



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2018**

| Jurisdiction | Represented By | Jurisdictions Not Represented |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Albemarle | Chris Whitley | Ansonville |
| Anson County | Jarvis Woodburn | Belmont |
| Badin | Deloris Chambers | Cabarrus County |
| Bessemer City | Kay McCathen | Cherryville |
| Charlotte | Larken Egleston | Cleveland |
| Cramerton | Will Cauthen | Cornelius |
| Davidson | Autumn Rierson Michael | Dallas |
| East Spencer | Deloris High | Faith |
| Gaston County | Ronnie Worley | Hemby Bridge |
| Gastonia | Dave Kirlin | Huntersville |
| Granite Quarry | Bill Feather | Iredell County |
| Lincoln County | Martin Oakes | Kings Mountain |
| Lowell | Sandy Railey | Landis |
| Matthews | Jeff Miller | Lincolnton |
| McAdenville | Jay McCosh | Locust |
| Mecklenburg County | Trevor Fuller | Marshville |
| Mint Hill | Mike Cochrane | Marvin |
| Midland | John Crump | Mineral Springs |
| Misenheimer | Jeffrey Watson | Monroe |
| Mooreville | Bobby Compton | Morven |
| Stanly County | Bill Lawhon | Mount Holly |
| Troutman | Paul Bryant | Norwood |
| Wingate | Brent Moser | Oakboro |
| | | Pineville |
| | | Ranlo |
| | | Richfield |
| | | Salisbury |
| | | Spencer |
| | | Spencer Mountain |
| | | Stallings |
| | | Stanley |
| | | Statesville |
| | | Union County |
| | | Wadesboro |
| | | Waxhaw |
| | | Weddington |
| | | Wesley Chapel |
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Call to Order

Chairman Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Chairman Feather noted that a quorum was present.

Consent Agenda

- 1. FY2017-2018 Budget Amendment**
- 2. Appointments to the Centralina Economic Development Commission**
- 3. Approval of the February 7, 2018 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Martin Oakes, Lincoln County, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Jeff Miller, Town of Matthews, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Commissioner Oakes made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. CCOG 50th Anniversary Panel Discussion

David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, noted that he has worked at CCOG for 35 years. He introduced the panelists, CCOG Attorney Bill McNair, former CCOG staff member Rebecca Yarbrough, and Executive Director Ron Smith.

Mr. McNair described the founding of the organization, noting that it began when the state legislature enacted a statute authorizing the formation of regional councils as part of an effort to advance regionalism. He further noted that early steps involved preparing a charter and bylaws and developing the financing aspect based on member population. He expressed concern that many people do not understand the concept of regionalism. He also noted that transportation continues to be one of the most important issues to the region. He expressed his gratitude to the Delegates for their service as elected officials.

Ms. Yarbrough recalled the origins of CCOG’s emergency medical services program, noting that she worked with the program for 20 years before it was passed on to trauma centers. She also described the development of other CCOG programs and services, noting that CCOG staff has always been on the lookout for programs that will benefit member governments and the region. She further noted that the state has brought programs to CCOG, such as aging services. She added that local governments would seek CCOG’s assistance with certain issues, which led to the organization providing services such as assessment centers and hazard mitigation. She also noted that CCOG Delegates and other local elected officials have actively lobbied federal agencies for CCOG to house some programs, such as Sustainable Environment for Quality of Life. She said that at CCOG, she learned the importance of collaboration, how to recruit volunteers, and how to bring groups together to solve problems. She wished the organization another great 50 years.

Mr. Smith noted that his first few months at CCOG have involved learning how to think regionally. He further noted that from the time he interned at CCOG until now, he has observed a transition from an organization dealing with growth issues in smaller communities to the evolution of regional projects such as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and CONNECT Our Future. He added that CCOG is now in the implementation stages of those projects. He has talked with managers, Delegates, and community groups to learn what services CCOG can provide. He noted that transit and transportation will be the dominant issues in the region in the foreseeable future. He added that economic development and

aging services will be important issues as well. He said that he would like to see CCOG serve as a convener on the opioid abuse issue, bringing the right people together to discuss ways to address this issue.

Mr. Hollars directed the Delegates' attention to the rolling slide show featuring photos from Anson, Iredell, and Mecklenburg communities and the names of Delegates representing those communities. He noted that Mr. Smith has presented proclamations to the County Commissioners in Anson and Iredell Counties and will present a proclamation to the Mecklenburg County Commissioners next week.

In response to a question from Mr. Hollars about the origin of the Centralina name, Mr. McNair explained that the name was part of an effort to focus on the central Carolina region and think beyond just a city or county.

Ms. Yarbrough added that the organization's original name was Central Piedmont Regional Council of Local Governments.

