

Call to Order

Vice Chair Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, called the meeting to order. He welcomed the new CCOG Delegates and Alternates. He also welcomed CCOG’s new Executive Director, Ron Smith.

Vice Chair Feather noted that a quorum was present.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

- 1. FY2017-2018 Budget Amendment**
- 2. Amendment to CCOG Bylaws: At-Large Membership to the Executive Board**
- 3. Approval of the October 11, 2017 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Guest Speaker: Dr. James G. Martin

Vice Chair Feather introduced former North Carolina Governor and the first CCOG Chair James G. Martin.

Governor Martin presented to Vice Chair Feather a signed copy of his biography, *Catalyst: Jim Martin and the Rise of North Carolina Republicans*.

Governor Martin recounted CCOG’s formation and the importance of communication, coordination and cooperation between counties during the early days of the organization. He noted that he sought the guidance of CCOG attorney Bill McNair in starting the organization. Early focus areas included land use plans, transportation projects, and airport expansion. Governor Martin further noted that he was elected Vice President of the National Association of Regional Councils, where he worked with elected officials from around the country on issues affecting local governments. He added that regional growth has helped build the region’s economy. He also noted that as local leaders, the Delegates will likely be asked to weigh in on the proposed merger between Carolinas Healthcare System and UNC Health Care.

Vice Chair Feather thanked Governor Martin for his remarks. He presented him with a plaque in honor of his leadership as CCOG’s founding Chair and for his service to the region and the state.

5. 50th Anniversary Celebration Kick-Off

Mayor Pro Tem Hall noted that CCOG is in its 50th year. She added that for the next nine months, the organization will highlight one county in the region per month and asked the Delegates to be on the lookout for 50th anniversary communications. She also encouraged the Delegates to attend the May 9th, August 8th, and October 10th Board of Delegates meetings, adding that these will be held in locations throughout the region. She recognized Mr. McNair for providing insight into the organization’s history during the 50th anniversary planning process. Mayor Pro Tem Hall asked the Delegates to send to CCOG staff information about items of historical value within their communities. She also asked the Delegates to save the date of Friday, November 30, 2018 for an event celebrating the culmination of the anniversary year. Delegates can send venue suggestions to CCOG staff.

6. Regional Transit Planning Initiative

Michelle Nance, Planning Director, gave an update on CCOG’s transit work around the region. She explained that during the CONNECT Our Future project, participants identified regional transportation as the top guiding principle for regional growth. She added that light rail and commuter rail emerged as the

top infrastructure priorities. CCOG staff and the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) conducted the Regional Transit Engagement Series during 2017, which identified needs such as a regional transit resource guide, transit supportive messaging, additional data, and a regional transit plan. As a next step, CCOG and the MTC will hold the Regional Transit Mobility Summit in May.

7. CCOG Nominating Committee Report and Election of 2018 Officers

Council Member Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, noted that the other members of the Nominating Committee were Mayor Pro Tem Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville and Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County. He opened the floor for nominations and on behalf of the Committee, presented the following slate of officers:

- Chair: Bill Feather, Granite Quarry
- Vice Chair: Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville
- Treasurer: Bill Lawhon, Stanly County
- Secretary: Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County

There were no nominations from the floor.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Ronnie Worley, Gaston County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the slate of nominees by acclamation. The motion carried.

8. Installation of New CCOG Officers

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers.

9. Election by County Caucuses of Municipal Executive Board Members

Delegates from the counties of Anson, Gaston, Mecklenburg, and Stanly gathered to select their municipal representatives to the Executive Board.

Vice Chair Feather announced the results of the caucuses:

- Gaston County Municipalities: Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville
- Mecklenburg County Municipalities: Nick Walsh, Town of Huntersville
- Stanly County Municipalities: Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle
- Union County Municipalities: Brent Moser, Town of Wingate

Vice Chair Feather noted that because only one Anson County municipal Delegate was present, the Anson caucus will be held at a later date.

10. Public Hearing on Proposed CCOG Budget Ordinances for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Marsha Sutton, Finance Director, explained that per the CCOG charter, the Board of Delegates must adopt a budget by April 15th. Because the Delegates will not meet again until May, they must adopt the budget at the February meeting. She noted that the proposed Fiscal Year 2018-2019 operating budget is \$6,595,000. She further explained that this budget is a placeholder so the organization can continue to operate. Staff will bring additional budget information to the May 9th Board of Delegates meeting after receiving funding allocations from state agencies for Aging and Workforce programs. She added that the proposed grants budget is \$15,404,500. She also noted that the Delegates are being asked to vote on the \$0.24 per capita membership assessment rate.

Vice Chair Feather opened the public hearing. Hearing no one, he closed the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Centralina COG annual budget ordinances: Annual Operating Budget Ordinance in the amount of \$6,595,000; Annual Pass Through Budget Ordinance in the amount of \$15,404,500 for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019; and set the assessment rate for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 at \$0.24 per capita with a minimum assessment of \$750 per member. The motion was seconded.

In response to a question from Commissioner Trevor Fuller, Mecklenburg County, Ms. Sutton explained that the assessment rate is based on 2016 population data from the NC Office of State Management and Budget website.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. CCOG 2016-2017 Annual Report

Vice Chair Feather presented the CCOG 2016-2017 annual report to the Board.

12. CCOG Regional Conference Update

Commissioner Martin Oakes, Lincoln County, reported that the 2018 CCOG Conference will feature different sessions from those at the 2017 event. Rip Rapson from the Kresge foundation will give the morning keynote address. During the luncheon keynote session, former State Senator Leslie Winner and John Locke Foundation founder John Hood will discuss how to make government work harmoniously. Commissioner Oakes noted that the Conference is in need of sponsors. He asked the Delegates to provide suggestions for sponsorship prospects. He also asked the Delegates to encourage other elected officials and local government staff in their communities to register for the event.

Comments from the Board of Delegates

In response to a question from Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, regarding membership dues, Ms. Sutton stated that staff will follow up with additional information.

Comments from the Vice Chair

Vice Chair Feather reported that beginning this month, CCOG will host a series of seven training sessions that will cover planning topics in the greater Charlotte region that align with the CONNECT priorities. This series, entitled CCOG University, will provide learning opportunities for the region's planners, businesses, educators, nonprofits, and elected officials.

Comments from the Executive Director

Mr. Smith noted that in his new role as Executive Director, he intends to engage with Delegates and their communities and will begin visits to County Commission meetings in March.

He reported that state funding for Volunteer Transportation Services has been reduced by half. The program augments transportation opportunities in local communities. He forecasted that CCOG might need the Delegates assistance in talking to state legislators and the NC Department of Transportation to advocate for the program.

He also noted that CCOG organizes advocacy meetings with members of Congress to discuss issues affecting the organization and the region. He added that Delegates can sign up for advocacy meetings with the Congressional delegation while they are in their home districts or in Washington, DC.

Mr. Smith also recognized Vicki Bott, Grants Development Director, and noted that she will be retiring next week. He added that Vicki has helped to implement many systems that have helped improve CCOG's financial situation in recent years.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Vice Chair Feather adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.