



Date: August 21, 2025

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Trumps Catering

Minutes

Members Present:

Ronnie Boggs
Marty Clark
David Eady
Dodd Ferrelle
Pat Graham
Daniel Graves
Serra Hall
Doug Haynie
Joe Hicks
John Howard
Janet Jones
Deborah Krause
Terry Lawler
Blake McCormack
Wendell McNeal
Carol Myers
Bill Palmer
Jay Paul
Fred Perriman
Tony Rogers
Shane Short
Amy Stone
Brad Tucker

Members Absent:

Phil Brock
Michael Coile
John Daniell
Kelly Girtz
Bruce Henry
Todd Higdon
David Hunt
Tommie Jennings
Jesse Johnson
Dee Lindsey
Demond Mason
Billy Pittard
David Thompson
DeAshley Thurman
William Trimier

Guests Present:

Wendy Bond, Winterville
David Chester, Collins GA-10
Beth Eavenson, DCA
Stephen Goad, North High Shoals
Susie Leggett, Senator Warnock's Office
Ben McDaniel, DAWC
Lauren Trinkwalder, Collins GA-10
Philipp VonHanstein, Morgan County
Carol Williams, WDB

Staff Present:

Amber Bailey
Mark Beatty
Carol Cofer
Michele Kelley
Eva Kennedy
Sophia Primer

Call to Order

Chairperson Shane Short 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 Short informed the attendees that the June 12, 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 Mr. Brad Tucker and seconded by Mr. Blake McCormack to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.



Committee Reports

Audit & Finance – Mayor Fred Perriman

The members of the Audit & Finance Committee met earlier today and reviewed one item that required Council action today.

The Committee reviewed the June 2025 financial statements for the 12th month of the fiscal year that reported revenues in excess of expenditures by \$329,130.58. These statements are unaudited and subject to change pending the final FY25 NEGRC audit review September 8th – September 12th.

Mayor Perriman made motions to recommend Council approval of the June 2025 financial statements and was seconded by Mr. Terry Lawler. The motion passed unanimously

The Audit & Finance Committee also reviewed the updated NEGRC fiscal policy. Mayor Perriman made motions to adopt the fiscal policy as presented and was seconded by Mr. Terry Lawler. The motions passed unanimously.

Program of Work – Mayor Dodd Ferrelle

Mayor Ferrelle said the Program-of-Work Committee met prior to today's Council meeting and reviewed seven (7) project requests and eleven (11) project closeouts that required Council action today.

Six of the project requests were to assist the following communities with Appalachian Regional Commission grant applications:

- Barrow and Madison Counties and the cities of Carlton, Commerce, Comer and Bowman. Proposed projects included improvements to water and sewer systems and a wastewater treatment facility expansion. There were no fees for this assistance as that work is fully supported through the NEGRC's ARC grant.
- The 7th project request was to assist the City of Winterville with facilitation if their City Council Retreat. There was no fee for this assistance.

The project closeouts included the following:

- One (1) for the City of Winterville's Story Map project.
- One (1) for the Town of Bethlehem's Comprehensive Plan amendment.
- Two (2) for the City of Covington's Safe Streets 4 All and CDBG-RDF grant applications.
- The City of Elberton's Rural Zone application was completed and submitted.
- Five (5) for the ARC grant application requests listed previously, with the exception of the City of Commerce's.

Based on recommendations by the Executive Director followed by the Committee's review, Mayor Ferrelle made motions to approve these project requests and project closeout for inclusion in the FY26 program-of-work and was seconded by Mayor Janet Jones. The motions passed unanimously.



Executive Director's Report – Eva Kennedy

Executive Director Eva Kennedy greeted the Council and thanked everyone for their attendance. She had no items that required Council action.

New NEGRC Council Officers

Executive Director Kennedy welcomed the new Council officers who will serve a two-year term. These officers include Shane Short as Chairman, Mayor Dodd Ferrelle as Vice-Chairman and Bruce Henry as Secretary.

Council Committee Assignments

Executive Director Kennedy reviewed committee assignments for the upcoming year and briefly discussed what each committee does.

Updates

Executive Director Kennedy thanked the Council for adopting the updated Fiscal Policy. She congratulated the following on their Recent CDBG awards:

- Greene County Senior Center
- Madison County for water system improvements
- City of Monroe for multi-infrastructure improvements
- Social Circle for sewer improvements

Executive Director Kennedy reminded the Council to contact PGS Director Mark Beatty for assistance with 2026 CDBG applications.

Executive Director Kennedy stated that the NEGRC hosted a productive staff development day in August. She announced that Michele Kelley would serve as Interim Division Director of the Area Agency on Aging. Executive Director Kennedy also announced the retirement of Workforce Division Director Carol Cofer after 43 years of service at the NEGRC. She stated that the NEGRC had openings for Workforce Division Director, Administrative Assistant and GIS Intern.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Council, Chairman Short asked for a motion to adjourn. Mayor John Howard motioned, and Mayor Doug Haynie seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Amber Bailey
Amber Bailey, Executive Assistant
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission

09/18/25
Date Approved