

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Board Meeting Minutes
The Center for Regional Planning and Design
April 15, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Valerie Abbott, City of Birmingham
Honorable Robbie Hayes, Shelby County
Mr. Tom Barnett, City of Birmingham
Mr. Reginald Holloway, Shelby County
Honorable Waymon Pitts, Blount County
Mr. Chester Jolly, City of Warrior
Mr. Devon Laney, City of Birmingham
Mr. Timothy Westhoven, City of Hoover

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY ALTERNATES

Honorable Delor Baumann, City of Hueytown
 Represented by Mr. Jim Byrum
Honorable Bettye Fine Collins, Jefferson County
 Represented by Ms. Donna DeLoach
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Town of Vincent
 Represented by Mr. Reginald Holloway
Honorable David Standridge, Blount County
 Represented by Honorable Waymon Pitts
Honorable Larry Langford, City of Birmingham
 Represented by Ms. Renee Kemp-Rotan
Ms. Eunice Rogers, City of Birmingham
 Represented by Honorable Valerie Abbott

MEMBERS ABSENT

Honorable Tom Henderson, City of Center Point
Mayor William Hereford, City of Pell City
Honorable Bruce Hamrick, Walker County Commission
Honorable Stan Batemon, St. Clair County
Honorable Tim Mims, Chilton County Commission
Honorable Bobby Humphryes, Jefferson County
Honorable Jim Carns, Jefferson County
Honorable Wayne Gross, Town of Parrish
Honorable Eddie Reed, City of Jemison
Honorable Theoangelo Perkins, Town of Harpersville

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Ray Morris, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Bill Foisy, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Brian O'Dell, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Courtney Newton, United Way of Central Alabama

Ms. Joselyn Harper, City of Birmingham
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Honorable Valerie Abbott called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. A quorum was declared by the Chairman. The following business was conducted.

MINUTES

The minutes stand a presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Tom Barnett, Finance Committee Chair reported financials are in good shape as expected. A drawdown of \$200,000 was made against the line of credit this week. This is the first time for a drawdown against the line of credit and was made as an incentive for the bank to renew the line of credit. The line of credit was established as a cash flow tool to meet the challenge of reimbursement from the Alabama Department of Transportation for the Air Quality and Rideshare program.

Mr. O'Dell then presented the financial information for the period ending February 28, 2009.

Statement of Net Assets

1. The current ratio (current assets/current liabilities) for the period is 2.68 compared to February 2008 which was 5.72.
2. The quick ratio (current assets-unbilled receivables/current liabilities) is 1.75 compared to February 2008 which was 5.37.

The ratios indicate that the finances are more stressed than a year ago due to all payables now being processed in-house for the Rideshare and Air Quality programs. Liquidity remains adequate. Air Quality reimbursement from ALDOT remains a challenge. At this time four invoices have been submitted to ALDOT. The first and second invoices are now at ALDOT Montgomery and are over 90 days old. The third invoice was lost by ALDOT Third Division and is being resubmitted today. Progress is being made but staff is cautiously optimistic. The fourth invoice is now under review at ALDOT Third Division.

Cash and cash equivalents are \$486,905. Total Current Assets are \$1,363,856 (C), Unbilled Receivables are \$473,776 (D), Total Current Liabilities are \$509,180 (E). Accounts Receivable are \$403,176. Accounts Payables are \$357,667 (G). Deferred Revenues are \$96,420.

Budget Summary

1. Actual Year-To-Date total expenditures are under budget by \$425,861 (J).
2. Salary, fringe and indirect is under budget in total by \$36,840 (K).
3. Direct costs are under budget by \$273,847 (L).
4. The contracts are under budget \$205,274 (M).

The total for all the categories are significantly under budget. Several individual .funding sources are over budget and will be addressed in the Program Budget Committee report.

Dues

Dues for 2009 collected to date are \$466,970 (73 members paid) as compared to \$522,150 (77 members paid) for same period last year. The difference is related to the City of Birmingham semi-annual dues balance being paid by this date last year.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

The Cash Available is \$131,967 and Receivables from Loans is \$1,297,338. There is a significant change due to receipt of a \$200,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. A new loan for \$100,000 was made to Alabama PA on Call, LLC and another \$100,000 increased the Cash Available. Krupp Oil is in default and ThermaSteel is struggling and being monitored closely.

