MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 13, 2022, 4:00 pm
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

Executive Board Members Present:

Mayor Ed Barbee, City of Gray*
Commissioner Sam Kitchens, Jones County*
Former Chairman Ned Sanders, Houston County *
Mayor Eric Wilson, City of Forsyth*

Other Local Officials, Staff, and Stakeholders Present:

Mike Greenwald, Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning
Elizabeth Ruark, Field Representative for Representative Austin Scott
Bryan Jones, Robins Air Force Base
Rogie Roberson, Flint Energies
Dan Rhoades, 21st Century Partnership
Kelly Sheckler, Region 4 EPA
Tamara Smith-Hayes, Georgia EPD
Mary Linn, Electrification Coalition
Tommy Bruhn, EA Engineering
Tiffany Davis, Jones County

***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

Welcome/Call to Order

Chairman Ed Barbee called the October meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition to order at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. A quorum was not present, and the committee was unable to conduct official business.

GLIMIPSE Program Updates

Greg Boike reported that he had discussions with EPA today to discuss supporting a modeling tool being developed by EPA that will assist states with energy and environmental planning through the year 2050.

The Clark Group: EV Updates

The Inflation Reduction Act Bill would extend tax credits for the purchase of new and used electric vehicles. The Clean Energy transition will have an impact on businesses and homeowners as technologies change to accelerate global clean energy.

- Smart Growth Goals in 2022

Ray Clark reported on the ongoing projects with the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition to promote smart growth and rail access between Hartsfield and Robins AFB.

- I-75 Legislative Summit and Strategy

Ray Clark reported that he would be going to New Orleans/Baton Rouge to meet with community leaders that have been developing rail in that area.

Grants Roundtable

Ray Clark reported on the (CRISI) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grant that would fund projects to improve safety, efficiency, and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail systems.

Greg Boike reported on the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant that must be used where priority is given to projects that expand access to EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure within rural areas, low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and communities with a low ratio of private parking areas.

Greg Boike talked about the upcoming Low or No Emission (Bus) Grants that MTA has used for their buses. Greg Boike also reported on the upcoming grant for a Pilot Program for Transit Oriented Development Planning for improving America's communities through public transportation.

Discussion

Ned Sanders discussed latest news and progress reported on pertaining to electric vehicles, solar power and technology independence.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the October MGCAC meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

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It was announced that the next meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition will be held on November 17, 2022, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.