



MINUTES

LOWER SAVANNAH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual
January 10th, 2025

LSCOG Executive Board Members present:

Aiken County: Ron Felder, John Simmons
Allendale County: Willa Jennings, Tawni Major, William Robinson, Theresa Taylor (Vice Chair)
Bamberg County: Sharon Hammond, Gerald Wright (Chairman)
Barnwell County: Freddie Houston, Thomas L. Williams
Calhoun County: James Haigler
Orangeburg County: Joseph Garvin, Harry Wimberly

LSCOG Executive Board Members excused:

Orangeburg County: Michael Butler (Past Chairman)

LSCOG Executive Board Members absent:

Aiken County: Danny Feagin (Treasurer)
Calhoun County: John McLauchlin
Orangeburg County: Vernon Stephens

Other Board Members Present:

Barnwell County Andy Hogg

LSCOG staff present:

Dr. William Molnar, Nora Sanders, Frances Owens, Jessica Coleman, Christine Chandler

Guest:

David Beurle (Future IQ)

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Theresa Taylor (Vice Chair) called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

ROLL CALL

Dr. William Molnar (LSCOG Executive Director) conducted a roll call. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Taylor requested the adoption of the agenda.

Mr. Freddie Houston made the motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ms. Willa Jennings. The motion carried unanimously.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Ms. Frances Owens, LSCOG Finance Director, presented the financial report for November 2024 for informational purposes. There was a question concerning the deficit which was due to the building repairs and updates that were completed this fiscal year. Funds are available and will be moved into the budget during the next budget revision.

LSCOG STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

Mr. David Beurle (Future IQ) presented an overview of the proposed draft of the final Strategic Plan items to the Executive Committee. The plan included the strategic plan process, detailed differences across the region, suggested scenarios, pillars and roadmap of what LSCOG should move toward in future with proposed timelines. Suggested, the LSCOG Board schedule a retreat to brainstorm, set goals and layout an actionable path forward to accomplish suggested pillars and road map.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Molnar discussed:

- The Strategic Planning Retreat for the Board.-Based on the survey of the board members, the preference appears to be fine someplace within the region. A few suggestions were made, and Dr. Molnar will follow up on the location and time in early spring.
- Audit Report -Dr. Molnar reported completion of the audit was running behind our normal schedule. Anticipate completion prior to the February 13th meeting.
- Next LSCOG Board Meeting scheduled for February 13th, 2025, Calhoun County.
- Next LSCOG Executive Committee meeting, March 13th, 2025, Clemson REC, Blackville. Mr. Houston requested the next Executive Board meeting agenda includes an update on the status of Generations Unlimited.
- LSCOG Board Meeting – April 10, 2025, Bamberg County.
- LSCOG was awarded a \$500,000 EDA grant for Disaster Coordination Support.
- SC COG Directors will be presenting a proposed budget request to House Ways and Means to provide government services to the rural municipalities that need assistance beyond what LSCOG currently does.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Ms. Sharon Hammond made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Thomas Williams. Ms. Taylor adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Molnar, Ph.D.
Executive Director