TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN MIDDLE GEORGIA

MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION

Thursday, December 8, 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 ➢ Approval of November Minutes	Ed Barbee, Chair
4:05	November Financial Report	Sam Kitchens, Treasurer
4:10	Presentation of 2022 Ned Sanders Scholarships	Ed Barbee, Chair Ned Sanders, Chair Emeritus
4:25	MGCAC Green Team Report ➢ Review of 2022 MGCAC Goals ➢ Discussion of Potential Activities ➢ Priorities for 2023	Ray Clark & Greg Boike
4:55	Discussion	MGCAC Members
5:00	Adjournment	Ed Barbee, Chair

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Middle Georgia Regional Commission

MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, November 17, 2022, 4:00 pm
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

Executive Board Members Present:

Mayor Ed Barbee, City of Gray*
Mayor John Harley, City of Centerville*
Commissioner Wade Yoder, Peach County*
Former Chairman Ned Sanders, Houston County *
Councilman Rusty Adams, City of Byron*
Chairman Greg Tapley, Monroe County**

Other Local Officials, Staff, and Stakeholders Present:

Alyse Wolf, Field Representative for Senator Jon Ossoff
Brenda Williams, Field Representative for Senator Raphel Warnock
Shavonda Hill, Field Representative for Congressman Sanford Bishop
Elizabeth Ruark, Field Representative for Representative Austin Scott
Tamara Smith-Hayes, Georgia EPD
Tiffany Davis, Jones County*
Mike Greenwald, Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning
Bryan Jones, Robins Air Force Base
Dan Rhoades, 21st Century Partnership
Melvin Harris, Oglethorpe Power
Yvonne Walker, Fort Valley
Christopher Dunn, GreenTec Labs
Corey Covington, GreenTec Labs

***Denotes Voting Member or Local Government Staff Proxy for Voting Member**

Support Staff Present

Greg Boike, MGRC Director of Public Administration
Kim Stanton, MGRC Executive Assistant

Welcome/Call to Order

Chairman Ed Barbee called the November 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.

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Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes of the August 11, 2022, meeting; they were unanimously approved on a motion by John Harley and a second Ned Sanders.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the September 8, 2022, meeting; they were unanimously approved on a motion by Ned Sanders and a second John Harley.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the October 13, 2022, meeting; they were unanimously approved on a motion by Tiffany Davis and a second Ned Sanders.

Financial Report

Greg Boike provided the Financial Report beginning October 1, 2022, through October 31, 2022. Revenues included bank interest and member contributions totaling $41,385.83 and expenditures in the amount of $12,430.00; the ending balance as of October 31, 2022, was $165,994.62.

The Financial Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Rusty Adams and a second by Greg Tapley.

Presentation from Green Tec Labs

Green Tec Labs gave a presentation on a fuel stabilizer that will increase milage and decrease emissions on gas and diesel automotives. More information can be found at https://greenteclabs.com.

Middle Georgia Robins AFB Sustainability Plan

Greg Boike and Dan Rhoades reported on the Middle Georgia Robins AFB Sustainability Plan and working with the Clean Air Coalition to endorse and support both the missions of RAFB and initiatives that come out of the sustainability plan. A resolution was prepared to adopt the recommendations of the sustainability plan.

The resolution was unanimously approved on a motion by Greg Tapley and a second by John Harley.

I-75 Central Corridor Trip Report

Greg Boike reported on the I-75 Corridor Coalition trip to Baton Rouge on October 26-27 that consisted of Georgia delegation. They met with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation to meet with community leaders that have been developing rail in that area.

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December Meeting Preview

It was suggested that three scholarships from the Ned Sanders scholarship Fund be given out instead of two.

After further discussion, the scholarships were approved on a motion by Greg Tapley and a second by John Harley.

Greg Boike stated they have plans to recognize some community partners at the next meeting.

Also at the December meeting, goals from previous years, grant priorities, and a Path Forward for 2023 will be discussed.

Discussion

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the November 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 December 8, 2022, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.

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Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

Financial Report
As of November 30, 2022

Beginning Balance -October 31, 2022			$ 165,994.62
Revenues			
Bank Interest	$ 1.37		
Member Contributions	49,769.50		
Total Revenues			$ 49,770.87
Subtotal			215,765.49
Expenditures			
Ray Clark	15,048.00		
Total Expenditures			15,048.00
Ending Balance - November 30, 2022			$ 200,717.49

2022 MGCAC Goals and Implementation Strategies

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