

SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
March 25, 2021
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Chair Joyce Evans called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

PROTOCOL FOR VIRTUAL MEETING: Chair Evans called upon SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb to review the procedures to be used during the conference call. Ms. Cribb explained to all that called in to make sure they: mute their phone when not speaking; state their name when making a motion or second; and unmute their cellphone to make motions/seconds, to participate in discussions, and to vote.

ROLL CALL: Chair Evans asked SGRC Assistant Executive Director Chris Strom to call the roll. Mr. Strom stated that he would call each council member's name (by county). He asked that council members respond with "here or present" to determine a quorum. After calling the roll, he asked that any guests and staff present state their names. Results are shown below in the table.

<u>Atkinson County</u>	<u>Bacon County</u>	<u>Ben Hill County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Futch, Lace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hutto, Andy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taylor, Steve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Puckett, Jim
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McKinnon, Janice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coley, Lisa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dunn, Jason
<u>Berrien County</u>	<u>Brantley County</u>	<u>Brooks County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gaskins, Ronnie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harris, Skipper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Folsom, Patrick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scarborough, Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maefield, Barbara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennard, Nancy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smart, Lisa	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deshazior, Zurich
<u>Charlton County</u>	<u>Clinch County</u>	<u>Coffee County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Everett, James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metts, Roger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paulk, Oscar
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gowen, Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardee, Willie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moore, Bob
Vacant	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Adam
<u>Cook County</u>	<u>Echols County</u>	<u>Irwin County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rowe, Audie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walker, Bobby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver, Scott
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duke, Buddy		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seale, Matt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bennett, Derry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garner, Cheryl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paulk, Mona
<u>Lanier County</u>	<u>Lowndes County</u>	<u>Pierce County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fender, Dennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evans, Joyce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bennett, Neal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darsey, Bill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Miller-Cody, Vivian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brooks, Keith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fitton, John	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payton, Anthony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brannen, Andy

<u>Tift County</u>	<u>Turner County</u>	<u>Ware County</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McBrayer, Tony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whiddon, Dana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thrift, Elmer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Julie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lumpkin, Sandra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael-Angelo James
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marlowe, Brian	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> King, Barbara
<u>Governor's Office</u>	<u>Lt. Governor's Office</u>	<u>Speaker's Office</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lovein, Norman "Bo"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone, Keith	Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daughtrey, Guy		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jones, Johnathon		

Staff Present

Backe, Elizabeth
 Courson, Scott
 Cribb, Lisa
 Dorsey, Rex
 Fowler, Megan
 Hobbs, Kimberly
 Lovett, Roberta
 Rodgers, Kimberly
 Schultz, Kelly
 Strom, Chris
 Strom, Rachel
 Vining, Kim

Guests Present

Davenport, Emily
 Moore, Darrell
 Rubenbauer, Jason
 Westberry, Diane

INSTALLATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Chair Evans introduced the newly appointed officials and read aloud the oath. Each new member verbally agreed to uphold the oath as new SGRC council members. SGRC council members installed were: Patrick Folsom, Chairman, Brooks County Board of Commissioners, and Bobby Walker, Chairman, Echols County Board of Commissioners.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 25, 2021 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the February 25, 2021 minutes had been emailed to members (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Michael-Angelo James made a motion to approve the minutes. Zurich Deshazior seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF FEBRUARY 2021 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT: Chair Evans reminded those present that a copy of the February 2021 Revenue and Expenditure Report had been emailed to council members and included in their council packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Matt Seale made a motion to accept the February financial report. Michael-Angelo James seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF DRAFT SOUTHERN GEORGIA RC FY2022 WORK PROGRAM BY DIVISION: Chair Evans called upon SGRC Aging Communications/Outreach Specialist Kimberly Rodgers to start the Work Program presentations. Ms. Rodgers referred those present to the draft work program and PowerPoint slides in their packets (copies attached and made part of these minutes) for reference during the presentations. Georgia State law requires the SGRC to compile a work program for planned activities in the upcoming fiscal year. The council will vote on the resolution to adopt the Work Program in June. Each RC department will give detailed overviews of their programs and planned activities for the upcoming fiscal year over the next three meetings, allowing the council time to review the draft work program, make suggestions, or ask questions before adopting it. The following program representatives presented PowerPoint presentations that highlighted the various activities for their department for the upcoming fiscal year: Kimberly Rodgers, Aging Communications/Outreach Specialist; Rex Dorsey, Lending Director; and Roberta Lovett, Workforce Development Director.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SGRC TRANSIT TITLE VI PLAN: SGRC Transit/Mobility Coordinator Megan Fowler referred those present to a copy of the resolution to adopt the SGRC Transit Title VI Plan included in their member packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). This resolution is associated with the upcoming public transit system that will be implemented in July. The Transit Title VI Plan is a nondiscrimination policy and will ensure that all passengers are treated equally and fairly. The plan will protect individuals from discrimination based on race, color, and national origin. Ms. Fowler explained that the SGRC Transit Title VI Plan has been reviewed and approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation and their compliance team and presented to the council for approval. Matt Seale made a motion to adopt the SGRC Transit Title VI Plan. Michael-Angelo James seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/UPDATES:

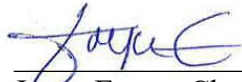
Grants: SGRC Community and Economic Development Director Kimberly Hobbs referred those present to a copy of the project status list included in their member packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Hobbs stated that the project status list shows funded projects and projects that have been applied for in our region, grouped by county. She announced that Kimberly Carter has recently been named Division Director by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Also from DCA, Tommy Lowman has been named the new Director of the Office of Community Development. Ms. Hobbs advised those present to contact SGRC Community and Economic Development staff regarding projects listed in their packet or any potential projects that they may be interested in for their communities.

Planning: SGRC Planning Director Elizabeth Backe referred those present to a handout listing the various plans that local governments are required to submit, as well as the deadlines for submission (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). She encouraged council members to review the schedule for upcoming deadlines for their communities and to contact SGRC Planning staff with any questions.

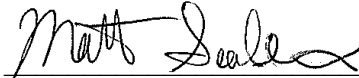
Division Reports: SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb referred those present to the division reports in their packets (copy attached and made a part of these minutes). Ms. Cribb asked those present to review the reports to see what the RC is doing in the region each month.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Evans asked if there were any questions, comments, or announcements. SGRC Executive Director Lisa Cribb announced that the SGRC has recently received the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream Watershed Award for excellence in implementing the goals of Adopt-A-Stream through the completion of best management practices at the New River Watershed in Berrien, Cook, and Tift counties. Ms. Cribb congratulated Corey Hull, Environmental Director, and Megan Parker, Environmental Planner, for their efforts in receiving that award.

ADJOURN: As there was no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned.



Joyce Evans, Chair



Matt Seale, Secretary