



Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
December 3, 2018 - 5:00 PM  
CCTC Advanced Manufacturing Technology Training Center  
853 Broad Street, Room A101, Sumter, South Carolina

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Clarendon: Benton Blakely, Shirley Keels, Julia Nelson, Dwight Stewart  
Kershaw: Julian Burns, Alfred Mae Drakeford, Rep. Laurie Funderburk, Jeffrey Graham, John Wesley Lee, Kenneth McCaskill, Sammie Tucker  
Lee: Alexander Boyd, Travis Windham, Rep. Will Wheeler  
Sumter: Bob Galiano, Jim McCain, Vivian McGhaney, Roland Robinson, Rep. David Week, Chuck Wilson, Earl Wilson

**Members Absent:** Sen. Kevin Johnson (Excused), Brad Hanley (Excused), David Addison, Eugene Baten (Excused), Ione Dwyer, Jay Davis, Joe McElveen, Dr. Bill Painter (Excused)

**Guests Present:** Othealor Prince, Lottie Jones, Patricia Drakeford, Sandy Jenkins

**Staff Present:** Christopher McKinney, Areatha Clark, Connie Munn, Kyle Kelly, Rachel Katorkas, Becky Minegar

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** – Chairman Travis Windham called the meeting to order at 5:06PM and thanked everyone for attending.
2. Vivian McGhaney provided the invocation and the pledge was provided by all attendees
3. **Introduction of Guests** – Chairman Windham introduced guests.
4. **Quorum Determination** - Chairman Windham verified that a quorum of the Board was present.
5. **Adoption of Amended Agenda** – A motion was made by Julian Burns to approve the Agenda. Sammie Tucker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made by Julian Burns to approve the October 1, 2018 meeting minutes. Dwight Stewart seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

7. **Public Presentations**

- a. **SLRCOG Impact Stories**

HHS Department – Family Caregiver Support Program

Mr. O.W. Prince shared a personal testimony that highlighted his appreciation for the Family Caregiver Support Program and the importance of respite for caregivers. With this program he was able to entrust his mother's care to a qualified individual, which afforded him the opportunity to seek care for himself.

- b. **Recognition – NADO Awards**

Chris McKinney announced we have received two NADO Awards, one for the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Manning and Sumter and Camden's Neighborhood Initiative Program, which is demolishing blighted houses. He then stated there were 400 agencies across the nation that submitted projects and we received two awards out of those 400. He thanked Kyle Kelly and his staff for their work on these projects.

Julia Nelson stated the City of Manning Comprehensive Plan was out of date, so they contacted Santee-Lynches RCOG for assistance in updating this plan. Ms. Nelson further stated the document was very detailed and that she recommends Santee-Lynches Regional COG for assistance with comprehensive plans.

8. **Staff Briefings**

**Financial Report** – Rachel Katorkas, Finance Manager, referred board members to the October 31, 2018 finance report. The financial report that is in your packets covers the period thru October 31<sup>st</sup>, putting us at 33.3% of the way thru the budget year. As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, there was \$2,886,610 in regular cash on hand. With the pass-thru funds on hand, the COG has \$2,949,971 in total cash. The cash balances for the RDC were also included in your packet on page 4 of the financial report. We have received 44.1% of the budgeted amount of admin revenue and expended 50.7% in operating expenses, which is higher than normal for this time of year. That is due to a change we made at the beginning of the year in the way certain revenue and expenses were classified. Basically, they moved from pass-thru up to admin revenue and operating expenses. Total revenue is at 28.5%, which is about where we should be at for this time of year.

Dwight Stewart asked for an update on the Pinewood Development Funds. Kyle Kelly explained there are two active projects:

Project 1 - Feasibility and Master Planning Study on the tract of land owned by the Authority known as the Rimini Tract on Packs Landing Road. He stated that

the project consultant expects to have a draft report complete by the first week of January 2019.

**Project 2 – Town of Pinewood’s Rimini/Panola Water Extension Project.** The Town of Pinewood received a combined \$9.8 million in grant/loan commitments from USDA Rural Development. The town has until August 2019 to obtain the necessary customer commitments to meet USDA Rural Development’s requirements for release of funds. If the town accomplishes this commitment they will obtain support USDA Rural Development as well as a short term loan and grant matching funds from the Authority. At this stage there is very little indication that the Town will obtain the commitments needed to move forward, but staff has not received an official update since July 2018.

**Long Range Transportation Plan Update** – Kyle Kelly explained to the Board that the possible project areas for transportation improvements in the Santee-Lynches rural planning region have been identified through public and stakeholder engagement, and noted that county-specific maps of the project possibilities were available for review on easels outside the meeting room. Staff has provided these maps to member governments for comment, and as soon as comments are received, the projects will be assigned planning level cost estimates and ranked in accordance with either SCDOT ranking requirements or Santee-Lynches standards, whichever apply to that category of project. Staff intends to present the draft LRTP to Council in early spring 2019.

