



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND SC. 29936

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MAY 2, 2012, 3:30 P.M.  
BUDGET WORKSHOP/MEETING  
MINUTES

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, VICE CHAIRMAN MARTIN SAULS IV, COUNCILMAN HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN THEODUS L. DRAYTON

**STAFF PRESENT:** ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW FULGHUM, DEP. ADM. GEORGE HOOD, CLERK TO COUNCIL JUDITH FRANK, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RONNIE MALPHRUS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED.

DURING PERIODS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

**CALL TO ORDER** - CHAIRMAN GREGORY CALLED THE MEETING/WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 3:30 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - CHAIRMAN GREGORY LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

**INVOCATION** – VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS GAVE THE INVOCATION.

**SOUTHERN ALLIANCE – DANNY BLACK, PRESIDENT AND CEO** – MR. BLACK PRESENTED A POWERPOINT PRESENTATION AND SAID THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1996. MR. BLACK TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY DO MARKETING AND ARE GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MADE UP OF LEADERS, INVESTORS, AND COUNTY OFFICIALS. MR. BLACK SAID THEY REACH OUT FOR ALL TYPES OF FUNDING. MR. BLACK SAID THE ALLIANCE HAS FOUR EMPLOYEES. MR. BLACK PROVIDED A MAP OF THE AREAS AND THE DIFFERENT ALLIANCES THAT REPRESENT THOSE AREAS. MR. BLACK ALSO PROVIDED A LIST OF THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIES THAT HAVE LOCATED IN THE AREA HE REPRESENTS. MR. BLACK SAID THEY HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN THE RECRUITING BUSINESSES TO LOCATE IN THE FOUR RURAL COUNTIES HE REPRESENTS. MR. BLACK SAID THEY DID A MARKETING STUDY OF HIS AREA AND CREATED A STRATEGIC PLAN. MR. BLACK DISCUSSED TRIPS TO EUROPE TO RECRUIT COMPANIES. MR. BLACK ADDED THAT THEY ALSO HELP LOCATE FUNDS AND HOLD VARIOUS RECOGNITION EVENTS TO KEEP PEOPLE INFORMED. MR. BLACK DISCUSSED PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS THANKED MR. BLACK FOR HIS PRESENTATION AND SAID THAT THE I-95 CORRIDOR HAS MANY OPPORTUNITIES AND HE FELT THEY WOULD BE BETTER REPRESENTED BY THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE THAN WORKING WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT 5 YEARS AGO JASPER COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY FORMED THEIR OWN ALLIANCE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE ALLIANCES WORK TOGETHER TO ATTRACT INDUSTRIES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THEY BUILD SPEC BUILDING. MR. BLACK RESPONDED THAT THEY PUT PARTNERSHIPS TOGETHER TO BUILD SPEC BUILDING. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS WHEN LOBBYING. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHERE THEIR OFFICE IS LOCATED AND MR. BLACK SAID THEY ARE LOCATED IN BARNWELL. MR. BLACK SAID THEIR ANNUAL BUDGET IS BETWEEN \$700,000 - \$800,000

AND THEY ARE FUNDED BY THE STATE, LOCAL COUNTIES AND PRIVATE INVESTORS. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT BEAUFORT COUNTY IS MORE ABOUT TOURISM AND SOUTH CAROLINA IS ABOUT FORESTRY AND BUSINESSES AND HE LIKED THAT THE MUNICIPALITIES WERE INCLUDED. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID DANIEL DEFENSE AND BE GREEN LOCATED IN JASPER COUNTY BECAUSE BUILDING WERE AVAILABLE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID MORE SPEC BUILDINGS ARE NEEDED. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THE WORKFORCE PROGRAM THAT MR. BLACKS DISCUSSED IS GREAT BECAUSE YOU CAN PROVIDE THE INDUSTRY WITH A LIST OF QUALIFIED AND TRAINED EMPLOYEES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY WERE SOLICITING THE AERONAUTICS INDUSTRY AND MR. BLACK SAID THEY WERE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID A LOT OF THE COMPANY USE A LOT OF NATURAL GAS. MR. BLACK SAID GAS AND RAIL ARE BIG ITEMS. MR. BLACK SAID HE HAD ONE COMPANY LOOKING FOR STEAM. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THE COUNTY HAS BEEN STRUGGLING WITH NATURAL GAS AND NEEDED HELP. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID HE SERVED ON THE LOW COUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE FOR 10 MONTHS AND HE BECAME ACCLIMATED TO WHAT BEAUFORT COUNTY HAS AND JASPER COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY ARE ON OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE SPECTRUM. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED HOW THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE LOWCOUNTRY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE. MR. BLACK SAID THAT THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE IS A 501 3C C, IT HAS PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND REPRESENTS 5 COUNTIES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THEY DO THE INVENTORY AND DO THEY GARNER THE INFORMATION. MR. BLACK SAID THEY HAVE A GOOD INVENTORY AND HAVE GOOD SITES. MR. BLACK SAID THEY BRING IN THE ENGINEERS TO LOOK FOR SITES, THEY SECURE PRICING AND OPTIONS. MAYOR MALPHRUS ASKED IF THE MUNICIPALITIES ARE MEMBERS. MR. BLACK SAID THE COUNTIES ARE THE MEMBERS AND THE MUNICIPALITIES ARE ADVISORS. MAYOR MALPHRUS ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY COST FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES AND MR. BLACK SAID THERE WAS NOT. MAYOR MALPHRUS ASKED IF THEY CAN BELONG TO ANOTHER ALLIANCE AND MR. BLACK RESPONDED THAT LEGALLY THERE IS NOT PROBLEM, BUT IT MAKES IT HARD TO MANAGE. MR. NANNI, ADMINISTRATOR OF HARDEEVILLE, ASKED WHAT THE PROCESS WAS AND WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE. MR. BLACK SAID HE WAS HERE AT THE INVITATION OF COUNTY AND HE WAS NOT HERE RECRUITING. MR. BLACKS SAID THAT IF THERE IS INTEREST, THE COUNTY CAN REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND THE COUNTY CAN REQUEST TO JOIN THE ALLIANCE. MR. BLACK SAID AT THAT TIME THEY WOULD NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD VOTE. MR. NANNI ASKED IF THE MUNICIPALITIES WERE VOTING MEMBERS OR TEAM PLAYERS. MR. BLACK SAID THAT THE COUNTY APPOINTS THREE MEMBERS AND UNLESS THEY ARE APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL, THEY ARE ADVISORS AND NOT VOTING MEMBERS. HELEN PITTMAN STATED THAT THEY HAVE VERY LITTLE STAFF AND WHERE DOES THE EXPERTISE COME FROM FOR MARKETING. MR. BLACK PROVIDED HIS WORK EXPERIENCE AND THAT THEY WORK WITH PROFESSIONALS TO WORK ON REGIONAL STATISTICS AND A MARKETING PLAN. MR. BLACK SAID THEY SUCCEED THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND TAKE A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH OF A TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT THE LOWCOUNTRY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE HAS NOT HAD ONE HALF OF THE SUCCESS IN 5 YEARS THAT THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE HAD LAST YEAR. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THE COUNTY NEEDED TO MAKE A CHANGE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY THANKED MR. BLACK FOR HIS PRESENTATION.

## **BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

**BJCHS – ROLAND GARDNER-** MR. GARDNER THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THEY ARE CURRENTLY BUILDING IN CHELSEA AND THE RIDGELAND SITE IS HOUSING 9-10 MEDICAL STUDENTS PER YEAR. MR. GARDNER SAID MOST OF THE STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM GO INTO PRIMARY CARE. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY WERE AWARDED \$500,000 TO DATE AND WERE USING IT TO UPGRADE THE HARDEEVILLE SITE. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY HAVE HAD AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THEY WERE TREATING AND THEY NOW HAVE A CARDIOLOGIST

COMING TO RIDGELAND. MR. GARDNER REQUESTED \$85,000. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY ADDED A NEW DOCTOR, DR. SNOW AND ADDED DENTAL SERVICES AT THE SCHOOLS 2 DAYS PER WEEK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY WERE PLANNING ON BUILDING IN GATEWAY CROSSINGS AND MR. GARDNER SAID THEY WERE LOOKING AT IT AS AN OPTION. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE COOSAWHATCHIE SITE AND MR. GARDNER SAID HE WAS NOT SURE OF THE STATUS, AND THEY WERE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO ARE DEVELOPING THE FRAMPTON TRACT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY WERE BUILDING THE NEW BUILDING BECAUSE THEY NEEDED MORE SPACE. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT THE ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED FOR THE WIC PROGRAM, HOME HEALTH AND THEY ARE TRYING TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SAME DAY OR WITHIN 24 HOUR SERVICE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF HE EXPERIENCED A LOT OF FEDERAL CUT BACKS. MR. GARDNER SAID IN 42 YEARS OF OPERATION, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THEY RECEIVED FUND FOR A BUILDING. MR. GARDNER SAID THE BASE FUNDING IS FOR MEDICAL SERVICES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON COMMENTED THE COMP HEALTH TOOK CARE OF HIS MOTHER AND SHE LIVED FOR 99 YEARS. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT 51% OF THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE PATIENTS OF COMP. HEALTH.

**TCL – DR. LEITZEL** – DR. LEITZEL THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME BEFORE THEM. DR. LEITZEL SAID THAT EDUCATING THE WORKFORCE IS ONE OF THEIR MAIN GOALS. DR. LEITZEL SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH THE ALLIANCE. DR. LEITZEL SAID THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR REPORTED THAT 70% OF THE JOBS IN THE FUTURE WILL NOT REQUIRE A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE. DR. LEITZEL TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAKES \$670,000 MORE IN THEIR LIFE TIME WITH AN EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. MR. LEITZEL PROVIDED A FOUR MINUTE VIDEO ABOUT TCL. MR. LEITZEL SAID THE SCHOOL HAS RECEIVED \$3,600,000 IN GRANTS TO HELP THEM SUCCEED AND HE ADDED THAT 94% OF THE TCL GRADUATES GET JOBS OR CONTINUE TO SENIOR LEVEL INSTITUTIONS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED OF THE 94% OF THE GRADUATES PLACED, HOW MANY STAY IN THE AREA. DR. LEITZEL SAID THAT A LARGE PART COME FROM THIS AREA AND STAY IN THIS AREA. DR. LEITZEL SAID THEY ARE SUCCEEDING AT THE 100% LEVEL ON NATIONAL TESTING. CHAIRMAN GREGORY COMMENTED THAT A LOT OF STUDENTS WHO GO OFF TO SCHOOL RETURN HOME AND FINISH THEIR EDUCATION AT TCL AND HE THANKED DR. LEITZEL FOR EDUCATING THE STUDENTS AND FINDING THEM JOBS.

**JCBDSN- DEBORAH WALSH** – MS. WALSH AND MS. CROSBY FOR THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY SERVE OVER 200 FAMILIES IN THE COUNTY WHO HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND PHYSICAL DISABILITIES. MS. WALSH SAID THEY HAVE 5 GROUP HOMES THAT ARE SERVED 24/7, 365 DAYS PER YEAR AND THEY PROVIDE 100% FOR THEIR CARE. MS. WALSH SAID THEY HAVE BEEN CUT SIGNIFICANTLY BY THE STATE AND THE EXPENSES CONTINUE TO GO UP. MS. WALSH SAID MEDICAID WAS ALSO CUT OR CAPPED. MS. WALSH SAID THEY HAVE 19 VEHICLES THAT ARE USED TO TRANSPORT THE PEOPLE AND THEY ARE DETERIORATING INCLUDING THE LIFT VAN. MS. WALSH SAID THE RESOURCE FOUNDATION HOLDS FUNDRAISERS FOR THEM, BUT THIS YEAR THEY RAISED LESS MONEY. MS. WALSH SAID THE STATE REQUIRES THE SAME LEVEL OF SERVICE, BUT WITH LESS FUNDS. MS. WALSH SAID THE STATE OWNS THEIR BUILDING AND THE COUNTY DONATED THE LAND AND A 3,000 SQ. FT. ADDITION WAS ADDED AND PAID FOR BY THE STATE. MS. WALSH SAID THEY PREVIOUSLY ONLY HAD AN ADULT PROGRAM. MS. WALSH SAID THE STATE PROVIDED 85% OF THEIR FUNDS AND THEY ALSO GET GRANTS AND HAVE CONTRACTS WITH THE SCHOOLS. MS. WALSH SAID THEY PROVIDE 65 JOBS AND MOST OF THEIR EMPLOYEES LIVE AND SHOP IN JASPER COUNTY. MS. WALSH SAID THEY ARE TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE WHO CANNOT TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES AND OFFER A VARIETY OF SERVICES 24/7 AT THE GROUP HOMES. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW THEY COVERED THE SHORTAGE AND MS. CROSBY SAID ALL THE STAFF HAS BEEN FURLOUGHED 1 DAY PER MONTH. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT FUND

RAISING AND MS. CROSBY SAID THEY HAVE HAD FUNDRAISERS, BUT THEY ARE NOT BRINGING IN WHAT THEY HAVE IN THE PAST BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY ORGANIZATIONS ASKING FOR MONEY.

**BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB** – MS. WALKER INTRODUCED HER NEW BOSS, CHRIS CROSS. MS. WALKER SAID THAT MR. CROSS IS NEW TO THE LOWCOUNTY, BUT NEW TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. MR. CROSS SAID THEY WERE REQUESTING \$25,000 SO THAT THEY COULD HIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF AND GROW THE PROGRAM. MR. CROSS SAID THE PROGRAM HELPS THE CHILDREN GROW, THEY HELP WITH THEIR HOME WORK AND KEEPS THEM OUT OF TROUBLE. MR. CROSS SAID THE CLUB HELPS THE CHILDREN DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS. MR. CROSS SAID THE CHILDREN CAN COME TO THE CLUB FROM AFTER SCHOOL TO 7:00 P.M. AND THEIR FAMILY CAN KNOW THEY ARE IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY PLANS TO OPEN A BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IN HARDEEVILLE. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY HAVE TO BE FINANCIALLY STABLE BEFORE THEY CAN BRANCH OUT AND THEY NEED TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES BEFORE THEY CAN GO TO HARDEEVILLE. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO GO TO HARDEEVILLE, BUT THEY HAVE TO HAVE FINANCIAL STABILITY. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED WHAT AMOUNT DID THEY HAVE TO REACH AND MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY NEED \$207,000 FOR THE CURRENT SITE AND IT IS HARD TO RAISE THAT MONEY CONSISTENTLY. MS. HENDERSON THAT IF A FREE SPACE COULD BE FOUND, THEY WOULD HAVE TO COME UP WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$50,000 FOR A SATELLITE CLUB. MR. CROSS SAID THEIR HAS BEEN INTEREST FROM THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, BUT THEY WOULD NEED A PLACE FOR THE CHILDREN TO COME TO. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED WHAT THEY WOULD NEED TO COME TO HARDEEVILLE, AND MS. WALKER SAID THEY WOULD NEED A NO COST FACILITY, 60 CHILDREN AND \$50,000.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION** – MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THE INFORMATION HE PROVIDED WAS NOT THE ACTUAL BUDGET, BUT INFORMATION FROM THE CURRENT BUDGET. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE REVIEWED THE INFORMATION AND HE HAD A LOT OF QUESTIONS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY ONLY PERCENTAGES WERE SHOWN INSTEAD OF ACTUAL DOLLARS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT DOES NOT REFLECT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY LEFT IN EACH LINE ITEM. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT SHOW WHAT PERCENT OF THE TOTAL BUDGET EACH DEPARTMENT REPRESENTS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT IS SHOWING LESS THAN 7% OF THE SALARY IS USED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE REPORT SHOWS HOW MUCH WAS BUDGETED AND AS AN EXAMPLE HE SAID THAT 6.75% OF THE ENTIRE BUDGET GOES FOR THE SALARIES AT EMS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHEN THEY ARE GOING TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH EACH DEPARTMENT SPENT AND WHAT WAS LEFT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE CAN PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION AT THE NEXT MEETING AND WHEN HE GIVES THE COUNCIL THE BUDGET, IT WILL SHOW WHAT WAS SPENT, WHAT THEY REQUESTED AND WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS RECOMMENDING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS YEARS BUDGET AND REPORTS SHOW HOW MUCH EACH DEPARTMENT REPRESENTS IN THE BUDGET. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY WERE TRYING TO SHOW THE PERCENTAGE RECEIVED AND THE PERCENTAGE OF THE MAJOR EXPENDITURES OF THE BUDGET. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE REPORT PROVIDED SHOWS THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE LAST UPDATE THE COUNCIL RECEIVED WAS IN DECEMBER AND IT WAS TIME FOR ANOTHER ONE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHEN THE COUNCIL WAS GOING TO GET THE ACTUAL BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WERE GETTING CLOSE TO COMPLETING IT AND HE MAY HAVE IT READY NEXT WEEK OR FOR SURE IN TWO WEEKS.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE DID NOT THINK SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS SHOULD BE MADE WHEN PEOPLE ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEAK CAUSING THE SCHEDULED PEOPLE TO HAVE TO WAIT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID NO ONE WAS CUT OFF AND HE DID NOT REQUIRE THEM TO STAY WITHIN THE 15 MINUTE TIME LIMIT. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID IT IS NOT FAIR TO THE PEOPLE WHO WERE

SCHEDULED. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNCIL TO HEAR FROM THE SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE POINT IS WHEN YOU SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION IN FRONT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY SCHEDULED, IT IS NOT FAIR AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE MADE DURING SCHEDULE PRESENTATIONS.

**ADJOURN** – CHAIRMAN GREGORY ADJOURNED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP AT 5:25 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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REV. SAMUEL GREGORY  
CHAIRMAN