

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING

Banks County Recreation Department
Homer, GA
November 15, 2012

MINUTES

The GMRC Council held its regular meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at Banks County Recreation Department in Homer, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Banks County and City of Homer.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/DINNER

Chairman David Stovall called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their attendance. Once again the Council met their goal with 83 in attendance. He also expressed his appreciation to the Banks County and City of Homer for hosting this meeting.

Chairman Stovall recognized Banks County Commissioner Danny Maxwell for local introductions. Mr. Maxwell thanked everyone for attending and welcomed everyone to the Banks County. He introduced Banks County Commission Chairman Milton Dalton, Commissioners Charles Turk, Sammy Reece, Ernest Rogers; newly elected Commissioners Jimmy Hooper and David Duckett. Representing City of Homer, Mayor Doug Cheek, Council Member Jerry Payne, and Clerk Carol Ayers. Mr. Maxwell expressed a special thanks to Banks County Clerk Jenni Gailey and Erin Decker for making all the arrangements and setting up this meeting. Also, thanks to Emergency Billing, Data Survival, and Document Destruction for sponsoring the meeting and to Tractor Supply, Banjo Bar-B-Q, Jaemor Farms, and Honeysuckle Gifts for door prizes that will be given away. Banks County Chamber of Commerce prepared the goody bags that are located on the tables.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Chairman Stovall recognized other special guests, newly elected State Representative Dan Gasaway, Kathy Papa, DCA; Tate O'Rourke and Barton Lowrey, Aides for Senator Isakson's Office. Mr. Stovall congratulated Ms. O'Rourke on a promotion she received. She will now serve as Aide for Sen. Isakson to 35 counties in northeast Georgia.

INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/DINNER

L.J. Harrison, GMRC Chaplain, gave our devotion, invocation, and followed with the pledge of allegiance.

PROGRAM

Planning Director Adam Hazell stated that one thing that the GMRC Planning Department works with is Transportation and one of the services through transportation is the Transit Program. The RC has been approached by the Georgia Department of Human Services to assist with the Transit Program in our region. Mr. Hazell introduced Mr. Perry McMillon, District 2 Field Operations Coordinator and Cheryl Harrington, Regional Transportation Coordinator for areas in our region. Mr. McMillon presented a program explaining the transportation services that are currently in area and how the RC would be involved in future services. Materials were distributed and Mr. McMillon answered questions from the audience.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Stovall asked for any comments regarding the minutes of the October 25, 2012 meeting. Doug Wayne made a motion to accept the minutes as written and was seconded by Angela Whidby. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Stovall thanked everyone who attended the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions Annual Conference in St. Simons. There were 17 in attendance this year representing the RC. GMRC had the largest attendance out of the State.

Executive Director's Report

In conjunction with the Chairman's comments regarding the GARC Annual Conference, Executive Director Danny Lewis thanked the Council for allowing him to serve as President of the GARC Board for three years and Chairman Stovall for also serving for a number of years as our Policy Official on that Board. He also thanked Peggy Lovell for her assistance during the time that he served as Secretary, Vice President, and President of the organization.

Mr. Lewis introduced the newest GMRC employee, Joe Rothwell. Joe works in the Planning Department as our Regional Planner and with Historic Preservation. He has been with the GMRC for six weeks.

Mr. Lewis thanked Chris Edwards, Auditor with Clifton, Lipford, Hardison, and Parker, LLC for all the work he had done with the RC Audit. This firm does the audit for five other RCs in Georgia.

Financial Report

The Financial Report was given by GMRC Director of Finance, Becky Sievers. The Cash Position as of October 31, 2012 showed a bank balance of \$567,180, receivables of \$108,297 and payables of \$294,443, with an uncommitted cash balance of \$381,443. The Revenue

Expenditure Report for the period of July 1, 2012 – October 31, 2012 indicated Revenue Income of \$507,531, Expenditures of \$407,792, with 33 percent of the budget being expended for the fiscal year. Doug Wayne made a motion to accept the report and was seconded by Will Wade. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Report

Leslie George, Annual Meeting Committee Chairman, reported that the cutoff for the number of tickets sold had reached 300. There will be a cash bar and reception beginning at 5:00 pm. In order to stay within our time schedule, people should begin moving into the dining room about 5:45 pm. If everything stays on schedule, the meeting should be over by 9:00 p.m. Ms. George emphasized that to keep the quality of this event, we need sponsors. The Executive Committee lifted the number of maximum tickets sold in order to accommodate more sponsors.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of FY12 Audit

Bill Chafin, Audit Committee Chairman reported that the RC has received the Audit. The Audit was emailed to the Council, but if anyone would like a printed copy, please let Becky know. The Audit had no findings, a qualified opinion, and only a few housekeeping recommendations. Mr. Chafin made a motion to accept the Audit as presented. Chairman Stovall opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Chris Edwards, Auditor with Clifton, Lipford, Hardison, and Parker, LLC was introduced to summarize the audit and answer any questions.

The financial audit was performed by Mr. Edwards and his staff. They offered an unqualified opinion, which is the highest opinion that a CPA can give. With the increase in overall operations and the RC funds tripling in size (taking on WD), Mr. Edwards stated that the financial staff had done an excellent job. The RC was able to have a bottom line profit. In this Audit, the defined benefit plan was 100.93% funded and this is exceptional. Mr. Edwards thanked the RC, Danny Lewis, Becky Sievers, and the financial staff for all their help.

