



**Call to Order**

Chairman Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, called the meeting to order.

He welcomed Nina Barrett, Centralina’s newest Government Affairs and Member Engagement Coordinator.

He also welcomed Commissioner Leigh Altman, Mecklenburg County.

Commissioner Altman stated that she welcomed the opportunity to represent the Metropolitan Transit Commission as the Board of Delegates considered the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan. She noted that the plan will improve quality of life for the region’s residents and visitors and create a more sustainable transportation system for future generations. She also noted that creating a more complete mobility vision will increase the region’s economic competitiveness, build stronger connections between rural and urban areas, and help create a cleaner and safer environment.

**Roll Call**

Kelly Weston, Clerk to the Board, called roll and noted that a quorum was present.

**Moment of Silence**

Chairman Compton called for a Moment of Silence.

**Amendments to the Agenda**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

- 1. Bylaws Amendment**
- 2. Approval of the May 12, 2021 and August 11, 2021 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Compton explained that because a quorum was not present at the last meeting, items from that meeting had been carried over to the Consent Agenda. He noted that the Consent Agenda included a bylaws amendment intended as a general clean up with non-substantive formatting changes for clarity, consistency, and conciseness. He also noted that the amendment included changes to reflect current Centralina practices related to financial and budgeting processes, and Board and staff roles and responsibilities.

Council Member Troy Selberg, Town of Harrisburg, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Larken Egleston, City of Charlotte, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**3. Centralina Updates and Annual Report Presentation**

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, presented an overview of the FY21 annual report. She noted that the report highlights the organizations top five set of accomplishments, including: the organization’s rebranding; expanding member services and outreach; supporting local governments through the COVID-19 pandemic; transforming Aging services in response to the pandemic; and the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan. She also highlighted the technical services Centralina provided to local governments. She noted that the Centralina Area Agency on Aging and the Centralina Workforce Development Board took their services online and expanded their reach during the past year. She presented highlights from the first quarter of FY22, including the Regional Resilience Summit, the completion of CONNECT Beyond, redistricting support services, American Rescue Plan Act spending plan development support, COVID-19 vaccine outreach, and workforce services.

Linda Miller, Area Agency on Aging Director, presented an update on three grants Centralina received for COVID-19 vaccine outreach programs. She explained that a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be used to disseminate credible information about COVID-19. She also explained that

a grant from the NC Department of Health and Human Services will be used to identify individuals needing home vaccinations, while a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration will be used to integrate vaccine outreach into Medicare education and counseling.

Reaghan Murphy, Regional Planner, explained that the Regional Planning department is helping identify low-vaccination areas and high-risk populations to target the vaccine outreach to specific audiences. She presented maps illustrating the relationship between vaccination rates and variables such as vehicle access and internet access.

David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, highlighted Centralina’s new workforce development mobile app which provides career seekers and employers access to resources including hiring events, workshops, and support services.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, Mr. Hollars explained that there are a combination of factors contributing to the current labor shortage, including people’s desire to go to work, the extension of unemployment benefits, an increase in the number of retiring baby boomers, and the lack of childcare. He noted that employers are trying to attract workers by adding benefits and increasing wages. He also noted that the labor shortage is impacting the supply chain which is impacting inflation.

#### **4. CONNECT Beyond Plan Endorsement**

Michelle Nance, Regional Planning Director, explained that the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan is the culmination of 18 months of work built on the region’s strong leadership and technical expertise. She noted that the plan is a bold, long-term vision with short-term strategies focused on local needs.

The Delegates viewed a project overview video.

Ms. Nance summarized the stakeholder feedback received after the plan’s draft recommendations were released.

Jason Wager, Assistant Regional Planning Director, presented an overview of Centralina’s workplan as the CONNECT Beyond implementation manager as well as a schedule of upcoming plan update meetings.

Council Member Selberg made a motion to adopt the CONNECT Beyond plan, including its recommendations, and endorse Centralina Regional Council’s role as the CONNECT Beyond implementation manager. Commissioner Ken McCool, Town of Matthews, seconded the motion and it carried with Commissioner David Williams, Union County, and Council Member Richard Wise, Town of Midland, voting in opposition.

#### **5. Regional Dialogues Series Focus Group**

Emily Parker, Senior Planner, explained that the Regional Dialogues Series is designed to connect Centralina with regional partners and stakeholders, understand the region’s major opportunities and challenges, and use insights to inform Centralina’s FY23-26 strategic plan and the 2021-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. She presented the process timeline, key questions, and an overview of the strategic subcommittee.

The Delegates were divided into breakout rooms for small group discussions about issue areas impacting the region’s quality of life, growth, and economic prosperity.

#### **Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff**

There were no comments from the Board or Centralina staff.

**Comments from the Executive Director**

Ms. Gardner thanked the Board of Delegates for endorsing the CONNECT Beyond plan.

**Comments from the Chairman**

Chairman Compton noted that Centralina will hold a virtual workshop on November 16<sup>th</sup> focusing on emergency management as part of the Regional Resilience Collaborative project. He added that the event will bring together local and elected officials, nonprofits, businesses, and other regional stakeholders around the topic of disaster recovery.

He also noted that the application period for the CLT Aviation Academy is now open and explained that the academy provides a better understanding of the Charlotte Douglas International Airport and its contributions to the community as the region's biggest economic driver. He added that applications are being accepted through Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Compton extended well wishes to all Delegates running for re-election in November. He also recognized Mayor Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, who noted he was not seeking re-election.

Mayor Feather noted that he has enjoyed his time with the Board.

Chairman Compton thanked all the Centralina Delegates and Alternates for representing their communities on the Board of Delegates for the past year.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Compton adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.