



**Executive Board Virtual Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2022**

Officers Present	Board Members Present	Board Members Not Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
Bobby Compton, Chairman Jay McCosh, Vice Chairman Jarvis Woodburn, Secretary William Morgan, Treasurer	Peter Ascitutto Larken Egleston Gene Houpe Pedro Morey Christine Poinsette Elaine Powell Amelia Stinson- Wesley David Williams	Karen Alexander Cathy Davis Bob Hovis Corinthia Lewis- Lemon Lynn Shue Jennifer Stepp	Nina Barrett Connor Choka Geraldine Gardner Zsuzsi Kadar Debi Lee Linda Miller Michelle Nance Emily Parker Sherika Rich Denise Strosser Kelly Weston Venecia White Guests Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting Lee Zelewicz, Innovative Emergency Management

Call to Order

Chairman Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, called the meeting to order.

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, called roll and noted that a quorum was present.

Moment of Silence

Chairman Compton called for a moment of silence.

Amendments to the Agenda.

Chairman Compton explained that Centralina staff requested adding an item to the Consent Agenda, an approval of additional FY22 NC Division of Aging and Adult Services funding allocations in the amount of \$763,090 for the Home and Community Care Block Grant program.

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, made a motion to amend the agenda. Secretary Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- 1. 2022 Federal Action Plan Approval**
 - 2. NC Local Government Records Retention Schedule Adoption**
 - 3. FY22 Budget Amendment**
 - 4. Approval of the November 10, 2021 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**
- Additional Item: Approval of Additional FY22 NC Division of Aging and Adult Services Funding Allocation**

Treasurer Morgan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Secretary Woodburn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Federal Relations Update

Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting, presented highlights from the performance report of federal relations activities. She noted that Centralina successfully advocated for H.R. 5735, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) flexibility bill. She also noted the US Treasury released its final rule for ARPA funds, including a standard allowance for revenue loss of up to \$10 million, adding that it allows local governments to use those funds for non-federal matches for federal grants. She further noted that many new federal grant opportunities will be available beginning in mid-February.

Treasurer Morgan made a motion to accept the Strategics Consulting performance report for November through December 2021. Commissioner Gene Houpe, Iredell County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. FY23 Budget Preview

Denise Strosser, Finance Director, presented an overview of the proposed operating and passthrough placeholder budget for FY2023. She noted that staff is also recommending keeping the membership dues assessment rate at \$0.24 per capita and removing the minimum assessment of \$750. She explained that assessing dues for all members based on actual population would relieve a financial burden for smaller communities. She added the change would also encourage other smaller, non-member communities to join the organization so they can benefit from Centralina services and regional collaboration.

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, commended Centralina staff's proposal to remove the minimum dues assessment. He also suggested exploring more grant funding opportunities.

Commissioner Houpe made a motion to recommend the proposed FY2023 operating and passthrough placeholder budget ordinances in the amount of \$7,508,647 and \$15,460,000 respectfully and the membership dues assessment of \$0.24 per capita with removal of the minimum assessment of \$750 per member to be approved for consideration for adoption by the Board of Delegates. Council Member Christine Poinsette, City of Lincolnton, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Regional Resilience Collaborative Project Presentation

Christina Danis, Community Economic Development Assistant Director, presented an overview of the Regional Resilience Collaborative project, its objectives and timeline. She noted the project is funded through the US Economic Development Administration's Disaster Relief Coordinator Grant to assist communities with building capacity and enhancing resiliency.

Lee Zelewicz, Innovative Emergency Management, presented an overview of the three phases of recovery, which include response, short-term recovery, and long-term recovery and resiliency. He also presented details of the project's milestones.

Ms. Danis presented web resources, an overview of the project launch, programmatic goals, and state and federal funding opportunities. She also explained how the project aligns with the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

8. Centralina Strategic Plan Update

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, explained that Centralina conducted a Regional Dialogues Series during the fall to reconnect with the organization's regional partners and

stakeholders and understand the major challenges and opportunities facing the region. She noted that insights from the series will inform Centralina's FY23-26 strategic plan and the 2023-2027 CEDS.

Emily Parker, Senior Planner, presented an overview of the series timeline. She explained that a subcommittee comprised of Centralina Delegates and members of the Centralina Economic Development District helped champion the process.

Ms. Gardner noted that a regional survey conducted as part of the process affirmed critical regional issues such as growth and mobility and identified potential new issues for action. She also noted that a series of focus groups identified other important issues to address through strategic planning and the CEDS, including COVID-19 recovery and local government ARPA support, local government workforce capacity, planning for healthy communities, and economic recovery and resilience. She explained that as next steps, staff will engage the Executive Board and Board of Delegates in regional goal setting and develop a strategic planning document for endorsement.

9. Board Orientation Planning Update

Ms. Weston noted that each year at the February Board of Delegates annual meeting, Centralina staff conducts a session that serves as an orientation for new Delegates and a refresher for returning Delegates. She explained that this year, staff will implement a new, two-part approach to orientation that is designed to increase engagement among new Delegates. She explained that the first part consists of individual, virtual orientation meetings with new Delegates held between now and February 8th. She added that the second part will take place during the February 9th Board of Delegates meeting and will involve an interactive poll covering information about Centralina and the Board.

10. Nominating Committee Report

Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, noted that the Nominating Committee was comprised of Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, Council Member Corinthia Lewis-Lemon, Town of Morven, and himself. He reported that the Committee convened via conference call on December 16th and discussed the incumbent officers' interest in continuing to serve and a process for soliciting nominations from other interested Delegates. He noted that Centralina staff distributed an email to new and returning Delegates on the Committee's behalf explaining the nomination process, officer responsibilities, and calling for additional nominees. He added that the Committee did not receive any additional nominations. He explained that the Committee will proceed with presenting the following slate of officer nominees for a vote and installation at the February 9th Board of Delegates meeting:

Chair: Commissioner Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville
Vice Chair: Council Member Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville
Secretary: Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County
Treasurer: Mayor Pro Tem William Morgan, City of Statesville

Comments from the Executive Board and Centralina Staff

There were no comments from the Executive Board or Centralina Staff.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner noted that staff is working on plans for how to utilize the ARPA funds allocated to the NC Association of Regional Councils of Government (NCARCOG) in the state budget. She explained that NCARCOG is collaborating with the NC League of Municipalities and the NC Association of County Commissioners to develop a comprehensive approach to support local governments.

She reported that the state budget also directed NC Emergency Management to work with Centralina, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, and Piedmont Triad Regional Council on a study to assess the needs for additional radar stations in the piedmont area. She added that Centralina is in conversations with the state to begin that work.

She also reported that the NC Works Commission's Governance and System Alignment Committee is considering a proposal that would consolidate the state's 23 local workforce development boards into the state's eight Prosperity Zones. She noted this potential change would impact the Centralina Workforce Development Board, as well as the workforce boards serving Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties.

Secretary Woodburn noted that he has been in conversations with David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, about the proposal.

Comments from the Chair

Chairman Compton noted that the next meeting will be the Board of Delegates Annual Meeting, which will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 9th at 5:00 pm.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Compton adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.