

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Community House
Cornelia, GA
January 25, 2018

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, January 25, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at the Community House in Cornelia, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by City of Cornelia.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dean Scarborough called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Dean Scarborough, Chairman
Thomas Bridges
Bill Chafin
Rex Farmer
J.B. Jones
Sam Norton
Lamar Paris
George Wangemann
Angela Whidby

GMRC Staff Present

Heather Feldman, Executive Director
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Scarborough asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 16, 2017 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Sam Norton, seconded by Bill Chafin, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough reported that Mr. Mike Eason, City of Dawsonville Acting Mayor, is the new GMRC Council Member.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Heather Feldman stated the RC is working on the first Newly Elected Officials Training. The newly elected officials may not know what the RC does and can do for them. They will learn how the cities and counties can benefit from our services. She passed out

brochures on this meeting and encouraged the Committee members to take this information back to their new elected officials. The meeting will be March 7th at the GMRC office beginning at 9:00 a.m.

All Committee members received a copy of the Department of Audit and Accounts (DOAA) that was just completed. One of the RC's which was audited, had significant amount of items pointed out for misuse of funds, mainly to do with travel and meals. At the last GARC Executive Directors meeting, it was stated that all RCs may have to go back to the State Travel Policy. It will probably be discussed and decided during this Legislative Session. She feels that the statewide travel policy would be more costly for our RC. GMRC receives the lowest amount of state funding.

GMRC is trying to track legislation more closely. When ACCG and GMA sends out their legislative updates and when we hear from the GARC lobbyists, we will try to keep our cities and counties updated. We may be sending out some news alerts with information that pertains to our region.

Georgia Department of Economic Development presently administers the WorkSource Georgia program which is over our WorkSource Georgia Mountains. The Governor has recently announced that GDEcD will be transitioning these duties over to the Technical College System of Georgia. This is the third transition since Georgia Mountains became the fiscal agent for the program. The Local Elected Officials (LEOs) have been notified of this and will probably be meeting to recertify since the last one was done in 2011. A couple of things that we feel is a concern and will be watching is that there are three Workforce Development Board members that serve on the WD Board but also works for the Technical Colleges. The RC also has \$100,000 in contracts with the technical colleges in our area. This seems to be a conflict of interest and we will be monitoring it. Chairman Scarborough stated that these WD Board members might have to move to an advisory position.

Ms. Feldman reported that upon returning from the holidays the RC has three resignations. Marissa Smith has decided to be a stay at home Mom, Meisa Pace has accepted a job as a paralegal, and Diana Eddins-Wiggin will be moving back to New Hampshire. We wish each of them well. We have filled one position internally, but we still have three positions to fill.

Checks that Exceed \$25,000

The Executive Committee was informed there were three checks written during the months of December and January which exceeded the amount of \$25,000.

GMEBS (Health, Dental, Life Ins.) – Dec.	\$28,839.00
GMEBS (Health, Dental, Life Ins.) – Jan.	\$26,475.75
Lanier Tech – Youth Instructors	\$78,856.71

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

FY19 GDOT Transit Application Resolution

Ms. Feldman stated that the GDOT Transit Application Resolution is a formality that would need to be approved to be able to apply for the Transit Grant. J.B. Jones made a motion to move this Resolution on to the Council for consideration. Motion was seconded by Bill Chafin and motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report

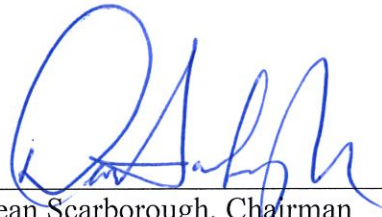
Rex Farmer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that this Committee had met and discussed Sam Norton as a candidate to fill the vacant Vice-Chairman position. Mr. Norton has agreed to fill the remaining term for the Vice Chairman position. He stated that he would do anything to help benefit the RC. Election will be held at the February meeting and at this time the floor will be opened for additional nominations. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to recommend Sam Norton as a candidate.

Finance Policies and Procedures

Bill Chafin, Finance/Audit Committee Chairman informed the Executive Committee that Heather Feldman and Andrea Newsom had worked on compiling the RC and WorkSource Policies and Procedures into one policy. We feel that the new umbrella policy is a fine tuned, transparent policy. The Executive Committee will receive these by email on Monday for review. This document will be voted on at the February meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.



Dean Scarborough, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary