



Executive Board Minutes

June 10, 2015

Officers Present	Delegates Present	Delegates Not Present	Centralina Staff
Michael Johnson, Chair Sarah McAulay, Vice-Chair Bill Feather, Treasurer	Joe Carpenter Will Cauthen Warren Chapman Bobby Compton Martha Sue Hall Martin Oakes Devin Rhyne Jarvis Woodburn	Bill Deter George Dunlap Lyndell Ingram Patsy Kinsey, Secretary Gene McIntyre Jerry Simpson	Jim Prosser Vicki Bott Katie Kutcher Linda Miller Michelle Nance Kelly Weston Venecia White <i>Guests:</i> Gary Becker Bill McKoy

Open and Welcome

Chairman Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Joe Carpenter, Gaston County, gave the invocation.

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, declared that a quorum was present.

Amendments to the Agenda

Chairman Johnson noted the following amendments to the agenda:

- The language in Item 3 was revised to clarify CCOG’s Personnel Policy regarding retiree health insurance coverage.
- Review of Centralina Facility Options Progress was added to the agenda as Item 10.

Council Member Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, made a motion to approve the amendments to the agenda. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Consent Items

Chairman Johnson read the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. **Approval of the Executive Board Minutes from the April 8, 2015 Meeting**
2. **CCOG Employee Health Insurance Update**
3. **CCOG Personnel Manual Update**
4. **Approval of Regional Freight Study Consultant Contract**

Vice Chair Sarah McAulay, Town of Huntersville, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Treasurer Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

5. Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016 Budget Review

Jim Prosser, Executive Director, gave the staff presentation on this item, giving an overview of the financial forecast for the next fiscal year.

In response to Chairman Johnson’s question, Linda Miller, Aging Programs Director, explained that Centralina Area Agency on Aging must re-submit its application to become a Medicare provider because the application must be submitted 90 days prior to holding the first Medicare-reimbursable pilot class.

Chairman Johnson asked staff to determine if there are programs counties are required to provide that are not Medicare-reimbursable for them but would be reimbursable if provided by CCOG.

Mr. Prosser stated that CCOG is looking into co-location and staff-sharing with Charlotte Works.

Chairman Johnson expressed concern about requesting accelerated membership payments while considering a salary increase for staff and suggested discussing the increase at the next Executive Board meeting.

Council Member Hall stated that she would not be able to vote for the merit increase.

Commissioner Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, indicated that he does not agree with waiting to consider a salary increase.

Commissioner Martin Oakes, Lincoln County, made a motion to postpone consideration of a merit increase until the September 9, 2015 Executive Board meeting. Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Vice Chair McAulay made a motion to approve the budget based on the information presented. Commissioner Oakes seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

6. Report of Financial Activity for the Period Ending June 10, 2015

Mr. Prosser gave the staff presentation on this item. He explained that incremental increases in revenue may be offset by changes in the state’s process for accepting reimbursements. He added that the year-end audit will clarify some of the state’s expectations regarding reimbursements.

7. Volunteer Transportation Services Update

Katie Kutcher, Aging Programs Coordinator, gave the staff presentation on this item, providing an update on the program’s progress. She noted that Volunteer Transportation Services (VTS) has made 234 one-way trips to date.

Gary Becker, representing the Centralina Connection, Inc. Board, stated that it has been rewarding to watch the VTS program grow and see the relationships develop between riders and drivers.

Bill McKoy, also representing the Centralina Connection, Inc. Board, noted that surveys show that transportation is major concern for older adults. He added that he hopes the Executive Board will continue to support the program.

Mr. Prosser noted that he will have to recommend discontinuing the VTS program if it cannot be funded through the next quarter.

Council Member Hall made a motion to allow VTS to continue into FY16 on a quarterly basis with the understanding that VTS will continue to fundraise and apply for grant funding to meet the required local 50% match. Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen, Town of Cramerton, seconded the motion.

Commissioner Oakes requested a spreadsheet showing the program’s fixed costs versus its variable costs.

Treasurer Feather made an amendment to the motion to include incremental goals. Council Member Hall and Mayor Pro Tem Cauthen accepted this amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Presentation on Funding Consulting Services

Vicki Bott, Grants Development Director, gave the staff presentation on this item.

Commissioner Oakes, made a motion to proceed with selecting a federal relations consultant effective July 1, 2015. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion.

Council Member Hall expressed concern about having a lobbyist advocating for CCOG, adding that she does not want it to appear that the organization is going beyond what cities and towns are doing.

