



Encl 2

Board of Director's Meeting Via Zoom October 4, 2021

MINUTES

Members Present

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

Kershaw County: Julian Burns, Alfred Mae Drakeford, Penry Gustafson, Brad, Hanley, John Lee, Kenneth McCaskill, Sammie Tucker

Lee County: Grady Brown, Jackie Josey, Travis Windham, Will Wheeler

Sumter County: Eugene Baten, Steve Corley, James Blassingame, Jim McCain, Vivian McGhaney, Roland Robinson, Chuck Wilson, Earl Wilson

Members Absent

Clarendon County: Benton Blakeley

Kershaw County: Jeffrey Graham

Sumter County: David Merchant, Jay Davis, David Weeks, Gifford Shaw

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Chairman Julia Nelson call the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. **Invocation:** Mr. James Blassingame provided the invocation.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Executive Director Christopher McKinney led the pledge, and all attendees participated.
4. **Quorum Determination:** The Board Clerk, Linda Jackson, informed Chairman Nelson a quorum had been reached with 23 of 29 board members present.
5. **Agenda Adoption:** Chairman Nelson called a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Jim McCain made the motion to adopt the agenda and Mr. Eugene Baten seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Chairman Nelson called a motion to approve the previous minutes. Mr. Dwight Stewart made the motion the previous minutes and Mr. Jim McCain seconded. Mrs. Vivian McGhaney brought the attention to the board of a spelling error under section 10 Executive Directors report, seconded paragraph, line 5, that the word should have been "strong" instead of "string". The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Public Presentations:** N/A

8. Staff Reports:

- a. **Finance:** Mrs. Rachel briefed we were 16.7% of the way thru the fiscal year and overall, we have brought in 1% of budgeted revenue and expended 9.7% of budgeted expenses. Also, we operate primarily on a reimbursable basis and the cash balances for both the COG and RDC are included for information. Additionally, she noted that additional FY 2020-2021 accruals and adjustments were processed and the COG added roughly \$67,000 to the fund balance.
- b. **Health & Human Service:** Mrs. Janae Stowe stated SCDOA awarded us American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds in the amount of \$2 million dollars. This grant funding will be utilized to expand services and implement new and innovative services and solutions to the following service categories, Group Dining, Home Delivered Meals, Supportive Services, Evidenced Based Programs and Caregiver Services.

In addition, SCDOA has been awarded a \$1.1 million Older Adults Home Modification Grant from HUD. Some examples of modifications include fall prevention improvements, such as exterior/interior lighting at entrances and stairs; installing handrails at stairs; and installing bathroom grab bars. We are waiting the Notice of Grant Award and Terms and Conditions from SCDOA.

- c. **Government Services:** Mr. Dennis Cyphers provided the board a detailed update projects around the region:

i. CDBG

- 1. **City of Bishopville-** \$1,000,000/Local \$851,300 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades
- 2. **Town of Mayesville/City of Sumter Sewer Upgrade** – Construction has been completed. The project to come in \$375 less than estimated because of materials CDBG. CDBG \$1,000,000/Local \$1,258,836.
- 3. **4. City of Manning/Dickson-Durant - CDBG** \$308,880/Local \$33,300 Grant was extended to December 31, 2021.
- 4. **Sumter/Shannontown Demolition** – CDBG \$283,983/Local \$31,872 Grant was extended to June 30, 2021.
- 5. **Mayesville Demo** – CDBG \$494,500/Local \$49,450.
- 6. **Bishopville Sewer Upgrade Phase II** – CDBG \$928,000/Local \$210,378
- 7. **Turbeville Sewer Upgrade** – CDBG \$693,700/Local \$114,193.
- 8. **Kershaw/GE** – CDBG \$3,550,000.
- 9. **Clarendon/PROVALUS** – CDBG 440,000/Local \$18,946.
- 10. **2019 Regional Planning Grant** – Financial and Programmatic Monitoring has been completed and awaiting clearance letter to close out grant. \$50,000.
- 11. **2020 Regional Planning Grant** – Lead Entity (Sumter County) has received, signed, and returned the Grant Award letter to SCDOC. Subrecipient letter has been signed by Sumter County and Santee Lynches.

ii. EDA

1. Edgefield Pumpstation was amended to complete construction by September 22, 2021. All invoices and cancelled checks have been received from the City of Bishopville and forwarded to EDA. Grant is in the Closeout/Reimbursement stage. EDA \$880,000/Local \$220,000.

- iii. Workforce:** Ms. Areatha Clark provided an update on job placements for the region. Currently we placed 46.5 % of total number of placements made across the state. Also, if you compare 2021 to 2020 for the same timeframe, you will see that the numbers are still much higher in 2021 compared to 2020, even though we are still in a pandemic. It is of particular note though that numbers were down for July – the middle of September. However, this is partially due to staffing shortages during this timeframe. Staff works very closely to obtain placement information from employers, as they often don't readily provide this information.

In September, a hiring event was held at our SC Works Camden Center for Ollie's Outlet, a new company opening soon in Camden. They hired 60 job seekers out of the hiring event.

The Santee-Lynches' unemployment rate for August was around 4.7%-4.8%. The unemployment rate has been dropping for the last 8 months and the number of individuals filing new unemployment claims has decreased drastically as well.

Our federal funding sustained a 21.64% decrease for this fiscal year. As a result, we've been actively seeking other funding opportunities. We are currently in talks with the Pee Dee and Tridents areas in an effort to apply for funding through the ARPA Good Jobs Challenge and other opportunities available in Workforce Development.

- 9. Committee Reports:** Mrs. Alfred Mae Drakeford gave the report on behalf of the Audit/Finance Committee. At the Audit-Finance Committee's meeting this past Wednesday, two policy changes were discussed and voted on after recommendation from the Executive Committee's subcommittee.

Years ago, Santee-Lynches' policy required two signatures on all agency-issued checks. In the spring of 2017, the board voted to require only one signature on checks. The Audit/Finance committee presents the motion that two signatures be required on all agency-issued checks. The following will be authorized signatories for checks: Executive Director, Board Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Audit-Finance Committee Chairman, and Dwight Stewart. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Lee. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Kevin Johnson stated that the minutes should specify that the intent of the motion is the Executive Director will sign every check and then one of the other members will provide the second signature.

Mrs. Drakeford brought forth another a second motion from the Audit/Finance committee that: The Executive Director is authorized to spend up to \$15,000 of unrestricted funds for non-budgeted items without board approval. He is authorized to spend up to \$20,000 of unrestricted funds for non-budgeted items in an emergency, but it must be ratified by the full board at the next scheduled meeting. Mr. John Lee seconded the committee's motion. Mr. Kevin Johnson brought to the board another motion to table the first motion for the Audit/Finance committee discuss the amounts of funds that the Executive Director has the authority to spend without the board's approval and was seconded by Mr. Will Wheeler. Mr. Grady Brown called for the questioning. There were 12 Yes and 7 No. And the motion was tabled.

10. Executive Director's Report: N/A

11. Executive Session: N/A

12. Chairman's Remarks: Chairman Nelson thanked the board for their participation.

13. Adjourn: Mr. Chuck Wilson made the motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Eugene Baten. The motion was passed unanimously.

Submitted by:



Linda Jackson
Board Clerk

Approved by:



Christopher McKinney
Executive Director