

Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments
Board of Directors' Meeting
June 4, 2018 – 5:00 PM
USC Sumter - Sumter, South Carolina

MINUTES

Members Present:

Clarendon: Senator Kevin Johnson, Shirley Keels, Julia Nelson, Dwight Stewart
Kershaw: Julian Burns, Alfred Mae Drakeford, Jeffrey Graham, John Wesley Lee, Kenneth McCaskill
Lee: David Addison, Travis Windham, Will Wheeler
Sumter: Eugene Baten, Jim McCain, Vivian McGhaney, Bill Painter, David Week, Chuck Wilson, Earl Wilson

Members Absent: Excused – Brad Hanley, Sammie Tucker, Jim Campbell, Jay Davis; Absent – Benton Blakely, Laurie Funderburk, Alexander Boyd, Ione Dwyer, Bob Galiano, Joe McElveen

Guests Present: Leonard Houser, Pinewood Town Council; and Michael Conley, Kershaw County Planner

Staff Present: Christopher McKinney, Kathy Powell, Connie Munn, Yoli Crolley, Kyle Kelly, Rachel Katorkas

- I. **Welcome and Call to Order** – Chairman Travis Windham called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.
 - A. Vivian McGhaney provided the invocation.
 - B. The pledge was provided by all attendees.
 - C. Approval of Amended Agenda – Chairman Windham added under Committee Reports: HOME Consortium by Vivian McGhaney. The amended agenda was unanimously approved.
 - D. Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Julian Burns to approve the April 2, 2018 meeting minutes. Jim McCain seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - E. Financial Report – Kathy Powell, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, referred board members to the April 2018 finance report and updated the bank balances as follows: General Operating funds \$1,808,007; State Local Government Investment Pool remained the same - \$977,523. The current percent of the budget year completed is 83%. Ms. Powell indicated we are approximately 77% expended of the total budget. She reported that all local appropriations have been received and the general assembly appropriations should be received the end of June. Administrative revenues are currently at 72.2% of budget. Ms. Powell stated the line items over budget will be addressed by the budget amendment later in the agenda. She noted the last page provides account balances for the Regional Development Corporation. The report was accepted as information by the board.

Chairman Windham noted that an executive director evaluation form had been provided to each board member. He asked each member to complete the form and turn in to himself or Julia Nelson before leaving the meeting.

II. Committee Reports

A. Audit and Finance – Alfred Mae Drakeford, Chair, provided the following report:

The committee met on May 21 to review the proposed budget amendment for FY 17-18 and the proposed budget for FY 18-19.

Executive Director, Chris McKinney and Deputy Executive Director and CFO, Kathy Powell, presented each proposal to the committee. The proposed budget amendment included a revenue and expense summary comparing the current budget to the proposed budget amendment. It also included a written justification for the proposed changes, explaining differences in the current and proposed budgets. A summary of departmental revenue and expenses was also included.

The same components were included in the proposed budget for FY 18-19. The revenue and expenses summary included a comparison of the final proposed budget for FY 17-18 to the proposed budget for FY 18-19. The written justification included general notes to outline the current status of appropriations for major programs of the COG and highlight certain expense considerations. Each section of revenue and all line item expenses included an explanation and justification. After a thorough review and discussion, the committee took action on each package. In the board mailout, board members received a copy of both budget proposals as acted on by the committee.

The committee recommends approval of the proposed budget amendment FY 17-18 as presented in the package mailed to you. The motion was seconded by Bill Painter and unanimously approved.

The committee recommends approval of the proposed budget for FY 18-19 as presented in the package mailed to you. The motion was seconded by Julian Burns and unanimously approved.

B. Economic & Community Sustainability (ECS) – Dwight Stewart, Chair, provided the following report:

The ECS Committee reviewed a plan to program \$4.9 million in Santee-Lynches guideshare funds to improve a 0.7 mile segment of Black River Road in the City of Camden (Kershaw County) referred to as "Black River Road Improvements, Phase I". The proposed project would allocate \$750,000 for preliminary engineering in FY 2019, \$750,000 for right of way acquisition in FY 2021, and \$3.4 million for construction in FY 2022. Inclusion of the project on the Santee-Lynches TIP is contingent upon completion of a 21-day public comment period, which will begin tomorrow June 5, 2018 and continue through June 26, 2018. Any public comments received during that comment period will be provided to the board with the motion to program the project on the Santee-Lynches TIP. If the board approves the project, it will be submitted to

the SCDOT Commission for final approval and inclusion on the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Mr. McKinney noted that he had talked with all administrators about the project in Kershaw County which is a safety project as the traffic on Black River Road is increasing due to housing developments, industrial development, and the CCTC and ATEC campus developments. This is a regional impact, for example, students from Lee County will be attending classes at the Kershaw Campus.

The ECS Committee also received a briefing from staff regarding the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The planning process is now underway, with a goal to complete the draft document by the end of calendar year 2018, with public comment and the adoption process slated for the first quarter of calendar year 2019.

Kyle Kelly, ECS Chief, explained that public comment workshops will begin this week in Clarendon County and will follow through the counties ending June 28. He requested board members help in spreading the word on the regional workshops. The workshop format is a two-hour drop-in session, where community members can provide input through several exercises. He also noted that a webpage has been created for the plan (www.SanteeLynchesCOG.org/forward2045) where all data can be located and reviewed as well as input provided. Mr. McKinney asked all board members to use their influence to talk with their various community groups to get their input on these transportation workshops.

C. Workforce Development – Earl Wilson, Committee Chair, provided the following report:

SC Works Program and financial data illustrates the outcomes over the last three years (program years 2015, 2016 and 2017). In program year 2017, the major trend has been increased expenditures for training services, yet less expenditures in supportive services. Our customers are less dependent on the supportive services, which allows more funding to be spent on training, which in turn strengthens the workforce.

