

**GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
March 19, 2013
4:33 p.m.
County Square - Conference Room D**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at County Square and posted on the County's web page for all media and concerned citizens to access and review.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN BOB TAYLOR
VICE CHAIRMAN WILLIS MEADOWS
JOE DILL
XANTHENE NORRIS
SID CATES
DAN RAWLS

LIZ SEMAN
JIM BURNS
JOE BALDWIN
BUTCH KIRVEN
FRED PAYNE
LOTTIE GIBSON arrived at 4:38

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

NONE

STAFF PRESENT:

JOE KERNELL, County Administrator
MARK TOLLISON, County Attorney
THERESA KIZER, Clerk to Council
REGINA MCCASKILL, Deputy Clerk to Council
BOB MIHALIC, Governmental Relations Officer
SHANNON HERMAN, Assistant to the County Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

CHRIS STONE, Executive Director, Greenville Convention and Visitor's Bureau
STEVE PELISSIER, Executive Director, Appalachian Council of Governments

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bob Taylor

INVOCATION

Councilor Butch Kirven

Item (3)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Councilor Meadows moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting of March 5, 2013.

Motion carried unanimously by all Council Members present.

Item (4)

BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

(a) Planning Commission

The following individuals appeared before the Committee of the Whole and gave their personal presentations.

- 1. Jeffrey Dishner**
- 2. Troy Gilreath**
- 3. Cynthia Knight**
- 4. Shawn Hammond**
- 5. Stephen Selby**

By ballot vote, Michael Freeland, Shawn Hammond and Stephen Selby were elected and forwarded to County Council.

Item (5)

APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS / ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Steve Pelissier, Executive Director of the Appalachian Council of Governments presented the organization's Annual Report. Greenville County's annual investment in the Appalachian Council of Governments was \$151,759. The return on investment to Greenville County in FY2013 was projected to be \$4,542,522.00 representing a return on investment ratio of \$29.00 to \$1.00. The Components of Funding through ACOG to Greenville County were as follows: \$ 790,000 Federal Direct Grant Programs; \$1,192,380 Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program; \$1,609,713 private capital investment resulting from loan programs; \$662,429 ACOG Aging Services Program; \$238,000 Rural Transportation System Improvement Program; and \$50,000 Transit Services; for a total of \$4,542,522. There was \$500,000 in Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funding to the City of Travelers Rest for the Outdoor Arts Center, \$250,000 in ARC funding to Apprenticeship SC for job skills training, and \$40,000 in ARC funding to Furman University for Poverty Studies internships. Funding supported local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses. In addition to the capital investment, 48 Greenville County jobs were positively affected by the funds (33 new positions, 15 jobs retained). Funds provided meals (over 45,000 served), shelter, medical services, home health care, and transportation. They reduced the demand on County resources for addressing the needs of a growing and increasingly significant segment of the population. ACOG hosted and facilitated the Greenville County Council Goal Setting Retreat. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy ensured projects in Greenville County remained eligible to receive Federal Economic Development Administration and Appalachian Regional Commission grant funds. ACOG served on the Greenville County Air Quality Task Force for the purpose of preparing the County for pending changes to federal air quality standards. There were responses made to 220 requests for information about Greenville County. The requests came from all over the world. Many were from firms considering investments in the County. Some of the upcoming events in FY2014 was an expansion of the Small Business Lending Program to provide additional resources for existing and new businesses.

Chairman Taylor thanked Mr. Pelissier for attending the meeting.

Mr. Stone, Executive Director, Convention and Visitor's Bureau presented County Council Members with a tote bag with the organization's new logo, some logo items and information on the "rebranding". He thanked County Council for their past and continued support. He stated there was a need to do more for Greenville County.

Councilor Burns stated the CVB goodie bag had a USB Card on commercials showcasing Greenville's CVB rebranding to "Visit Greenville SC" and he encouraged County Council Members to look at them.

Item (6)

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Councilor Norris moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Theresa B. Kizer, Clerk to Council