

ENCLOSURE # 2



Board of Directors' Meeting Monday, June 7, 2021

MINUTES

Members Present

Clarendon County: Benton Blakely, Kevin Johnson, Shirley Keels, Dwight Stewart, Julia Nelson

Lee County: Jackie Josey, Will Wheeler, Grady Brown

Sumter County: Eugene Baten, Steve Corley, Jay Davis, Jim McCain, Vivian McGhaney, Roland Robinson, Chuck Wilson, Earl Wilson, David Merchant, David Weeks

Kershaw County: Alfred Mae Drakeford, Julian Burns, Brad Hanley, Kenneth McCaskill

Members Absent

Kershaw County: Jeffrey Graham, John Lee, Sammie Tucker

1. **Welcome & Call to Order:** Chairman Vivian McGhaney called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.
2. **Invocation:** Chairman Vivian McGhaney provided the invocation.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Vivian McGhaney led the pledge, and all attendees participated.
4. **Quorum Determination:** The Board Clerk, Linda Jackson, informed Chairman McGhaney we had reached a quorum with 22 board members present.
5. **Adoption of Agenda:** Chairman McGhaney called for a motion to approve the June 7, 2021, agenda. Mr. Jim McCain made the motion to adopt the agenda, and Mr. Grady Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Mayor Julia Nelson made a motion to approve the April 5, 2021, meeting. Mr. Dwight Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Public Presentations:**
 - a. **SC Green Infrastructure presented by Matthew Lee, Green Infrastructure Center:**
 - i. Mr. Matt Lee from the Green Infrastructure Center (GIC), a nonprofit organization in Virginia, gave a presentation on the "South Carolina Green Infrastructure

Network Strategic Plan.” The project is a collaboration between the South Carolina Forestry Commission and the Green Infrastructure Center to work with state, regional, and local governments in South Carolina to create a state-wide green infrastructure network and plan. Green Infrastructure plans contribute to land use decision-making, land conservation efforts, and protecting forest resources and other important natural areas. The GIC is recruiting the assistance of COGs across South Carolina to assist in facilitating the plan-making effort. There were several questions asked by board members pertaining to funding and Mr. Lee indicated with a green infrastructure plans in place the jurisdictions could be well-positioned to receive grant funding.

b. Kershaw County Emergency Bus Route Update:

- i. SWRTA Executive Director Mrs. Lottie Jones provided an update on the emergency bus route. The following is a summary:
 1. This Two-Year Pilot Route is funded with the CARES Act funds.
 2. SWRTA currently working with CMCOG to obtain additional funding (ARP), but it is a slow process.
 3. **If any** ARP funds received, looking at establishing “demand response” route in the urbanized area in Elgin.
 4. This would assist disabled/handicapped individuals that do not live close to the fixed route stop. Bus could be routed to their residence.
- ii. Originates in Elgin
 1. The plan was to start the emergency route on July 1, 2021.
 2. We are having a very hard time finding vehicle operators.
- iii. Route Assessment:
 1. Estimated times have been established for each stop
 2. Kershaw County staff have identified bus stops that are located in the SCDOT right-of-way or on private property
 3. Currently training dispatchers and a selected group of current vehicle operators
- iv. Advertising Promotion:
 1. The Kershaw County Live Well Coalition and some of the Citizens have completed the logo and name for the transportation service
 - a. ***Kershaw Connect, Serving Kershaw County Residents***
 - b. Flyers and temporary brochures were designed to share with the citizens to provide information on the upcoming route
- v. Capital Investment:
 1. Two vehicles are dedicated for this route (provided by SWRTA)
 - a. 1 - twenty passenger vehicle
 - b. 1 - fourteen passenger vehicle
 2. Currently in the procurement process of getting vehicles repainted with the Kershaw Connect Logo

8. Staff Reports:

- a. **Finance:** - Chief Finance Director Rachel Katorkas, reported that Finance is 83 percent of the way thru the fiscal year, bringing in 65 percent of budgeted revenue and expended 71.5 percent of budgeted expenses. Finance operates primarily on a reimbursable basis, with the normal differential being between 8 and 12 percent. The proposed budget amendment was not incorporated into this report since it has not yet been approved by the board, so this financial report is based on the original budget for this year.