PROGRAM BUDGET COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pitts, Program Budget Committee Chairman, informed the Board that a meeting with the ALDOT director may be necessary if reimbursement for the Air Quality program does not improve. The Committee recommended that the following budget modifications be approved by the Board. Mr. Morris presented the following budget modifications for consideration.

Fund Source Budget Modifications

The RPC Board adopted an FY 2009 budget on August 15, 2008. The proposed April modifications adjust the total revenue available/budgeted for six of the fifteen revenue/fund sources. A proposed updated Table 1 was distributed as an attachment. The modified programs for Table 1, April 2009, are outlined as follows:

FHWA PL

Total Amount increased \$29,049 to 1,056,828 due to reprogramming of additional staff time; \$50,000 shifted from contracts to direct costs for Continuity of Operations Plan implementation.

State Technical Assistance and ARC

Total revenue available reduced by \$36,300 due to 10% state cut and lower ARC revenues than FY 2008.

Congestion Management System

New project added for \$250,000. This project is a two-year contract with UAB Transportation Center/Engineering Department where they provide all local match. The project is all third-party pass through. This project will monitor congestion and document travel time in corridors.

Building Communities

Programmed \$400,000 for contracts due to projects not billed in last fiscal year; added \$48,763 in staff salaries. When new projects are accepted there will be less third party contracts and more in-house staff assigned to projects.

Senior Aides

Program funding eliminated after June 30, 2009; Alabama Department of Senior Services program funding eliminated after June 30, 2009; Contracts reprogrammed to reflect non-renewal of contract with Birmingham Police Department and partial-year funding of the Municipal Court contract (ends June 30, 2009). It was clarified that the senior workers would not lose their jobs. The program will continue through another agency.

Local Assistance

Total revenue available reduced by \$165,500 due to more projects being funded either solely or jointly with Building Communities program; Staff time reduced and moved to Building Communities and/or PL; Two projects added, Workforce Development Region Four—\$10,000 and Statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy--\$12,500.

Overall Impact

The overall budget (total revenue available) was decreased by \$140,571, although several funds such as FHWA PL do have positive balances/funds available which may be reprogrammed for future use, both in FY09 and FY10 if necessary. The estimated dues used for grant match increased by \$15,563, bringing the projected net unreserved fund balance to \$173,808.

Mr. Westhoven moved and Commissioner Hayes seconded that the Board approve the budget modifications as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

APPOINTMENT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE AND PROGRAM BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Board reviewed the proposed Committee appointments as follows:

Finance Committee

Mr. Tom Barnett, City of Birmingham
Mr. Ed Gardner, St. Clair County Commission
Mr. Kevin Owens, City of Birmingham
Ms. Joselyn Harper, City of Birmingham
Mr. Tom Seale, City of Pelham

Program / Budget Committee

Honorable . Waymon Pitts, Chair, Blount County
Honorable Theoangelo Perkins, Town of Harpersville
Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Town of Vincent
Mr. Frank Humber, Jefferson County
Mr. Chester Jolly, City of Warrior
Mr. Sam Gaston, City of Mt. Brook
Ms. Eunice Rogers, City of Birmingham

Chairman Abbott included Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham as an additional appointment for the Program Budget Committee. Mr. Holloway moved and Mr. Westhoven seconded that the proposed Committee appointments be approved with the addition. Motion passed on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ball reported the following:

- A new format for the RPC E-News *Connections Update* was released for the April issue. It is provided through an online provided that gives it a more clean and fresh look.
- A new Economic Development website in on the horizon. It should be released in May.

OTHER

Ms. Edwards-Crowe reported that the RPC staff held their quarterly meetings for the Heart of Alabama Rural Planning Organization (HARPO) and extended an outreach to Town/City Clerks in each of the rural counties by hosting a luncheon to provide them with a networking opportunity. The luncheon also provided an opportunity for RPC staff to informally answer questions and provide a consultation service. The goal is to increase the awareness and value of RPC to our much smaller communities.

Mr. Holloway and Ms. Kemp-Rotan thanked the RPC staff for an outstanding conference in March to provide timely information concerning the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Board commended the staff for a job well done.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Bettye Fine Collins 5-29-09
Honorable Bettye Fine Collins, Secretary Date