Chairman Stovall thanked Mr. Edwards for all his hard work and opened the floor for questions. There were none. A motion was on the floor to accept the Audit, Doug Wayne seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Appointments

Chairman Stovall reported the Executive Committee had recommended that Adam Hazell and Will Wade be reappointed to the Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Council for 2013. Leslie George made a motion to accept these two reappointments. Motion was seconded by L.J. Harrison and was unanimously approved.

Vision Care Insurance

Last month a request for an employee paid insurance was presented to the Executive Committee on behalf of the GMRC employees. At that time, the Executive Committee discussed this item and instructed Mr. Lewis to research this further. Mr. Lewis reported that bids were sent out and six bids were received. EyeMed was the low bid at a monthly rate of \$5.17 per employee. This would be a total of \$1923 per year for 31 employees. This rate includes discounted co-pay rates on exams, glasses, frames, and contacts. They also offered affordable rates for family coverage.

Chairman Stovall stated that with the total amount for the employee vision insurance being \$1923 per year and considering the GMRC employees had not been given a pay increase in several years, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to pass along to the Council the recommendation that the Council would consider paying the employee only coverage for the full time employees. Jim Conley made a motion to cover the cost of the employee only vision care insurance. Bill Chafin seconded and motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

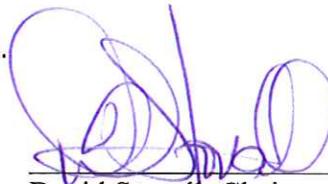
Chairman Stovall announced the Annual Meeting would be on December 7th at the Dillard House Conference Center beginning with the reception at 5:00. The January meeting would be held in Habersham County. Chairman Stovall encouraged cities and counties to sponsor one of the available Council meetings for next year.

DOOR PRIZES

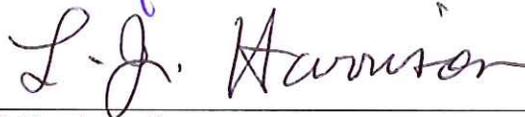
Door prizes were awarded to lucky recipients.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.



David Stovall, Chairman



L.J. Harrison, Secretary

GMRC COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE SHEET
2012-2013

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COUNTY	COUNCIL MEMBER	7/26/12	8/30/12	9/27/12	10/25/12	11/15/12	12/7/12	1/31/13	2/28/13	3/28/13	4/25/13	5/30/13	6/27/13
RABUN	Stan Darnell	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Debbie Chisholm	P (R)	P (R)	P	P	P	P						
	Douglas Wayne	P	P	P	P	P	P						
STEPHENS	Dean Scarborough	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Ron Seib	P	P (R)	P	A	P	P						
	L.J. Harrison	P	P	P	P	P	P						
TOWNS	Bill Kendall	P	A	P (R)	A	P (R)	P						
	Andrea Gibby	P (R)	A	P	P	A	A						
	David Stovall*	P	P	P	P	P	P						
UNION	Lamar Paris	P	P	A	P	A	P						
	Jim Conley	P	P	A	P	P	P						
	Mitch Griggs	A	P	A	P	A	P						
WHITE	Travis Turner	P	(R) P	A	A	P	P						
	Annie Sutton	A	P	P	P	P	P						
	Bill Black	P	P	P	P	P	P						
GOV APPT.	Rex Farmer	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Paul Kreager	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Will Wade	A	P	P	P	P	A						
SPEAKER APPT.	Andrew Turnage	(R) P	(R) P	A	A	A	A						
	Peter Hill	P	A	P	P	P	P						

P = PRESENT A = ABSENT R = REPRESENTED V = VACANCY E = EXCUSED N = NEW MEMBER

* Chairman
** Vice Chairman
*** Secretary

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BANKS	Danny Maxwell	(N)A	A	P	A	P	P						
	Jerry Payne	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Leslie George	A	P	A	P	P	P						
DAWSON	Mike Berg	A	P	A	P	A	P						
	James Grogan		(N)P	A	A	P	P						
	Charlie Auvermann	P	P	P	P	P	P						
FORSYTH	Vacant												
	Ralph Perry	P	P	P	P	A	P						
	Vacant												
FRANKLIN	Angela Whiddy	P	P	P	P	P	P						
	Ralph Owens	P(R)	P	P	A	P	P						
	Gerald Voyles	P	P	P	P	A	P						
HABERSHAM	Sonny James		(N)P	P	A	P	P						
	Audrey Turner	P	A	P	A	P	P						
	Todd Pealock	P	A	A	A	A	A						
HALL	Vacant												
	George Wangemann	P	P	A	P	P	P						
	Deborah Mack	A	P	P	P	A	P						
HART	Bill Myers	P	A	P	A	P	P						
	Tray Hicks	P	P	P	P	A	P						
	Bill Chafin	P	P	P	P	P	P						
LUMPKIN	Dr. John Raber	P	P	P	P	A	P						
	Sam Norton**	P	P	P	P	A	P						
	J.B. Jones	A	P	P	P	P	P						