

GNRC

Greater Nashville Regional Council
220 Athens Way, Suite 200
Nashville, Tennessee 37228

Full GNRC Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 26, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
The George Jones
128 2nd Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37201

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Rogers Anderson	Williamson County
Bernie Ash	Lebanon
Robin Brandon	Stewart County
David Briley	Metro Nashville
Paige Brown	Gallatin
Heidi Campbell	Oak Hill
Jamie Clary	Hendersonville
Jim Durrett	Montgomery County
Anthony Holt	Sumner County
Perry Keenan	Pleasant View
Jerry Kirkman	Westmoreland
Kerry McCarver	Montgomery County
Addam McCormick	White House
Ken Moore	Franklin
Mary Esther Reed	Smyrna
Bob Rial	Dickson County
Billy Vogle	Robertson County
Ken Wilber	Portland

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Franklin Mayor Ken Moore called the Regional Council Meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at The George Jones, 128 2nd Ave N, Nashville, TN.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Moore called for corrections or additions to the minutes of the August 15, 2018 GNRC Executive Committee meeting.

Montgomery County Mayor Kerry McCarver made a motion to approve the August 15, 2018 minutes as presented. Robertson County Mayor Billy Vogle seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

GRANT PROJECT REVIEWS

Matt Von Lunen, Chief Economic Development Officer, briefly went over the two projects for this reporting period. He said that they were both endorsed by the staff. One project is for the City of Waverly for ECWAG water line replacement using USDA funds. The other is for the intent to request a release of funds for the 2018 THDA home program grant for Rutherford County.

Sumner County Executive Anthony Holt made a motion to approve the grants. Williamson County Mayor Rogers Anderson seconded the motion. There being no discussion or questions, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Gayle Wilson, Finance Director, presented the financial report for the period of July 1st through August 31, 2018. Total expenditures as of August 31st are \$1,299,352.66. Revenues received are \$205,285.00. Available cash balance is \$690,438.48. She said that we have not received our TCAD grant as of the end of August.

RESOLUTION 2019-02 ADOPTING THE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM AND AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 2019

Gallatin Mayor Paige Brown said that the FY2019 and work program budget is important because it serves to satisfy the requirements of TCA 13-14-113 which establishes that an annual work program be submitted and approved prior to the approval of funding appropriated to Development Districts created pursuant to the Development District Act of 1965. She said that projected revenue for the coming year is \$15M+ for GNRC programs.

Mr. Michael Skipper, GNRC Executive Director, said that the budget includes funding for a new GNRC position to coordinate volunteers for our programs by building bridges to non-profits and other organizations that can serve a pipeline for those who want to get engaged with the things the GNRC is doing at a local/regional level. There is funding for an additional finance position. Many of the programs don't provide enough money to run so the funds are supplemented with member dues. He said that there will be no proposed increase in dues which is \$.31/capita. He did say that the amounts might change due to the population increase/decrease in each jurisdiction. He said that this budget is retroactive from July 1, 2018.

Gallatin Mayor Paige Brown moved to adopt the Resolution 2019-01.
Nashville Mayor David Briley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2019-003 AMENDING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE MID-CUMBERLAND AREA DEVELOPMENT CORP. AND THE GNRC FOR PROVISION OF PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR FY 2019

Mr. Skipper said that this is a joint resolution between GNRC and the Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corp. which is a non-profit created in the 1980s to administer small business lending assistance. He said that Ms. Amanda Giner staffs the MADC as a GNRC employee. Because we staff MADC there is a financial agreement between the two organizations. MADC reimburses our time for staff and support services. There has been a contract in place since July and now that there is an adopted budget, this resolution amends the contract to reflect current budget.

Gallatin Mayor Brown moved to adopt the Resolution 2019-03 with Mayor Anderson seconding. The motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2019-04 APPROVING THE ANNUAL UPDATE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Mr. Von Lunen said that GNRC is charged to author this strategy as the economic development district. He said that this document involves public/private stakeholders and partners throughout the region. Its main purpose is to guide economic policies and investments throughout the region while also qualifying communities and organizations for EDA grant funds. It is rewritten every five years and it is updated annually with new data from our stakeholders. He said that this year the data was received via an on-line survey.

Mr. Skipper said that this a very important document that is updated every year. He said that if you are interested in accessing infrastructure grants for job creation or job retention the application must show that it is consistent with this economic strategy outlined in this document. He said that as we move forward, he hopes this document drives decisions about other investments that are either coordinated through GNRC or flow through GNRC. He said that this document is authored by the experts in the communities and chambers of commerce.

Mayor Anderson asked why the CEDS Advisory Board did not include any members from a convention and visitors bureau in the region. Mr. Von Lunen said that Nashville Chamber staff were included, but that there was no reason why they couldn't reach out to individuals in those organizations in the future. Mr. Skipper said that the advisory board is something that over the years was for staff to reach out to their partners and volunteers. He said that we may formalize membership on the board in the future serving by appointment.

