

**MINUTES OF THE
COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL
August 14, 2019
Richmond Hill City Center, Richmond Hill, GA
10:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Allen Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Invocation was provided by Richard Hayes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dan Coty.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Ratcliffe, Allen Brown, Ken Lee, Ray Howard, Sean Register, Reggie Loper, Herb Jones, Michael Browning, Shirley Frasier, Dan Coty, David Boland, Robert Parker, Lannie Brant, Donald Lovette, Rick Freeman, Jason Coley, Chester Ellis, Shaw McVeigh, Chris Blaine, Richard Hayes, Jordy Evans, Bill Watson, Walter Gibson, and Rosa Romeo.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carter Infinger, Craig Root, Preston Dees, Julie Martin, Mary Hamilton, Dr. Priscilla Thomas, Tara Baraniak, Allen Amason, Brian Foster, Hugh Hodge, Jonathan McCollar, Chap Bennett, and John Morrissey.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Dorothy Glisson, Screven County.

GUESTS: Tom Couch and Ann Henry, Bulloch County; Dina McKain, Fort Stewart; Al Scott, Whitney Cobb, and Katie Horne, Chatham County; Sheron Morgan, Work Source Coastal; Kristina Sikes, Bryan County; David Stevens, McIntosh County; Jimmy Starline, Camden County; Eddie DeLoach, Savannah; and Jennifer Fordham, GA DCA.

STAFF PRESENT: Allen Burns, Executive Director; Eric Landon, Planning & Gov't Services Director; Russell Oliver, Senior Planner II; Tayler Hames, Grant Specialist/Planner; Hunter Key, GIS/IT Director; Don Masisak, Transportation Director; Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director; Lena Geiger, Finance Director and Colletta Harper, Administrative Services Director.

OUTGOING CHAIRMAN: A gavel plaque was presented to outgoing Chairman Reggie Loper for his service to the Council.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE: Executive Director Burns recognized Walter Gibson, Reggie Loper, Rosa Romeo, Herb Jones and Richard Hayes for perfect attendance. Mr. Hayes received a Georgia Flag and certificate certifying that the flag had been flown over the Capitol in honor of his perfect attendance.

COUNCIL MEMBER SERVICE RECOGNITION: Chairman Brown presented certificate plaques to Chris Blaine and Sean Register for their 10 years of service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 12th meeting.

Motion: Ray Howard
Second: Commissioner Reggie Loper
Vote: Unanimous

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

Motion: Mayor Ken Lee
Second: Jason Coley
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL of BUDGE & FINANCE COMMITTEE: *(See Attachment 2, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Brown referred members to the yellow handout for the list of the appointments. A motion was made to approve the Budget & Finance Committee as listed.

Motion: Shaw McVeigh
Second: Commissioner Rosa Romeo
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL of ETHICS COMMITTEE: *(See Attachment 3, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Brown referred members to the tan handout for a list of the appointments. A motion was made to approve the Ethic Committee appointments as listed.

Motion: Mayor Ken Lee
Second: Commissioner Reggie Loper
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL of TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: *(See Attachment 4, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Brown referred members to the salmon handout for a list of the appointments. A motion was made to approve the Transportation Committee appointments as listed.

Motion: Commissioner Reggie Loper
Second: Commissioner Rosa Romeo
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO CHANGE SIGNATORIES FOR THE CRC'S BANK ACCOUNT and RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE ZERO BALANCE CHECKING ACCOUNT TO A SWEEP CHECKING ACCOUNT: *(See Attachments 5 and 6, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* A motion was made to approve the two Resolutions as presented.

Motion: Shaw McVeigh
Second: Sean Register
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL OF CADDA BOARD REAPPOINTMENT: *(See Attachment 7, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Chairman Brown referred members to the buff handout. A motion was made to approve the appointment of James Rogers to the CADDA Board.

Motion: Jordy Evans
Second: Chairman Donald Lovett
Vote: Unanimous

APPROVAL OF TITLE VI PLAN: *(See Attachment 8, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Donald Masisak, Transportation Director, provided a brief overview of the Title VI Plan. A motion was made to approve the Title VI Plan.

Motion: Shaw McVeigh
Second: Dan Coty
Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATION

Congressman Rick Allen – Congressman Rick Allen, 12th district, provided a legislative update. He stated one of his biggest disappointments is the appropriations process and that it has not been done in order since he started. They receive a 1,200 page spending bill and have 24 hours to review it before they vote. In 2016, the 115th Congress didn't get health care reform done, but they did get regulatory and tax reform done. The tax

reform has definitely strengthened the economy and we have more jobs than job seekers. Immigration is a big issue and he hopes the legislators have heard enough about it from their constituents and will come back ready to work together on a solution. Agriculture is the biggest industry in Georgia and farmers are suffering; the Farm Bill was passed and will provide some relief. Approximately 42 million people rely on government assistance, and approximately 22 million are work capable. Of those who started working through the Waiver Program, approximately 85% of them are now off government assistance. 2019 was the first time the military was funded in the last 10 years without a continuing resolution. He stated our ports are top notch and rail traffic needs to be expanded, and a skilled workforce is a big need. Legislators lost in court and the Census count will include illegal immigrants, and the Census population will be used to redraw districts. A brief Q&A followed.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES AS THE GRANT RECIPIENT, FISCAL AGENT, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY FOR THE REGION XII COASTAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD: *(See Attachment 9, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

