

TO: COUNCIL, THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION

FROM: MS. FAYE PERDUE, SECRETARY, THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD DECEMBER 10, 2015

The Regional Council of the Three Rivers Regional Commission held its meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at the Turin Town Hall in Turin, Georgia.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Hays Arnold advised the members that a quorum was reached, called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Briar Johnson to give the invocation; afterwards Chairman Arnold led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Regional Council Members in Attendance

Ms. Kay Pippin, Mayor, City of Jackson
Ms. Clair Jones, Non-Public Member, Butts County
Ms. Shirley Marchman, Council Member, City of Villa Rica
Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey, Non-Public Member, Carroll County
Mr. Clayton Hicks, Council Member, City of Newnan
Mr. Steve Stripling, Non-Public Member, Coweta County
Mr. Lee Boone, Chairman, Heard County
Ms. Kathy Knowles, Non-Public Member, Heard County
Mr. Bennie Horton, Commissioner, Lamar County
Mr. Irvin Trice, Non-Public Member, Lamar County
Ms. Beth Hadley, Chairperson, Meriwether County
Mr. Briar Johnson, Chairman, Pike County
Mr. Mike Beres, Mayor, City of Zebulon
Mr. Fred Roney, Non-Public Member, Pike County
Mr. Douglas Hollberg, Council Member, City of Griffin
Mr. Charles Jones, Non-Public Member, Spalding County
Mr. Richard English, Jr., Commissioner, Troup County
Mr. Hays Arnold, Mayor, City of Thomaston
Dr. Maggie Shook, Governor's Appointee
Mr. Ed Bledsoe, Governor's Appointee

Regional Council Members Absent

Mr. Roger McDaniel, Chairman, Butts County
Mr. Tim Lassetter, Chairman, Coweta County
Mr. Peter Banks, Mayor, City of Barnesville
Mr. Denney Rogers, Mayor, City of Ephesus
Mr. James Bray, Mayor, City of Greenville
Ms. Faye Perdue, Non-Public Member, Meriwether County
Mr. Raymond Ray, Commissioner, Spalding County
Mr. Bobby Frazier, Non-Public Member, Troup County
Mr. Steve Hudson, Commissioner, Upson County
Ms. Laurie Holmes, Non-Public Member, Upson County
Mr. John Edwards, Governor's Appointee
Mr. John Rainwater, Lt. Governor's Appointee

Guests Present

Mr. Dick Ford, Mayor of Moreland
Ms. Corinne Thornton, Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
Dr. Keith Moffett, County Administrator, Butts County
Mr. Billy Minch, Auditor, Metcalf-Davis
Mr. Chip Harris, Auditor, Metcalf-Davis
Ms. Kristin Miller, University of Georgia
Mr. Winston Skinner, Newnan Times-Herald

Staff Present

Ms. Peggi Tingle, Administrative Services Director
Ms. Joy Shirley, AAA Director
Ms. Jeannie Brantley, Planning Director
Ms. Jan Perez, Secretary

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Arnold introduced Mayor Ford, Ms. Thornton, Dr. Moffett, Mr. Minch, Mr. Harris, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Skinner and thanked them for attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held October 22, 2015 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Mike Beres to approve the minutes as presented; the motion was seconded by Mr. Richard English and carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Arnold advised the members that a Nominating Committee needed to be formed. He then appointed the following individuals to the committee:

Mike Beres
Bobby Frazier

Clayton Hicks
Steve Hudson

REPORT FROM AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chairman Arnold asked Mr. Beres to present the report from the Audit Review Committee. Mr. Beres advised the members that the Audit Review Committee met earlier today. The auditors, Mr. Billy Minch and Mr. Chip Harris, presented the audit to the committee; Metcalf Davis has rendered an "unqualified" audit opinion. Mr. Beres stated that the bottom line is good. Mr. Minch mentioned that there is a great ratio of assets and liabilities; according to Mr. Minch, total assets are a little over \$4 million with total liabilities of \$1.6 million. All facilities have leases and that the lease with the City of Griffin (the North Hill Street location) will end this fiscal year. Mr. Beres made the motion that the council adopt this year's draft audit as presented; Mr. English seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. Mr. Beres wanted to "commend Peggi and the staff for their job performance." Chairman Arnold also offered his "thanks to the staff for the excellent job that they've done."

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) UPDATE

Ms. Jeannie Brantley presented this portion of the agenda. She advised the members that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is done each year and that it was mailed electronically to the members. Ms. Brantley gave a brief update on items listed in the CEDS and asked for the council's approval of the resolution to submit the CEDS to the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Mr. Clayton Hicks made the motion to approve the resolution to transmit the CEDS to DCA; Mr. English seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

AGING PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. Joy Shirley presented this portion of the agenda. She stated that the Aging Program is asking for more funding for the in-home services to keep individuals home and out of nursing homes; she added that additional funding was also being requested for the Money Follows the Person program as well as other Aging programs. The Aging staff will also attend several of the legislative sessions during the months of January and February. The Aging staff is currently working on their four (4) year plan. The staff has held one (1) public hearing with another hearing scheduled for Monday (12/14) in Griffin. Chairman Arnold urged the council to contact lawmakers to express their support for bills that deal with Aging Programs.

