



**Executive Board Minutes  
March 8, 2017**

Officers Present	Delegates Present	Delegates Not Present	Centralina Staff
Patsy Kinsey, Chair Jarvis Woodburn, Secretary Bill Deter, Treasurer	Frank Aikmus George Dunlap Martha Sue Hall Bill Lawhon Jay McCosh Martin Oakes	Bobby Compton Bill Feather, Vice Chair Gene Houpe Michael Johnson Kathy Kitts Thurman Ross Tim Smith Ronnie Worley	Vicki Bott Debi Lee Linda Miller Jim Prosser Marsha Sutton Jason Wager Kelly Weston Venecia White  <i>Guests</i> Leslie Mozingo

**Call to Order**

Chair Patsy Kinsey, City of Charlotte, called the meeting to order.

**Amendments to the Agenda**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**Consent Items**

**1. Approval of the January 11, 2017 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Frank Aikmus, Union County, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Treasurer Bill Deter, Town of Weddington, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**2. Federal Relations Update**

Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, reported that two CCOG Executive Board members visited with representatives from the region's Congressional delegation during a recent trip to Washington, DC for the National Association of Counties meeting. Representatives from the Town of Mooresville and the City of Charlotte will receive talking points regarding CCOG's priorities that they can discuss with Congress members when they travel to Washington, DC for the National League of Cities meeting. She added that the Congressional offices are excited about CCOG and want to be more involved in the organization's work. Senator Burr and Tillis' offices have committed to including a request for appropriation language that will expand the scope for regionalism in the competitive grants process.

Commissioner Bill Lawhon, Stanly County, noted that it was good to see the region's Congress members at work during his visit to Washington, DC.

Commissioner George Dunlap, Mecklenburg County, noted that he visited with Representative Alma Adams, Senator Tom Tillis, and staffers from Representative Robert Pittenger and Senator Richard Burr's offices. He added that he was impressed with Ms. Mozingo's presentation of materials to the Congressional delegation members.

Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, noted that the City of Monroe usually sends a large delegation to the National League of Cities meeting and suggested reaching out to them with materials.

In response to Chair Kinsey's question, Ms. Mozingo explained that there are two requests for members of Congress. The first is to include language in the appropriations reports that will give greater leverage to regionalism. The second is to request language that specifically lists Regional Councils of Government as eligible for competitive grant funding programs.

In response to Chair Kinsey's question, Ms. Mozingo noted that Congress Members will return to their home districts during a two-week recess in mid-April. She asked the Board Members to notify her of their availability for meetings with the Congressional delegation during that timeframe.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall requested a list of the Executive Board Members serving as Congressional liaisons.

Vicki Bott, Grants Development Director, noted that CCOG will host a grants workshop on March 21<sup>st</sup> for local government staff.

Commissioner Lawhon requested a list of those registered for the workshop.

Commissioner Dunlap made a motion that the Strategics Consulting Performance Report for January-February 2017 be accepted. Secretary Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **3. Resolution of Support for Water Resource Management Program and Funding**

Jason Wager, Planning Program Supervisor – Sustainability, presented the resolution for the Executive Board's consideration. He explained that the resolution will endorse continuous funding sources for Councils of Government for water resource planning. He also presented a handout listing potential water projects in the Centralina region including a regional water strategy, support for top-cross jurisdictional water resource concerns, local water resource technical assistance, and a regional water resource data repository and communications.

Jim Prosser, Executive Director, added that the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Government is looking for a state legislator to sponsor legislation supporting water resource management funding.

Commissioner Dunlap made a motion adopting the resolution seeking legislative and budgetary support for a Regional Council Water Resource Management Program including state funding at the \$1,600,000 level for the 16 Regional Councils to administer regional programs in the state fiscal year 2017-2018. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Martin Oakes, Lincoln County, noted that the Catawba Wateree Water Management Group's plan predicts the collapse of the Catawba River basin by 2050.

#### **4. CCOG Conference Update**

Commissioner Dunlap indicated that he will share the Conference information with Mecklenburg County officials.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall noted that she shared Conference materials at a recent meeting in Stanly County.

