

TO: PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE

FROM: MR. CURTIS BROWN, JR., CHAIRMAN, PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE  
THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Planning and Projects Committee held a meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at the Turin Town Hall in Turin, Georgia.

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chair Curtis Brown, Jr. welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order. Mr. Bennie Horton gave the invocation; and Committee Chair Brown led the committee members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Planning and Projects Committee Members in Attendance

Ms. Kay Pippin, Mayor, City of Jackson  
Mr. Greg Wright, Non-Public Member, Coweta County  
Mr. Lee Boone, Chairman, Heard County  
Mr. Bennie Horton, Commissioner, Lamar County  
Mr. Douglas Hollberg, Mayor, City of Griffin  
Mr. Jim Thornton, Mayor, City of LaGrange  
Mr. Curtis Brown, Jr., Non-Public Member, Troup County  
Mr. Norman Allen, Chairman, Upson County

Three Rivers Additional Council Members in Attendance

Ms. Kathy Knowles, Non-public member, Heard County  
Mr. Jack Hancock, Non-public member, Pike County

Regional Plan Stakeholders (Executive Team) Members in Attendance

Ms. Janet Hyde, Planner, Carroll County  
Mr. Dick Morrow, Business Owner, Griffin  
Ms. Leigh Threadgill, Senior Planner, City of LaGrange

## Staff Present

Mr. Kirk Fjelstul, Executive Director  
Ms. Jeannie Brantley, Planning Director  
Ms. Kim Dutton, Planner  
Ms. Cymone Haiju, Planner  
Mr. Paul Jarrell, Planner  
Mr. Sam Mukoro, GIS Planner  
Ms. Hope Blakely, Human Resource Specialist  
Ms. Amanda Turner, Deputy Director Administrative Services Dept.  
Ms. Peggi Tingle, Administrative Services Dept. Director

## APPROVAL OF MARCH 28, 2019 MINUTES (action item)

Ms. Kay Pippin made the motion to approve the March 28, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA (action item)

Mr. Hollberg made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETING (PLANNING & PROJECTS COMMITTEE AND STAKEHOLDERS)

### Review of Draft Regional Plan Update

Ms. Jeannie Brantley started the discussion about the original intent of combining the Regional Plan and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was not going to be possible. Although the Regional Plan would include some economic development activities, it could not replace the CEDS. Part of this is the reports are required by different agencies, but also due to different due dates, (June for the Regional Plan and December for the CEDS). Also after discussions with Elizabeth Smith from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, (DCA) the Regional Plan should not be heavy on economic development.

Ms. Brantley informed the members that a public hearing on the draft Regional Plan was held the week before to seek comments.

Ms. Brantley at this point turned the meeting over the Mr. Paul Jarrell and Ms. Kim Dutton. A copy of the plan was given out and made available to attendees. Mr. Jarrell explained how each component of the regional plan fed into and affected another part of the plan. He further explained how some goals followed state goals.

The Regional Plan had been submitted to the DCA for a preliminary review prior to the formal review submission. Any suggestions, recommendations, etc. from DCA or the stakeholders could be incorporated before the final formal submission.

A full copy of the plan is available on the Commission's website, or if anyone is interested in a paper copy, they were welcomed to contact anyone on the Planning Staff.

In answer to a question from Ms. Pippin asking if this document was used in other planning arenas, Mr. Fjelstul responded by saying that his intention was to use the plan as a “play book” for the Commission, as member governments used their own Comprehensive Plans for their planning purposes. Also, it is hoped that the data included in the plan would serve as point of reference for inquiries that were often received from members and the public.

Mr. Thornton encouraged members to own the Regional Plan and to become advocates of the plan.

Ms. Brantley thanked the Executive Team for their participation and input.

#### Discussion on Strategic Planning

Mr. Fjelstul explained that after the Board Retreat in December, hopes were to start on a strategic plan for the Commission. The project had been delayed due to the emphasis of getting the Regional Plan completed. Now that the Regional Plan was nearing submission, he asks the members to go over the items that was pointed out at the retreat. A copy of the report provided by the Georgia EMC entitled Three Rivers Regional Commission Board Planning Retreat was provided to each member. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Mr. Fjelstul further stated that he thought the Strategic Plan should be short and practical. He asked members to review the information, share thoughts and ideas and at the next meeting of the Committee could start setting priorities.

There was short discussion among the members concerning the various topics covered at the retreat and their impression on the priorities and ways to enhance the identity mission of the Commission.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

##### Get the Red Out

Mr. Fjelstul stated that a survey had been sent to each Three Rivers Regional Commission (TRRC) council member in regards to meeting dates and times. This was done in response to a finding from the State Auditor’s report to try and have more attendance at council meetings.

Ms. Brantley informed the members that 29 surveys had been sent out and as of today, 24 responses had been received. She went through a presentation showing the responses to the six questions of the survey. The majority of responses as they stand now lean toward keeping the meetings as they are now. The survey has not been closed out due to the fact that a 100% participation is wanted.

DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The Planning and Projects Committee will meet on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.; the meeting location is the Turin Town Hall in Turin.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

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Curtis Brown, Jr., Chairman  
Planning and Projects Committee