



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022**

Jurisdictions with Delegate/Alternate Present	Delegate/Alternate Present	Jurisdictions without a Delegate/Alternate Present
Albemarle	Martha Sue Hall	Ansonville
Anson County	Jarvis Woodburn	Cherryville
Badin	Larry Milano	Cleveland
Belmont	Alex Szucs	Dallas
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen	Gaston County
Cabarrus County	Lynn Shue	Granite Quarry
Charlotte	Larken Egleston	Huntersville
Concord	Andy Langford	Indian Trail
Cornelius	Michael Osborne	Iredell County
Cramerton	Nelson Wills	Kings Mountain
Davidson	Autumn Michael	Landis
East Spencer	Shawn Rush	Lilesville
Faith	Jayne Lingle	Lincoln County
Gastonia	Jennifer Stepp	Locust
Harrisburg	Jennifer Teague and Ian Patrick	Lowell
Kannapolis	Darrell Hinnant	Marshville
Lincolnton	Christine Poinsette	Mecklenburg County
Marvin	Wayne Deatherage	Midland
Matthews	Ken McCool and Mark Tofano	Mineral Springs
McAdenville	Jay McCosh	Mint Hill
Misenheimer	Jeffrey Watson	Monroe
Morven	Corinthia Lewis-Lemon	Mooresville
Mount Holly	Christina Pawlish	Oakboro
Pineville	Amelia Stinson-Wesley	Ranlo
Salisbury	Karen Alexander	Richfield
Spencer	Patricia Sledge	Stallings
Stanly County	Peter Ascitutto	Stanley
Troutman	Jerry Oxsher	Statesville
Union County	David Williams	Wadesboro
		Waxhaw
		Wingate

Call to Order

Vice Chair Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

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

Moment of Silence

Vice Chair McCosh called for a moment of silence.

Amendments to the Agenda

Vice Chair McCosh explained that Item 2, Presentation from NC Pandemic Recovery Office, needed to be moved to later in the agenda since the guest speaker for that item had not yet arrived.

Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, City of Albemarle, made a motion to amend the agenda. Mayor Darrell Hinnant, City of Kannapolis, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the February 9, 2022 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes

Council Member Christine Poinsette, City of Lincolnton, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ken McCool, Town of Matthews, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

3. Key Initiatives Update

David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, explained that the NC Works Commission completed a study that included a recommendation for realigning the state’s workforce development boards with the eight prosperity zones across North Carolina. He noted that the state’s workforce system is funded by the US Department of Labor, authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. He noted that state agencies are supporting the proposed realignment. He also noted that the Centralina Workforce Development Consortium conducted outreach to Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly, and Union Counties to affirm their interest in remaining in the Consortium for the remainder of its current term ending in June 2023.

In response to questions from Commissioner David Williams, Union County, Mr. Hollars explained that the realignment would place the seven counties in the Consortium into a larger grouping with Mecklenburg, Gaston, and Cleveland Counties. He noted that disadvantages of this change would include the loss of local control and limited, individual attention for smaller counties. He also noted that the change would not impact the amount of federal workforce development funds coming into the counties.

Michelle Nance, Regional Planning Director, reported that all the transportation planning organizations within the region have formally recognized CONNECT Beyond and have incorporated its recommendations into their long-range plans. She also reported that last week, the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) approved starter funding for Centralina to establish a regional program helping employers address commuter transportation issues. She forecasted that Centralina plans to engage the business community in the second round of NCDOT funding and will seek the Board's assistance in identifying major employers in the region who will support the project. She reported that the transit agencies and transportation organizations have expressed support for a regional fare and scheduling analysis to coordinate human service and fixed route transit connections. She also reported that Centralina is requesting funds from the NC General Assembly to evaluate the region’s revenue opportunities and potential partnership structures for transportation. She noted that the

CONNECT Beyond project received a national recognition award from the American Council of Engineering Companies.

Linda Miller, Area Agency on Aging Director, reported that Centralina received \$4.55 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to distribute at its discretion to aging services providers. She explained that Centralina submitted an ARPA plan to the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and the funds cannot be dispensed without their approval. She noted that Centralina issued a Request for Funding to current nutrition service providers to distribute \$2.8 million in available funds. She also reported that the Citadel, a long-term care facility in Rowan County, is closing and Centralina staff is heavily involved in ensuring its residents are properly discharged, have a say in where they are relocated, and their rights are honored.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Hall, Cindy Kincaid, Regional Ombudsman, explained that the ombudsmen have resumed visiting long-term care facilities in-person but are tracking COVID outbreaks as a precaution.

Ms. Weston reported that Centralina has developed the ARPA Peer Consortium, an interactive peer-learning group that provides local government staff with strategic support in administering their ARPA allocations. She also noted that Centralina is offering monitoring oversight services to provide member governments with tools and guidance to ensure compliance with federal ARPA guidelines. She presented an overview of the grants support services Centralina provides, which include listings of available funding opportunities, training workshops, letters of support, strategy sessions, and grants administration services. She added that soon, Centralina will roll out professional grant writing services provided through a partnership with the consultant who leads the grant training workshops.

2. Presentation from NC Pandemic Recovery Office

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, explained that Centralina has built a great relationship with the NC Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO) while working to implement the ARPA funding received from the state. She introduced Stephanie McGarrah, Executive Director of NCPRO.

Ms. McGarrah presented an overview of the state’s pandemic relief, recovery, and resilience efforts. She also highlighted activities and challenges in implementing the state’s allocation from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). She noted that NCPRO is attempting to track the movement of CRF and ARPA funds across the state. She also noted that the state legislature has appropriated \$5.4 billion in State Fiscal Recovery Funds for education, healthcare, natural and cultural resources, business, agriculture, and local government assistance. She further noted the challenges faced by local governments in administering ARPA allocations, including staff capacity to manage funds and reporting requirements. She shared an overview of the organizations and state agencies partnering to ensure local governments are aware of how ARPA funds can be used.

4. FY23-26 Strategic Planning Discussion

Ms. Gardner provided an update on the process to develop Centralina’s FY23-26 strategic plan. She presented an overview of the elements of the plan. She explained that there are no proposed changes to the current mission statement. She noted that staff is in the process of assessing the organization’s current core values. She shared insights from staff and the Executive Board on the organizational vision. She presented three proposed vision statement options that reflected the themes that emerged in the input received from staff and the Executive Board.

The Delegates were then divided into breakout rooms where they provided feedback on the proposed vision statement options.

Comments from the Board of Delegates and Centralina Staff

There were no comments from the Board of Delegates or Centralina staff.

Comments from the Executive Director

Ms. Gardner noted that Centralina will move into its new office at the end of June, adding that the August Board of Delegates meeting will be held at the new location.

Comments from the Vice Chair

Vice Chair McCosh noted that the Board of Delegates approved an amendment to the Centralina charter at its February meeting. He added that later this month, Managers and Clerks in member communities will receive a request to add the ratification of the amended charter to the agenda of their upcoming Council or Board meeting.

He reminded the Delegates to save the date for the Board of Delegates meeting on August 10th.

Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Vice Chair McCosh adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.