

MINUTES

Triangle J Council of Governments

Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 22, 2021

6:00 PM

Held simultaneously via Microsoft Teams and in person

Delegates and Alternate Delegates Attending:

Mark B. Wilson, Town of Archer Lodge
DeDreana Freeman, City of Durham
Kathleen Ferguson, Town of Hillsborough
Jim Crawford, Chatham County
Heidi Carter, Durham County
Butch Lawter, Johnston County

Kirk Smith, Lee County
Sally Greene, Orange County
Kevin Drum, Village of Pinehurst
Donald Rains, Town of Princeton
Ronnie Currin, Town of Rolesville
Rebecca Salmon, City of Sanford

Delegates Absent:

Pamela Baldwin, Town of Pittsboro

Sig Hutchinson, Wake County

TJCOG staff attending:

Lee Worsley, Executive Director
Jenny Halsey, Strategy & Operations Manager

Alana Keegan, Member Engagement
Manager
John Hodges-Copple, Metropolitan Planning
Director

Guests

Elise Bielin, GoTriangle
Scott Thomas, GoTriangle

Elisabeth Raskopf, GoTriangle
Jay Heikes, GoTriangle

Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Chair Rains called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed all attendees. He reviewed procedures for the virtual meeting and asked Alana Keegan, Member Engagement Manager, to conduct the roll. Ms. Keegan called the roll to verify the attendance of delegates and alternates and declared there was a quorum present.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Rains presented the agenda and asked if anyone would like to request changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he declared the agenda approved by consent.

Recognitions and Presentations

- *Commuter Rail in the Region*

Chair Rains asked John Hodges-Copple to introduce the item and staff from GoTriangle for additional details on the Commuter Rail project in the region. Mr. Hodges-Copple provided an

overview on the process underway to plan for and implement a commuter rail with proposed stops between Garner and West Durham. He outlined TJCOG's role in the process to help analyze regional growth, identify station areas with strong potential for connectivity, and evaluate the intersection of housing and jobs along the proposed station and rail line.

Elisabeth Raskopf and Jay Heikes, public engagement staff from GoTriangle transit agency, discussed the extensive engagement and planning effort being led across the region. Discussion touched on the impact of the commuter rail on regional travel and the opportunities for local governments to provide input through out the process. In response to remarks from Delegate Greene on bus rapid transit investment, the team discussed interconnection between the commuter rail and other transit projects across the Triangle.

Consent Agenda

- Approve Minutes of February 26th, 2020 Executive Committee meeting
- Approval of NC Housing Finance Agency Home Repair Policies for 2021 Chatham and Wake County ESFR Programs

Chair Rains presented the Consent Agenda for approval and asked if anyone would like to remove an item. *Ms. Wyhof Salmon made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; Mr. Currin seconded the motion. Ms. Keegan conducted the vote via roll call; the motion was passed unanimously.*

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

Enter Closed Session

- Approval of the Executive Committee closed Session Minutes from June 20, 2020
- Consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged as Allowed by North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-318.11 (a)(3).
- Conduct the Annual Performance Review of the Executive Director as Allowed by North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-318.11 (a)(b)

Chair Rains asked for a motion to enter closed session for the stated purposes. *Mr. Smith made a motion to enter a closed session. Ms. Ferguson seconded the motion. Ms. Keegan conducted the vote via roll call; the motion was passed unanimously. The Executive Committee entered closed session at 7:25 PM.*

Report from Closed Session

The Executive Committee returned to open session at 8:54 PM.

Chair Rains reported out on the Executive Director's review and said that closed session went well with a strong evaluation for Mr. Worsley. At this time, Mr. Worsley asked the Executive Committee to amend any action after closed session and grant him the authority to provide

John Hodges-Copple with 3% merit due to his tenure and high-quality work, despite personnel policy restrictions.

Chair Rains asked for a motion to approve a 3% merit increase for the Executive Director based on a good performance review and to approve the Executive Director's authority to provide a 3% merit increase to Mr. Hodges-Copple. *Ms. Ferguson made the motion. Mr. Crawford seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously.*

Other Business

Chair Rains reminded members of the Executive Committee that a Special Executive committee meeting would be held on July 15th to consider several Foreign Trade Zone items and thanked all delegates for support and engagement during his tenure as Board Chair.

Chair Rains asked if members of the Executive Committee had any other business.

Hearing none,

Ms. Salmon made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Ferguson seconded the motion. Chairperson Rains adjourned the meeting at 9:03 PM.

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Alana Keegan
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Alana Keegan, Recording Officer

DocuSigned by:
Don Rains
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Donald Rains, Chairperson