**Distressed Community Designation Criteria** - Chris McKinney, Executive Director briefly explained the State instructed all Councils of Governments to create a criteria for areas with old textiles mills which would be designated as a distressed area for their respective regions. The staff put forward a recommendation for what the criteria should be. To be qualified as a distressed area, the area must meet at least one (1) of the four (4) designated criteria:

1. Those Census Tracts designated as distressed areas by the U.S. Economic Development Administration;
2. Those Census Tracts designated by the Governor of South Carolina in 2018 as Opportunity Zones;
3. Those Census Tracts eligible for New Market Tax Credits by the U.S. Treasury Department;
4. Those Census Tracts designated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) or as a Difficult Development Areas for the purposes of allocation of Low Income Housing Tax Credits under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Mr. McKinney explained the textile mills can be renovated or demolished.

The Executive Committee made a motion to accept the staff recommendation of Distressed Areas in the Santee-Lynches Region. Jeffery Graham seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

9. **Executive Director's Report** – Chris McKinney detailed "What is the purpose of the COGs"? He briefly explained the Santee-Lynches Regional COG was established by Governor McNair in 1967. The COGs founding principles are to work cooperatively with local governments in all counties, enhancing their capacity to guide growth and development and improving the quality of life for all residents. He further stated the intent is to enable municipalities and counties to preserve and enhance their present advantages, to overcome their present handicaps, and to minimize such future problems as they may be foreseen. Mr. McKinney went on to outline the specific responsibilities of COGs described in the state code. He further explained almost all state agencies have been restored to their pre-recession funding levels and the COGs have not. Many state legislatures outside of the Finance Committee are not aware of this. Mr. McKinney encourage everyone to advocate for the COG.

Mr. McKinney also stated the Strategic Planning Retreat was very productive. Sammie Tucker further stated the retreat was very informative and allowed them to talk about issues and concerns.

Mr. McKinney continued, they worked on the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core Values, key issues, came up with strategies. He suggested in order to finalize the product we need to have 2 -3 mini retreats with the Executive Committee members and once the product is 85% - 90% refined have a mini retreat with the full board for discussion and recommendations. He stated we are looking at the completion date of June 2019.

Mr. McKinney reported he is working on the RFP for the new building and have an estimate of \$6.5 million on a three-story building. He then reported he is working with Sumter County Administrator and City of Sumter Manager to obtain local investment money to put towards the building.

10. **Committee Reports** – N/A
11. **Old Business** – N/A
12. **New Business**
  - a. **Duke Energy Pilot Program Support Letter (Chairman)** - Chairman Windham explained Duke Energy is starting a pilot program that will expand electric vehicle options across South Carolina. He explained this opportunity would allow us to potentially establish DC Fast Charging Stations along our interstate exchanges which presents an opportunity for economic development in some of our economically distressed areas. This opportunity

would allow us to explore public transit alternatives currently not available, but badly needed in our region. In addition to public transit, the proposal encourages the deployment of DC Fast Charging infrastructure along interstates. Both of these ideas align well with our vision of economic development particularly in our most distressed areas. He further explained we would need to have a letter of support in order to participate in this program.

A discussion ensued concerning the loss of money in the electric car industry.

A motion was made from the Executive Committee to approve a letter of support and be willing to participate in the Duke Energy pilot program to expand electric vehicle charging options across South Carolina. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Board Meeting Time Change** - Chairman Windham stated the executive committee voted and the consensus was to change the board meeting time to 6:00pm in hopes to get better attendance. With much discussion the committee decided to meet at 6:00pm with committee meetings meeting at 5:00pm.
  - c. **Board Members attending National Association of Development Districts (NADO)** – No discussion at this time.
  - d. **New Board Member Introduction** – Chairman Windham introduced and welcomed Roland Robinson as the newest board member.
13. **Chairman's Remarks** - Chairman Windham stated Julia Nelson would be sending out evaluation forms for the executive director.
- Jim McCain stated the executive committee attended the South Carolina Association of Regional Councils and they recognized Dr. Bill Painter and Shirley Keels for their 25 years of service.
14. **Adjournment** - There being no further action before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Christopher McKinney  
Executive Director

## CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC AND MEDIA NOTIFICATION

I, Becky Minegar, as Clerk for the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors, do hereby certify that public and media notification of the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors Meeting for December 3, 2018 was given prior thereto by the following means:

<b>PUBLIC NOTIFIED</b>	<b>MANNER NOTIFIED</b>	<b>DATE NOTIFIED</b>
Yes	Agenda posted on board at 2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter	November 22, 2018
<b>MEDIA NOTIFIED</b>	<b>MANNER NOTIFIED</b>	<b>DATE NOTIFIED</b>
Yes	Agenda emailed to local newspapers: Clarendon Citizen, Camden Chronicle, Lee Observer and Sumter Item	November 22, 2018
<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b>	<b>MANNER NOTIFIED</b>	<b>DATE NOTIFIED</b>
NA		

Respectfully Submitted

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Becky Minegar