Commissioner Lawhon requested a list of the Conference registrants from Stanly County.

Chair Kinsey reported that Amy Liu, Vice President and Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution, will give the luncheon keynote address. CCOG has received \$37,400 in conference sponsorship support and commitments, which is a great improvement in the results of sponsorship recruitment efforts for the 2015 CCOG Conference.

Mr. Prosser added that if CCOG receives 200 paid registrations, the Conference will break even or produce a profit. He noted that most attendees register during the last month prior to the Conference. He further noted that CCOG staff needs the Board's help in promoting registration and asked the Board Members to assist by contacting other municipalities in their county area to encourage their elected officials and staff to register for the Conference.

Commissioner Dunlap requested a link to the online version of the Conference brochure.

Chair Kinsey noted that by consensus, the Executive Board members committed to registering for the 2017 CCOG Regional Conference and to promoting Conference registration within their communities.

#### **Comments from the Executive Board**

Mayor Pro Tem Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, inquired about Duke Energy's decision to discontinue its mosquito control program on Lake Norman and Lake Wylie.

Commissioner Oakes responded that there is no update from Duke Energy yet regarding this program, but the chair of the Lake Norman Marine Commission is scheduled to speak at the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting next month.

Mayor Pro Tem McCosh requested information on the number of respondents to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy survey.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall reported that the municipalities in Stanly County held their caucus for Executive Board representation on February 28<sup>th</sup> and she will continue to represent those communities on the Executive Board until another representative is identified.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Mr. Prosser indicated that Mayor Pro Tem Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, is serving as CCOG's representative to the Forum, which consists of elected officials from each COG in the state.

### **Comments from the Chair**

Chair Kinsey noted that the CCOG bylaws authorize the Executive Board to establish Standing Advisory Committees and the Chair to establish Ad Hoc Committees. The Standing Advisory Committees include Communications, Membership, and Legislative. Federal Relations is currently the only Ad Hoc Committee and its members include Chair Kinsey, Treasurer Bill Feather, Commissioner Dunlap, Commissioner Oakes, and Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. She requested the Executive Board's feedback on the potential needs for these committees in 2017 and asked the Board Members to indicate their preferences for serving on any of the committees.

Commissioner Oakes suggested there was no need to have both a Federal Relations Committee and a Legislative Committee. He made a motion to rename the Federal Relations Committee as the Legislative Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioners Oakes and Dunlap volunteered to continue serving on the Legislative Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Hall volunteered to serve on the committee as well.

Chair Kinsey stated that the Board will discuss the Membership and Communications Committees at its next meeting.

Commissioner Dunlap suggested coordinating CCOG member recruitment efforts with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners conference.

### **Comments from the Executive Director**

Mr. Prosser reported that the state legislature has passed legislation that will allow COGs to operate housing authorities. He added that CCOG is doing well financially. He noted that because a number of cities and counties are having trouble accessing health insurance, other COGs in the state are initiating a health insurance collaborative to provide communities with another option. Managers in the region will meet to determine interest in conducting a feasibility study for this collaborative.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall noted that she serves on the North Carolina League of Municipalities' Risk Management Services Board of Trustees, which has made changes to the League's health insurance plan. She suggested reviewing the revised plan to see if it will fit the needs of local communities.

Commissioner Oakes inquired if the state could open its insurance plan to municipalities and counties. He expressed concern about CCOG operating a housing authority.

Commissioner Dunlap noted that sometimes it is more efficient for smaller communities to allow a COG to run a housing authority. He expressed concern about having enough funds to operate this service.

Mr. Prosser explained that CCOG does not have the staffing capacity to operate a housing authority at this time and would have to look into consolidating with another organization to provide this service.

Chair Kinsey added that CCOG might need to consider operating a housing authority if there is a strong need for the service and if it will pay for itself.

In response to Commissioner Lawhon's question, Mr. Prosser noted that CCOG's move to its new office went well, but the organization will not realize a net savings in overhead costs until next year. Staff from each department participated in the move. Internet service and the phone system are not

operational yet, but staff has been using a work-around in the interim and the issues should be resolved within the next week.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Chair Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

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