

# Executive Board Minutes September 13, 2017

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

# Call to Order

Chair Patsy Kinsey, City of Charlotte, called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present.

She welcomed Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, to the meeting and asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

### Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

#### **Consent Items**

- 1. Amendment to the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017
- 2. Approval of June 14, 2017 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Frank Aikmus, Union County, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **3.** Federal Relations Update

Leslie Mozingo, Strategics Consulting, presented an overview of the federal relations performance measures report for June through August 2017. She added that advocacy meetings between federal elected officials and CCOG Delegates continue.

Vice Chair Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, reported on a meeting he and Commissioner Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, attended with Congressman Ted Budd. He noted that the meeting went extremely well and that the Congressman seemed receptive and supportive of CCOG.

Ms. Mozingo added that Mayor Karen Alexander of Salisbury also attended the meeting. Discussion topics included a Brownfields grant, regional transit, and the Regional Freight Mobility Plan. She noted that having three local perspectives with the same priorities represented at the meeting had a positive impact on Congressman Budd.

Commissioner Martin Oakes, Lincoln County, noted that he had a meeting with Congressman Richard Hudson and his Chief of Staff during which they discussed regional issues. He added that he was very happy with the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall expressed concern that few Board members were able to attend a recent meeting with Senator Thom Tillis' staff.

The Executive Board members provided feedback to CCOG staff on ways to improve notification of such meetings in the future.

Vicki Bott, Grants Development Director, noted that relationship building between CCOG staff and federal staff is ongoing and has been effective. She added that CCOG is receiving high-level attention and assistance from federal agencies because of the federal relations efforts.

Jim Prosser, Executive Director, thanked the Executive Board for suggesting that CCOG begin federal relations activities, noting that it has been one of the organization's most effective initiatives.

Vice Chair Feather made a motion that the Strategics Consulting Performance Report be received as information. Commissioner Aikmus seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### 4. Merit Increase Recommendation

Mr. Prosser explained that the Board of Delegates approved the FY2018 budget that included a 2% merit adjustment for CCOG employees. He added that the merit pool is funded mostly by grants. Each department must determine how it will distribute its merit pool funds among its employees. Mr. Prosser added that the organization needs to make sure it continues to be competitive and will conduct a pay and classification study. Staff will present the results of the study at a future Executive Board meeting.

In response to a question from Treasurer Bill Deter, Town of Weddington, Mr. Prosser noted that the study will indicate if the organization needs to make cost of living adjustments.

In response to a question from Commissioner Bill Lawhon, Stanly County, Mr. Prosser noted that there is not a maximum dollar amount for the merit adjustments, but added that departments monitor distribution of their merit pool funds.

Commissioner Lawhon made a motion to approve the merit increase. Commissioner Ronnie Worley, Gaston County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### 5. CCOG Conference Report

Commissioner Oakes noted that the CCOG Regional Conference is a worthwhile event to attend. He asked the Executive Board members to save the Conference date of April 12, 2018, adding that the event will be held at the Harris Conference Center in Charlotte. He also asked the Executive Board to review the list of 2017 Conference sponsors and to suggest names of additional prospects. He noted that the 2017 Conference made a profit of \$17,000 and staff anticipates the 2018 event will break even financially. Commissioner

Oakes asked the Board members to provide staff with suggestions for keynote speakers. He requested that staff identify the number of 2017 Conference attendees that registered for the event in previous years.

Commissioner Oakes made a motion that the Executive Board approve the proposed budget for the 2017 CCOG Regional Conference and commit to assisting staff with sponsorship recruitment efforts. Mayor Pro Tem Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

# 6. February 2018 Board of Delegates Meeting Date Change

Mayor Pro Tem Hall reported that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Advisory Committee is looking at beginning the yearlong anniversary celebration at the Board of Delegates 2018 annual meeting, which will be held on the second Wednesday in February. She noted that this meeting date falls on both Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday. Because the Committee is concerned about attendance at the meeting, it suggested looking at alternative meeting dates.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to hold the CCOG Board of Delegates annual meeting on the alternative date of February 7, 2018. Vice Chair Feather seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

# 7. Executive Director Transition Update

Treasurer Deter reported that the Selection Committee has made tremendous progress in the search for CCOG's next Executive Director. The Committee is working with Jim Youngquist from the Southeast Regional Directors Institute to identify and evaluate candidates. He directed the Board members attention to a list of grading criteria compiled based on feedback received from stakeholders and staff. The Committee will use the criteria to review the candidates' credentials. He noted that 14 applications have been received for the position, including applications from eight out-of-state candidates. Treasurer Deter highlighted key dates in the transition timeline. The Committee will review applications and select interviewees during the week of September 18. Interviews will be held at the CCOG office on October 18. The Selection Committee will select a final candidate on October 25. The Executive Board will vote to approve the Committee's recommended candidate at its November 8 meeting.

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

There were no comments from the Executive Board.

### **Comments from the Chair**

Chair Kinsey again welcomed Commissioner Shue to the Executive Board, adding that CCOG is glad to have Cabarrus County back in the organization.

She reported that CCOG is partnering with the Metropolitan Transit Commission to engage counties in the region on values, concerns, and opportunities related to regional transit. Engagement with local elected officials, economic development staff, and the private sector took place in August and early September. Make up meetings are scheduled for September 22 and October 5. A public survey and market research to explore public attitudes on transit will take place in fall/early winter. A regional transit summit is being planned for early 2018 to announce outcomes and consensus-based next steps, which will likely include the creation of a regional transit plan.

Treasurer Deter noted that he and Commissioner Aikmus attended one of the Regional Transit Engagement meetings earlier today and the meeting participants provided good input.

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

Mr. Prosser reported that CCOG will continue engaging the advisory group that helped develop the Regional Freight Plan. They have asked staff to work on intelligent transportation systems and incident management.

He also reported that Bobby Williams has recently joined CCOG and has a skill set in conducting assessment centers. He also noted that Natasha Pender recently received her certification in position profiling.

#### Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chair Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 7:34 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, 9815 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262, <u>kweston@centalina.org</u> or phone (704) 348-2728. Please allow 72 hours advance notice for preparation. Visit our website: <u>www.centralina.org</u>.