

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION  
COUNCIL MEETING  
July 27, 2023

MINUTES

The GMRC Council held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Rabun County Civic Center, 201 W Savannah Street, Clayton, GA 30525. The meeting was hosted by Rabun County.

CALL TO ORDER

GMRC Chairman Ken Schubring called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and welcomed all attendees.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Greg James, Rabun County Board of Commissioners Chairman, welcomed all in attendance. Mr. James thanked Linda Ramey, Rabun County Clerk and Amanda Crane, Rabun County Events Coordinator for organizing the meeting. Mr. James also recognized and thanked Doug and Linda Wayne for their dedicated representation of Rabun County with the GMRC Council. The Chairman introduced the County Administrator Darrin Giles and Rabun County Commissioner Scott Crane.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Vice-Chairman Courtney Umbehant recognized special guests; Mike Fisher, WGI; Cheryl Smith, Department of Agriculture; Tammy Rauch, Technical College System of Georgia; Benjie and Marsha Hopkins, Hopkins Associates; and Brent Williams, ACCG.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/DINNER

Ms. Deborah Mack gave the devotion, invocation, and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Dinner was catered by Oinkers.

PROGRAM

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission staff provided Council Member Training.

A copy of the presentation can be found at <https://www.gmrc.ga.gov/gmrccouncil>.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES AND ATTENDANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Secretary Bruce Palmer asked for any comments or a motion regarding the minutes and attendance report for the June 27, 2023 Council meeting. Doug Wayne made a motion to approve the minutes as written and George Wangemann seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## REPORTS

### Chairman's Report

Chairman Ken Schubring reported that he would be attending the GARC Policy Official's meeting with Executive Director Feldman in Macon on August 3, 2023.

Mr. Schubring welcomed the newest member of the GMRC Council; Ms. Amy Booker, Lumpkin County Private Sector appointee.

### Quarterly Finance Report

All Council members received the FY23 quarter 4 financial report prior to the meeting. GMRC Finance Director Alicia Page reminded the members that the report is for the unaudited period ending June 30, 2023. Ms. Page went on to explain that as of the period end, the year-to-date revenues total \$4,489,993.24 of which:

- \$3,567,204.41 or approximately 80% are federal and state funding.
- \$619,097.62 or approximately 14% are member dues.
- \$202,898.35 or approximately 5% are charges for services.
- The remaining \$100,792.86 or 1% is from other revenues.

At the end of the period, the expenditure totaled \$4,190,270.77. Total transfers and matching obligations for the period were \$364,630.14. Leaving a total surplus of \$299,722.47 for the period end.

Factors that contribute to the surplus include:

- \$59,772.02 in investment income that is used to grow the Regional Commission's two revolving loan funds.
- Higher than expected interest earnings on investment funds.
- Vacancies for several regional commission positions contributed to lower than anticipated payroll and benefit costs.
- Savings from converting the health insurance to a new plan, and conservative spending to facilitate GMRC's ongoing operational needs.

## OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

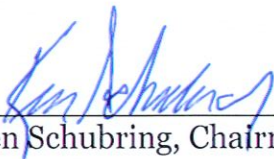
None

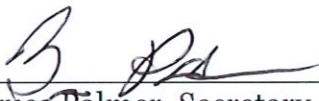
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Schubring announced that the August Council Meeting will be held in Habersham County.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

  
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Ken Schubring, Chairman

  
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Bruce Palmer, Secretary



**GMRC COUNCIL  
ATTENDANCE SHEET  
2023-2024**

COUNTY	COUNCIL MEMBER	July 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	March 24	April 24	May 24	June 24
RABUN	Kent Woerner	(R)											
	Althea Bleckley	P											
	Douglas Wayne	P											
STEPHENS	Tara Simmons	P											
	David Austin	P											
	James Addison	P											
TOWNS	Cliff Bradshaw	P											
	Liz Ordiales	P											
	Denise McKay	R											
UNION	Lamar Paris	P											
	Jim Conley	P											
	Mitch Griggs	P											
WHITE	Travis Turner	(P)											
	Nan Bowen	P											
	Susan Cremering	A											
GOV APPT.	VACANT												
	Angela Whidby	P											
	VACANT												
LT. GOV APPT.	VACANT												
SPEAKER APPT.	VACANT												

P = PRESENT    A = ABSENT    (R) = REPRESENTED    (P) PROXY VOTE    V = VACANCY    E = EXCUSED    N = NEW MEMBER    X = NO MEETING

\* Chairman  
\*\* Vice Chairman  
\*\*\* Secretary