Mayor Anderson moved to approve the Resolution 2019-04. Mayor Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mayor Moore said that Mayor Hutto, Mayor Kirkman, and Mayor Wilber comprised the nominating committee. Mr. Skipper presented the slate of officers for the coming year.

Serving as Officers

President Anthony Holt, Sumner County Executive

Vice-President Paige Brown, Gallatin Mayor

Treasurer Bob Rial, Dickson County Mayor

Secretary Mr. Michael Skipper, GNRC Executive Director (non-voting member)

With no further nominations from the floor, Westmoreland Mayor Jerry Kirkman moved to approve the slate as presented. Robertson County Mayor Billy Vogle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mr. Skipper said that the full council consists of 93 members and meets once a year. The Executive Board is empowered by the full council to act on its behalf the rest of the year.

He said that GNRC approached the Legislature to change the code last year to have council choose who sits on the Executive Board.

The Executive Committee is made of the council officers, the two Legislative representatives, minority representation from the counties with the highest rate of minority population (Trousdale, Davidson, Montgomery, and Rutherford). The rest of the Board comes from each county and the communities within. The county mayor collaborated with the municipalities to determine which will represent the county as a whole.

Mayor Wilber moved to approve the Executive Board with Executive Holt seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

2018-2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Serving as Officers

President Anthony Holt, Sumner County Executive

Vice-President Paige Brown, Gallatin Mayor

Treasurer Bob Rial, Dickson County Mayor

Immediate Past President Ken Moore, Franklin Mayor

Cheatham County

Kerry McCarver, County Mayor

Large City Representative

David Briley, Nashville Mayor

Davidson County

Heidi Campbell, Oak Hill Mayor

Antoinette Lee, Minority Rep.

Dickson County

Bob Rial, County Mayor

Houston County

James Bridges, County Mayor

Humphreys County

Jessie Wallace, County Mayor

Montgomery County

Jim Durrett, County Mayor

Rene Llanos, Minority Rep.

ROBERTSON COUNTY

Billy Vogle, County Mayor

Rutherford County

Bill Ketron, County Mayor

Darlyn Green, Minority Rep.

Small City Representative

Jerry Kirkman, Westmoreland Mayor

Stewart County

Robin Brandon, County Mayor

Sumner County

Jeff Duncan, Goodlettsville Mayor

Trousdale County

Stephen Chambers, County Mayor

Craig Moreland, Minority Rep.

Williamson County

Rogers Anderson, County Mayor

Wilson County

Randall Hutto, County Mayor

Tennessee General Assembly

Steve Dickerson, Senator

Susan Lynn, Representative

REVIEW OF CHANGES TO GNRC'S ENABLING STATUTE

Mr. Skipper said that during the last legislative session we were able to modify our state code to provide the flexibility to the members 1) to determine who is sitting on the Executive Board, 2) renaming the Executive Committee to Executive Board, and 3) Eliminated the requirement to have the small/large representatives on the Executive Board.

UPDATE ON ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Skipper gave the highlights from the past year. He said that the 501 Union Building was sold and part of the staff moved the Metro Center office and the rest is at the Butler's Run office.

He said that there is a new communication strategy.

He announced the new hires on the senior leadership team 1) Ms. Angela Hubbard as Economic and Community Development Director, 2) Sarah Jane Glynn as the Director of Aging and Disabilities, 3) Mr. Craig Casper as the Director of Community and Regional Planning, and 4) Ms. Laylah Smith as Chief Legal Counsel.

DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Ms. Michelle Lacewell, Deputy Director, said that the strategic plan's primary objectives are to 1) prepare members to take advantage of shared capacity and resources, 2) elevate the significance of the regional council body, 3) bring more awareness to programs and services, 4) strengthen partnerships with state and federal agencies, and 5) increase opportunities for public participation in development plans and policies.

Ms. Lacewell said that the key elements are 1) shared goals and objectives, 2) plan of action with strategies and tactics, 3) identification of roles and resources, and 4) performance measures.

The 10-Point Action Plan is 1) new branding and visual identity, 2) overhauled website and social media presence, 3) membership trainings and resource directory, 4) updated and integrated public participation plans, 5) quarterly convening of regional council and partners at summits/expos, 6) regular briefings for state and congressional leadership, 7) localized speakers bureau of GNRC ambassadors, 8) recurring survey research of customers and partners, 9) roundtable network of government practitioners and private sector experts, and 10) enhanced media relations and coordination.

Ms. Lacewell explained that an agency was hired to help with the new branding and new logo. We determined that we are community-focused, strategic, collaborative, and comprehensive. She introduced the new logo to the Council. When referencing our programs, the colors will be inverted. We connect communities and empower people. Mr. Skipper thanked the council for their feedback during the development of the new logo.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Skipper thanked the Board and Council and staff for their hard work over the past year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mayor Moore said that it had been an honor to serve as President. During his tenure the GNRC 1) integrated with the MPO, 2) continued building the team, 3) expanded the vision for the future. He said that he has a better understanding of this organization and the work it does in the communities.

OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Edwards

Recording Secretary