



Centralina Council of Governments

**Board of Delegates Minutes
May 13, 2015**

Jurisdiction	Represented By	Jurisdictions Not Represented
Albemarle	Martha Sue Hall	Ansonville
Anson County	Jarvis Woodburn	Cherryville
Badin	Deloris Chambers	Belmont
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen	China Grove
Charlotte	Patsy Kinsey	Cleveland
Cornelius	Thurman Ross	Cramerton
East Spencer	Phronice Johnson	Dallas
Gaston County	Joe Carpenter	Davidson
Gastonia	Walter Kimble	Faith
Granite Quarry	Mike Brinkley	Harmony
Huntersville	Sarah McAulay	Hemby Bridge
Lincoln County	Martin Oakes	High Shoals
Matthews	Joe Pata	Marvin
Midland	Kathy Kitts	Kings Mountain
Mineral Springs	Peggy Neill	Indian Trail
Mint Hill	Richard Newton	Iredell County
Monroe	Bobby Kilgore	Landis
Mount Pleasant	Warren Chapman	Lincolnton
New London	Tate Daniels	Locust
Stallings	Regis Griffin	Marshville
Stanly County	Bill Lawhon	Lowell
Statesville	Michael Johnson	McAdenville
Wadesboro	Bill Thacker	Misenheimer
Weddington	Bill Deter	Mecklenburg County
		Mooresville
		Morven
		Mount Holly
		Norwood
		Oakboro
		Pineville
		Ranlo
		Richfield
		Salisbury
		Spencer
		Spencer Mountain
		Stanley
		Troutman
		Union County
		Unionville
		Waxhaw
		Wingate

Call to Order

Chairman Michael Johnson called the meeting to order. He welcomed the Alternates in attendance.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Seeing that there were no requests to remove items from the Consent Agenda, a motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 1. Approval of the February 11, 2015 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Appointment to the Centralina Economic Development Commission Board**

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Region of Excellence Awards

Zachary Mohr, Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at UNC-Charlotte, presented the award for Controlling the Cost of Government to Gaston County for its Radio Communication Tower Construction, Co-location, and Interoperability project. He also presented an award for Growing the Economy to the City of Kings Mountain for the Downtown Kings Mountain Small Business Success Project.

Sean Flaherty, Program Director for Envision Charlotte, presented an award for Growing the Economy to the Town of Huntersville for the Strategic Economic Development Plan. He also presented the award for Improving Quality of Life to the Town of Indian Trail for the Resident Recreational Pass Program.

Marcie Smith, Gaston County Public Works, presented the Clean Cities Award to the City of Concord for demonstrating leadership, excellence, and innovation in clean transportation and fuel activities.

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

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to recess for dinner.

After a brief recess, Chairman Johnson resumed the meeting.

4. Lumina Foundation Grant Update

Mike Manis, Community and Economic Development Director, gave the staff presentation on this item. He aired a video from the Lumina Foundation that provided an overview of the grant program's national agenda.

Council Member Walter Kimble, City of Gastonia, noted that success is not necessarily found in a four-year degree, adding that schools are beginning to lag behind in the trades.

In response to a question from Council Member Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, Mr. Manis explained that representatives from all K-12 school systems in the Centralina region were invited to a Lumina kick-off meeting in March.

Secretary Patsy Kinsey, City of Charlotte, made a motion to commit the CCOG Board Member's communication assistance with their local businesses and chambers of commerce to support the

stakeholder engagement plan to implement the Lumina CPACP work program. Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Chairman Johnson stated that CCOG is on the cutting edge of growing the economy and creating jobs in the region.

5. CONNECT Our Future Update

Emily Parker, Senior Planner, gave the staff presentation on this item. She presented a schedule of CONNEXT meetings to be held in each county in the region to discuss the next steps for the CONNECT Our Future project. She noted that a CONNECT Consortium meeting will be held in July to celebrate the results from the county meetings and determine annual priorities.

Council Member Hall requested that CCOG staff provide notice of the date and location of the CONNEXT Consortium meeting as soon as the date is finalized.

