



Executive Committee Meeting
Via Zoom
5:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present

Clarendon County: Julia Nelson, Dwight Stewart

Kershaw County: Alfred Mae Drakeford, Jeffery Graham, Sammie Tucker

Sumter County: Jim McCain, Vivian McGhaney, Steve Corley

Lee County: Will Wheeler, Travis Windham, Grady Brown

Members Absent

Clarendon County: Kevin Johnson

1. **Welcome and Call to order:** Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM.
2. **Invocation:** Mr. Jeffery Graham provided the invocation.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** All attendees participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Quorum Determination:** The board clerk, Ms. Linda Jackson, informed Chairman Nelson we had reached a quorum with 11 of 12 board members present.
5. **Amended Agenda Adoption:** Chairman Nelson called for a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Mr. Jim McCain made the motion to adopt the amended agenda and it was seconded by Mr. Sammie Tucker. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
6. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Chairman Nelson called for a motion to approve the April 4th meeting minutes. Mrs. Alfred Mae Drakeford made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. McCain. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
7. **Old Business:**
 - a. **By-law Revision:** Chairman Nelson informed the board that the only changes to the by-laws would be changes to the board's composition in information provided as an excerpt from the staff. Two (2) versions were included because of the uncertainty of how Lee County will handle their seats. Mr. Travis Windham wanted clarification on if the vote was for option one or two. Ms. Areatha Clark, Interim Executive Director explained the composition and the decision from the previous board meeting that Sumter will give Lee County an additional seat and the decision would need to be made on where the seat will stay in Lee County or go to the City of Bishopville. This discussion will have to be made between the City and the County to determine who will have the extra seat. Mr. Sammie Tucker suggested that the seat should go to the County since the City lost a slot and what the County decides is between them and the City not the board. He also recommended for option one of the by-laws be used. After a brief

discussion regarding the options, Mr. Steve Corley made a motion to approve option two for the change in the by-laws (City of Manning: 1; City of Camden: 1; City of Bishopville: 1; City of Sumter: 5; Clarendon County: 2 + 1 General Assembly member; Kershaw County: 7 + 1 General Assembly member; Lee County: 1 + 1 General Assembly member; Sumter County: 7 + 1 General Assembly member) and it was seconded by Mr. Will Wheeler. Mr. Corley stated that he believes that the cities should have representation. Mr. Tucker suggested that the minutes reflect for the next census 10 years from now: “The City of Sumter gave up a seat to the City of Bishopville in the 2020 Census count. This was not an order of the Census but agreed to by the board that the city would relinquish a seat.” All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

a. N/A

- 9. Next Steps-Executive Directors Search:** Chairman Nelson informed the board the Interim Executive Director, Ms. Areatha Clark has posted the open position for the Executive Director on April 18, 2022. Individuals will be able to submit applications and resumes for 30 days (May 18). Currently there is a total of three (3) people who’ve applied. Mr. Tucker asked if the applicants were from the inside or outside. Ms. Areatha Clark responded that they were all from the outside. Mr. Windham recommended for the interview process that the county administrators and city managers be involved in the final interviews. Chairman Nelson verified that Mr. Windham’s recommendation was done the last time for the Executive Director search and will be a part of this process.

- 10. Executive Directors Report:** Areatha Clark, Interim Executive Director, inform the board the COG’s 2020 – 2021 Audit was submitted to the Clearinghouse on April 28, 2022. Once again, it was a clean audit and there weren’t any material weaknesses or significant deficiencies discovered in the Council’s internal control. She stated a copy of the audit was emailed to the Board.

Ms. Clark reported the COG was able to sell 2 of the staff cars on Friday, the 29th and netted \$42,000 (\$21,000 each). That’s money that will go back into our coffers.

Ms. Clark announced that Every May, Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads the nation’s observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). In 2022, ACL will be focusing on aging in place – how older adults can plan to stay in their homes and live independently in their communities for as long as possible. She informed the board the theme for this year is “Age My Way”, an opportunity for all of us to explore the many ways older adults can remain in and be involved with their communities. On May 12th, in partnership with SC Department on Aging, the COG will be hosting a Senior Day event at the South Hope Center to celebrate seniors within our four-county region. Seniors will be transported from our ten (10) senior centers within Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, and Sumter Counties. Ms. Clark explained the mission will be meeting seniors where they are by providing a fun filled day of music, games, and prizes. In addition, vendors will be on site to provide vaccinations/boosters, blood pressure screenings, and education on resources within the communities.

Last, Ms. Clark reported that staff and members of the Building Task Force Committee did a tour of the VC3 Building and was able to get some great ideas for building a building. The Committee will be meeting soon to discuss multiple options and next steps.

- 11. Chairman Remarks:** Chairman Nelson didn’t have any remarks; however, she opened the floor for members if they had anything to say. Mr. Jeffery Graham brought to the board’s attention that Kershaw

County, the City of Camden, Elgin and Bethune are passing resolutions in support of trying to get the entire Kershaw County transportation funds to come through Santee-Lynches. It would be helpful if the Santee-Lynches COG Board would pass a resolution in support of that as well. Central Midlands is not pleased about losing Kershaw's funds, but Kershaw County hasn't received any funds from Central Midlands COG and the benefit of this change is all the transportation funds will come straight to Santee-Lynches vs some of the funds going to the Central Midland COG. Mr. Graham requested the item be added to the next agenda.

Mr. Corley thanked Ms. Clark for her leadership and providing continuity during this transition.

- 12. Adjourn:** Chairman Nelson called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Graham made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Dwight Stewart. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:



Linda Jackson
Board Clerk

Approved by:



Areatha Clark
Interim Executive Director