- b. Health & Human Services:** HHS Director Janae Stowe reported to the board, SCDOA has awarded our COG with Expanding Access to COVID-19 Vaccine's funding in the amount of \$60,000. The grant may be used to disseminate credible information about vaccines and COVID-19 to seniors. Also, HHS Department in collaboration with Government Services submitted a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for facility improvements to four (4) senior centers, one (1) in each county. The intent of this grant is to provide walk-in freezers for the storage of extra required meals required during the pandemic. In addition, the grant requests building generators to provide a measure of security in the event of a natural disaster such as hurricanes. Generators will prevent the spoilage of large amounts of meals in the event of a power outage.
- c. Government Services:** Government Service Chief Dennis Cyphers has provided multiple updates within the CDBG.
- i. City of Bishopville** was awarded CDBG grant for \$750,00/Local \$851,300 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades. Bid Opening was performed on 03/02/2021. CDBG reviewed and has requested more documents.
 - ii. Mayesville/City of Sumter Sewer Upgrade** – Construction has been completed. The project to come in \$375 less than estimated because of materials CDBG. Project monitoring done and Closeout process will begin. \$1,000,000/Local \$1,258,836.
 - iii. Sumter/Shannontown Demolition** was extended to June 30, 2021. A bid opening for the remaining 10 units was held on 03/05/2021. Project to be re-bid due to bid discrepancy. New bid opening to be held June 3, 2021, at 2pm. CDBG \$283,983/Local \$31,872.
 - iv. Mayesville Demo** – in process of obtaining voluntary demolition agreements. Per Mayor Holliman-Miller, some owners have done their own demolition. CDBG \$494,500/Local \$49,450.
 - v. City of Bishopville Harlem Blue Pond Demolition project** – ERR has been submitted and approved by SCDOC. The City of Bishopville is removing 9 properties and adding 4 new properties and will have to go through the ERR process for those properties added. Project amendment has been submitted to add properties and extend time of project. The next step is to directly solicit Asbestos Survey Companies, advertise for an Asbestos Surveying company, and hold the bid opening. CDBG \$426,250/Local \$46,500.
 - vi. Turbeville Sewer Upgrade** – Construction has been completed and project is being monitored by SC DOC for project closure. A budget revision has been done to properly document the Town's match and out grant (06/2021). CDBG \$693,700/Local \$143,193.
 - vii. Bishopville Sewer Upgrade Phase II** – Construction has been completed. The town is currently turning in canceled checks to document local match. The final CDBG payout will start the Closeout process. CDBG \$928,000/Local \$173,000.
 - viii. Kershaw/GE** – Application was approved. Startup Checklist and Environmental Review has been cleared and the process can move forward to the next step. CDBG \$3,550,000.
 - ix. Clarendon/PROVALUS** – The project was advertised on Friday, March 19, 2021, and the bid opening was done on April 19 and the apparent lowest bidder came in the contract and required have been submitted to SCDOC for contract approval. Grant period: (09/2020 – 09/2022) CDBG 440,000/Local \$18,946.
 - x. 2019 Regional Planning Grant** – Must draw remaining funds. Will be closed out by the end of June. \$50,000
 - xi. 2020 Regional Planning Grant** – Has been applied for and the requested application corrections have been completed and submitted to SCDOC.

- xii. **City of Camden** – Received a Community Infrastructure CDBG application to repair underground sewer pipes in Southwest Camden. However, the City has withdrawn their application and may pick up the project in the fall under Community Enrichment, to allow different projects in the same areas.

TA Agreements and EDA Updates: Mr. Cyphers also gave updates on the TA Agreements and the EDA. The TA Agreements were completed in Lee County and Edgefield Pumpstation was amended to complete construction by September 22, 202; EDA \$880,000/Local \$220,000.

Planning Projects 5/21/2021:

- i. Planning Officials’ orientation completed.
 - ii. Planning Officials’ continuing education upcoming.
 - iii. Industry study/SWOT/additional analysis completed, presented to WF, DoC upcoming
 - iv. Broadband gaps mapping in progress.
 - v. Lee Co CP amendment “Bishopville 2030” adopted.
 - vi. Lee Co ZO language approved by Planning Commission.
 - vii. Kershaw Co corridor study meeting June 30
 - viii. Paxville CP completed, in adoption process.
 - ix. WQM Plan in progress
 - x. Clarendon County UDC update pending.
 - xi. Manning ZO update pending
 - xii. Remini Tract site planning in progress
- d. **Workforce:** Department Chief Areatha Clark, provided an update on regional job placement numbers for January through May 2021. Our SC Works Center placed 57.18 percent of total number of job placements made in the state.

Unemployment Update:

Workforce Department Chief Areatha Clark gave an update on the current unemployment rate as of April 2021. For the fourth month the State is experiencing an incremental decline in the state’s unemployment rate. With a rate of 5.0 percent in April, South Carolina’s unemployment rate has now decreased each month by .1 percent in January to 5.2 percent to 5.0 percent in April. For the Santee-Lynches region, the unemployment rate for April was 4.8 percent, which is significantly down from 5.3 percent in March. Workforce provided additional information the illustrates how unemployment is derived; one for the region and one for the entire State broken down by local area.

9. Committee Reports

- a. **Audit/Finance Committee:** The Audit-Finance Committee recommended approval of the proposed budget amendment for FY 2020 - 2021. There was a motion and a second by the committee and the motion passed unanimously.

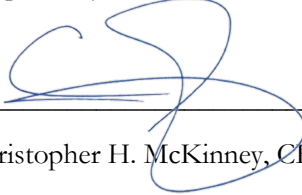
They also recommended approval of the proposed budget for FY 2021 - 2022. There was a motion and second by the committee and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Nominating Committee:** Mr. Jim McCain provided the slate of proposed officers for the new term of June 2021- June 2023. They are as follows: Chairman Julia Nelson, 1st Vice Chair Sammie Tucker, and 2nd Vice Chair Will Wheeler.

There is a motion and a second from the executive committee to approve candidate for 2021-2023 and the motion passed unanimously.

- 10. Out-going Chairman Recognition:** Newly elected Board Chairman Julia Nelson presented a plaque to outgoing Chairman Vivian McGhaneey on behalf of the board for her service from June 2019 to June 2021.
- 11. Out-going Chairman Remarks:** Chairman McGhaneey thanked the board and she expressed how much she appreciated their support. She also wished the best to newly elected Chairman Julia Nelson.
- 12. Executive Director's Report:** None.
- 13. Chairman's Remarks:** Chairman Julia Nelson thanked everyone for allowing her to continue to work with the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments. She also thanked Mrs. McGhaneey for all her hard work and dedication.
- 14. Adjourn:** Travis Windham made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Jim McCain. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher H. McKinney, CEO/Executive Director