

Land of Sky Regional Council
September 28, 2016
Regular Meeting



Please mute all electronic devices, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and recorders. Also, Delegates are requested to state their names when moving on orders of business. Thank you!

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Roll Call
- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Recognition of Special Guests
- VIII. Chairman's Comments and Roundtable
- IX. Approval of Minutes from the June Regular Meeting
- X. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items
 - A. August FY2016 Treasurer's Report
- XI. Presentations/Recognition
 - A. The National Park Service Centennial - Celebrating Our Parks in WNC - Superintendent, Cassius Cash, Superintendent, Tyrone Brandyburg, and Superintendent Mark Woods
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Annual Banquet
 - B. Doll Auction
- XIV. Important Dates
 - A. Annual Banquet - October 12, 2016 at Highland Brewery Event Center
 - B. October Board of Delegates Meeting - October 26, 2016
- XV. Adjournment



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** August Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
- Item Number:** IX. Approval of Minutes from the August Regular Meeting
- Responsible Party:** Zia Rifkin, Administrative Services
- Attachment(s):** Minutes from the meeting of August 2016
- Background:** Attached is the August 2016 Board of Delegates meeting minutes
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of the August meeting minutes.
- Suggested Motion(s):** Move to approve the August meeting minutes as submitted

Meeting of
Land of Sky Regional Council Board of Delegates
August 24, 2016

Minutes

- I. Call to Order - Chairwoman Mennella called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. Invocation - The invocation was given by Charles Dickens.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance - All stood as the Chairwoman led the Delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call - The roll was called by George Goosmann. The following members were present: Larry Rogers, Mike Hawkins, Gwen Wisler, George Goosmann, Larry Harris, Anne Coletta, Albert Gooch, Bob Davy, Steve Caraker, Dona Mennella, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Brenda Mills, George Morosani (ph), Josh Hallingse, Charles Dickens, Gaylyn Justice (Alternate for Kathe Harris). The following guests were present: Steve Metcalf, Roger Krumpf. It was announced that a quorum was present.
- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda - The agenda was presented for consideration with no modifications requested. George Goosmann moved to approved the agenda as presented. Anne Coletta seconded the motion which carried without further discussion.
- VI. Public Comment - Chairwoman Mennella called for any public comment. Hearing none, the public comment period was closed.
 - I. Recognition of Special Guests - Justin Hembree recognized Roger Krumpf representing Representative McHenry's office.
 - II. Chairman's Comments and Roundtable - Dona Mennella - Shared that the Town of Laurel Park had a very interesting weekend event at the Synagogue. George Goosmann - Shared that everything is fine in the Town of Biltmore Park. Mike Hawkins - Introduced Josh Hallingse who is Transylvania County's newest economic development representative to the Board of Delegates. Josh Hallingse - Shared that he was glad to be on-board. Gaylyn Justice - Shared that on behalf of TD Bank, the financial institution can come into the schools to teach kids about financial literacy or to read to the children. Steve Caraker- Shared that in the City of Hendersonville, the Apple Festival coming up. Patrick Fitzsimmons - Shared that in the Town of Weaverville, the Art in Autumn Festival is coming up Saturday, September 17th. Also, in the past month, the large industrial site in the Town has had two interested parties- both industrial customers. Anne Coletta - Shared that all is quiet in the Village of Flat Rock. Charles Dickens - Shared that the Aging Advisory Council met last month in Transylvania County. From all reports it was a successful meeting which he missed for the first time in 12 years due to preparations for surgery. Larry Harris - Shared that the Spartan Competition was held in Swannanoa Valley at the Grove Stone Plant. It was an incredibly huge event which brought a lot of tourism dollars into the county. The Town of Black Mountain is happy to have the event in Swannanoa Valley.
 - III. Approval of Minutes from the June Regular Meeting - George Goosman moved to approve the minutes with the corrections noted by Steve Caraker regarding Henderson County's planned, new high school. Bob Davy seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
 - IV. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items - Bob Davy moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Item A. July FY 2016 Treasurer's Report. Mike Hawkins seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
 - V. Presentations/Recognition -
 - A. Legislative Recap and Projects - Steve Metcalf thanked the Board for allowing him to be a part of LOSRC. He shared that his association with the agency goes back a long way to the time when he was the

manager for Buncombe County. He communicated that the work undertaken by LOSRC is important to the region and the engagement between the agency and the Policy Group is important to him. He provided additional information about the Policy Group which started about 12 years ago and is a governmental affairs agency providing services to municipal bodies, judicial groups and Native American tribes. He shared about his staff (which includes his son) and how their experience and skills are relevant to the needs of LOSRC. As part of the engagement, the Capital Report is provided every Friday. The purpose of the Policy Group working for LOSRC is to develop and maintain an advocacy program for the issues that are relevant to LOSRC's member jurisdictions and municipalities. Part of advocating for LOSRC involves outreach to different folks to find out what is needed in the region and determine the best way to address the issues that the region is facing around retirement, aging, healthcare and education (WFD and economic development). When a member jurisdiction's needs do not conflict with the needs of other jurisdictions in the region or the region as a whole, the Policy Group can advocate for those needs.

Steve Metcalf provided an overview of the General Assembly's activities from the last session including the passage of the State Budget in June 2016. He also shared about the upcoming short session and informed the Board that as opposed to the long session (which begins in January in odd numbered years), the purpose of the short session is to make those adjustments, relative to the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Bills that have passed one chamber or the other in the general session can be addressed during the short session. For the most part, the short session provides very limited ability to introduce new legislation. Legislators look to wrap up their business and go home to spend time in their districts (campaigning if it's an election year). He shared that basically during the legislative session there were two or three bills that had some major interest overall (including HB2). Regarding Duke Energy and the coal ash situation- Governor McCrory vetoed the initial bill and the GA did not respond with an override vote. A constitutional amendment was considered pertaining to imminent domain which did not pass the GA. Other items proposed by the GA included holding municipal elections in even-numbered years and an attempt to require district elections for the City of Asheville. There was also a bill to look at and redo the Tier System in the state. One bill that was very important to Buncombe County was Senate Bill 888 which amended the Buncombe School Capital Fund Commission and provided the authority to determine the restricted use of 1% of the county's sales tax for education related construction. The State Budget also increased funding for Project C.A.R.E expanding the program from three to seven personnel across the state.

Steve Metcalf provided some thoughts about the future political climate and what it may look like going forward considering the upcoming elections in November: it's a toxic political environment and a tough political year (in terms of the national conversation). Another issue that will have an impact is election law. It's interesting that the courts have ruled that the General Assembly must redraw the voting districts in 2017. Discussion occurred regarding redrawing the voting districts in WNC and it was shared that it is very difficult to redraw one district without having that affect other districts. Due to the fairly high level of districts that will have to be re-drawn (House- 7/Senate- 17) it will affect the whole of the state.

Regarding the Voter ID law, Steve Metcalf shared that the law cannot be used in this election. Also, the early voting period is back to 17 days under the Court's decision which will probably help the Democrats more than the Republicans. However, it will be very difficult for the Democrats to take control of the House due to the way the districts are drawn, but Republicans may lose their super-majority in the House. The Governor's race is too close to call. Over 20 members of the GA will be retiring which will create vacancies in leadership positions within the caucus. Due to all the factors mentioned, it's very difficult to make predictions for this election cycle.

Steve Metcalf closed his remarks by communicating that he's done a lot of interviews with member jurisdictions and LOSRC staff- if jurisdictions have issues, please contact him.

Mike Hawkins remarked about Tom Apodaca's retirement and who might replace him and was informed that he was a very influential representative and there may not be anyone for a while in the Senate- by sheer force of personality and standing with the leadership, Apodaca was a presence and a very powerful guy. For all those parts to align again will be tough. Representative McGrady will have a strong voice as he always does. It will be tougher for the Democrats- Representatives Turner and Fisher do a great job and both have a one-on-one personal way of getting things done. Senator Van Duyn is also a skilled representative;

however, as skilled as they are, the majority party is firmly in control of the bills that get addressed and the committee appointments which are made.

George Goosmann noted that Chuck Edwards has been appointed to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Tom Apodaca.

Justin Hembree shared that in terms of our day to day work, we have a lot more interaction with folks at the deputy secretary level than folks in the GA. Obviously those GA relations are important, but it's very important to have those cabinet-level relationships. During election years' rumors are heard about folks moving on which leads to a need to foster new relationships.

B. Award Nominations for the 2016 Annual Banquet - Justin Hembree shared that every year at the annual banquet, regional awards are given out. Nomination forms are included in the agenda packet. Please submit nominations and/or pass along to staff members and community folks who might know someone deserving of these awards. More banquet information will be provided and he reminded everyone that it's LOSRC's 50th anniversary.

