## Minutes KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS Executive Committee Meeting Kerr-Tar COG Office March 28, 2019

Members Present

John Alston
Sidney Dunston
Zelodis Jay
Tom Lane
David Smith
Danny Wright

Jimmy Clayton
Reggie Horton
Leo Kelly
Gary Plummer
Betty Wright

COG Staff: Others:

Diane Cox Kenneth Perry

Donna Lee Gina Parham

#### Call to Order

Chairman Clayton called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Executive Director, Diane Cox.

#### **Audit Proposals**

Diane advised that the COG is required to solicit Request for Proposals (RFPs) for audit services every 3 years. This was the last year with William L. Stark and Company, RFPs were sent out, and three firms responded. Bid comparisons were reviewed as follows:

Cost	<b>Cherry Bekaert</b>	Thompson, Price, Scott,	William L. Stark
Per Year		Adams & Co.	& Company
2018/19	\$30,000	\$29,500	\$30,000
2019/20	\$31,000	\$29,500	\$31,000
2020/21	\$32,000	\$29,500	\$32,000
Hourly	\$125	\$120	Never charged previously For extra questions, etc.

Diane advised that Cherry Bekaert had provided audit services previously and they also provide audit services for serval COGs and other local governments. Therefore, they would not have a real learning urve on the COG audit. She further stated that she received 3 satisfactory references from Thompson, Price, Scott and Adams and they too have experience with COG and local government audits. The main concern here was the distance since they are located in Whiteville. Diane stated that

while working the last 3 years with William L. Stark, they had provided much review and advice during the year and not charged any hourly fee for extra service. This agency had been recommended by other local government offices and the COG has a good working relationship with them. She advised that the staff request awarding the audit contract to the local agency – William L. Stark & Company.

#### Audit Proposals

#### Motion # 1

Motion was made by David Smith to approve the awarding audit contract to William L. Stark and Company as recommended by COG staff. Sidney Dunston seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Assessment Presentation

Diane shared a Draft Assessment Schedule for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 with the members to review. The spreadsheet listed each County and Municipality with their Census Population from 2010 Census, the new recommended rate of 64 cents per capita and the current per capita rate of 59 cents. She further stated the assessment rate had not increased since 2014 and these funds are used to match funds for State and Federal grants. These assessments will be used to match grants totaling \$650,000.

#### Assessments FY 2019/2020

#### Motion # 2

Motion was made by Sidney Dunston to approve the new per capita rate of 64 cents for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. Zelodis Jay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Cox, Executive Director Secretary to the Board of Directors

Patricia S. Cox

#### Minutes KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Kerr Tar Board Meeting** Kerr-Tar COG Office March 28, 2019

#### Members Present

John Alston Ernie Anderson Mary Anderson Wayne Aycock Quon Bridges Francine Chavis Jimmy Clayton Sidney Dunston Kevin Easter Carolyn Faines Fonzie Flowers Carroll Harris Wanda Henderson Reggie Horton Zelodis Jay Treco Lea-Jeffers Leo Kelly Tom Lane

Philip Meador Kenneth Perry Jennifer Pierce Gary Plummer David Smith Michael Williford Betty Wright Danny Wright

#### **Absent Members**

Pete Averette **Eddie Ellington** Valter Gardner Jerry Joyner Dazale Kearney Walter Powell Marsha Strawbridge

#### COG Staff:

Diane Cox Joey Hopkins - NCDOT Gina Parham Tracey Parrott - NCDOT Donna Lee Frank Frazier – City of Henderson Tony Cozart - Granville County Nancy Francis Vincent Gilreath Harry Mills - Granville County EDC Michael Kelly Tony Hall - Rebuild Communities Debora Cozart Gil Frazier - Attorney

Others:

Lou Grillo

#### Invocation

Chairman Clayton asked Board Member, Danny Wright to provide the invocation prior to dinner.

#### Call to Order

Phairman Clayton called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

#### **Minutes**

Chairman Clayton advised that the Minutes from the January 24th were forwarded previously for review with the meeting notice. He asked for the Board's pleasure regarding the minutes.

