



Date: April 17, 2025

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Trumps Catering

Minutes

Members Present:

Marty Clark
John Daniell
Pat Graham
Daniel Graves
Doug Haynie
Bruce Henry
Joe Hicks
Todd Higdon
John Howard
Tommie Jennings
Janet Jones
Deborah Krause
Terry Lawler
Dee Lindsey
Blake McCormack
Carol Myers
Bill Palmer
Jay Paul
Fred Perriman
Billy Pittard
Tony Rogers
Shane Short
Brad Tucker

Members Absent:

Ronnie Boggs
Phil Brock
Michael Coile
David Eady
Dodd Ferrelle
Kelly Girtz
Serra Hall
David Hunt
Jesse Johnson
Dee Lindsey
Wendell McNeal
David Thompson
DeAshley Thurman
William Trimier
Lee Vaughn

Guests Present:

Wendy Bond, Winterville
Sallie Fuller, Collins-GA-10
Jason Lewis, Oglethorpe County
Grace Martin, Bogart
Ben McDaniel, DAWC

Staff Present:

Amber Bailey
Mark Beatty
Carol Cofer
Eva Kennedy
Mamie Mills

Call to Order

Chairperson John Daniell called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. He asked that everyone rise and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests or visitors were invited to introduce themselves.

Chairperson Daniell informed the attendees that the March 20, 2025 minutes were distributed prior to the meeting. He called for a motion to approve the minutes unless there were any



additions or corrections. A motion was made by Mayor Fred Perriman and seconded by Mr. Bill Palmer to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Items of Local Interest

Chairperson Daniell announced that today, three counties would report on items of local interest. These include Jasper, Madison and Morgan Counties. He invited the county representatives to provide their reports.

Jasper County – Bruce Henry

- After fifty-two months ground will be broken on the new Food Bank. There were several delays due to funding issues, but the project is now moving forward.

Madison County- Todd Higdon

- There are eight industrial rezones coming up totaling around \$150 million.
- On January 1, 2025 the County assumed control of the water department and now has a true Industrial Development and Building Authority.
- There is an employment opportunity for an Economic Developer.
- A State of the County was done recently to explain recent tax increases to county constituents.

Morgan County- Blake McCormack

- The new park will open on Saturday 4/19 with baseball games and a miracle league game.
- The County is applying for a federal grant to replace the bridge in Hard Labor Creek State Park.

Committee Reports

Executive – Chairman John Daniell

Chairman Daniell stated that the Executive Committee met recently to review the NEGRC's draft Fiscal policy. That will be presented to the Audit & Finance Committee at an upcoming meeting. No action was needed at this time.

Audit & Finance – Mr. Terry Lawler

Mr. Lawler said the Audit & Finance Committee members met earlier today and reviewed one item that required Council action today.

The Committee reviewed the February 2025 financial statements for the 8th month of the fiscal year that reported revenues in excess of expenditures by \$604,891.73.

Mayor Perriman made a motion to accept the February 2025 financial report. The motion passed unanimously.



Program-of-Work –Mayor Deborah Krause

Mayor Krause said the Program-of-Work Committee met prior to today's Council meeting and reviewed two (2) project requests and six (6) project closeouts that required Council action today.

The project requests included the following:

- The City of Hoschton requested assistance with preparing their comprehensive plan update, including transportation, future land use, and capital improvements elements. There is a \$9,000 fee for this assistance.
- The City of Covington requested assistance with preparing a Safe Streets 4 All grant application. There is a \$1,500 fee for this assistance.

The project closeouts included the following:

- Assistance with two (2) CDBG applications for water system expansion projects. One for Madison County and one for the City of Oxford. Both applications have been completed and submitted.
- Assistance with Greene County's CDBG application for a senior center expansion. That application was completed and submitted.
- Administration of the City of Hoschton's CDBG grant for wastewater improvements in the Panther Creel Court neighborhood.
- The City of Oxford's Safe Streets for All grant application has been canceled. The city has elected not to pursue this project and focus on other initiatives.
- The City of Ila has chosen to cancel the preparation of USDA-US grant or loan application to replace or upgrade Ila City Hall. Estimated project costs exceeded what had been anticipated.

Based on recommendations by the Executive Director followed by the Committee's review, Mayor Krause made motions to approve these project requests and project closeouts for inclusion in the FY2025 program-of-work. The motions passed unanimously.

Planning and Government Services – Mayor John Howard

Mayor Howard said there were no items requiring Council action. He stated that Georgia Tech's Center for Economic Development Research was hosting "Artificial Intelligence 101 for Local Officials" on May 6, from 8am-3pm at the Curiosity Lab at Peachtree Corners. The event is related to the Ga-Artificial Intelligence in Manufacturing strategic planning effort that Georgia Tech is performing in partnership with Regional Commissions across the state.

Executive Director's Report – Eva Kennedy

Executive Director Eva Kennedy greeted the Council and thanked everyone for their attendance. She had one item to present that required Council action.



NEGRC History and the Planning & Government Services Division

Executive Director Kennedy discussed the history of the NEGRC's Planning & Government Services Division and gave an overview of the events that have occurred since its creation. Executive Director Kennedy discussed the services that PGS provides to our member governments.

Executive Director Kennedy reminded Councilmembers that the annual NEGRC awards ceremony would be held during the May 15 meeting.

There were no questions or comments, so Executive Director Kennedy concluded her report.

Other Business

Chairman Daniell stated that the Aging Division works with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) which provides Medicare counseling and outreach services to eligible beneficiaries in our twelve-county region. DHS requires, by resolution, the Council to authorize the continuation of these services for the next year's contract period from September 1, 2025 through August 30, 2026.

Mr. Brad Tucker motioned to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Blake McCormack. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Daniell reminded the Council that due to the Juneteenth holiday the June Council meeting will be held a week earlier, on June 12, 2025.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Council, Chairperson Daniell adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Amber Bailey
Amber Bailey, Executive Assistant
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission

05.15.25
Date Approved