The youth report for Palmetto Youth Connections summarizes participant enrollments and their performance outcomes for program year 2017 through May 2018. They have enrolled 167 this year, which far exceeds their planned goal of 155. Performance outcomes thus far this year included 55 measurable skills gains, 24 GEDs or diplomas, 40 occupational credentials obtained and 71 placements into the workforce or college. There are also 41 youth participants participating in work experience opportunities in our region that enables them to gain valuable skills to prepare them for the world of work.

Mr. Wilson noted that SC Works staff has worked diligently with him for employees at the new Arbys on McCrays Mill Road.

D. HOME Consortium – Kyle Kelly noted that the budget for the HOME Consortium increased to \$775,000 from the previous year's \$570,000 for affordable housing. He believes the increase is attributable to a combination of additional appropriations by Congress as well as other HOME Consortia in the state deciding to discontinue their programs due to challenges with keeping administrative costs within the thresholds allowed by the HOME program. Mr. McKinney thanked the ECS Department staff for their strong work in this program to keep administrative costs low in order to continue this program.

Mr. Kelly also noted that April 2018 was 50th anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act, which became law in 1968. Through a national initiative of Habitat for Humanity and the NAACP, this landmark anniversary is being celebrated through "Beloved Community Builds" nationwide. Kershaw County Habitat for Humanity and the Kershaw County NAACP are partnering in the Santee-Lynches region to build a habitat house in Lugoff under this initiative. To the best of Mr. Kelly's knowledge, Kershaw County is the only place in South Carolina where the Habitat for Humanity Chapter and NAACP are participating in a "Beloved Community Build". Board member Sammie Tucker was noted for his hard work on this program as the Chair of the Kershaw County NAACP, along with Laurey Carpenter, Executive Director of Kershaw Habitat for Humanity. The Regional HOME Consortium is supporting the build with a grant of \$82,000.

III. New Business

A. Opioid Strategic Planning Update – Mr. McKinney reported that in talking with various persons within our region an opioid problem exists. After talking with staff, an Opioid/Drug Strategic Planning Session was held with regional Sheriffs, Behavioral Health Directors, Police Chiefs, Coroners, Mayors, County Council Chairs, etc. with 22 out of 28 attending. Mr. McKinney explained that regions thriving economically have a regional approach to these type issues. The group requested the COG be the regional HUB (contact point) to compile data from the various agencies. They also reported a need for education at various levels: elementary schools, mid-age and elderly for preventative measures. A Task Force from this group will be formed to work with staff to compile the data and also to pursue a \$500,000 grant for research education and possible treatment.

Mr. McKinney requested input from board members on the issue of the staff continuing with the project. Board members expressed their pros and cons for COG staff working on and moving forward with this project. There was discussion on this being an epidemic throughout numerous areas in the state and nation.

Chairman Windham asked Mr. McKinney to provide a recommendation on a Task Force and to identify a plan for moving forward. This information should be provided to board members when ready, not necessarily waiting until the next board meeting. Detailed information on the grant as well as a deadline is also requested.

B. STEM/STEAM – Providing an experience to all regional elementary schools. This item was tabled until the next board meeting.

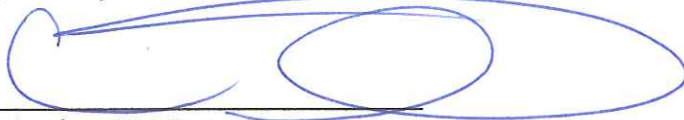
IV. Executive Director Comments

Christopher McKinney reported on the following:

- Proactively deterring inappropriate behavior in the workplace. Built policy to continue to shape the culture: addresses discrimination, sexual assault and harassment; force contractors to acknowledge they must comply with our internal policies or face consequences; Esmonde Levy, Workforce Manager, is the author of this policy.
- Currently working on the RFP for the new building.
- What is the board's vision for the Santee-Lynches region in the year 2050? A retreat with board of directors to discuss; need to be intentional to create the region we desire to see; as YOUR planning district, we need a strategic plan to ensure we can measure success or failure.
- Executive Director's vision for 2050:
 - ✓ our pillars to a successful economic community - military presence currently has a \$2.1 billion impact; agriculture; commerce (industry and retail); and tourism.
 - ✓ Shaw AFB is in Sumter but its impact expands well beyond: airmen/soldiers in Kershaw, Lee and Clarendon Counties; huge potential for spin off companies to locate in surrounding communities (remotely piloted aircraft); potential for a F-16 training wing to relocate (supply chain for F-16s and additional jobs).
 - ✓ Currently, there is a strong regional agriculture presence: commerce (need to grow both industry and retail – but they are present); tourism (needs to grow).
 - ✓ Very bright future for the region.
 - ✓ It is imperative for the board and staff to work together for the advancement and future of the COG.

V. **Adjournment** – There being no further action before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

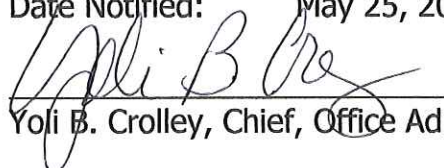
Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher McKinney
Executive Director

I certify that public/media notifications were given prior to meeting as follows:

Public Notified: Yes
Manner Notified: Agenda posted on board at 2525 Corporate Way Suite 200, Sumter
Date Posted: May 25, 2018
Media Notified: Yes
Manner Notified: Agenda emailed to local newspapers:
Clarendon Citizen, Camden Chronicle, Lee Observer and Sumter Item
Date Notified: May 25, 2018



Yoli B. Crolley, Chief, Office Administration