TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN MIDDLE GEORGIA

MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION

Thursday, January 13, 2022

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Middle Georgia Regional Commission

175 Emery Highway, Suite C | Macon, GA 31217

We will act now to reduce NOx and Ozone in the Middle Georgia Community to ensure that we protect the region's public health, maintain a robust economic growth, and show leadership in environmental sustainability.

4:00	Call to Order and Approval of Dec. Minutes	Ed Barbee, Vice-Chair
4:05	December Financial Report	Greg Boike
4:10	2022 Goals Discussion	Greg Boike
4:30	I-75 Update	Ray Clark Robert Reichert
4:45	Discussion	MGCAC Members
5:00	Adjournment	Ed Barbee, Vice-Chair

Next Meeting – Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 9, 2021, 4:00 pm
Goodwill Anderson Conference Center

Executive Board Members Present:

Mayor Ed Barbee, City of Gray*
Mayor Barbara Williams, City of Fort Valley*
Mayor John Harley, City of Centerville*
Mayor Eric Wilson, City of Forsyth*
Commissioner Sam Kitchens, Jones County*
Commissioner Wade Yoder, Peach County*
Councilman Clifford Holmes, City of Warner Robins*
Former Chairman Ned Sanders, Houston County *

Other Local Officials, Staff, and Stakeholders Present:

Cassandra Cox, Georgia Power
Melvin Harris, Oglethorpe Power
Bryan Jones, Robins AFB
Andre Butler, Mercer University
Former Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert, Macon-Bibb County
Mike Greenwald, Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning
Faith Fantroy, Fort Valley University
Dalton Everhardt, Mercer University
Terrail Brown, Honeywell forge
Robert Stephens, Honeywell forge
Oscar deLeon, Honeywell forge
Danny White, Honeywell forge
***Denotes Voting Member or Local Government Staff Proxy for Voting Member**

Support Staff Present

Ray Clark, The Clark Group
Greg Boike, MGRC Director of Public Administration
Laura Mathis, MGRC Executive Director
Kim Stanton, MGRC Executive Assistant

Welcome/Call to Order

Vice Chair Ed Barbee called the December meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition to order at 4:00 pm and welcomed everyone to the conference call meeting. It was determined that a quorum was present, and the committee was able to conduct business.

DRAFT

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes of the November 18, 2021, meeting; they were unanimously approved on a motion by Clifford Holmes and a second by John Harley.

Financial Report

Barbara Williams provided the Financial Report beginning November 1, 2021, through November 30, 2021. Revenues included bank interest and member contributions totaling $380.64 and expenditures in the amount of $1280.69; the ending balance as of November 30, 2021, was $210.104.10.

The Financial Reports were unanimously approved on a motion by Barbara Williams and a second by Ned Sanders.

Ned Sanders Scholarship Award

Ned Sanders introduced the two recipients of the Ned Sanders scholarship that would receive a $1,000 check. Mr. Sanders recognized the efforts by the MGCAC for their support of engineering and environmental education. Mr. Sanders introduced Dalton Everhardt from Mercer University and Faith Fantroy. Dalton Everhardt and Faith Fantroy thanked everyone for being a recipient of the scholarship and reported on several projects that she is currently working on for clean air.

Honeywell Forge Presentation

Oscar De Leon with Honeywell Forge gave a presentation on an enterprise performance management solution for digital transformation of operations. Honeywell Forge includes a mix of software products and enabling services that help companies use operational data to drive insights that improve processes, enhance productivity, support sustainability initiatives, and empower workers. More information can be found at: https://www.honeywellforge.ai/us/en/home.

2022 Goals

Greg Boike and Ray Clark facilitated a discussion regarding accomplishments from 2020 and potential goals for the upcoming 2022 year.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the December MGCAC meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

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It was announced that the next meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition will be held on January 13, 2022, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.

Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

Financial Report
As of December 31, 2021

Beginning Balance - November 30, 2021		$ 210,104.10
Revenues		
Bank Interest	$ 56.61	
Member Contributions	$ 292.00	
Scholarship	500.00	
Total Revenues		$ 848.61
Subtotal		210,952.71
Expenditures		
Ray Clark	14,408.00	
Total Expenditures		14,408.00
Ending Balance -December 31, 2021		$ 196,544.71

2022 MGCAC Goals and Implementation Strategies – DRAFT

Building on the past commitments of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition (MGCAC), the Executive Board has developed a series of goals, priorities, and implementation strategies for the 2022 calendar year, based on the results of a planning session on December 8, 2021. MGCAC member governments are encouraged to proactively budget for projects that will support these four goals. As local projects are identified that align with each goal, the MGCAC can apply for federal funding to undertake said projects.

Goal #1: Improve Readiness for Electric Vehicle Transitions

- Create a brand for this initiative (Example: "Charge Forward Middle Georgia")
- Partner with Georgia Power & EMCs to cross-promote incentives for installation of chargers
- Further develop and refine an EV deployment strategy for Middle Georgia
- Apply for federal transportation grant funding to install EV charging infrastructure, and leverage the MGCAC Clean Air Incentives Grants to help match funding for new federal grants
- Provide technical resources for local governments and school systems interested in converting fleets and machinery to EVs and other clean alternative fuels

Goal #2: Expand Middle Georgia Solar Programs

- Pursue SolSmart recognition for Middle Georgia region
- Assist cities and counties with enactment of Model Solar Ordinance, and partner to provide training opportunities on best practices for solar permitting and inspections
- Develop and implement education campaign on the benefits and economics of solar
- Identify next signature project opportunity for large-scale solar development, and apply for funding through the Rural Energy Pilot Program ($10M allocation of USDA funding)
- Implement new Solar Energy Procurement Agreements (SEPAs) to install solar panels on rooftops and canopies for schools and local government facilities
- Develop annual targets for new solar installed capacity within the region

Goal #3: Undertake Projects for Green, Efficient, and Healthy Buildings

- Provide technical assistance for energy savings audits on public buildings and encourage retrofits of outdated lighting and building mechanical systems that drain energy
- Discuss and promote opportunities for HVAC system improvements that will improve energy efficiency and help in the mitigation of COVID-19
- Explore research partnerships with Fort Valley State University and Mercer University, and work with EPA through the CUPP program to fund research activities

Goal #4: Support Transit and Smart Growth Planning to Improve Air Quality

- Continue financial partnership with the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition (I-75 CCC) as a model for Smart Growth potential in Georgia
- Utilize data from the EPA GLIMPSE model to highlight the benefits of new mass transit systems and smart growth development patterns within the I-75 Central Corridor
- Support efforts of the I-75 CCC to develop passenger rail from Hartsfield to Robins AFB