VI. Old Business

XIII. New Business

Erica Anderson shared a one-page snapshot of charts/graphs which show how much Medicaid transportation has increased over the past year in Buncombe County. LOSRC began the NEMT contract with Buncombe County in March of 2015. Overall, a greater demand for service has been documented and the NEMT call center is providing more trips per month on average- up from 800 to 2000 over the previous months. The call center has become more efficient at processing the work and to date has contracts with 12 different entities that provide transportation.

Discussion occurred regarding who the transportation providers are for NEMT customers and it was shared that Mountain Mobility provides about one-third of the NEMT services. Other providers include Elite Transportation, Cesar's Transportation and others including ambulatory transportation providers. It was also discussed that as the population grows, Medicaid services grow. A lot of the folks on Medicaid are chronically ill. Transportation benefits are not automatically provided for Medicaid recipients. Buncombe County qualifies specifically for transportation of Medicaid recipients. Erica Anderson informed Delegates that some changes will be coming in January of next year to Medicaid. She shared that there is a great need for these services.

XIV. Executive Director's Report

A. Open House Follow-Up - Justin Hembree shared that based on emails, phone calls, cards, etc., the BBQ/Open House was very well received. At least 150 people attended. The open house will be planned as an annual event for the fourth Wednesday of July.

B. Annual Banquet - October 12th at Highland Brewery's Event Center. Justin Hembree communicated that Wednesday is the day that very few governing boards schedule meetings. Highlands Brewery provides a relatively new event space including a rooftop bar. There will be special recognition of LOSRC's 50th Anniversary at the annual awards dinner.

C. September 28th Board Of Delegates Meeting - Justin Hembree shared that the September 28th Board meeting will be held at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor's Center. The program for that meeting will include the three superintendents of the NPS facilities in our region. LOSRC's Clean Vehicles Coalition has worked with all three superintendents over the years.

XIV. Important Dates

XV. Adjournment – George Goosmann moved to adjourn and Charles Dickens seconded and the meeting stood adjourned.



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** August FY2016 Treasurer's Report
- Item Number:** X. Consent Agenda, Item A
- Responsible Party:** Vickie Thomas, Finance Director
- Attachment(s):** August FY2016 Treasurer's Report
- Background:** Attached is the August FY2016 Treasurer's Report. The report outlines year-to-date revenues and expenditures. Also included is cash balance informaton, fund balance reporting, and member dues information.
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of August's FY2016 Treasurer's Report.
- Suggested Motion(s):** The Treasurer's Report, if not pulled, will be accepted as part of the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

**Land of Sky Regional Council
Treasurer's Report
August, 2016**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<u>YTD Report of Receipts & Expenditures</u>		
Total Annual Budget	\$ 13,961,668	
Year-to-Date Revenues	\$ 1,206,593	8.64%
Year-to-Date Expenditures	(1,115,182)	7.99%
Grant/Contract Cash Balance	<u>\$ 91,411</u>	
Year-to-Date Target Percent		16.67%

Cash Balance Report

Total Cash Balance at 8/1	\$ 1,232,103
Cash Received during month	1,685,806
Cash Expenditures for month	<u>(862,973)</u>
Total Cash Balance at 8/31	<u>\$ 2,054,936</u>

Fund Balance Report at 6/30/15 (Audited)

Unassigned	\$ 421,440
Restricted-Stabilized by State Statute	683,850
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$ 1,105,290</u>

Assessments (Dues) Report

YTD Billed to Member Governments, 1st quarter	\$ 54,573
Collected to Date	<u>(54,573)</u>
Balance Due	<u>\$ -</u>



COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** The National Park Service – Celebrating Our Parks in WNC
- Item Number:** XI. Presentations; Item A.
- Responsible Party:** Bill Eaker, Senior Environmental Planner
- Attachment(s):**
- Background:** The National Park Service celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year. The three NPS properties in the greater LOSRC Region have a long history of collaboration with the agency, including working together with the Clean Vehicles Coalition.
- Staff Recommendation:** N/A
- Suggested Motion(s):** N/A



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Executive Director's Report

Item Number: XIII. Executive Director's Report

Responsible Party: Justin Hembree, Executive Director

Attachment(s):

Background: The following items will be presented as part of the Executive Director's Report:

- A. Annual Banquet
- B. Doll Auction

Staff Recommendation: N/A.

Suggested Motion(s): N/A