#### **Minutes**

#### Motion #1

Motion made by Sidney Dunston to approve the Minutes as written. Leo Kelly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Finance Report**

Finance Manager, Donna Lee reviewed the Finance Report ending February 28, 2019 by fund and provided total expended percentages on each. She also noted the bank account balances were provided at the bottom of the report as well as the current loan information.

**Insert Finance Report Here** 

# KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FEBRUARY, 2019

	-		1		,							ASSESSMENTS	ENTS			
		EXPENDITURE		YTD	EXPENDITURE	%		REVENUE	u	YTD	ACCOUNTS	SALLOCATED	TED	TOTAL	L	
		BUDGET		EXPEND	BALANCE	Expended		BUDGET	_	RECEIVED	RECEIVABLE	=	АТСН	REVENISE	ė	Gain//Lores
GENERAL FUND - 10					1000000							$^{+}$			1	Second June
KTREDC	\$	53,000	S	24,464,60	\$ 28,535.40	1 46%		\$ 53,000	v	20,959.46	\$ 3.505.14	14	T	\$ 24 464 60	v	
EDA Planning	S	150,825	\$	91,417.16	\$ 59,407.84	61%			+	54,251.00			36566.86		+	
Revolving Loan Fund	Ş	20,000	\$	7,571.55	\$ 12,428.45	38%			-		1				+-	
Micro Loan Fund	S.	4,500	s	38.00					+		ŀ	3 8			+	
Rural Transportation	ψ.	139,186	S.	92,972.84	\$ 46,213.16	%29		\$ 111,349	s	31,376,27	43,0		18594.57	9.66	+-	
CFAT	\$	24,990	s,	24,985.15	\$ 4.85	866		\$ 19,992	-	19,988.12					+	'
Mobility Manager	٠,	100,000	s	37,509.29	\$ 62,490.71	38%	0,	\$ 90,000	46	24,343.00	\$ 9,415.36				+	'
Bunn Subdivision Ordinance	S.	4,000	s	1,672.00	\$ 2,328.00	42%	0,	\$ 4,000	v	,	\$ 1,672.00				+	
Bunn Zoning	\$	10,000	\$	7,678.17	\$ 2,321,83	77%	0,	\$ 10,000	\$	7,474.87	\$ 203.30	30			1	
City of Henderson ROBCO	v.	3,090	45	76.00	\$ 3,014.00	2%	ŝ	3,090	Ş	3,090.00	\$				S	3.014.00
Franklin Co Bldg Re-use KF	s,	11,274	v	874.00	\$ 10,400.00	%8	\$	11,274	\$	11,274.00	\$		,=.	[	-	10.400.00
Franklin Co PALZIV	\$	009	s.		\$ 600.00	0%	\$	009	v,	•	\$				+-	
Regional Agritourism Project	45	5,500	Ş	•	\$ 5,500.00	%0	\$	5,500	s	5,500.00	\$			\$ 5.500.00	┰	5.500.00
Mighty River Broadband	\$	56,800	44	46,296.56	\$ 10,503.44	82%	\$	56,800	\$	-	\$ 3,661.36	36		4	+	
Aging - Planning & Admin	S	206,487	S	77,723.30	\$ 128,763.70	38%	₩.	163,352	s	51,137.00	\$ 10,349.90		16236.40			94
Aging - Ombudsman	45	120,682	s	77,713.13	\$ 42,968.87	64%	\$	108,486	s	62,863.42	\$ 8,257.82		_		+	1.179.42
Aging - Elder Abuse	\$	4,716	\$	267.02	\$ 4,448.98	%9	\$	4,244	\$	240,00	\$		26.70	\$ 266.70	+	(0.32)
Aging - Evidence Based	S	27,897	v.	23,793.05	\$ 4,103.95	85%	ν.	25,107	45	20,412.00	\$ 1,001.74	1		\$ 23,793.05	+-	
Aging - AAA	5	48,263	S	46,511,54	\$ 1,751.46	%96	43	48,263	Ş	44,708.00	\$ 1,803.54	54	\$		-	
Aging - Medicare SHIIP	\$	5,353	\$	3,919.95	\$ 1,433.05	73%	\$	5,353	Ş	5,353.00	\$	7	783.99 \$	П	<del>                                     </del>	2,217.04
Aging - MIPPA	<u>۸</u>	19,086	\$		\$ 4,283.92	78%	S	19,086	S	16,167.58	\$		S	16,167.58	S	1,365.50
Aging - Caregiver	·γ.	126,630	S	-+		46%	\$	126,630	ş	56,979,10	\$ 9,531.99	6	\$		vs	7,881.10
Aging - NCDOT Project	\$	184,708	S	147,024.87	\$ 37,683.13	80%	\$	184,708	45	108,815.85	\$ 38,209.02	12	\$	147,024.87	45	
Aging - LCA	S.		\$	14,998.26	\$ 1.74	100%	\$	15,000	\$	14,998.26	\$		\$	14,998.26	S.	1
Aging - Senior Games	S		\$		\$ 7,500.00	%0	\$	7,500	\$	260.00	\$		45		v	560.00
WIOA - Adult	٠,	126,150	v1	72,193.42	\$ 53,956.58	57%	•	126.150	ű	40 EES 83	2 000 3		1			