Vice Chair Sarah McAulay, Town of Huntersville, made a motion for the CCOG Board of Delegates to endorse the next steps for the CONNECT project and commit to encouraging local government staff attendance. Secretary Kinsey seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Chairman Johnson read a letter from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Economic Resilience approving the final progress reports for the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant and commending CCOG for the quality of products, process, and participation associated with the CONNECT project. Chairman Johnson asked CCOG staff to send the letter to each member of the region's state Congressional delegation.

6. Greater Charlotte Regional Freight Mobility Plan Report

Michelle Nance, Planning Director, gave the staff presentation on this item. She explained that freight logistics is an urban, suburban, and rural issue. CCOG has received over \$40,000 in local government support for the freight study. She encouraged communities who have not yet supported the project to consider doing so. Other funding partners include Metropolitan and Regional Planning Organizations, the Federal Highway Administration, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

A motion was made for the CCOG Board of Delegates to endorse the next steps for the Regional Freight Mobility Planning project, commit to encouraging local government financial support, and encourage local private sector representatives to participate. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

7. Updates on CCOG Programs and Initiatives

Vice Chair McAulay presented a series of updates to the Delegates. She reported that the Volunteer Transportation Services (VTS) program is funded by the North Carolina Department of Transportation Section 5310 grant, which now requires the program to secure a 50% local match of \$78,616.50. As of May 7, 2015, Centralina Connection has raised \$18,000 for VTS. Staff has mailed and emailed sponsorship information to over 1,300 organizations and individuals and will apply for \$135,000 in grant funding by the end of June.

She also reported that, following direction from the Executive Board, CCOG staff has selected December 3, 2015 as the new date for the CCOG Conference. The event will be held at the Gastonia Conference Center. She asked the Board Members to place the conference date on their calendars and to encourage their fellow elected officials and staff in their communities to attend.

Vice Chair McAulay reported that the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils held the NC Tomorrow Summit in Raleigh last month. The Summit showcased the NC Tomorrow strategy for economic growth. Jay Williams, Assistant Secretary for Economic Development with the U.S. Department of Commerce, complimented the regional councils for this innovative plan. Several Centralina initiatives were highlighted, including Career Headlight, presented by David Hollars, and Regional Water Resource work by Jason Wager and Barry Gullet.

In her final report, she noted that the Centralina Building Committee, comprised of herself, Commissioner Joe Carpenter, Gaston County, and Council Member Devin Rhyne, City of Lincolnton, will provide guidance on the decision process and criteria for Centralina’s office lease renewal options. The Executive Board and Board of Delegates will review the options. Criteria will include budget impact, cost-savings, location and interstate access, parking availability, and program space requirements. She added that a decision should be made by the spring of 2016.

Comments from the Board of Delegates

There were no comments from the Board.

Comments from the Chair

Chairman Johnson noted that the Centralina Workforce Development Board, along with Rowan-Cabarrus Community College and Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development authorities in Rowan and Cabarrus Counties, launched the new North Carolina Manufacturing Institute in April. The Institute’s goal is to build a clear and achievable pathway for individuals to acquire skills needed to access good jobs in local communities.

He reported that CCOG staff recently attended a meeting on implementation of the Comprehensive Relicensing Agreement for the Catawba-Wataree Hydroelectric Project. Staff hopes to assimilate projects under the agreement related to land preservation and recreational amenities on behalf of CCOG members so that those communities may participate in the projects.

He noted that Centralina organizes regional meetings of local government solid waste and recycling managers that provide a platform for networking and learning about program improvements.

Chairman Johnson noted that Jessica Hill and Emily Parker of the Planning Department facilitated a LEAN process improvement training for staff that focused on streamlining planning for the CCOG Conference. This new engagement technique will be a service offered to local governments.

He also noted that Jessica Hill completed a key financial strategies project for the Town of Waxhaw that helped the Town Council determine the need for prioritizing projects and examine options for financing community needs. This type of project is supported by the Local Government Commission and could benefit every community.

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 8:25 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.