Executive Director Burns stated that in the Spring he met with the Savannah City Manager and staff regarding the workforce program. They indicated that they would like to relinquish the program, and we expressed an interest in the program; this was discussed with our Budget & Finance Committee. On June 20th, I attended a work session with Savannah, and that afternoon the City voted to discontinue operation of the workforce program and Mayor DeLoach sent a letter to the State advising of their decision. I met with workforce board and staff that evening and the following day. On June 26th, I was in Atlanta and visited the Office of Workforce and had a good conversation with them. On July 8th we received a letter from the State advising the steps necessary for us to become fiscal agent. One of the first steps is for the Council to accept responsibility for this Program. The LEO Board will also have to approve a resolution accepting us taking over the program. The LEO Board will meet at 12:30 in this room. Burns stated that Savannah's year ends on December 31st and we would have to be ready to take over the program effective January 1, 2020. Burns explained the things that would need to be done prior to January 1st. I have already talked with Sheron Morgan, the interim director, about the steps we will need to take in order to ensure a smooth transition. They currently have 15 staff members/Savannah employees that will transition to CRC employees. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the Resolution as presented.

- Motion:** Shaw McVeigh
- Second:** Chairman Donald Lovett
- Vote:** Unanimous

WORKSOURCE GEORGIA –: *(See Attachment 10, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

Sheron Morgan, Interim Director for WorkSource Georgia, provided a PowerPoint overview of the program. With this program, you do not have to apply for funds, you receive them annually. The WIOA program works more with businesses than the former WIA program. Funding is available for adults, dislocated workers, and youth. In 2014 Screven was added to their region. A Complete Job Center is located in Savannah and that is where you have access to DOL, TANF, and Rehabilitation. Statesboro was at one time a One-Stop Center, and is close to being that again. The difference in the training that is available through WorkSource and the regular colleges/training facilities, is that if a person qualifies through WorkSource, their training is paid for up to \$12,000 within a two-year period. After the presentation, council members requested that the PowerPoint be emailed to the Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on Transportation Program – Don Masisak, Transportation Director, stated as of July 1, we do not have a Third Party Operator (TPO) and we had a pretty smooth transition. An orientation was held on Saturday, June 22nd for 80 new employees. We've had a good response from drivers and clients since we took over; the biggest challenge has been the timesheets. Too many were getting overtime, and we are getting the numbers

down on that, figuring out schedules between the full-time and part-time drivers. We have 7 employees in the call center and they are adhering to the rules. Cost control is at a good stage because we know what our costs are; we didn't know with the TPO. Long County transit is now under the auspice of the CRC and that is going well. Jimmie Green, a former employer/owner of Transitions, has a lot of transit experience and is managing the drivers. POS contracts are still in line, and we will work with WorkSource in the future.

Budget & Finance Committee Chairman Ken Lee requested an update with the money owed from the TPO. Executive Director Burns stated that we had withheld \$350,000 from the payment to the TPO and had repaid the monies to GDOT, so we have met our obligations. The TPO was not happy and has hired an attorney.

Update on GARC – CRC GARC Representative David Boland reported that at the August GARC Policy Officials and Executive Director's highlights were a discussion/evaluation of ESRI, a software provider, and the National Guard Unit Medical Reserve can provide care to those in need in communities.

Project Status Reports - (See Attachments 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 attached herein and made a part of these minutes.) No questions were raised.

CADDA Report: No questions were raised regarding the CADDA report. (See Attachment 16, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- If you read the financial report you will see a lot of good effort and that everyone has added to the surplus. While unaudited, it is anticipated that \$400,000 from the general fund will be put into the unrestricted reserve – this is a big step forward.
- Several staff members put in a tremendous amount of work for the transportation transition – Colletta, Lena, Don, and David to ensure there was no break in service.
- Communities of Faith – Mike Beatty is tentatively looking at November to come down with some of his counterparts to meet with the committee the first evening and then the entire group that worked on the projects the following day. Will provide more details once everything has been confirmed.
- Since Darien has announced they will be relocating the Police Department back into Darien, we have had several groups express an interest in occupying their space.
- Our balloon payment was due at the end of this month and we are extending our lease/purchase agreement with the McIntosh County Development Authority for the full 15 years and we still have the option of satisfying the note sooner if possible.
- Currently working on the 2019 Annual Report/2020 Calendar. Next year, Veteran's day falls on our Council meeting day; next month the Council needs to decide if we need to change our meeting date.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m., with lunch following.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at the Richmond Hill City Center at 10:00 a.m.**