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WIOA - Dislocated Worker	<u>^\</u>	149,230	, ,	00,000,00	\ v	86 355 51	48%	47	166.412		-	\$ 11,259.26		\$ 80,056.49	\$	1
WIOA - Admin	۸.	716,001	٠	54,000,00	٠,	02 020 03	37%		100 000		-			\$ 37,121.41	s	•
WIOA - Incumbent Worker	<u>م</u>	100,000		37,121.41	ր ւ	20070,20	200	٧	5 971		+			\$ 122.54	٠,	٠
WIOA - Henderson Pathways	~	5,921	-	122.54	Λ 1	5,736.40	75.07	2 0	15,000	<b>,</b>	+-	\$ 5.175.47		\$ 5,175.47	٧,	,
WIOA Enhancement	es.	15,000	-	5,175.47	^	9,824.33	3070	n (	12,000		0 000 41 0				╄	5.415.19
Granville Co SFR	٠,	91,358	v	4,448.22	S	86,909.78	2%	<u>م</u>	91,358		+			\	+	5 633 04
Franklin Co SFR	v,	101,278	s	35,135.72	v,	66,142.28	35%	v.	101,278		+	, ,			+-	70.000 0
Person County SFR	s.	156,768	s	37,215.86	\$	119,552.14	24%	₩.	$\overline{}$		40,163.93			₹		2,340.U
Vance County SFR	S	173,650		591.13	5	173,058.87	<1%	s	173,650	S	•					1
Warren County SFR	5	175,000	-	388.50	\$ 1	174,611.50	%0	vs	175,000	*	-	\$ 388.50			+	
Iroent Repair	57	20,204		20,204.00	v.	•	100%	s	20,204	S	-			7	-	'
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Annual Meeting	1		\ v					₹.		s,		- \$		\$	v,	,
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AGING FUND - 11	+	17-5														
Aging - Block Grant							+	-			-			00 303 140 0	0	1
Franklin County	\$	508,379	s	241,626.00	Ş	266,753.00	48%	s ·	508,379	s,	_	,			+	1
Granville County	\$	471,357	S	206,878.00	s	264,479.00	44%	S	471,357	s,	_			4 170,672,00	+	
Person County	\$	357,952	1/3	179,637.00	\$	178,315.00	20%	v	357,952	ري ا					+	1
Vance County	v,	375,341		161,874.00	t/h	213,467.00	43%	S.	375,341	v,	_			1		
Warren County	٧.	279,959	s	140,339.00	\$	139,620.00	20%	S.	279,959	s.	-	٠ ٠		"		
Aging - NSIP	₩.		s	42,167.00	\$	(42,167.00)		S.		s.	-				-	'
Aging - Legal	45	10,313	_	10,245.00	δ.	68.00	%66	\$	10,313	S	10,245.00	S		\$ 10,245.00	^	•
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	\$ 10,693	φ.	5,250.00	\$ 5,443.00	49%	Ş	10,693	\$ 5,250.00	v	,	45	+	5	١,
Vance County	\$ 10,693	3 \$	682.00	\$ 10,011.00	%9 01	\$	-	\$ 682.00	55		. 101	+		.
Warren County	\$ 10,693	3 \$	4,217.00	\$ 6,476.00	39%	s	-	\$ 4,217.00	S	1		+-		,
Aging - Caregiver							┿					+		
	\$ 4,000	\$ 0	1,764.00	\$ 2,236.00	0 44%	\$	4,000	\$ 1,764.00	s	-	\$	1.764.00 \$		].
Granville County	\$ 4,000	\$	736.00	\$ 3,264.00	0 18%	45	4,000	\$ 736.00	\$		. 15	+		
	\$ 4,000	\$	1,251.00	\$ 2,749.00	0 31%	₩.	4,000	\$ 1,251.00	╌	,	S	+		١,
Vance County	\$ 4,000	\$	1,040.00	\$ 2,960.00	0 26%	\$	4,000	\$ 1,040.00	⊢		S	1		,
Warren County	\$ 4,000	\$ 0	2,072.00	\$ 1,928.00	0 52%	t/s	4,000	\$ 2,072.00	-		· v1	+		
Aging - Fans	\$	S	•	\$		v.	,	S	es.	,	. 5	+		
TOTALS	\$ 2,094,587	s,	1,006,521.00	\$ 1,088,066.00	0 48%		2,094,587	\$ 1,006,521.00	45		ш	1.006.521.00		
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WORKFORCE - FUND 13														T
Adult - EDSI \$	350,000	\$	130,316.27	\$ 219,683.73	3 37%	w	350,000 \$	\$ 130,316.27	S	,	\$ 1	130,316,27   \$		,
Infrastructure Costs - EDSI \$	73,684	\$	14,706.16	\$ 58,977.84	4 20%	S	73.684 \$		5			14 705 16		
Youth							+					+		
VGCC \$	100,000	45	59,047.35	\$ 40,952.65	5 59%	s	100,000	5 59.047.35	5		v	50 047 30 6		2
PCC S	100,000	\$	46,759.40	\$ 53,240.60	0 47%	50	-		5	-		+-		1
EDSI \$	140,000	\$	68,181.94	\$ 71,818.06	5 49%	v,	140,000 \$		S	,	ı	+-		
Triangle Literacy Council \$	127,544	٠,	27,852.52 \$	\$ 99,691.48	3 22%	Ş	127,544 \$	27,852.52	\$			1		
Finish Line Grant	-	1								11		1		
VGCC	25,000	\$	,	\$ 25,000.00	%0 (	\$	25,000 \$	,	45		45			
PCC	15,000	٠,	361.25 \$	\$ 14,638.75	5. 2%	\$	15,000 \$			361.25	\$	361.25 \$		
		S	78,297.82	\$ 231,702.18	3 25%	\$	310,000 \$	78,297.82	\$			+-		,
Henderson Const Pathway to P	80,156	v,	47,259.33	\$ 32,896.67	29%	v.	80,156 \$	47,259.33	\$		S	-		
TOTALS	1,321,384	v	472,782.04 \$	\$ 848,601.96	36%	\$ 1	1,321,384 \$	472,420.79	\$ 36	361.25		472,782.04 \$		
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ALL TOTALS	\$ 6,203,765	s	2,755,431	\$ 3,448,334		\$ 6,064,309	\$ 60	2,534,867	\$ 188,540	\$ 91,	91,107 \$	2,814,514	\$ 59,083
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Revolving Loan Fund:									BANK AC	BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES 2/28/19	INCES	2/28/19	
FYTD Lended	\$ 120,000.00							BB&T	COG Operating Account	g Account	\$	582,773.69	
FYTD Interest Earned on Loans	\$ 17,551.88							BB&T	RLF Account	:	S	19,473.02	
FVTD Bank Interest Earned	l l							NCCMT	RLF Account		\$	4	
								NCCMT	Micro Account		ۍ!		
MICRO Loan Fund:		L								TOTAL	ار د	1,135,043.49	
FYTD Lended	\$				1		-		i		+		
FYTD Interest Earned on Loans	\$ 200.92						-				+		
FYTO Bank Interest Earned	\$ 752.16										+		
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Donna C. Lee											+		
3/1/2019		_					_				1		

#### Finance Report Motion #2

Motion made by Danny Wright to approve the Finance Report as presented. David Smith seconded he motion and motion carried unanimously.

#### **Budget Amendments**

Donna also reviewed the two budget amendments. Budget amendment #35 represented additional grant amounts for the NCDOT project. Budget amendment #36 represented a new grant in the WIOA program – Enhancement/Re-entry.

**Insert Budget Amendment Here** 

### KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BUDGET AMENDMENTS Thursday, March 28, 2019

#### FY 18-19

#### **FUND 10 - GENERAL FUND**

BUDGET AMENDMENT# 35	A/C#	BUDGET	CHANGE	REQUESTED
AGING - NCDOT PROJECT				
EXPENDITURES	<u>5945</u>			
Franklin County	601	46,177	28,908	75,085
Granville County	602	44,330	27,926	72,256
Person County	603	22,165	8,969	31,134
Vance County	604	44,330	30,887	75,217
Warren County	605	27,706	18.602	46,308
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		184,708	115,292	300,000
AGING - NCDOT PROJECT				
REVENUE	<u>3625</u>			
Franklin County	050	46,177	28,908	75,085
Granville County	051	44,330	27,926	72,256
Person County	052	22,165	8,969	31,134
Vance County	053	44,330	30,887	75,217
Warren County	054	27,706	18,602	46,308
TOTAL REVENUES		184,708	115,292	300,000
This amendment represents additional gran	t amounts.			

BUDGET AMENDMENT # 36	A/C #	BUDGET	CHANGE	REQUESTED
WIOA - PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT / RE-ENTRY				
EXPENDITURES	<u>5945</u>			
Salary - Workforce Dev Director	174	0	691	691
Contract Services	200	0	25,000	25,000
Supplies	260	0	2,500	2,500
Travel	314	0	1,000	1,000
Fringe Benefits	690	0	255	255
Indirect Costs	790	0	408	408
Program Costs	795	<u>o</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>146</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		0	30,000	30,000
WIOA - PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT / RE-ENTRY	<u>3775</u>			
REVENUE	010	0	30,000	30,000
This amendment represents a new grant.				

#### **Budget Amendments**

#### Motion #3

Motion made by David Smith to approve the Budget Amendments as presented. Francine Chavis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### Assessment Rates FY 2019/2020

Executive Director, Diane Cox advised earlier this evening the Executive Committee had reviewed the COG's request for an increase in the Assessment Rates for FY 2019/2020. Current rate is 59 cents per capita and the requested rate is 64 cents per capita. She further stated that the assessment rate had not increased since 2014. These assessments are to be used to bring in \$143,000 that will be used to match grants totaling \$650,000.

**Insert Assessment Rate Sheet Here** 

# KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 2019/2020

Analysis of Population and Assessment for Budget Purposes

	2010	2010	2019/2020	Percent of Total
UNIT	by County	by Unit	at \$0.64	Assessment/Population
Franklin County	60,619	53,736	\$ 34,391	23.99%
Bunn		344	\$ 220	0.15%
Franklinton		2,023	\$ 1,295	%06.0
Louisburg		3,359	\$ 2,150	1.50%
Youngsville		1157	\$ 740	0.52%
Granville County	57,529	36,472	\$ 23,342	16.28%
Butner		7,591	\$ 4,858	3.39%
Creedmoor		4,124	\$ 2,639	1.84%
Oxford		8,461	\$ 5,415	3.78%
Stem		463	\$ 296	0.21%
Stovall		418	\$ 268	0.19%
Person County	39,464	31,102	\$ 19,905	13,88%
Roxboro	200	8,362	\$ 5,352	3.73%
Vance County	45,422	29,454	\$ 18,851	13.15%
Henderson		15,368	\$ 9,836	%98.9
Kittrell		467	\$ 299	0.21%
Middleburg		133	\$ 85	0,06%
Warren County	20,972	18,873	\$ 12,079	8.43%
Macon		119	92 \$	0.05%
Norlina		1118	\$ 716	0.50%
Warrenton		862	\$ 552	0.39%
TOTAL	224,006	224,006	\$ 143,365	100.00%
West Assessment Con Resident tells	Δεσυσου	Assessment Schedule as annoved by the	wad by the	

Pop Assessment for Budget.xls

Assessment Schedule as approved by the Kerr-Tar Regional ncil of Governments Board of Directors on March 28, 2019

#### Assessment Rate 2019/2020

#### Motion # 4

Motion was Sidney Dunston to approve the Assessment Rate of 64 cents per capita for FY 2019/2020 as recommended by staff and the Executive Committee. Tom Lane seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### **Loan Committee Appointments**

Diane advised there are currently three vacancies on the Loan Review Committee. This committee normally consists of one banking representative and one private sector or economic development person from each county. The first appointee to be considered this evening is Kyle Puryear of BB&T in Oxford to fill the banking slot for Granville County.

#### **Granville Appointee to LRC**

#### Motion #5

Motion made by Kevin Easter to approve the assignment of Kyle Puryear to the LRC. Reggie Horton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The second recommendation comes from Warren County to appoint their Economic Development Director, Stacy Woodhouse to the LRC. Their banking slot is filled as of this time.

#### Warren Appointee to LRC

#### Motion # 6

Motion made by Wayne Aycock to approve the appointment of Stacy Woodhouse to the LRC as Warren County rep. David Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### Records Retention and Disposition Policies

Diane advised that the State had provided new Records Retention and Disposition Policies for the COG and local governments adopt. However, she did state that with this new policy, the policy did not change for the Aging or Workforce Programs that are under the COG umbrella.

#### Records Retention & Disposition Policies Motion # 7

Motion made by Zelodis Jay to approve the policy as recommended by the State and COG staff. om Lane seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### Conflict of Interest Forms

Diane reminded all Board Members that we have to update our Conflict of Interest Forms annually so they will be current if needed to accompany grant applications, etc. Members were advised that the form was in their meeting packet and should be signed this evening and returned to Gina Parham.

#### **Executive Director's Report & Legislative Update**

Executive Director, Diane Cox highlighted the following items to the Board of Directors and shared a hard copy of her remarks. (The report should be reviewed in detail and shared with local boards.)

- Programmatic and financial monitoring of WIOA subcontractors has been on going since last board meeting. (This includes Piedmont Community College, Vance Granville Community College, EDSI and Triangle Literacy)
- RPO applied for funding for NCDOT's Active Routes to School program, aimed at making it easier/safer for students to walk and bike to school.
- Harry Mills and Commissioner Dunston have taken on Community Leader positions in the NCMOVES 2050 Plan, which will serve as a blueprint in helping guide and shape the future transportation policies.
- COG staff met with state elected officials as a part of Advocacy Day, a follow up to Rural Day to discuss challenges facing our rural communities.
- Announced hiring of new Area Agency on Aging Director Nancy Francis. Bio info also provided.
- NCRCOG hosted a Legislative Day and Reception for members of the General Assembly in Raleigh on March 27. NCRCOG consists of Executive Directors from each of the 16 COGs across the state and one delegate from each COG to serve on The Forum Board. Danny Wright of Vance County and alternate Jimmy Clayton of Person County represent Kerr Tar COG. Held personal visits with Senators Woodard and Smith and Representatives Garrison and Yarborough that day. Others were not available to meet but packets were left for their review.
- Legislative Day was productive for many reasons. Review the 2019 State Advocacy Agenda
  in your packets. NCRCOG goals are aligning well with the priority goals of the NCACC and
  NCLM, which includes the expansion of broadband to unserved and under served areas of
  NC.
- At the request of Victor Hunt, Joe Freddoso and Diane presented at the NCACC District meeting in Rocky Mount on Feb 26.
- Opening ceremonies for Senior Games was held in Warren County on March 19 with 100-125 attendees. Diane stated she was pleased to be able to attend the event and that there are over 300 seniors registered to participate in Senior Games that will be on going through the month of May.
- COG is collaborating with Green Rural Redevelopment Organization and the NC Rural Center to develop a regional plan for support of local food business opportunities.
- COG currently has two interns working with us from Vance County Early College High School
  who are interested in careers in transportation. Kianna Wills and Angela Bolanos-Salazar are
  currently assisting planning staff with projects. Funding is provided by South Atlantic Regional
  Small Business Transportation Resource Center.

Diane welcomed Joey Hopkins, Division Engineer with NC DOT Division 5 to provide an update to projects in the area.

loey stated he was happy to be here to provide some insight and updates to the Board and wished the COG good luck in their recent application for the Safe Routes to School Grant.

#### Additional highlights and comments were:

- I-85 Project wrapping up soon. All lanes will be open in next few weeks.
- I-85 follow-up project in late fall for planting and landscaping (separate contractors used for landscaping)
- C-Project the 401 Louisburg Rolesville Raleigh project is on schedule
- Eaton's Ferry Road Bridge/causeway repair on schedule
- Re-surfacing US 1 from Wake Forest to Vance County starts this summer
- East End connector project in Durham is going good. Connector will be open with a couple lanes by year end
- D-Project the 401 project will start in 2022 and end by 2024. During this process, the center turn lane on Bickett Blvd will be removed.
- Right of Way 2021 project will complete by 2023
- Removing turn lane on Madison Blvd in 2020
- Hwy 56 Lyon Station Rd construction will be next year
- Hwy 56 Peach Orchard Rd to 401 is in the 2028 Draft Plan and hopes to be in next Prioritization Plan
- Focus Areas are: Safety, Program Delivery, Sustainable Revenue, Mobility, Appearance and Future Technology
- Safety Focus will be directed to the following areas: Driver Behavior, Wearing Seatbelts, Pilot Program on looking for wrong way drivers and looking for pedestrians. NC is currently fifth in Fatalities and safety focus will help improve this statistic. Robeson County already led the way with a Safety Focus Program.
- NC DOT is working to use sustainable revenue and implementing plan to have projects completed sooner. Fund balance was \$3.2B a few years ago and is down to \$400M in 2 years. Attempting to build cash balance up at this time.
- The Build NC Bond Bill passed and NC DOT can sell bonds over the next 10 years. (This is an 11-year program that is capped at \$300M a year). State repays the money but has access to the money upfront for projects. This Bond Project is paid back over time with interest and there is no profit to NC DOT.
- In the Appearance Focus NCDOT is working on resurfacing areas and improving signage and roadside appearance. Litter pickup is being increased particularly before mowing and cutting around guardrails. Mowing before Holidays – Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day to improve the appearance of NC highways. All roadside mowing is contracted out.
- Spending for mowing has increased \$20M Litter expense up from \$800K to \$1.6M a year.
- Litter projects Adopt A Highway has 4 pickups a year. Sponsor a Highway is where a
  Business sponsors the litter pickup for one mile of Highway this pays for 13 pickups a year
  with a sign recognizing the business. Sponsor costs depends on the route/location. Contact
  Joey directly for more info.
- Members asked if ticketing for littering had ceased and members were informed that is hard to prosecute people that litter.
- NC DOT has a 30% vacancy rate at this time. Struggle to fill civil engineering positions.

- NC DOT is assisting with teaching good habits on where to cross the street, grants to help slow the traffic and possibly extend slow routes past school area.
- Plans are to widen Highway 50 north of Highway 98 and widen passing zones.
- Discussion also arose about signs for slower traffic to stay in the right lanes.

Joey stated he enjoyed coming out to address our Board and to call on the NC DOT staff for any assistance needed.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zelodis Jay stated that Granville County would like to appoint Jeff Tingen from Altec to replace Bryan Pfohl who had recently resigned as an At Large member from Granville County. More information will be forthcoming from the County.

David Smith advised that Board Member, Pete Averette is back home and improving. He asked for folks to continue to keep Pete in their prayers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Cox, Executive Director Secretary to the Board of Directors

Patricia S. Cox