MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, August 11, 2022, 4:00 pm
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

Executive Board Members Present:

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

Other Local Officials, Staff, and Stakeholders Present:

Henry Ficklin, Macon-Bibb County*
Elizabeth Ruark - Field Representative for Representative Austin Scott
Mike Greenwald, Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning
Bryan Jones, Robins Air Force Base
Tamara Smith-Hayes, Georgia EPD
Michael Collins, Total Computer Solutions
Ben Kessler, ChargePoint

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

Support Staff Present

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

Welcome/Call to Order

Chairman Ed Barbee called the August 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.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes of the June 9, 2022, meeting; they were unanimously approved on a motion by Sam Kitchens and a second Ned Sanders.

Financial Report

Sam Kitchens provided the Financial Report beginning July 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022. Revenues included bank interest and member contributions totaling $434.16 and expenditures in the amount of $14,185.37; the ending balance as of July 31, 2022, was $130,352.87.

The Financial Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Ned Sanders and a second by John Harley.

The Clark Group

- Inflation Reduction Act

Ray Clark reported that included in the Inflation Reduction Act Bill would be funds for cities and states to tackle the climate crisis and help reduce emissions.

- EV's

The Inflation Reduction Act Bill would also extend tax credits for the purchase of new and used electric vehicles.

- Smart Growth

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.

- Delegation Trip to Washington

Ray Clark reported on the trip to Washington on June 22 and met with representatives from Senator Ossoff's and Senator Warnock's office to discuss Federal Rail Administration to discuss rail appropriations.

- Meeting with Chairman Perdue, Houston County

Ray Clark met with Chairman Perdue from Houston County

I-75 Legislative Summit

Laura Mathis reported on the I-75 Legislative Summit that met on June 3, 2022 to discuss the state rail plan and the smart growth study along the corridor from Stockbridge to Macon.

I-75 Update

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.

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 August 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 September 8, 2022, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.