

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Lavonia Railroad Depot
Lavonia, GA
April 26, 2018

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, April 26, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at the Railroad Depot in Lavonia, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by City of Lavonia.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Sam Norton called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Sam Norton, Vice-Chairman
Bill Black
Bill Chafin
Jim Conley
George Wangemann
Angela Whidby

GMRC Staff Present

Heather Feldman, Executive Director
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice-Chairman Norton asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 29, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes and the attendance report was made by Bill Chafin, seconded by Angela Whidby, and motion carried unanimously. (Attendance sheet attached)

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Heather Feldman informed the Council that City of Cumming has appointed City Councilman Jason Evans to the GMRC Council.

The RC is still working on the Statewide Travel Policy. Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) is encouraging all the RCs to adopt the State Policy. Some Legislators are concerned due to findings which have resulted from the DOAA audits on several of the RCs. They feel if all RCs adopt this policy, everyone will be going by the same rules. The GMRC Policy that we are working on will mirror the State Policy, but would have some things taken out that are not applicable to our RC, such as international travel.

Checks that Exceed \$25,000

The Executive Committee was informed there were three checks written during the month of April which exceeded the amount of \$25,000.

GMEBS – Life & Health Insurance	\$ 25,749.25
The Atlantic Group - Aerial Photo Project 50% Complete	\$127,501.53
North Georgia Technical College - Welding	\$ 36,645.00

OLD BUSINESS

Purchase of New Fleet Vehicles

Last month, the Council voted to purchase two mid-size cars to add to the GMRC fleet. The Council approved to send the RFQ to all type dealerships, not just Ford. The RFQ was sent out by email to 15 different providers and an ad also ran in the newspaper on April 8th. Four bids were received and opened on April 23rd as advertised. Inquiries regarding the bids were received from Tennessee, Florida, and Georgia. The low bid was from Jacky Jones in Cleveland, Georgia for two Ford Taurus at the price of \$20,890 each. Delivery time would be approximately six to ten weeks. The RC will dispose of the Jeep Liberty that is presently in the fleet by taking bids from the cities and counties in our region.

NEW BUSINESS

FY19 GMRC Budget

The FY19 GMRC Budget was reviewed by the Finance Committee and was emailed to the Executive Committee earlier this month for review. The budgeted revenues are \$6,991,880; \$757,596 of this is dues. Major purchases that are included in this Budget are a new air conditioning unit for one hallway of the Ridge Road office, a new computer server, and new computer software. There is \$56,107 in revenue left after expenses. The Finance Committee recommends leaving this money unallocated in case bids come in higher on equipment that needs to be purchased or for match funds needed for departments with contracts that need match money. This budget does not include any cola or merit increases for employees. Bill Chafin recommended sending the Budget on to the Council, seconded by Jim Conley and motion carried unanimously.

RLF Update

Jim Conley, RLF Committee Chairman, informed the Executive Committee that the RC has received a loan request from a business that currently has a loan through the RLF program. The original loan was for \$20,000 in working capital for a restaurant in Hartwell. The current balance on the loan is \$11,901.20. The owner is requesting an additional \$28,000.00 to finish the build out and add a patio to the restaurant. The owner's equity injection into the business is \$62,000.00. The RC holds first position on the lien for the property which is valued at just over \$64,000.00, equipment, and vehicles as collateral. The RLF Committee met previously and recommended sending this to the Council for consideration. Mr. Conley also gave an update on some of the other existing loans.

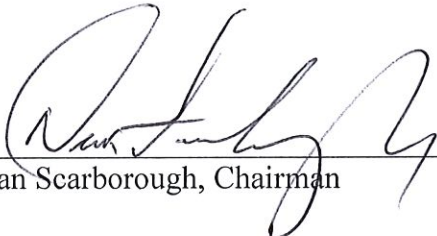
Andrea Newsom reported that the RLF Program has \$750,000 in funds to loan. EDA no longer sequesters funds, but will be grading the RC on their program. There are 15 different levels that they evaluate the RC's loan program on. They use a grading system of A, B, or C. We need to make some loans because that is one thing that they score on is how much money the RC has available to loan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

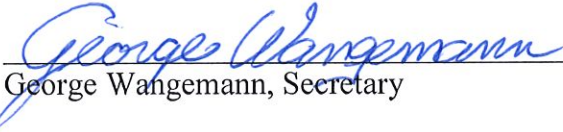
The May 31st GMRC Council meeting is our Legislative Appreciation Dinner. We are trying to do something a little different this year. Everyone was encouraged to invite their Legislator to come with them to this meeting. We need to let them know that we appreciate them and are there for them.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.



Dean Scarborough, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary