



**Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2019**

<b>Jurisdictions Present</b>	<b>Represented By</b>	<b>Jurisdictions Not Present</b>
Anson County	Jarvis Woodburn	Albemarle
Badin	Deloris Chambers	Ansonville
Bessemer City	Kay McCathen	Belmont
Cabarrus County	Lynn Shue	Charlotte
Concord	Terry Crawford	Cherryville
Cramerton	Will Cauthen	Cleveland
East Spencer	Deloris High	Cornelius
Gaston County	Ronnie Worley and Bob Hovis	Dallas
Gastonia	Walker Reid	Davidson
Granite Quarry	Bill Feather	Faith
Huntersville	Nick Walsh	Harrisburg
Lincoln County	Rich Permenter	Hemby Bridge
Locust	Rusty Efir	Iredell County
Marshville	Frank Deese	Kings Mountain
McAdenville	Jay McCosh	Landis
Mecklenburg County	Trevor Fuller	Lincolnton
Midland	John Crump	Lowell
Misenheimer	Jeff Watson	Marvin
Mooresville	Bobby Compton	Matthews
Morven	Theodore Carr	Mineral Springs
Spencer	Mike Boone	Mint Hill
Stallings	David Scholl	Monroe
Stanly County	Zach Almond	Mount Holly
Statesville	Michael Johnson and William Morgan	Norwood
Troutman	Paul Bryant	Oakboro
Wadesboro	Bill Thacker	Pineville
		Ranlo
		Richfield
		Salisbury
		Stanley
		Union County
		Waxhaw
		Weddington
		Wingate

**Call to Order**

Chairman Bobby Compton, Town of Mooresville, called the meeting to order. He welcomed new CCOG Delegates, Council Member Terry Crawford, City of Concord, and Council Member Rusty Efir, City of Locust. He also welcomed former CCOG Chair and former City of Charlotte Mayor and Council Member, Patsy Kinsey.

**Invocation**

Chairman Compton gave the invocation.

**Amendments to the Agenda**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

- 1. NC Local Government Records Retention Schedule**
- 2. CCOG Bylaws Amendment**
- 3. Approval of the February 13, 2019 and May 8, 2019 Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chairman Jay McCosh, Town of McAdenville, made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Lynn Shue, Cabarrus County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**4. Federal Workplan Update**

Leslie Mazingo, Strategics Consulting, explained that she assists CCOG in advocating for regional priorities on the federal level. She noted that the Executive Board recently approved the Federal Workplan included in the agenda packet. She explained that the goals of the plan are to (1) build, maintain and enhance relationships with Members of Congress and the federal agencies, (2) develop advocacy strategies around the items in the approved CCOG Federal Action Plan in coordination with the Executive Director and department directors, (3) provide knowledge and support on competitive grant opportunities, and (4) respond to troubleshooting requests on federal issues.

Ms. Mazingo introduced the following staff from the region’s U.S. Congressional offices who were in attendance:

- Kay Tembo, Senior District Liaison for Congresswoman Alma Adams (NC-12)
- Sara Blackburn, Constituent Services Representative for Congressman Ted Budd (NC-13)
- Georgia Lozier, Deputy District Director for Congressman Richard Hudson (NC-08)
- Brett Keeter, District Director for Congressman Patrick McHenry (NC-10)
- James Estes, Regional Representative for Senator Thom Tillis

Treasurer William Morgan, City of Statesville, expressed his appreciation for Ms. Mazingo’s work on behalf of CCOG and its member governments and for the Congressional offices’ efforts on behalf of the region.

Chairman Compton noted that he attended a meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup> with Congressman Ted Budd in which they discussed competitive grants eligibility, fiscal year funding, Older Americans Act reauthorization, the federal surface transportation reauthorization bill, and alternative fuels tax and infrastructure funding. He thanked the staff members from the Congressional offices for attending the Board of Delegates meeting.

**5. Video Message from Senator Thom Tillis**

Mr. Estes noted that all of the Congressional offices want to be resources for local governments and invited the Delegates to talk with the staff representatives about how the offices can be of assistance. He added that the offices can provide letters of support for grant applications. He noted the importance of regionalism. As an example, he noted that a group of 17 counties within the state applied for and received a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation that will fund the repair of 77 bridges in those areas. He added that the Senator’s office has a staff member who will advocate for local governments’ federal grant applications.

Mr. Estes presented a pre-recorded video message from Senator Tillis, in which the Senator noted that his office is available to assist in securing federal grants and navigating the federal government. He noted that his advocacy to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation has helped secure over \$100 million for projects in the Charlotte region, including the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) Blue Line Extension and upgrades to the intermodal rail facility. He congratulated the organization on recently celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **6. Strategic Review Update and FY20 Workplan Preview**

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, explained that CCOG has completed its strategic review process, which engaged the organization’s staff, Delegates, local government staff and other constituents. The purpose of the review was to identify ways CCOG can evolve to meet the region’s changing needs, ensure the organization has the best infrastructure for its work, and promote and increase awareness of the organization’s work. She presented four strategic review process deliverables. The first deliverable was the new mission statement: “Centralina leads regional collaboration and sparks local action to expand opportunity and improve quality of life. We do this through creative problem solving, innovative service delivery, and support to our local governments.”

The second deliverable was a set of core values based on the acronym LEAD ACT: listen and speak with care; embrace boldness and flexibility; accelerate collaboration; deliver expertise with sincerity; act with integrity and empathy; commit to our communities; take care of ourselves and each other

The third deliverable was the FY20 CCOG workplan, which includes each department’s workplan, goals, strategies, projects, and performance measures.

The fourth deliverable was a set of seven CCOG priorities: (1) manage cross-jurisdictional collaboration for coordinated regional growth, (2) expand regional mobility choices and connections, (3) improve the health and resilience of individuals, communities and our region, (4) facilitate business infrastructure and investments in our local communities and regional economy, (5) provide talent strategies and solutions for a qualified and competitive workforce, (6) support and champion our local governments, and (7) enhance CCOG operations, infrastructure and partnerships.

Ms. Gardner asked the Delegates to provide feedback on the workplan by September 4<sup>th</sup>. She added that the Executive Board will review and approve final versions of the workplan at its September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The workplan will officially roll out at the October CCOG staff meeting and the October 9<sup>th</sup> Board of Delegates meeting.

In response to a question from Commissioner Trevor Fuller, Mecklenburg County, regarding supports to younger adults and families, Ms. Gardner explained that CCOG will reach those groups through the organization’s healthy communities work and through sharing planning policies and best practices with member governments.

## **7. FY20 Project Spotlight Briefing**

Ms. Gardner explained that CCOG staff is committed to providing the Board of Delegates with a quarterly report of the organization’s work. She asked the Delegates to share a packet of handouts with their communities and report on what CCOG is doing in the region. She introduced CCOG staff members for presentations spotlighting one of their department’s projects.

Emily Hickok, Marketing and Communications Manager, noted that CCOG will issue a Request for Proposals this fall to identify an agency that can assist with creating a new website, logo, and design standards manual. She added that the Board of Delegates will be asked to provide feedback on the logo and website designs at future meetings, as well as become brand champions once these projects are completed.

Jason Wager, Principal Planner, explained that one of the takeaways from the Regional Transit Engagement Series that began in 2017 was that the region is ready for a regional transit plan. He noted that in the future, the Board of Delegates will be asked to adopt a regional transit plan. He asked the Delegates to share the project summary with other elected officials and staff in their communities in the meantime. He added that CCOG anticipates forming a subcommittee of Delegates that will be able to bring back transit plan recommendations to the Board of Delegates.

Katie Kutcher, Aging Programs Coordinator, explained that CCOG’s mobility management efforts focus on coordination between transportation providers in the region to improve transportation options for older adults and people with disabilities. She asked the Board of Delegates to continue supporting regional mobility management efforts and to continue participating in regional transit planning activities.

Mike Manis, Community and Economic Development Director, encouraged the Delegates to visit the new Centralina Economic Development District portal at [www.centralinaedd.org](http://www.centralinaedd.org). He explained that the portal features interactive, economic data for local governments and economic developers. He asked the Delegates to let him know if they would be interested in having a presentation on the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at an upcoming board or council meeting in their community.

David Hollars, Centralina Workforce Development Board Executive Director, presented an overview of Career Headlight, an online tool that helps students and career seekers to identify jobs within the region that match their interests and skillsets. He asked the Board of Delegates to share the Career Headlight handout with citizens in their community and to encourage their local libraries to allow his staff to conduct training on the tool. He also asked the Delegates to encourage their school systems and community colleges to allow his staff to discuss the benefits of Career Headlight.

