



Board of Delegates Minutes
February 13, 2008
Pine Island Country Club

| Jurisdiction | Represented By | Jurisdictions Not Represented |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Anson County | Jarvis Woodburn | Albemarle |
| Badin | Deloris Chambers | Cabarrus County |
| Belmont | Charlie Martin | Cleveland |
| Bessemer City | Kay McCathen | Cornelius |
| China Grove | Allen Welter | Dallas |
| Charlotte | Susan Burgess | East Spencer |
| Cherryville | Bob Austell | Fairview |
| Concord | Al Brown, Jr. | Faith |
| Cramerton | Ron Murphy | Harmony |
| Davidson | Bill Johnson | Hemby Bridge |
| Gaston County | Joe Carpenter | Huntersville |
| Gastonia | Dale Burkett | Kannapolis |
| Granite Quarry | Bill Feather | Kings Mountain |
| Michael Hart | Harrisburg | Locust |
| High Shoals | Claude Crain | Lowell |
| Indian Trail | Shirley Howe | Matthews |
| Iredell County | Ken Robertson | Misenheimer |
| Kannapolis | Gene McCombs (Alt) | New London |
| Landis | James Furr | Oakboro |
| Lincoln County | Marie Moore | Peachland |
| Lincolnton | Carroll Heavner | Pineville |
| Marshville | Frank Deese | Richfield |
| Marvin | Nick Dispenziere | Rockwell |
| McAdenville | Farrell Buchanan | Rowan County |
| Mecklenburg County | Jennifer Roberts | Salisbury |
| Midland | John Crump | Spencer Mountain |
| Mineral Springs | Valerie Coffey | Stanfield |
| Mint Hill | Lloyd Austin | Stanley |
| Monroe | Dottie Nash | Statesville |
| Mooresville | Mitch Abraham | Unionville |
| Morven | Carolyn Solomon | Waxhaw |
| Mount Holly | Frank McLean | Wingate |
| Mount Pleasant | Troy Barnhardt | |
| Norwood | Alphonzo Rush | |
| Ranlo | Effie Locklear | |
| Spencer | Nick Bishop | |
| Stallings | Renee Hartis | |
| Troutman | Mike Spath | |
| Union County | Lanny Openshaw | |
| Wadesboro | Bill Thacker | |
| Weddington | L. A. Smith | |
| Wesley Chapel | Sondra Bradford | |

1. Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:59 p.m. Robert Sumner, Assistant COG Attorney, verified a quorum was present. The Chairman thanked David Creech of Narmour Wright Creech Architecture for sponsoring the hospitality.

2. Amendments to the Agenda (if any)

The Chairman presented the Clean Cities Award as an addendum to the agenda.

3. Approval of Board of Delegates Minutes of the February 13, 2008 Meeting

Lloyd Austin made the motion to approve the minutes as written; James Furr seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Installation of 2008 Officers

Robert Sumner, Assistant COG Attorney with Shumaker, Loop, & Kendrick LLC, performed the installation of the Officers for 2008. These are the Officers for the Centralina Council of Governments Board for 2008:

*Chairman – Joe Carpenter (Gaston County)
Vice Chairman - Bob Misenheimer (Kannapolis)
Secretary – Frank Deese (Marshville)
Treasurer – Marie Moore (Lincoln County)*

5. Featured Speaker – Commissioner Betty Knight, President, National Association of Regional Councils, Board Member of the Mid-America Regional Council and Commissioner of Platte County, Missouri

Centralina was privileged to have Commissioner Betty Knight as the keynote speaker for its annual meeting. Commissioner Knight is the President of the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), and Chairman to the Board of Directors of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), and the Presiding Commissioner of Platte County, Missouri.

As a local elected official, she has worked to create and implement long-range strategic and comprehensive plans, and oversaw an award-winning campaign to create funding for a county-wide parks and trails plan. She has promoted tourism and balanced growth, and under her leadership, Platte County was named one of 20 Sustainable Communities in the US by the National Association of Counties.

Ms. Knight addressed the Centralina Board of Delegates on the role of COGs in making regional visions real and obtainable, particularly in bi-state regions. One of the key elements to the success in creating a strategic and comprehensive plan for regionalism is involving the community at the beginning of the development. The community working together can achieve a desirable future for the citizens, the region and their communities.

