

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Dawsonville City Hall
Dawsonville, GA
November 20, 2014

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, November 20, 2014, 5:00 p.m. in the Joe Lane Cox Conference Room at the Dawsonville City Hall in Dawsonville, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by City of Dawsonville.

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
Bill Black
Bill Chafin
Jim Conley
Rex Farmer
Leslie George
George Wangemann

GMRC Staff Present

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Norton asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 30, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Dean Scarborough, seconded by Jim Conley, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Norton thanked all the Council Members and staff who attended the GARC Annual Meeting. GMRC was well represented at the conference. He also thanked the staff for leading the way.

Chairman Norton commended Faith Bryan for her work on the aerial photography project and Becky Sievers for all her work with the Auditor on the GMRC Audit.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis informed the Executive Committee that Chris Edwards, GMRC Auditor would be the program for tonight's meeting.

At tonight's meeting, the Council will be reviewing and considering bids for the Mobile Training Units (MTUs) shelter. The electrical lines had to be located and moved before the construction of the concrete pad could begin. Georgia Power located and moved the electrical lines and also replaced the transformer for the office building. The previous transformer was installed when the building was constructed in 1976.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Report

Leslie George, Annual Meeting Committee Chair asked each Executive Committee member to secure at least one sponsor for the Annual Meeting. She didn't want to ask for each Council member to secure a sponsor when the Executive Committee did not do so. Door prizes are still needed. She discussed that the money from the sponsorships are used to pay for expenses and entertainment for the Annual Meeting. Any money that is left is used to pay for other events that the GMRC can't pay for through the General Fund.

2015 Council Meeting Hosting

Chairman Norton stated that sponsors for all of the 2015 GMRC Council Meetings has been secured with the exception of September and July. Jim Conley stated that Union County and City of Blairsville would be happy to sponsor the September meeting. It is great to start a new year with almost every meeting spoken for. Mr. Lewis is working on speakers for this year's meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Bid for Concrete Pad/Wall for MTU Shelter

The RC had previously sent out RFPs for the concrete pad and wall for the metal shelter to be built on. Until contractors came and looked at the site, no one realized that there needed to be a wall built on one side of the concrete pad, due to the slope of the land. Three bids were received with a big difference in price. The lowest bid was Kevin Williamson for \$9,499. Leslie George made a motion to recommend the RC go with the bid of Kevin Williamson for \$9,499. Seconded by George Wangemann and motion passed unanimously.

New Financial Advisor for 401K Plan

At last month's meeting, the Council approved to hire Mass Mutual as the RC's 401k platform. Mass Mutual will be performing all the tax reporting, statements, and accounting aspects on the accounts. Edward Jones currently serves as the financial advisor who deals individually with the employees on their retirement accounts. The RC's Third Party Administrator (TPA) recommended that the RC go to a 401K Platform and financial advisor to take some of the fiduciary responsibilities off the Trustees. The RC is unsatisfied with the one-on-one services that they have been getting from Edward Jones. The RC feels they should terminate the services

of Edward Jones and have Transamerica as our new financial advisor. Transamerica would charge 1.5% of all money invested (which is cheaper than 3% that the employees are currently paying to Edward Jones) and there would be no start-up or set-up fees. Employees would be able to go on-line and do their own investing. Transamerica is available to do one-on-one counseling on the employees' individual accounts as needed.

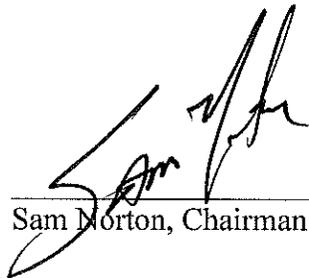
Bill Chafin stated that the Executive Committee recommends to the Council to terminate the services of Edward Jones and employ Transamerica as the RC's financial advisor. Motion was seconded by George Wangemann. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Vehicle Allowance

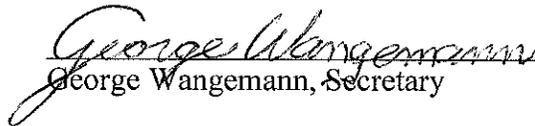
At the last two Executive Committee meetings, the Committee discussed the affects that changing to the state travel policy would have on the RC. One item would be, the new plan calls for assigning a vehicle to the Executive Director for his travel and not paying mileage for the use of his personal vehicle. At last month's meeting it was approved to purchase a new fleet vehicle for the Executive Director and that this vehicle does not have to be lettered with company logo. Currently the Executive Director is reimbursed for his mileage and is paid a travel allowance of \$800 per month. Under the new policy, Chairman Norton feels that there is an inequity to the Executive Director since he will not be receiving his monthly travel allowance. It was discussed as to what could be done to make things more equal. Bill Chafin suggested that the Executive Committee recommend to the Council for the Executive Director to be compensated in the amount of \$500 a month to offset the loss of his travel allowance. Jim Conley seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.



Sam Norton, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary