



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2016**

| <b>Jurisdiction</b> | <b>Represented By</b> | <b>Jurisdictions Not Represented</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Albemarle           | Chris Whitley         | Ansonville                           |
| Anson County        | Jarvis Woodburn       | Belmont                              |
| Badin               | Deloris Chambers      | Bessemer City                        |
| Charlotte           | Patsy Kinsey          | Cherryville                          |
| Cornelius           | Thurman Ross          | Cleveland                            |
| Cramerton           | Will Cauthen          | Dallas                               |
| East Spencer        | Deloris High          | Davidson                             |
| Gaston County       | Joe Carpenter         | Faith                                |
| Huntersville        | Charles Guignard      | Gastonia                             |
| Matthews            | Jeff Miller           | Granite Quarry                       |
| Mint Hill           | Dale Dalton           | Hemby Bridge                         |
| Monroe              | Bobby Kilgore         | Indian Trail                         |
| Morven              | Theodore Carr         | Iredell County                       |
| Pineville           | Christopher McDonough | Kings Mountain                       |
| Stanly County       | Bill Lawhon           | Landis                               |
| Waxhaw              | John Hunt             | Lincoln County                       |
| Weddington          | Bill Deter            | Lincolnton                           |
|                     |                       | Locust                               |
|                     |                       | Lowell                               |
|                     |                       | Marshville                           |
|                     |                       | Marvin                               |
|                     |                       | McAdenville                          |
|                     |                       | Mecklenburg County                   |
|                     |                       | Midland                              |
|                     |                       | Mineral Springs                      |
|                     |                       | Misenheimer                          |
|                     |                       | Mooresville                          |
|                     |                       | Mount Holly                          |
|                     |                       | Mount Pleasant                       |
|                     |                       | New London                           |
|                     |                       | Norwood                              |
|                     |                       | Oakboro                              |
|                     |                       | Ranlo                                |
|                     |                       | Richfield                            |
|                     |                       | Salisbury                            |
|                     |                       | Spencer                              |
|                     |                       | Spencer Mountain                     |
|                     |                       | Stallings                            |
|                     |                       | Stanley                              |
|                     |                       | Statesville                          |
|                     |                       | Troutman                             |
|                     |                       | Union County                         |

|  |  |               |
|--|--|---------------|
|  |  | Wadesboro     |
|  |  | Wesley Chapel |
|  |  | Wingate       |

**Call to Order**

Vice Chair Patsy Kinsey, City of Charlotte, called the meeting to order.

**Amendments to the Agenda**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Charles Guignard, Town of Huntersville, made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

**1. Approval of the August 10, 2016 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

Council Member Chris McDonough, Town of Pineville, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**2. Public Hearing and Resolution on Section 5310 Grant Application Funding**

Katie Kutcher, Aging Programs Coordinator, explained that CCOG is applying for continued funding for the Mobility Management and Volunteer Transportation Services programs. The North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Section 5310 grant funding application requires a public hearing and a resolution of support. Section 5310 funds enhance and increase transportation options for older adults and adults with disabilities.

Vice Chair Kinsey opened the public hearing.

Sarah McAulay, Centralina Foundation Chair, stated that she recommends and encourages the Board of Delegates to support the resolution. She congratulated Ms. Kutcher on her efforts and noted the continued need for funding and volunteers.

Seeing that no one else wished to be heard on the matter, Vice Chair Kinsey declared the public hearing closed.

Commissioner Guignard made a motion to approve the resolution, which notes that Centralina will apply for Section 5310 funds, that the Executive Director is authorized to sign the application, and that the Board supports funding the local match.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**3. Planning Spotlight Presentation**

Jessica Hill, Senior Planner – Sustainability, presented an update on the Regional Freight Plan. The plan will enhance the region’s economic competitiveness by developing an integrated, multi-modal freight transportation system that will support the region’s economic growth, foster job creation, and include mechanisms that improve quality of life. CCOG has been working with a consultant on the project. Once staff receives the plan from the consultant, the next step will be to deliver it to the region’s transportation planning organizations, local governments, and economic development agencies. The plan will need to be implemented by multiple agencies as part of a strategic adoption process. Ms. Hill asked the Delegates to reflect on how they and their fellow elected officials can help implement the plan’s recommendations and how can they help continue the freight mobility dialog.

Blair Israel, Senior Planner/GIS, presented an overview of the 2015-16 Mobility Management study on the region's transportation barriers. The study found that half of the respondents surveyed do not drive for reasons ranging from medical condition, lost driver's license, and inability to afford a car, gas, or insurance. The study presented recommendations for accessibility, including transit stop access, promotion of options, provider training, and facility improvements. Recommendations for improving rider awareness included creating transit guides in multiple formats, explaining options for patients and caregivers, and providing trip planning tools. Improvements for policy and service coordination included focusing on problematic connections, simplifying and coordinating service applications, identifying eligibility loop holes, and promoting services.

Jason Wager, Planning Program Supervisor – Sustainability, presented an overview of the Innovation Corridors initiative. Mr. Wager posed two questions to the Board and received the following responses from the Delegates:

1. What must Regional Transit accomplish to be perceived as successful in your community?

Ms. McAulay suggested having a timeline for accomplishing modes of transportation outside of the center of Mecklenburg County.

Commissioner Joe Carpenter, Gaston County, added that good leaders with vision to address transportation challenges are also needed. He also noted there is need to focus on using rail.

2. What concerns must be considered before Regional Transit can move forward?

Commissioner Guignard noted there is a need to plan for moving freight more efficiently along the region's major corridors.

Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, noted that accessibility and affordability are major concerns.

Commissioner Jeff Miller, Town of Matthews, suggested focusing more on the train systems. He expressed concern that a smartphone application may not be a solution for some transportation users.

Council Member Christopher McDonough, Town of Pineville, added that rail and buses to local areas in southern Mecklenburg County would alleviate traffic on Interstate 77.

Mayor Bill Deter, Town of Weddington, suggested considering the needs of companies that move freight. He added that if parking, cost, and access to public transportation were more convenient for drivers, then they would stop using their vehicles.

Ms. McAulay noted that CCOG needs to increase its participation in carrying out the CONNECT Our Future tools and bring regional planning groups together.

Vice Chair Kinsey noted that it would require local funds to build out transit systems.

#### **4. Federal Relations Update**

Vicki Bott, Grants Development Director, explained that federal relations advocacy efforts are part of an overall strategy to build relationships with Congressional delegation members and their staff. She reported that in August, CCOG launched an effort to identify times to meet with Congressional delegates. Chairman Michael Johnson, City of Statesville, and Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, were successful in scheduling meetings with Representatives Virginia Foxx and Richard Hudson respectively. Leslie Mazingo, CCOG's federal relations consultant, will prepare talking points about

regional projects for Delegates to use when attending future meetings with members of the Congressional delegation.

**5. CCOG Conference Update**

Vice Chair Kinsey reported that staff needs the Board’s assistance in recruiting sponsors for the 2017 CCOG Regional Conference. The goal is to recruit at least one \$10,000 platinum sponsor, two \$5,000 gold sponsors, three \$2,500 silver sponsors, and six \$1,250 bronze sponsors.

The Delegates discussed sponsorship prospects among themselves for several minutes.

Commissioner Miller made a motion that the Board of Delegates commit to assisting staff with recruiting sponsors as outlined in the sponsorship plan presented. Commissioner Guignard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**6. CCOG Building Update**

Jim Prosser, Executive Director, reported that the lease for CCOG’s new office has been signed. The facility will have a large conference room capable of holding Board of Delegates meetings. The location is near the University Hilton and offers free parking. CCOG plans to move in by February 1, 2017 and will save approximately 20% on occupancy costs compared to the current location. He thanked Ms. McAulay, Commissioner Carpenter, Treasurer Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, and Council Member Devin Rhyne, City of Lincolnton, for their assistance in identifying office spaces and determining costs.

**Comments from the Board of Delegates**

In response to a question from Commissioner Miller, Mr. Prosser explained that in addition to a cost savings, holding meetings at the new CCOG office will also be more convenient for staff and will create the opportunity for potential revenue through collecting meeting room fees.

**Comments from the Vice Chair**

Vice Chair Kinsey congratulated the Centralina Area Agency on Aging for receiving the John Bowdish Community Diabetes Prevention and Management Award at the NC Diabetes Advisory Council Meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Centralina was nominated by its partners at UNC Asheville in recognition of all of its work with the Diabetes program and innovation with its recent Medicare certification.

She also reported that the National Association of Development Organizations has selected CCOG as a recipient of its 2016 Innovation Awards for the CONNECT Our Future project. Vice Chair Kinsey added that she has never been involved in a study as successful and effective as CONNECT.

**Comments from the Executive Director**

Mr. Prosser recognized the Delegates for their role in the organization’s work for local communities and added that CCOG integrates feedback from communities into plans that are implemented. He noted there is a growing concern about the future of local communities, specifically the ability for citizens to prosper. The focus of CCOG’s work addresses those issues with qualitative and quantitative data and community engagement. He asked the Delegates to look at their communities’ land use plans to identify how they align with freight corridors.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Vice Chair Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.