



**Executive Board Meeting Minutes and Closed Session General Account
November 13, 2019**

Officers Present	Delegates Present	Delegates Not Present	Centralina Staff
Jay McCosh, Vice Chairman Jarvis Woodburn, Secretary William Morgan, Treasurer	Deloris Chambers Bill Feather Martha Sue Hall Michael Johnson Rich Permenter Lynn Shue Nick Walsh Ronnie Worley <i>Via Phone</i> Gene Houpe	Frank Aikmus Zach Almond Bobby Compton, Chairman John Crump Larken Egleston Trevor Fuller Brent Moser Jim Watson	Geraldine Gardner Emily Hickok Debi Lee Mike Manis Linda Miller Michelle Nance Denise Strosser Jason Wager Kelly Weston Venecia White <i>Guests</i> Dan Gougherty, Cherry Bekaert Janet LaBar, Charlotte Regional Business Alliance Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, called the meeting to order.

Invocation

Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, gave the invocation.

Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Contract for Web Design and Rebranding Services**
- 2. Regional Transit Consultant Contract Approval Authorization**
- 3. Quarterly Report to the Board**
- 4. Approval of the September 11, 2019 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Vice Chairman McCosh noted that a quorum was present.

5. Charlotte Regional Business Alliance Presentation

Janet LaBar, President and CEO of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, presented an overview of her organization, its strategic objectives, and its role as a partner to other organizations involved in economic development.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Ms. LaBar noted that she has visited every county in the region during her listening tour.

6. FY2019 Audit Report

Denise Strosser, Finance Director, gave a brief financial overview of CCOG's past year, noting the Executive Director and Finance Director transitions. She further noted that CCOG had a strong financial year and increased its fund balance.

Dan Gougherty, Cherry Bekaert LLP, presented highlights from the audit report. He explained that his firm issued an unmodified or clean audit opinion on the financial statements, internal control over financial reporting, and the federal and state single audit. He added that there were no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses with internal controls even with the changeover in staff and leadership. He noted that his firm tested the Aging cluster and family caregiving programs for the single audit and there were no findings. He further noted there were no adjustments to journal entries that were required. He also reported that there were no management letter comments and his firm received the full cooperation of management.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Deloris Chambers, Town of Badin, Mr. Gougherty explained that if his firm found issues with internal controls, they would try to understand the cause of the issues and identify areas that require further testing.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to approve and accept the audit report as presented. Commissioner Nick Walsh, Town of Huntersville, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Federal Relations Update

Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, presented an overview of the federal relations performance report for September through October. She noted that a meeting with Representative-elect Dan Bishop will be rescheduled for January. She highlighted a grants workshop held on November 12th at the CCOG office, noting that Senator Thom Tillis' staff promoted the event on social media.

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, noted that regarding the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, Ms. Mozingo received news of Senator Burr's leadership on adjusting the formula that will bring more resources to states that have growing populations of individuals over age 65.

Commissioner Ronnie Worley, Gaston County, made a motion to accept the Strategics Consulting Performance Report for September through October 2019. Treasurer Morgan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman McCosh noted that he, Ms. Gardner, and Ms. Mozingo have discussed organizing a trip to Washington, DC for a group of CCOG Board Members, especially those from smaller communities or those who do not get the opportunity to visit the capitol often.

In response to a question from Secretary Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, Ms. Mozingo indicated that she will have some suggested dates after the congressional calendar is released.

Ms. Gardner added that the timing will also depend on the Board Members' objectives, noting that there could be an opportunity to connect with federal agencies during the visit.

In response to a question from Commissioner Gene Houpe, Iredell County, Ms. Mozingo explained that when scheduling meetings with members of Congress, she likes to be strategic and identify which regional priorities to address in talking points.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Vice Chair McCosh explained that CCOG will not fully fund the trip.

Council Member Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, noted that meetings with federal agencies have been most successful when CCOG has had a specific plan and request for those meetings.

Ms. Mozingo encouraged the Board Members who are interested in participating in the Washington, DC trip to have one or two specific needs that they would like to discuss with federal agencies.

8. NC Radar Project Update

Ms. Gardner highlighted the memo in the agenda packet summarizing the progress made on the NC Radar Project. She explained that the challenge is having three COGs cooperating to solve the problem. She noted that she has been in contact with the NC Radar Project, two other North Carolina COGs, and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) in the Dallas, TX area. She further explained that the options for proceeding are to (1) work at the state level to have NC Emergency Management take on the problem and manage a new radar system, (2) have one COG or a coalition of the three COGs partner with a third party to develop a new radar system, (3) set up a separate 501(c)(3) to manage a new radar system.

In response to a question from Commissioner Walsh, Ms. Gardner noted that like the three North Carolina COGs in the affected coverage area, NCTCOG was not in the radar business, but partnered with Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA) to set up a structure that worked for them.

Mayor Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, suggested combining the first two options, adding that the state should be involved.

Ms. Gardner noted that the state could fund the radars. She further noted that CASA donated the radars used by NCTCOG, but the challenge with that system is NCTCOG is locked in to always working with CASA.

Commissioner Rich Permenter, Lincoln County, inquired about recreating the radar coverage that already exists. He noted that emergency managers must make decisions based on data provided by the National Weather Service. He further noted that liability issues should be a consideration.

In response to a question from Commissioner Permenter, Ms. Gardner noted that CASA indicated they are able to use C band radar. She added that she will get more information from the National Weather Service (NWS) to share with the Board.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall suggested striking the third option. She also suggested not investing any time into a solution that may already exist. She further suggested having a discussion between the three COGs, NWS, and NC Emergency Management.

Commissioner Permenter noted that he will reach out to his contact at NWS.

9. Nominating Committee Forecast

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, explained that per the CCOG bylaws, the Executive Board must form a three-member Nominating Committee each year. The Committee will need to identify a slate for the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. The Committee will present the slate to the Executive Board

at its January meeting. She asked the Board Members to let her know if they are interested in serving on the Committee.

Mayor Feather, Mayor Pro Tem Chambers, and Commissioner Houpe each indicated that they would serve on the committee.

10. Resolution for Outgoing Executive Board Members

Vice Chairman McCosh presented a resolution to Council Member Johnson in recognition of his years of public service and his leadership on the CCOG Board of Delegates.

Council Member Johnson expressed his appreciation to the Board and the organization.

Comments from the Executive Board and CCOG Staff

Commissioner Permenter noted that a lot of progress has been made on the radar item.

Comments from the Vice Chair

Vice Chairman McCosh reported that the next Regional Managers Group meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 18th at the CCOG office and will feature federal and state legislative updates. He asked the Executive Board members to encourage the managers in their communities to attend.

He also encouraged everyone to visit Christmas Town in McAdenville.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner congratulated the Board Members who won their recent bids for re-election in their communities. She also thanked Council Member Johnson for his leadership and support.

She reported that CCOG recently completed meeting room audiovisual upgrades. Ms. Gardner also noted that staff is working on the annual report. She reported that staff will also send information to member communities as they select their Delegates for the upcoming year.

She further noted that as part of the Consent Agenda, the Executive Board approved a consultant contract for re-designing CCOG's website and rebranding for the organization. She added that there will be a big reveal in August.

Commissioner Houpe echoed the sentiments toward Council Member Johnson and expressed his thanks to him on behalf of Iredell County.

Closed Session

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to enter Closed Session pursuant to NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner Ronnie Worley, Gaston County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Executive Director's Performance Evaluation

A discussion among the Executive Board members ensued.

Mayor Feather made a motion to end closed session and resume open session. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Vice Chairman McCosh adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.