

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Dawson County Middle School
Dawsonville, Georgia
May 29, 2014

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, May 29, 2014, 5:30 p.m. at the Dawson County Middle School in Dawsonville, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Dawson County, City of Dawsonville, and Dawson County Board of Education.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Executive Committee Present

Sam Norton, Chairman
Dean Scarborough, Vice Chairman
George Wangemann, Secretary
Mike Berg
Jim Conley
Rex Farmer
Leslie George
Lamar Paris

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant
Becky Sievers, Director of Finance

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Due to there not being a quorum present at the April Meeting, Chairman Norton asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 27, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Mike Berg, seconded by Jim Conley, and motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman also asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 24, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Rex Farmer, seconded by Mike Berg, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Norton stated that he had attended the Georgia Association of Regional Commission's (GARC) Economic Development Conference on May 4-6 at Brasstown Valley Resort, along

with the Executive Director and Economic Development staff. He commended the Staff and Executive Director for their hard work and leadership they present at state and regional meetings. He feels that the Council should be proud of how well we are represented. Our region is strong due to this.

Executive Director's Report

Heather Feldman was elected as Chairman of the GARC Economic Development Professionals by her peers at the Economic Development Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

FY15 GMRC Budget

Becky Sievers, Finance Director, gave an overview of the FY15 GMRC Budget. The total budget for the RC including WD is 16% less due to sequestered grant funds which will end on June 30, 2015. The fringe rate has increased from 37 to 44% due to the uncertainty of the insurance premiums increase due to the new Health Care Plan and will not find out this rate until January. At this time, we do not know what the rates will be. There is an increase in Dues in the amount of \$11,000 due to the 2012 Reapportionment Censes Figures from DCA. The new Budget includes a 3% salary increase for all 33 full time employees and one part-time employee.

The Council has had the Budget for their 30 day review process and it will be presented for consideration tonight at the Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RLF Update

The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Committee was under the impression that all of our sequestered fund were going to be released from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) due to the amount of loans that had previously been made. But we received a letter from EDA stating that due to a loan for \$50,000 that previously did not close, we would be sequestered \$7,889. The RLF Program has approximately \$400,000 that can be loaned out at this time. Chairman Norton encouraged Council members to spread the word that the RC has this money available to help businesses in our region.

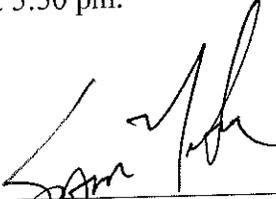
Accounting Software

Previously RFPs were sent out for new accounting software and the RC received bids from BS&A Software, Tyler Technologies, and Blackbaud, Inc. After reviewing the bids, the Finance Committee and staff recommend Tyler Technologies. A spreadsheet was distributed to Executive Committee with pros and cons of all three bid packages. Tyler Technologies is not the lowest, but the Finance Committee feels it is the best package. They are based in Texas, but has a technician in Gwinnett. It is a web based software and will do training in person. Tyler Technologies presently has 1,900 government clients. The present GMRC accounting software was purchased in 1990. The Finance Department would like to have this software in place by July 1.

A motion was made by Leslie George to recommend Tyler Technologies to the Council for purchase of their accounting software. Seconded by Dean Scarborough and motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was recessed to the Council Meeting at 5:50 pm.



Sam Norton, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary