

LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 25, 2015

6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

BEAUFORT COUNTY:

Gerald Dawson
Brian Flewelling
Herbert Glaze
Mary Beth Heyward
Alice Howard
Bill McBride
Jerry Stewart
Lisa Sulka

Phil Cromer [proxy to A. Howard]
Marc Grant
Joseph McDomick

COLLETON COUNTY:

Esther S. Black
Joseph Flowers
Tommy Mann
Gene Whetsell

Bobby Bonds [proxy to G. Whetsell]
Jane Darby
Evon Robinson

HAMPTON COUNTY:

Frankie Bennett
Pete Hagood
Travis Mixson
Buddy Phillips
Nat Shaffer

JASPER COUNTY:

Henry Etheridge
Henry Lawton, Sr.
Gwen Johnson Smith

Joey Malphrus [proxy to Chair]

GUESTS: Brad Samuel, SCANA Corporation; Joy Riley and John Boyleston SCDOT; Jan Samuel

STAFF: Hank Amundson, Sabrena Graham, Michelle Knight, Ginnie Kozak, Connie Schroyer, Jonathan Sherwood, Sherry Smith

1. Call to Order - Chairman Shaffer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
 - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
 - Chairman Shaffer led the Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.2. Invocation
 - Led by Tommy Mann followed by a moment of silence in memory of Senator Pinckney and the victims of the Charleston shooting.
 - 1.3. Introduction of Guests and Staff
 - 1.4. Approval of May 28, 2015 Minutes
 - MOVED by Henry Lawton, seconded by Brian Flewelling to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
 - 1.5. Proxies
 - Bobby Bonds to Gene Whetsell, Joey Malphrus to Chairman Shaffer, Phil Cromer to Alice Howard. The meeting proceeded after determining a quorum was present.

2. Presentations

2.1. Beaufort Area Joint Land Use Study (JLUS)

- Ginnie Kozak reported that the second Beaufort Area JLUS study has just been completed. As part of the study, the Dept. of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), Beaufort County, the City of Beaufort and the Town of Port Royal worked to develop strategies to manage growth and prevent the encroachment of future development around MCAS Beaufort and the MCRD Parris Island.
- The OEA has nominated LCOG to implement the recommendations of the study. 90% of the funding will be provided by the OEA, the 10% match will be funded by Beaufort County, Beaufort and Port Royal.
- Beaufort County, Beaufort and Port Royal have all passed resolutions supporting the objectives of the 2015 JLUS studies.
- Contact Ms. Kozak if interested in viewing the complete JLUS study

2.2. Hurricane Season

- Brad Samuel distributed an SCEG press release providing links to social media channels and outage map. These links are available for up-to-date communication during the 2015 hurricane season.
- The outage map also shows estimated restoration times as well as the cause of the outage and is updated every 15 minutes.
- The press release has already been provided to county emergency operation centers.

2.3. SCDOT Project Progress Report

- Copies of the Project Status Report for the Lowcountry were distributed. Joy Riley reviewed the status of the road and bridge projects notated in the report.
- For fiscal year 2015, Legislators apportioned \$226M to the state's County Transportation Committees (CTC). This is about four times the usual funding for work such as C-projects and the resurfacing and repair of county maintained roads.
- Ms. Riley will share Project Status Reports with the board quarterly.

3. Resolution

3.1. Resolution No. 2015/02: *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Lowcountry Council of Governments in Support of Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort and Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island and Implementation of the Recommendations of the 2015 Joint Land Use Study*

- MOVED by Joe Flowers, seconded by Brian Flewelling to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

5. New Business

5.1. FY2015-2016 Agency Budget

- Sabrena Graham reviewed the budget summary for FY2015-2016. Advanced copies of the summary and operating budget documents were distributed in the meeting packet.
- The combined budget of all departments is balanced at \$6,420,918. This is a decrease of \$513,697 from the prior year.
- LCOG Membership fees have not increased in 20 years. A fee increase is not proposed for next year but may be worth considering in the future.
- There is a 2% cost of living increase proposed.

- MOVED by Brian Flewelling, seconded by Pete Hagood to adopt the FY2015-2016 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

5.2. Election of Board Officers

- The Nominating Committee recommended a slate of officers for the upcoming year.
Chair Tommy Mann
Vice Chair Gerald Dawson
Secretary Henry Etheridge
Treasurer Pete Hagood
- MOVED by Joe Flowers, seconded by Herbert Glaze to accept the slate of officers for FY2015-2016. Motion carried unanimously

6. Reports

6.1. May Finance Report

- Sherry Smith reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending May 2015. Advanced copies of the report were distributed in meeting packets.
- Revenues over expenditures were \$63,942 representing 94% of the revised budget. This is within the normal range in the 11th month of the budget year.

6.2. Community and Economic Development (C & ED) Report

- Copies of the C & ED Report were distributed in meeting packets and submitted as written. Michelle Knight explained that closed projects remain on the report until a final close-out letter is received. The EDA program requires several years of tracking beyond finished projects.
- Award announcement of CDBG funds is anticipated in the next several weeks.
- The Department of Commerce has asked for state-wide public input on the upcoming Five Year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. There will be a Lowcountry Focus Group Meeting on July 31, 2015 at the Palmetto Electric Cooperative in Ridgeland to gather input. Invitations to local government officials and other relevant entities will be sent in mid-July. The Department of Commerce will also be emailing surveys for input.

6.3. 208 Report

- Copies of the 208 Report were distributed in meeting packets for information. The Lowcountry Labor Force and Employment Report for May 2015 was also distributed.

6.4. Directors Report

- Sabrena Graham reported attendance of two training conferences for new directors.
- She and staff attended several community meetings to speak about the available LCOG services.
- Encouraged support and attendance of the Focus Group Meeting to ensure that the needs and wishes of the Lowcountry region are included in the state's planning process.

7. Council Time

- Everyone is invited to the Hampton County Watermelon Festival taking place this week.
- Buddy Phillips was recently elected as the Chairman of the Southern Carolina Alliance Board of Directors.

8. Adjourn

- By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

9. Caucuses

Members caucused by county to select an At-Large Executive Committee member and one member to attend the NADO Annual Training Conference in October.

Beaufort County
Colleton County
Hampton County
Jasper County

Executive Committee

Brian Flewelling
Gene Whetsell
Nat Shaffer
Gwen Smith

NADO Conference

Bill McBride
Esther Black
Pete Hagood
Henry Etheridge

Copies of the agenda and supporting documents were distributed prior to the meeting. A notice of the meeting was posted on the LCOG bulletin board at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Schroyer
Executive Assistant