

-- ATTACHMENT A --

BERKELEY-CHARLESTON-DORCHESTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FULL COUNCIL MEETING

November 6, 2009

MINUTES

The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments met on November 6, 2009 in the Conference Room of the BCDCOG Office, 1362 McMillan Avenue, North Charleston, SC. After determining that there was a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by the Chairman, Keith Summey. The Chairman then asked Rev. Reid to open the meeting with a prayer. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Keith Summey, Tyrone Aiken, Opal Baldwin, Carl Beckmann, Robert Brown, Sam Brownlee, Lester Dempsey, Jamie Feltner, Larry Hargett, Samuel Hart, Michael Heitzler, Jack Hoey, Joseph Jefferson, Tim Mallard, Mary Miller, Earl Mitchell, Elaine Morgan, Caldwell Pinckney, Eugene Platt, Mathew Profit, Teddie Pryor, Victor Rawl, Robert Reid, Phillip Siegrist, Carl Smith, James Williams

Members Absent:

William Alston, Minnie Blackwell, Aaron Brown, Timothy Callanan, Richard Cronin Steve Davis, Ralph James, Anne Johnston, Allen June, Anne Keller, Deb Morinelli, Louis Waring, William Wert, Seth Whipper

Proxies:

Mary Jo Thomas for Mary Clark
Marc Hehn for William Peagler
Caldwell Pinckney Jr., for Dan Davis Lester Dempsey for Michael Rose
Kevin Mitchell for Kruger Smith
Hernan Pena for Joseph Riley
Keith Summey for Elliott Summey

Guests:

Susan Baxter-Clemmons, Howard Chapman, Doug Frate, Laura Varn, Gary Alford, Susan Smythe, Rahim Karriem, John Cook, Joe Ferrer, Jenny Humphreys, Bill Neil, Andrea Pietras, E. Danielson, Alan Burnaford, Jim Bauuwart, Chuck Jarman, Jason Ward, Randy Moneymaker, Katie Zimmerman

Staff:

Ron Mitchum, Robin Mitchum, Andrea Kozloski, Jeff Burns, Alec Brebner, Harun Rashid, Sandi Riddle Jessica Gillis, Vonie Gilreath, Tara Frederick

Item II - Consideration of Minutes:

Rev. Reid made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pryor to approve the August 24, 2009 minutes. Ms. Miller stated a correction to be made on page seven, paragraph two. The correction was noted. The motion passed with no objections.

Item III – SC Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Alliance Presentation – Shannon Baxter-Clemmons

Ms. Shannon Baxter-Clemmons gave the board an overview of the SC Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Alliance. This program is focused on educating local and state decision makers on hydrogen and fuel cell technology and their benefits to the communities and regions in South Carolina. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Item IV – Community & Regional Resilience Institute (CARRI)

Laura Varn gave the board an update on the CARRI program. She stated the CARRI program develops ways to help communities in the case of natural disasters. They are continuing to work with the local governments to come up with ways to implement the best communication for an event such as natural disasters. Ms. Varn stated she encourages people who are having difficulty paying Santee Cooper bills to contact customer service.

Item V – Water Quality Planning

Mr. Mitchum stated there is a request from Charleston County to be a Designated Management Agency. He stated staff recommends approval of this request. On a motion of Ms. Miller, seconded by Rev. Reid the request was approved as presented. The motion passed with no objections.

Mr. Mitchum stated the Johns Island Junction project was discussed at the August 24, 2009 meeting. Action was delayed and sixty days was given to work on a solution. The developer has made a presentation to Charleston County Council and County Council is recommending approval of the request with the following conditions: They must agree to become a part of a regional system at a later date when it becomes economically and technically feasible. Also they agree to transfer ownership to public utility. He stated the developer has agreed to those conditions. Chairman Summey stated they will not be reimbursed. On a motion of Rev. Reid, seconded by Ms. Miller the request was approved. There was one nay vote.

Mr. Mitchum stated a letter was received from the Town of Mount Pleasant expressing their desire to amend the 208 plan to expand their planning and service area from the current Mt. Pleasant town limits to the Guerins Bridge Road area. He stated this request will flow through the proper channels and will come back before the board at the December meeting if possible. The request was received as information.

Item VI – FTA 5316 / 5317 Selection Committee Recommendation – Request for approval

Mr. Mitchum stated the selection committee reviewed the applications for funding for FTA 5316 / 5317. Information was presented to the board regarding the recommendations. Jeff Burns gave the board and overview of the recommendations. On a motion of Rev. Reid seconded by Mr. Beckmann the recommendations were approved. The motion passed with no objections.

Item VII – CARTA Intermodal Transportation Center Update – Howard Chapman

Mr. Chapman presented the board with a PowerPoint presentation in regards to the Intermodal Transportation Center. Mr. Chapman stated the center will house Amtrak, South Eastern Stages, CARTA and Taxi's. He stated the original site was on seven acres and now the site is thirty-six (36) acres. He stated he worked with Davis & Floyd and reviewed many different stations as it related to their designs. Mr. Chapman stated a floor plan has been chosen. He stated CARTA is working to have funding transferred in the amount of \$5.8 million dollars that was previously assigned to Futrex Systems. He stated he is working with the Federal Transit Administration and they are very supportive. He stated the total cost is expected to be about \$7.8 million dollars. He stated they also receive \$450,000 in earmark funds. He stated local match will come from private developers. As of to date \$200,000 was from ½ cents sales tax and the rest has come from federal funding.

Rev. Reid congratulated Mr. Chapman and the CARTA board for a job well done. He stated the center is very much needed.

Mr. Hargett asked the CARTA board to appoint someone from Dorchester County to the CARTA Board. Mayor Summey stated that all of the funding comes from Charleston County and if Dorchester and Berkeley county would like to participate the funding mechanism then they would not mind created a Tri-County funding situation to make it work.

Mr. Platt commends Mr. Chapman for his hard work. He asked Mr. Chapman has high speed rail been considered. Mr. Chapman stated they are working with SCDOT. He stated letters have been sent to the Federal Railway Administration.

Chairman Summey thanked Davis & Floyd for their hard work. Clemson School of Architect helped with the design.

Amtrak Representative stated the station was built in 1958. He stated at the present time the upstairs is not being used at all. He stated it has not been occupied since 1984. He looks forward to the new intermodal center.

Item VIII – Minority Business Development / Entrepreneurial initiative Update – Sandi Riddle, Economic Development Manager

Sandi Riddle presented a power point presentation to the board of an update on the Minority Business Development / Entrepreneurial Initiative. She stated this is the final recommendations from the project. She stated Dr Gravely presented his findings to the Minority Business Committee. She stated the Mission of Dr. Gravely was to develop a strategy that would accelerat the growth of sizeable minority businesses that are headquartered in our three county region. She stated he touched on five elements which were; to build a support infrastructure; creating connections; build regional inclusion capacity; improving the supply; and cultivation actionable relations. Sandi stated the report was available on the COG website. She also stated anyone that would like a written copy to contact her.

A question was asked "what impact does the NAACP Boycott of South Carolina have on these efforts, and also is anything being done to get them to remove it. She stated Dr. Gravely did not mention any affects of the NAACP on these efforts. We were asked to revisit that situation.

Mr. Brown expressed appreciation of the COG efforts and also requested a copy of the report.

Rep. Jefferson asked where the funds would come from to implement this project.

Mr. Mitchum stated revenue has to be generated in order to fund the project. He also recommends staff be allowed to enter into a month to month contract with a Rep. from Dr. Gravely's staff.

Rev. Reid made a motion and the motion was seconded by Rep. Jefferson to use the funds remaining until exhausted, then we will come back before the board. The motion passed with no objections.

Chairman Summey had to leave and Vice-Chairman Hargett presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Item IX – Energy ARRA Project Funding - Discussion

Mr. Mitchum stated at the last meeting the committee approved the Prioritization of stimulus funds for energy projects for the non-entitlements. He stated there was a competitive process

and we received a number of applications. All three counties applied as well as four (4) cities or town. He stated recommendations were approved to provide funds to Dorchester County, Charleston County and Berkeley County. He stated some concerns were expressed and would like the issue to be revisited.

Mayor Aiken stated the Town of Lincolnville was requesting \$25,600 to enhance the lighting system, windows and door upgrades as well as to replace the HVAC system in the Town Hall.

Mayor Williams stated the Town of Ridgeville was requesting \$25,000 to be used by the community center, to replace the HVAC system, and the lighting.

Mr. Mitchum stated this information has already been submitted to the Energy Department after the last Board Meeting. He stated as a part of that process those applications are being reviewed. He stated he cannot make any guarantees that things would change, but if there is something that could be done he will forward the information on and ask for adjustments to be made.

A motion was made by Rep. Jefferson, seconded by Mr. Profit to reconsider the applications if there is funding available. The motion passed with no objections.

Mr. Mitchum asked for clarification in regards to the motion. He asked if he wanted the amounts requested to be adjusted. Vice-Chairman Hargett stated no, it is only if funds are available.

Item X. Staff Reports

Mr. Mitchum stated all staff reports are in the packets. If you have any question, staff will be glad to help.

Robin Mitchum gave the board a brief overview of the Financial Status Report ending September 30, 2009. She stated we are 25% complete with the year, and things are looking good and she does not anticipate any problems. She also reminded everyone the Audit is complete and it will be presented at the December 4th board meeting.

Mr. Mitchum stated the COG is in the process of updating the Long Range Transportation Plan. He stated meetings have been set up at various locations around the Tri-county area.

Item XI. Other Business

None

Item XII. General Public Comment

None

Item XII. Chairman's Time

Mr. Platt stated it has been two months and thirteen days since our last meeting. He stated everything on the agenda is very important and deserves a full description. He would like for the board to consider monthly meetings.

Vice-Chairman Hargett asked Rev. Reid to bless the food.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30