6. Presentation of Awards

Aging Legislative Award: The Aging Legislative Award was awarded to Representative Jeffrey L. Barnhart, of the 82nd District (Cabarrus County) for his outstanding leadership and advocacy for Older Adults.

Region of Excellence Awards: Centralina presented their third Annual Region of Excellence Awards to recognize innovative public service and our local government's commitment and dedication to excellence. Anne Udall, Executive Director of the Lee Institute, Mary C. Tribble, president of Tribble Creative Group, and David F. Thompson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners were the judges for this year's awards.

The winners for this year's awards were:

- **Excellence in Local Government Efficiency and Effectiveness**: City of Gastonia Police Department for partnering with local governments to form an integrated SWAT Team.
- **Excellence in Planning and Community Investment**: City of Charlotte's Engineering and Property Management Department for increasing connectivity in the center city and serving as the catalyst for the Midtown Connectivity Project surrounding the old Charlottetown Mall.
- **Excellence in Environmental Planning and Conservation**: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Department for integration of environmental considerations into planning and decision making.
- **Excellence in Service to Citizens**: Gaston County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council for the Gaston County Gang Prevention Initiative.

Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition (CFC): The Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition annually recognizes one of its stakeholders who demonstrate excellence in clean transportation and fuel activities. The recipient of this award recognizes the environmental, economic and national security benefits of reducing consumption of fossil fuels and has implemented programs and initiatives to lower their use of traditional transportation fuels. The committee that selected this year's recipient was made up of Coalition Members of the CFC Board, the City of Monroe, Ray Thomas Petroleum, and Mecklenburg County's Land Use and Environmental Services Agency (LUESA). Alan Giles, Senior Air Quality Specialist with LUESA Mobile Sources Program presented the award of Excellence in Clean Cities Initiatives to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

7. **Annual Goals**

Martha Lide, COG's Assistant Director, presented a document which described the vision, mission and five broad goals for Centralina COG which attempt to encompass broadly, the major functions of COG. The agenda packet contained a draft copy of each goal with highlighted objectives and strategies that related to the goal, and the indicators of how success will be measured. The five broad goals that were presented were:

1. Continue to support regional planning and development as a priority for the region.
2. Provide leadership on regional issues to improve quality of life, environment, economy, and equity in our region. Focus 2008: Transportation, Water, and Sustainable Growth, Air Quality and Water Resources.
3. Provide an organization that initiates, nurtures, administers and provides programs of regional importance.
4. Provide services to member governments in a responsive and innovative manner.
5. Operate COG in an efficient, effective manner

Lloyd Austin made the motion to adopt the annual organizational goals to direct the work of Centralina and report periodically on the progress and successes. The motion was seconded by Sondra Bradford. The motion was approved.

8. **Report of Service Agreements (Information Only)**

The agenda contained a list of agreements entered into with member governments as information. Under the agreements, staff will provide contract assistance to the member government. No action was required.

9. Recognition of Staff Awards (Information Only)

The Executive Director reported that COG employees received recognition for their years of services at the Annual COG Staff meeting on January 25, 2008. Certificates were presented to the employees with five years of service: Carol Lewis; Hillary Kaylor; and Blair Israel. An engraved leather portfolio was presented to employees with ten and 15 years of service: Linda Miller and Tricia Byrd. A plaque was presented to the employee with 20 years of service: James Luster.

10. Comments by the Chairman

The Chairman reported on the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Conference held on February 4-6, 2008 in Washington, DC. The theme of the conference was “Regions: The Building Blocks to a Sustainable Nation.” The conference included active participation of local elected officials and executive directors of regional councils (RCs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). The focus was issues that impacted the livability and future of regions, and examined ways in which regional strategies can be successfully utilized as part of broad national policy solutions.

11. Comments by the Executive Director

The Executive Director thanked everyone for attending the board meeting and wished everyone a safe trip home. Rebecca Yarbrough thanked the individuals involved in the CONNECT meetings and invited everyone to attend the CONNECT luncheon from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on March 31, 2008 at the Downtown Charlotte Hilton.

12. Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

NOTE: The next meeting of the Board of Delegates will be May 14, 2008 at the Pine Island County Club.

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