Chairman Johnson noted that the consultants will not lobby or contact members of Congress unless directed to do so. Instead, they will collect the current thinking of bureaucrats in federal agencies for staff to use in preparing grant applications.

Mr. Prosser stated that CCOG has developed a system to turn around grant requests more quickly. Staff is working to expand its efforts with foundations and other funders.

The motion carried on a vote of 10 in favor and one opposed, with Council Member Hall voting in opposition.

Vice Chair McAulay made a motion authorizing the Executive Director to contract with Strategics and to attempt to reduce the consultant's fee. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion.

Council Member Devin Rhyne, City of Lincoln, expressed concern about negotiating with the consultant.

Commissioner Compton expressed concern about paying for consultant services after voting against a salary increase due to finances.

In response to Chairman Johnson's question, Ms. Bott indicated that CCOG's grant success rate has increased over the last five years.

Treasurer Feather made a motion to add \$50,000 to the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget. Vice Chair McAulay seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of ten in favor and one opposed, with Council Member Rhyne voting in opposition.

Vice Chair McAulay amended her earlier motion to authorize the Executive Director to contract with Strategics within 15 days for an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Commissioner Carpenter seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of eight in favor and three opposed. Those voting in opposition were Treasurer Feather, Council Member Rhyne, and Council Member Hall.

Commissioner Oakes made a motion to invite private sector fundraisers to make presentations at the next Executive Board meeting. Treasurer Feather seconded the motion.

Mr. Prosser suggested that Chairman Johnson identify a subcommittee to assist staff in preparing for the meeting with the consultants.

Chairman Johnson offered an amendment to the motion to add that the consultants would be invited pursuant to a subcommittee's assistance. Commissioner Oakes and Treasurer Feather accepted the amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Johnson stated that the subcommittee will consist of Vice Chair McAulay, Council Member Hall, and Commissioner Compton.

9. 2015 CCOG Conference Report

Vice Chair McAulay presented an update on CCOG Conference planning activities, noting that James H. Johnson has been identified as one of the keynote speakers for this year's Conference. The Coordinating Team is exploring the option of contracting with a conference consultant for registration and sponsorship assistance. Registration will open in August with fee's comparable to last year's rates. This year's sponsorship goal is \$23,000. To date, two sponsors have committed a total of \$1,000.

Vice Chair McAulay asked the Executive Board members to talk to the managers and staff in their communities about funding registration costs for their Planning and Parks and Recreation staff.

By consensus, the Executive Board members committed to providing CCOG staff with contact information for potential sponsors of the 2015 CCOG Conference, to delivering save-the-date postcards to Clerks in their communities, and to registering for the Conference and encouraging other elected officials and staff to register.

Council Member Hall suggested that the Executive Board members distribute copies of the CONNECT Our Future magazine along with the save-the-dates. She added that non-member governments should receive a copy of the letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Economic Resilience approving the CONNECT report.

10. Review of Centralina Facility Options Progress

Council Member Rhyne presented an update of the Building Committee's work on CCOG's facility options.

Treasurer Feather made a motion to enter into agreement with LaBella Associates for \$5,000. Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Comments from the Executive Board

Council Member Rhyne indicated that the recent Lincolnton open house was a success. He encouraged the Executive Board members to make sure that their communities are aware of what can be accomplished through the process, adding that the service is a great deal for the price.

Comments from the Chair

Chairman Johnson stated that Mr. Prosser has met with managers from the Cities of Concord and Kannapolis and from Rowan and Cabarrus Counties regarding rejoining CCOG. He has asked Vice Chair McAulay to lead a Membership Committee to develop strategies for following up with these communities.

Treasurer Feather stated that Greg Edds, Chairman of the Rowan County Board of Commissioners has expressed interest in visiting an Executive Board meeting.

Chairman Johnson noted that the CONNECT Consortium meeting will be held on August 27, 2015 at the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte. The meeting will be a celebration as well as a discussion of implementation and next steps.

Comments from the Executive Director

There were no comments from the Executive Director.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Centralina Council of Governments complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Centralina Council of Governments will make reasonable accommodations in all programs/services to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Centralina Council of Governments' programs will be available in the most integrated setting for each individual. If any accommodations are necessary for participation, please contact the Clerk to the Board, 525 North Tryon Street, 12th Floor, Charlotte, NC 28202, kweston@centralina.org or phone (704) 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: www.centralina.org.

