

CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGULAR MEETING

Catawba Regional Center
February 13, 2020

Following the Annual Meeting of the Catawba Regional Development Corporation, the regular quarterly meeting of the Catawba Regional Council of Governments was called to order at 4:48 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at the Council's office in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Notice of the meeting was sent to the local newspaper and posted on the Council's website.

The following members were present:

Chester

Sen. Mike Fanning
Jim Fuller

Lancaster

Charlene McGriff
Russell Patrick

Union

Rep. Doug Gilliam
Frank Hart, Chair
Harold Thompson
Leroy Worthy

York

Paul Basha
David O'Neal
Greg Rutherford
Wes Spurrier
Robert Winkler

The following members were absent:

Chester

Nettie Archie
Joe Branham
Wanda Stringfellow

Lancaster

Alston DeVenny
Steve Harper
Jimmy Neal
Rep. Mandy Powers Norrell
Ann Taylor

Union

Margaret Holloway

York

Wes Burton
Sen. Wes Climer
Christi Cox
Michael Johnson
Todd Lumpkin
Scott Patterson
P. N. Saksena
Guynn Savage
Kevin Sutton
Rob Youngblood

Others present included:

Guests

Jim Bennett, CRDC
Dwight Neese, CRDC
Grier Sandifer, CRDC

Cole McKinney
Teresa Thomas
Steve Willis

Staff

Randy Imler
Ed Brock
Amy Chitwood
Robby Moody
Kathy Rice

Drew Balcerzak
Autumn Cauthen
Tyler Lewis
Randy Pellisero

Following the Call to Order, the minutes from the November 7, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

I. Presentation of the COG FY19 Audited Financial Statements and the 12/31/19 COG Interim (six months) Operating Statement and Interim Financial Statements.

Mr. Imler shared that the Executive Committee, which serves as the COG's Audit Committee, met with auditors on February 5, 2020. The CPA firm of McKinley, Cooper & Co., LLC issued an unmodified audit opinion with no deficiencies or material weaknesses. Mr. Imler presented a summary of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 audited Financial Statements and the six month Interim Operating Statement with the Board. Copies of the full audited financial statements are available upon request.

The COG's financial statements over the past ten years continue to show steady growth of fund balances and net position. Unassigned/Unreserved Fund Balances increased from approximately \$953,000 in FY10 to \$1.3 million in FY19. Restricted Fund Balances for Revolving Loans and Special Revenue increased from \$3.1 million in FY10 to \$7.2 million in FY19. This increase has been driven by the assumption of six Revolving Loan Funds and the Agribusiness Loan Fund. Fund Balances for the six-month interim FY20 surpassed \$9 million for the first time in Catawba Regional COG's history.

The COG's Unrestricted Net Position increased from \$934,000 in FY10 to \$1.7 million in FY19. The Restricted Net Position increased from \$4.5 million in FY10 to \$7.2 million in FY19. Note: Total Net Position as stated is exclusive of GASB 68 liabilities, which represent the COG's pro-rata share of the state's unfunded pension liability, and GASB 75 OPEB liabilities, which represent the COG's pro-rata share of the state's unfunded post-employment benefits liability. These are accounting liabilities, and the COG is not able to reduce or eliminate either GASB 68 or GASB 75 related liabilities. Excluding these two GASB liabilities, the COG's Net Position is \$8,821,655. Discussion focused on the future of GASB 68.

II. Update regarding COG 50th Year Celebration.

Mr. Imler encouraged Board members to mark their calendars for August 20, 2020 for the COG's

50th Year Celebration. A reception will take place at the 1939 Building in Knowledge Park in Rock Hill. The focus of the event will be where the COG has been and to obtain feedback through public engagement with stakeholders concerning the desired strategic direction of the COG over the next 50 years.

III. Notice of Dissolution of Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Imler notified the Board that Lancaster County has created their own Solid Waste Plan and withdrawn from the Regional Plan. With the County's withdrawal, the Regional Plan is no longer in existence.

IV. Consideration of Proposed Guidelines for Neighborhood Initiative Program Lot Sales.

Mr. McKinney reiterated that Catawba Regional's goal for participating in the Neighborhood Initiative Program (NIP) was to remedy slum and blight in the region and to provide an opportunity to create workforce housing. The first batch of NIP lots became available for disposition January 20, 2020. Liens were to be released by the SC Housing Finance and Development Authority after the required three year hold period on 14 properties located in Lancaster and York counties. Mr. McKinney presented a proposed methodology to ensure disposition of the properties in an expeditious and fiscally responsible manner. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the proposed NIP Property Disposition Process.

V. Other Business.

There was no other business to discuss.

VI. Regional Roundup.

Representatives from each county provided brief highlights about projects and activities in their respective cities and counties.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Imler
Executive Director