Secretary Jarvis Woodburn, Anson County, made a motion committing the Board of Delegates to share with their respective councils, commissions, and boards highlights from the CCOG Quarterly Report and FY20 Project Spotlight Briefing Sheet. Commissioner Shue seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### **8. NC Radar Project Presentation**

Brad Panovich, NBC Charlotte, and Kevin Hartman, NC Radar Project, gave an overview of the project. Mr. Panovich explained that there is a lack of doppler radar in parts of the state west of Raleigh that has created a radar coverage gap impacting 41% of the state’s population, including the Centralina region. He added that the lack of radar coverage has caused missed tornado warnings and higher false alarms in the region. He described efforts to address the issue at the federal level. He presented a proposed solution that would place radars in the gap areas and improve National Weather Service (NWS) and local news stations’ ability to share safety information with the public. He added that there is a need for funding upfront costs associated with the project, as well as ongoing maintenance and communication expenses. He added that private partners are being considered if government funds cannot be secured for the project.

In response to a question from Chairman Compton regarding an existing radar tower in Charlotte, Mr. Panovich explained that the radar was installed by the Federal Aviation Administration for airport use and is not a solution to the coverage gap.

In response to a question from Commissioner Rich Permenter, Lincoln County, about the project costs, Mr. Panovich explained that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NWS have agreed to pay for the project’s data costs. He further explained that currently, local news stations have access to private companies’ radars, but the NWS cannot provide data to those radars.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Watson, Village of Misenheimer, regarding the impact on weather radios, Mr. Panovich explained that some of the project’s goals are for the NWS to have access to all radars and to lower the false alarm rate.

In response to a question from Commissioner Fuller regarding project barriers, Mr. Panovich explained that past efforts to address the coverage gap have involved outreach to the federal government, but there has been a lack of federal funding for this need. He noted that communities in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas

area used public-private partnerships to fund a similar project. He added that funding may not be as much of a barrier as determining who will control the proposed radar system.

Commissioner Bob Hovis, Gaston County, noted that the lack of radar coverage impacts Charlotte Douglas International Airport, which is a reason for public support of the project.

Mayor Will Cauthen, Town of Cramerton, made a motion authorizing CCOG staff to participate in the NC Radar Project in coordination with federal, state, and local partners.

Alderman Mike Boone, Town of Spencer, noted that Duke Energy should be involved in the project.

In response to a question from Commissioner Permenter, Mr. Panovich explained that the NWS will not agree to maintain the proposed radar system.

Commissioner Ronnie Worley, Gaston County, seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Comments from the Executive Director**

There were no comments from the Executive Director.

**Comments from the Board of Delegates**

In response to a question from Vice Chairman McCosh regarding the timeline for coordinating with other COGs on the NC Radar Project, Ms. Gardner explained that the sense of urgency exists, but the COGs must further discuss project management logistics to move forward.

Mayor Bill Feather, Town of Granite Quarry, requested the Delegates receive a copy of the NC Radar Project presentation to share with their communities.

**Comments from the Chairman**

Chairman Compton asked the Delegates to provide Ms. Gardner with comments on the proposed CCOG mission statement, values, and priorities for the FY20 workplan by September 4<sup>th</sup>.

He reminded the Delegates that the next Board of Delegates meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the CCOG office. He asked the Delegates to send an Alternate on their behalf if they are unable to attend the meeting.

Chairman Compton also encouraged the Delegates to attend a Disaster Recovery and Economic Resiliency Workshop at the CCOG office on September 10<sup>th</sup>. He added that the event is designed for counties that received a disaster declaration for Hurricanes Florence and Michael and will provide information about grant and technical resources to help support local communities' disaster recovery efforts.

He also pointed out that Census 2020 materials are available on the CCOG website at [www.centralina.org](http://www.centralina.org). He noted that CCOG will convene a meeting of representatives of the Complete Count Committees in the region to share best practices and practical tips for census promotion and engaging hard-to-count populations.

He asked the Delegates to complete the survey at their tables to provide CCOG staff with feedback on the organization's newsletter and on the structure, format, content, and timing of the Board of Delegates meetings.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Compton adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.