

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Union County Community Center
Blairsville, Georgia
November 17, 2011

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, November 17, 2011, 5:30 p.m. at the new Union County Community Center in Blairsville, Georgia.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Executive Committee Present

David Stovall, Chairman
L.J. Harrison, Secretary
Bill Chafin
Rex Farmer
Leslie George
J.B. Jones
Paul Kreager

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Stovall asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 27, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Leslie George, seconded by Paul Kreager, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis reported to the Committee that the GMRC was well represented with 19 attending the GARC Annual Conference in St. Simons on November 9-11th. He thanked each one that was able to attend.

In our Council Meeting Chris Edwards with Clifton, Lipford, Hardison, and Parker, LLC will present the FY11 GMRC Audit for the Council's consideration of approval. Also, Mr. Randy Donaldson with UGA's Small Business Development Center will be presenting our program.

Mr. Lewis informed the Committee of several meetings that are scheduled.

- The CEDS Committee met previously today. Paul Kreager, Rex Farmer, and Bill Chafin serve on this Committee. Some RC's Workforce Investment Board serves as their CEDS Committee.
- The Economic Development Group will meet next week. Only Economic Development Representatives attend this meeting to allow them to network and work on economic issues for our area.
- The City/County Managers meeting will be held on December 7th at the Holiday Inn Express, in Lavonia, Georgia. This meeting will be hosted by Franklin County and the City of Lavonia. These meetings are held quarterly in different areas of our region.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Report

Leslie George stated that the details for the Annual Meeting/Awards Dinner have been finalized. We have great entertainment scheduled and the Dillard House is making preparations for the best event possible. Ms. George reminded everyone to get their tickets ordered and to secure their sponsors for this year, because we only have two weeks left.

NEW BUSINESS

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program

Mr. Lewis stated that Sam Norton could not be present for the Executive Committee meeting due to a prior meeting conflict, but is scheduled to speak tonight during the Council Meeting on the RLF Program. The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has previously sequestered loan funds due to the fact that the RC has not made any new loans. The RLF Committee has reviewed several loans, but did not feel that they were financially sound enough to make the loan. With the economic situation that we are presently in, the banks are not willing to loan the money for their portion. Mr. Norton feels that we need to meet with bankers and other financial institutions to let them know that we have this program and to work with them on getting referrals for loans. He feels that we need to get the word out that we have funds to loan, whether it be through the banks or by word of mouth. Paul Kreager encouraged the RC to talk with the Small Business Development Center. Mr. Lewis also stated that the RC is in the process of hiring a Human Resources Specialist and this position will handle the RLF Program.

Workforce Development Contracts

At the present time all contracts require signatures of both the Executive Director and GMRC Council Chairman. This was designed for outside contractual work. Sometimes we are unable to immediately obtain signatures of both parties. Workforce Development has contracts with all instructors and counselors. These contractors are paid on a bi-weekly schedule. In order to not delay their payroll process, Mr. Lewis asked to change the contracts to require the signature of the Executive Director and the WIA Director. This would only be

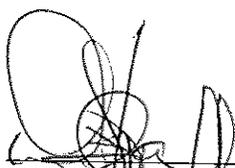
for the WIA daily operating contracts. Leslie George made a motion to make this change and was seconded by J.B. Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

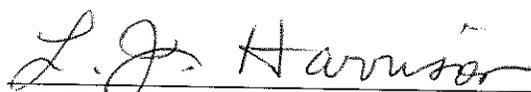
The Annual Meeting will be held at the Dillard House Conference Center on December 2nd with the reception starting at 5:00 p.m. The dinner and program will follow at 6:00 p.m. The January 26th meeting will be sponsored by City of Gainesville at the Civic Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was recessed to the Council Meeting at 5:55 pm.



David Stovall, Chairman



L.J. Harrison, Secretary