APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT: *(See Attachment 2, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Ratcliffe referred members to the yellow handout recommending Mr. Cedric King for Glynn County and Mr. James Rogers for Liberty County. A motion was made to approve the recommended appointment and reappointment.

Motion: David Boland
Second: Herb Jones
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL OF EAST COAST GREENWAY PROJECT: *(See Attachment 3, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Executive Director Burns referred members to the salmon handout regarding the \$100,000 appropriated by the legislature to support implementation of the Coastal Georgia Greenway. DCA is currently working on a contract; however, he has met with them and believes he has a good understanding of

what it will contain. Legislators have stressed they want to see the money spent on construction, so we are looking for shovel-ready projects; a small amount will come to the CRC for administration. We have a strict timeline; the money must be spent this fiscal year. Notice has been sent to the coastal counties advising this RFP will be forthcoming so they can begin preparations. Tybee Island, McIntosh, St. Marys, and Brunswick have advised us that they have projects ready to go. Council approval is needed for staff to send out the RFP with proposals being due by September 12th. Proposals will be reviewed and brought to Council for final approval at the September 14th meeting. A motion was made to approve staff sending out the proposals, reviewing, and bring recommendation back to Council at the September 14th meeting.

Motion: Graylan Quarterman

Second: Shaw McVeigh

Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATIONS

Georgia Public Service Commission - Mr. Tim Echols, Public Service Commissioner, provided a PowerPoint overview of the Public Service Commission. Five members are elected to the Georgia Public Service Commission to regulate the monopolies of gas, electric, and telecom. The energy ecosystem consists of four major components: (1) workforce; (2) grants; (3) applied research and universities; and (4) legislative framework. Renewable energy includes solar and wind power. GA is all in with solar; slowly getting into wind power; estimates around 2030-2035 GA will have wind power off of Tybee Island. 90% of solar power is being sold to Georgia Power; Taylor County is the solar capital of Georgia. Nuclear power is the answer to closing coal plants. CNG is not catching on; but is a popular fleet fuel. If anyone is interested in hosting an Alternative Fuel Road show next summer let him know; vehicles are available for inspection and a two-hour seminar is provided. Hybrids work well; electric cars work good in Atlanta, however, not so much in the rural south. HB 170, the unfair road use tax really hurt the sales of electric vehicles. Aside from his duties as PSC, he also does an "Unholy Tour" focusing on child sex trafficking which is geared for police chiefs and policy makers – not the general public. The next tour is scheduled in Savannah on September 20th at 7:30 p.m., if you are interested in participating call his office and speak with Bethany.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on GARC – CRC GARC Representative David Boland reported that at the August 4th GARC Policy Officials and Executive Director's meeting the Geographic Information Officer's contract was extended.

Project Status Reports - *(See Attachments 4, 5, 6, and 7 attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Executive Director Burns noted that the waiting list was not available in the Aging Report due to the state's new HARMONY software, which has been implemented but is not working well. Peggy Luukkonen presented at a conference in San Diego on our Tools for Life Lab and was able to tour participants through our lab using the robot; she explained how they others could establish affordable labs. Aging is also receiving an additional \$300,000 for services. The Financial Report shows that we are in much better shape than the last several years, which is a result of implementing the items we agreed we needed to do. The \$212,000 towards the reserve has come mainly from the dues increase and we still anticipate five years until will reach the \$2 million mark as recommended by our auditors.

CADDA Report: No questions were raised regarding the CADDA report. *(See Attachment 8, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Had a couple of conversations with Chatham County; they were comfortable with our discontinuation of transportation services; the door was left open for future conversations. We now run 5311 everywhere but Chatham. We have separate contracts with them for Aging and DHS transportation. CAT has reapproached us about doing paratransit.
- Staff is preparing for our audit; auditors will be in the office the last week of August and the report should be presented at the November meeting.
- The interested party in the Brunswick facility fell through. Our contract is up with the realtor; as before, we will submit an RFP for realtors to lease/sale the building. The executive committee will meet with the proposers and bring recommendation to the full council.
- Worked the GARC booth at the GMA conference in Savannah in June.
- Spoke to the Lions Club in Darien. If you have a group and need a speaker, let us know.
- Hosted the Coastal Advisory Council (CAC) meeting at our office in July.
- The Geographic Information Officer contract was extended at our GARC meeting last week. Georgia is one of the few states that does not have this position. We hope the state will pick up this position and it will be located within DCA.
- We received the FY15 Certificate of Achievement in Financial Report – congratulations to Lena and staff.
- Life-lock alerted me that I had been hacked into via Linked-In. We think we have everything secure and you can receive emails from me.
- Two sessions have been held on ortho-imagery. Proposed MOUS have been distributed and we hope to have finals by September, with an anticipated flight date of January 2018. By jointly working on this, costs will be cut by about 35%.

Commissioner Julie Martin stated that the Georgia Bike Summit will be held October 21-23, 2016 on Jekyll Island. Burns noted that the East Coast Greenway will be discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m., with lunch following.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at the Richmond Hill City Center at 10:00 a.m.**