

Minutes
LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FULL BOARD MEETING

398 Barnwell Hwy, Allendale, SC 29810 – Brandt Building
April 14, 2022

LSCOG Board Members present:

Aiken County:	Gary Bunker, Danny Feagin, John Simmons
Allendale County:	Larry Cohen, Dorothy Riley, William Robinson, Dawan Smith, Theresa Taylor
Bamberg County:	Jerry Bell, Clint Carter, Sharon Hammond, Marvin Dueck, Gerald Wright
Barnwell County:	Freddie Houston, David Kenner (Chair), Ben Kinlaw, Thomas L. Williams
Calhoun County:	John McLauchlin, James Haigler (Vice Chair), Roger Hill
Orangeburg County:	Deloris Frazier, Joseph Garvin, Sen. Vernon Stephens

LSCOG Board Members excused:

Aiken County:	Det Haislip, Lessie Price, Andrew Siders (Past Chair)
Allendale County:	
Bamberg County:	
Barnwell County:	Daniel Alexander, Jason Stapleton
Calhoun County:	Ken Westbury
Orangeburg County:	Michael Butler (Treasurer), Janie Cooper-Smith, Johnny Ravenell, Harry Wimberly, Sen. Bradley Hutto

LSCOG Board Members absent:

Aiken County:	Willar Hightower, Thomas H. Williams, Rep. Melissa Oremus
Allendale County:	Rebecca Gooding
Bamberg County:	Larry Haynes, Rep. Justin Bamberg
Barnwell County:	Rep. Lonnie Hosey
Calhoun County:	Helen Carson-Peterson, John Nelson, Rep. Russell Ott
Orangeburg County:	

LSCOG staff present: Dr. Molnar, Nora Sanders, Frances Owens, Susan Garen, Nicole Davis, Emory Langston, Wallace White

Guests present: Linda Bell, Peggy Kinlaw, Hattie Jackson, Bradley Waters, Willie Walker, Johnny Mmanu-ike, Yvonne Johnson, William Robinson, Jr., Connie Munn, Kevin Pondy, Rhonda Walker, Renique Riley-Spiller, Anna Chappelle, Doris Wright, Carla Corona, Celeste Crocker, Tim Bennett

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Kenner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mr. Dawan Smith led the invocation. Ms. Dorothy Riley led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL AND RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Dr. William Molnar (*Executive Director*) conducted roll call. A quorum was present. Guests were introduced.

AMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Kenner asked for approval to amend the agenda to move the Roof Update and Statement of Operations after initial meeting agenda approval.

Mr. Freddie Houston made the motion for approval of the amendment to the agenda. Mr. William Robinson seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*

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APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Kenner asked for approval of the February Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Houston made the motion for approval of the board meeting minutes. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Dr. Molnar presented the financial report for February 2022 for information.

ROOF UPDATE

Mr. Bradley Waters (REI Engineering) presented the roof project information.

REI Engineering was hired to perform technical specifications and drawings for the roof. We received one bid on our second attempt at the bidding process in the amount of \$716,000. REI recommends that this bid be awarded to LaFavre Construction.

Mr. Marvin Dueck made the motion for approval of the \$716,000 bid to be awarded to LaFavre Construction to build the new roof and for staff to enter into contract negotiations. Mr. Clint Carter seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*

SC DEPARTMENT ON AGING (SCDOA) OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Director Munn gave an overview and update on the programs of SCDOA.

SCDOA has several tools and opportunities for Seniors in our area. Monitoring and screening tools help assess the individuals for their overall wellness, such as malnutrition screening, expanded food security, fall risk assessments, and loneliness assessments. The SCDOA also has pilot project with restaurant partnerships that allows seniors to battle loneliness with group dining in a restaurant setting. There is also an iPad loan/management program for seniors to have access to the internet and those various online resources. SCDOA is partnering with SC SNAP-Ed partners, like SCDHEC, Lowcountry Food Bank, and Clemson University for nutrition education geared towards the seniors in our area.

A new division was created in 2021 aimed specifically at the unique needs of family caregivers and individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias. The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center has a fully appointed council.

SC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SCDOT) OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

SCDOT Director Johnny Mmanu-Ike gave an overview and update on the SCDOT programs as related to the Aging/Senior programs.

Every federal dollar that comes through SCDOT must be matched locally. Funding sources such as Rural (5311) and Enhanced Mobility Rural (5310) are the two programs that directly affect our region. Bus & Facilities Rural funding (5339) may be available occasionally. Approximately 46% of the state's mass transit funds are allocated for rural areas.

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Enhanced Mobility Rural grants (5310) are used to improve mobility for the elderly and persons with disabilities. This funding can be used for purchase of service, buying new vehicles, and operations expenses. Human Service Agencies are fully responsible for the local match. There is no state mass transit funding available for this program.

Bus and Bus Facilities grants (5339) are used to replace, rehabilitate, purchase buses and related equipment, and construct bus-related facilities.

MODIVCARE OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Ms. Celeste Crocker and Ms. Carla Corona gave an overview and update on the ModivCare program.

Formerly known as LogistiCare; they are the broker to South Carolina and oversee the transportation available to the eligible membership. Transportation is available for medical transportation and in some cases social transport (grocery store, movies, casinos, etc). Commercial transit, mass transit, and mileage reimbursement are also offered by ModivCare.

The programmatic operations are currently undergoing an overhaul to ensure the program is equitable across the state and nation.

AGING DISABILITIES TRANSPORTATION RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE (ADTRC) UPDATE

Mr. Wallace White gave an update on what is going on around the region and with funding pertaining to Aging and Transit Programs.

Needs Assessment flyers were passed out at the meeting. Pest control, meals, transportation, lawn care, etc., are examples of the kinds of needs in the aging population. The assessments will help understand what services would be most useful for our region.

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT LSRHC ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Ms. Langston presented the draft of the Lower Savannah Regional HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan.

Mr. Freddie Houston made a motion to approve the draft LSRHC Annual Action Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Larry Cohen. *The motion passed unanimously.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Molnar presented the Executive Director's Report:

- Silver Haired Legislature's Legislative Request –
- State, Local Funding Update – The SC House has an increase in the COGs line-item funding but the Senate does not. Both have an additional \$1m proviso to be split equally among the 10 COGs. Senator Peeler was looking for a tax relief of \$2M. The House and Senate are currently at odds on a number of budget items. In June, they go into conference committee.
- SCCOG Annual Conference-November 20-22, Myrtle Beach – We are planning the SCCOG Conference this year. We will intend to invite Senator Peeler so he can understand more about what COGs do. Please let the staff know if you have an idea for a theme, sessions or speakers for this conference.

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- Executive Committee Meeting May 12, 2022 – This will be an Executive Committee budget review meeting.
- LSCOG Board Meeting June 9, 2022 – Barnwell County
- Board Approval for Auditors' Continuation for an Additional Year – Mr. Bill Robinson made a motion for approval and seconded by Mr. Larry Cohen. *The motion passed unanimously.*

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Vernon Stephens and seconded by Mr. Larry Cohen. Chairman David Kenner adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



William Molnar, Ph.D.
Executive Director

NOTICE OF THE MEETING AND A COPY OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING WAS DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL NEWS MEDIA PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND A NOTICE OF THE MEETING POSTED ON THE LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WEBSITE AND BULLETIN BOARD AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.