THREE RIVERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

Rapid Response Program

Mr. Boatwright presented this portion of the agenda. He advised the members that the Rapid Response Program (a program which provides several services to assist companies and dislocated workers regarding layoffs, etc.) concerns the funding of \$122,242.00. It was noted (and reiterated by Ms. Kathy Knowles) that the Workforce board discussed this program at their last meeting and it was approved at that time. Mr. Boatwright asked the council for their consideration in approving the Rapid Response Program. Dr. Maggie Shook made the motion to approve the Rapid Response Program; it was seconded by Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey and carried unanimously.

Track Source Program

Mr. Boatwright mentioned that the Track Source program (its renewal for a month to month basis) is also up for consideration by the TRRC council. This system tracks Workforce participants and the income/wages that the participant may be receiving once they are about to exit their course of study; Track Source is an accountability tool that gauges whether Workforce has met their goals concerning the participants and their ability to reenter the work force. This system will cost about \$1,200 per month. It was noted that the Workforce board did approve the Track Source program at their last meeting and that it was before the TRRC council for their consideration. Mr. Beres made the motion that the council approve the Track Source program; it was seconded by Mr. English and carried unanimously.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Service Transportation Reauthorization Update

Mr. Boatwright presented this portion of the agenda. The members were given a copy of the *Service Transportation Reauthorization Update* that was published by NADO. The House and Senate negotiators have reached an agreement which will create a new formula program for highway construction; at this time it is not certain of which aspects are included in this measure and if Georgia will benefit from this initiative since the transportation tax funding initiative was voted down a few years ago.

Mr. Ed Bledsoe asked if there was updated information concerning the Export/Import Highway (corridor linking Macon to LaGrange). Mr. Boatwright responded that several meetings have been held with the counties (Troup, Meriwether, Pike, Upson, Monroe and Bibb) between Macon and LaGrange and that interest has been renewed. The Upson Thomaston Chamber of Commerce recently had Mr. K. C. Conway (Sun Trust Bank's chief economist) as a speaker at a breakfast meeting. Mr. Conway stated that this corridor project is the 'most important thing in the economy of Georgia'. Mr. Conway has made this statement at another meeting that was attended by Mr. Boatwright and Mr. Robert Hiatt. Mr. Bledsoe asked if there were any new project drawings; Mr. Boatwright advised that a study has been requested in order to determine the exact route. A specific route has not been determined or published at this time. A grant was

submitted last year that was deemed acceptable, but the federal government will not fund the study due to the Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) pushing the project date too far out in the future. Chairman Arnold remarked that the project is "still a work in progress." Mr. Boatwright added that several individuals would travel to Atlanta to meet with the governor's appointed transportation planner about this project; several legislators have stated their support of the Export/Import Highway project.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cloud Computing

Mr. Boatwright presented this portion of the agenda. He reminded the members that the VC3 staff made a presentation a few months ago concerning "cloud computing" (what is cloud computing, the results of cloud computing, etc.). It was suggested that a committee be formed to look into the "cloud computing" matter and report their findings to the council. Mr. Boatwright also advised the members that one of our offices does not have internet capabilities and that each office has its own different system. "Cloud computing" would be more secure for all offices as well as having each location on the same system. Chairman Arnold asked for volunteers for a committee to research the "cloud computing" matter as well as check with other companies that offer this service. He appointed Mr. Clayton Hicks, Mr. Doug Hollberg, and Dr. Maggie Shook to be on the committee. They have been asked to find other companies that offer these services and to also consult with any IT (information technology) people that they may know concerning "cloud computing."

Fair Labor Standards

In the future, new regulations will require the delineation of personnel as either "exempt" or "non-exempt." It is not certain of when the new regulations will be released or become effective, but it may require that some staff be shifted to "non-exempt" status and the possibility of overtime having to be paid to the personnel. It is probable that the "non-exempt" personnel status guidelines will be geared to those that make less than \$55,000 a year. This change will affect all aspects of businesses such as personnel guides and policies, time keeping, etc. Mr. Boatwright encouraged the members to contact ACCG (Association County Commissions of Georgia), GMA (Georgia Municipal Association), their city or county attorney, or their human resources department regarding this new regulation. He also encouraged the members to contact Ms. Hope King, TRRC's Human Resources Generalist, with any questions that they may have regarding this matter.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Boatwright advised the members that the reappointment letters for non-public members were emailed on Monday; a few responses have been received.

Ms. Faye Perdue's mother-in-law recently passed away; her service is scheduled for today.

Mr. Peter Banks is not feeling well and could not attend today's meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing was mentioned under this portion of the agenda.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

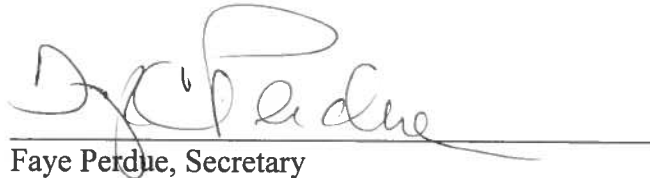
Mr. Boatwright shared that Chairman Arnold was recently honored for his years of service as Mayor to the City of Thomaston. Mr. Boatwright presented Chairman Arnold with a gift certificate to the Porsche Experience in Atlanta as a token of appreciation to the chairman for this service to the TRRC Council. The chairman stated that "it was an honor and a privilege that I have had afforded me by you all...to have served as your chair for the past four (4) years...and I just want to thank you very much." Ms. Kay Pippin led the council members in a standing ovation for Chairman Arnold.

DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2016. The meeting location will be the Sharpsburg Town Hall in Sharpsburg, Georgia, and the meeting time is scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Arnold adjourned the meeting.


Faye Perdue, Secretary