



**Executive Board Virtual Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2025**

Officers Present	Officers Absent	Board Members Present	Board Members Not Present	Centralina Staff and Guests Present
Tony Long, Secretary	Jay McCosh, Chair David Scholl, Vice Chair Jarvis Woodburn, Treasurer	May Ruth Burns Kenny Godwin Martha Sue Hall Wes Hartsel Bod Hovis Melissa Merrell Elaine Powell Shawn Rush Jennifer Stepp Kenny Wortman	Mike Barbee Ed Driggs Ed Hatley Gene Houpe Jennifer Teague Alex Patton	Denise Strosser Geraldine Gardner Jason Wager Katie Kutcher Linda Miller Narissa Claiborne Tisha Steen  <b>Guests</b> Leslie Mozingo

**Call to Order**

In the absence of Board Chair and Vice Chair, Commissioner Tony Long of Mint Hill called the meeting to order. Commissioner Long, Treasurer asked that each Board member state their name and jurisdiction for the record. Narissa Claiborne, Clerk to the Board, called roll and noted a quorum present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Treasurer Long called for the Executive Board to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Amendments to the Agenda.**

None.

**Consent Agenda**

Officer Long presented the consent agenda to the Executive Board. The consent agenda was as follows:

- 1. Item 1 January 8, 2025, Executive Board meeting minutes.**
- 2. Item 2 Authorization to receive funding from the City of Charlotte to support the implementation of the Solarize Charlotte Mecklenburg Project.**
- 3. Item 3. Resolution to support Centralina's grant application to the NCDOT FY2026 Public Transportation Program to implement the CONNECT Centralina, which was approved by the Executive Board in September 2024.**

- 4. Item 4 Authorization to receive funding from the state for an expanded senior nutrition program called PEAS.**
- 5. Items 5 AND 6 Authorization(s) to receive funding from the state to administer grant programs on behalf of the towns of Norwood and Wadesboro.**

Mr. Long called for a motion to approve the March 12, 2025, consent agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Hall of Albemarle called for a motion the March 12 consent agenda. Commissioner Mary Ruth Burns seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **Regular Agenda Items**

#### **Item 7. Executive Dobard Orientation and 2025 Forecast**

Centralina Regional Council Executive Director, Geraldine Gardner welcomed new Executive Board members and shared with the Board the 2025 Board forecast. Ms. Gardner also presented to the Board an overview/orientation of the Centralina Strategic Plan.

#### **Item 8. Strategic Plan Update**

Executive Director Gardner shared with the Board an update on the Centralina Strategic Plan update process including a recap of the insights from stakeholder engagement and a review of the draft goals asked the Board to be vocal with any input they may have. Ms. Gardner shared Centralina goals strategies and key dates. She asked that the Board review future opportunities for Centralina and “top activities” that would be impactful to local governments and elected officials. Ms. Gardner called on Commissioner Elaine Powell to share her point of view on the role of elected officials and how elected officials could support each other.

#### **Item 9. NC Community Care Hub (NC CCH) Participation and Aging Services Spotlight**

Area Agency on Aging, Linda Miller and Assistant Director Katie Kutcher highlighted the NC Community Care Hub (NC CCH) Participation and Aging Services Spotlight. In addition, Ms. Miller shared with the Board County specific demographic information, and social economic characteristics. Ms. Miller invited the Board to view the growth and projected growth of their perspective population.

#### **Item 10. State and Federal Relations Update**

Treasurer Long called on Ms. Gardner to share with the Board a new resource that we partnered with an organization called UpState that enables us to look at and keep track of bills that Centralina is monitoring. She reviewed with the Board a few of the tool’s functions and emphasized that the information provided on the site is real-time information that is available to all members of the Board. Executive Director Gardner also introduced Planning Director Jason Wager who gave an update on H24: Restore Down-Zoning. Planning Director Wager provided samples of H24 and emphasized that the new Upstate tool will allow the Board to keep track of the bill.

Lastly, Ms. Gardner introduced Shirley Spidell of Strategics Consulting. Shirley shared with the Board an overview of Federal relations updates, including the potential of a government shutdown- emphasizing the likelihood of a shutdown is diminishing. Ms. Spidell shared information on the Federal budget.

#### **Comments from the Executive Board and Centralina Staff**

Ms. Gardner reminded the Board of the Member Portal resource that they have access to, including the Congressional Calendar and the updated Congressional contact information.

**Comments from the Executive Director**

**Comments from the Chair**

- Next Executive Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9
- Next Board of Delegates meeting will be held on May 14, which will include Regional Priority setting.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman McCosh adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.