

MINUTES

LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Miller's Bread Basket, Blackville, SC
November 12, 2020 at 12:00 pm Meeting

<i>Chairman</i>	Andrew Siders (P)
<i>Vice Chairman</i>	David Kenner (P)
<i>Treasurer</i>	James Haigler (P)
<i>Past Chairman</i>	Dorothy Riley (E)

	<u>County Representatives</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Aiken	Roger Boyd (E)	Thomas H. Williams (E)
Allendale	Theresa Taylor (E)	Bill Robinson (P)
Bamberg	Jerry Bell (P)	
Barnwell	Ben Kinlaw (P)	
Calhoun	Roger Hill (P)	John McLaughlin (P)
Orangeburg	Harry Wimberly (E)	Vernon Stephens (E)

<u>Minority Representatives</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Janie Cooper-Smith (E)	Freddie Houston (P)
Larry Cohen (P)	
Gerald Wright (A)	Sharon Hammond (P) by phone

LSCOG staff present: Dr. William Molnar, Nora Sanders, Frances Owens, Vicki Hallee, Rhonda Mitchell

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andrew Siders called the meeting to order at 12:08 pm.

ROLL CALL

Dr. Molnar (*Executive Director*) conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Mr. James Haigler presented the financial report for July 2020. The report was accepted as information.

990 TAX RETURNS FOR LSRIAC AND LSRDC

Ms. Frances Owens (*Finance Director*) requested approval of the 990 tax returns for the Lower Savannah Regional Information and Assistance Corporation and the Regional Development Corporation. McKinley, Cooper & Co. prepared the tax returns. *A motion was made by Mr. Bill Robinson and seconded by Mr. Larry Cohen. The motion carried unanimously.*

REVOLVING LOAN FUND UPDATE

Mr. Randy Pellisero from Catawba Council of Governments provided an update on the Revolving Loan Fund for the Lower Savannah region.

APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBER FOR TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR LSRHC

Ms. Nora Sanders (*Assistant Executive Director*) asked for approval for Trudy Boyd (Aiken County Representative) to replace Kevin Price who resigned his position earlier this year. *A motion was made by Mr. Bill Robinson and seconded by Mr. David Kenner. The motion carried unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF TRANSIT SAFETY PLAN

A new federal regulation requires public transportation entities to have a *Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)* approved by its governing board and certified by S.C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT) by December 31, 2020. Ms. Rhonda Mitchell (*Transit Manager*) requested approval for the plan. *A motion was made by Mr. Bill Robinson and seconded by Mr. Larry Cohen. The motion carried unanimously.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Molnar gave updates on the following events:

- LSCOG creates a COVID Report each week and distributes it to the County Administrators, County Chairmen and the LSCOG Board Chairman.
- Legislative Breakfasts – LSCOG Board is agreed on continuing. Dr. Molnar is waiting on the Legislators to decide if they want to proceed with this event.
- LSCOG is now fully staffed during business hours and virtual meetings are as follows
 - **Nov. 16** CEDs Regional Economic Development meeting (Virtual)
 - **Nov. 18** Community Development Block Grant CAREs Funding with County Chairmen and Administrators (Virtual)
 - **Nov. 19** Aging Advisory Committee Meeting (Virtual)
 - **Dec. 1** Workforce Development Committee (Virtual)
 - **Dec. 10** Annual Board Meeting will be held at Newberry Hall in Aiken for board members only.
 - **Jan. 20** Transportation Technical Advisory Meeting (Virtual)
- CARES ACT update on broadband projects – we are exploring funding to help our rural regions with broadband connections

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Larry Cohen raised the issue of board members being compensated for teleconference board meetings for expenses incurred for participation in the meetings. Dr. Molnar stated that the reimbursement policy is only mentioned in the Board travel policy and any time board members spend in board meetings is voluntary. Mr. Bill Robinson made a recommendation for the Executive Committee to review the travel reimbursement policy for possible updates.

ADJOURN

Chairman Andrew Siders adjourned the meeting at 12:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. William Molnar
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 LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WEBSITE AND BULLETIN BOARD AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.