Vice Chair Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, noted that he worked with Ms. Yarbrough on emergency medical services while he was with the Mooresville Fire Department. He added that his association with CCOG goes back several years and that is why he continues to do what he does.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Compton, Mr. Smith explained that transitioning from a County Manager to the Executive Director position has involved being very proactive in meeting and talking with people to identify problems.

In response to a question from Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, about the most memorable individual the panelists' encountered during their time with CCOG, Mr. McNair reflected on former Delegate Jim Warren. Ms. Yarbrough recalled former Delegate Harry Sifford.

Each of the panelists gave their closing remarks. Mr. McNair noted that the public is indebted to the Delegates, adding that they are performing a great service to the region. Ms. Yarbrough encouraged the Delegates to continue dreaming, which will help move the region forward. Mr. Smith said that his mission is for CCOG to remain relevant and be effective for its members.

5. Mission Moment: Stanly County Senior Services Project

Katie Kutcher, Aging Programs Coordinator, introduced Jessica Hill, Assistant Planning Director, and Andy Lucas, Stanly County Manager. She noted that May is Older Americans Month and this year's theme is "Engage at Every Age."

Mr. Lucas presented an overview of the study to investigate senior services in Stanly County. He explained that the County engaged CCOG to conduct the study and evaluate the need for satellite services. CCOG staff conducted demographic research, created maps, developed an online survey, organized public engagement events, conducted a peer community assessment, prepared a report, and presented the findings to the Board of County Commissioners. He noted that the findings revealed that mobility was a concern for seniors and prevented them from traveling to the senior center. CCOG recommended expanding senior services to other areas of the County, identified strategies for outreach and communication, and noted activities of highest demand to help the County determine what services to offer. The County Commissioners will discuss data and strategies during their upcoming budget meetings. Mr. Lucas noted that CCOG staff was very professional, collaborative, and engaged in the study. He added that the organization is helping the County control the cost of government by making informed decisions and improve quality of life.

In response to a question from Commissioner Miller, Mr. Lucas explained that Stanly County has experienced the rural-urban divide, but noted that there are more commonalities than differences between the two areas and working together will help solve problems.

6. August Advocacy Update

Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, encouraged the Delegates to sign up for August Advocacy meetings with members of the region's U.S. Congressional Delegation. She explained that she arranges the meetings, prepares talking points, accompanies the Delegates to the meetings, and prepares a post-meeting summary.

7. CCOG Regional Conference Report

Commissioner Oakes reported on the April 12th CCOG Regional Conference. He noted that there were 180 attendees at the event, including elected officials, local government staff, Congressional staffers, and staff from the Governor's Office. The event received \$33,000 in sponsorships, which is slightly lower than the amount received last year. He noted that financially, the event broke even during its first year, lost money during its second year, and made \$11,000 last year. He added that sponsor display tables are set up in the hallways of the venue, which gives sponsors an opportunity to talk with attendees during breaks between sessions. He noted that the morning keynote speaker discussed revitalizing communities. The luncheon keynotes addressed being polite while on opposite ends of the political spectrum. He further noted that there was positive feedback on the breakout sessions.

Comments from the Board of Delegates

There were no comments from the Board of Delegates.

Comments from the Chair

Chairman Feather reported that the Regional Transit Summit will be held on Thursday, May 17th at UNC Charlotte. He also reported that CCOG is partnering with Charlotte Douglas International Airport on the Charlotte Aviation Academy, which is designed to help participants better understand the airport and its contributions to the community. The program will include six classes held in the fall of 2018. The cost is \$350 for public sector participants and applications are due June 1.

Mr. Hollars announced that on May 23rd, the Centralina Workforce Development Board will host a Workforce Signing Day for students graduating from A.L. Brown High School in Kannapolis who will sign a letter of intent to join the workforce. They will also enroll in the N.C. Manufacturing Institute and will receive two national certifications upon completion of certified production training.

Linda Miller, Aging Director, announced that the Centralina Area Agency on Aging will host a Listening Session on June 27th to help identify the needs of older adults. The information gathered will inform the development of the state's 2019-2023 Aging Services Plan.

Chairman Feather also reported that the Executive Board is seeking at-large members to serve a one-year term. He noted that the intent of the at-large membership is to increase regional diversity on the Executive Board.

Comments from the Executive Director

Mr. Smith reported that there will be additional members added to the Centralina Economic Development Commission.

He also reported that he and Council Member Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, will travel to Raleigh on May 30th for the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Government meetings. He noted that these meetings involve advocating for regional issues, and asked the Delegates to let him know of any issues they would like him to address with state legislators.

Mr. Smith added that CCOG will again offer pay and classification and assessment center services to local communities and will distribute informational materials soon.

He also reported that Ms. Mozingo recently assisted Iredell County in securing a state grant that will help with funding 98% of a half-million dollar cleanup project at a public library.

Adjournment

Commissioner Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Egleston seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.