

GCCMA Fall Business Meeting, Jekyll Island Convention Center, Jekyll Island, GA

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

GCCMA President Chris Hobby welcomed everyone to the business meeting and introduced the corporate sponsors ABM, GMC and Trane. President Hobby then called the meeting to order at 3:55 PM.

Spring Business Meeting Minutes—Upon a motion by Adam Mestres and seconded by Scott Johnson, the minutes from the 2024 GCCMA Spring Business meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

President's Report- President Hobby announced that he had accepted a new position as Assistant City Manager in Peachtree City and would begin his new role on November 18.

Treasurer's Report – Sammy Rich gave a brief overview of the year-to-date financials. The organization has remained in a strong financial position with total liabilities and fund balances totaling \$526,488.21. Mr. Rich explained that as part of the organization's investments, a \$100,000 certificate of deposit had been set aside for the 2028 ICMA Conference to be held in Atlanta. Additionally, revenues exceeded expenses through September 30, 2024, and would likely continue through year end.

Executive Director's Report- Peggy Merriss reported that she was in her third year on the job as Executive Director and was proud of all the achievements we have made as an organization. Ms. Merriss thanked everyone for all of the work put in by committee members and reported she would be soliciting new committee members from the general membership in December. Ms. Merriss reported the Fall 2025 conference would be held in Columbus and the ICMA annual conference would be held in Atlanta in 2028, which had not been hosted since 1976.

Nomination Committee Proposed 2025 Officer and Board Slate: On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Scott Johnson presented proposed slate, which consisted of the following **District Director** positions that have a term of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026:

District 1	Freddy Morgan, Assistant City Manager, Cartersville
District 3 North	Stacey Inglis, Deputy City Manager, Milton
District 3 West	Robbie Rokovitz, City Manager, Chattahoochee Hills
District 5	Niki Jones, Interim Manager, Athens-Clarke County
District 9	Guy Singletary, County Administrator, Emanuel County
District 10	Cory Thomas, City Manager, Colquitt
District 12	Regina McDuffie, City Manager, Brunswick

And, a **Secretary/Treasurer position** that will have a term of January 1, 2025- December 31, 2026:

Shawn Boatright, County Administrator, Camden County

Upon a motion by Merv Waldrop, second by Kathy Young, the slate was unanimously approved.

CVIOG Report– Hardin Watkins announced that Newly Elected County Commissioner training would be held December 4-6, 2024, in Athens, Georgia. Additionally, the Newly Elected Officials Institute for City officials would be held March 19-21, 2024, at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. Mr. Watkins also announced that UGA had a new CyberArch program that offered a valuable free analysis of city and county cyber security resiliency and was interested in finding communities that wanted to participate in the program. Lastly, Mr. Watkins announced that planning for the Spring 2025 conference was underway.

ICMA Report – Chelsea Jackson, SE Region VP reported that ICMA had a VP seat that was coming available and encouraged GCCMA members to apply. ICMA Executive Director, Marc Ott, was retiring in 2025 and MGT had been retained as the recruiting firm to assist with the search. The tentative schedule includes interviews in November/December with final interviews and selection in early 2025. Ms. Jackson reported that ICMA had made disaster response plan resources available on the ICMA website to assist communities that had been hit by the recent storms.

New GCCMA Branding- Freddy Morgan, Chair of the Rebranding Sub-Committee presented the new GCCMA rebranding strategy that was the culmination of year long effort in partnership with MopDog consultants, committee volunteers and focus groups. Mr. Morgan unveiled the new logo and graphic design and various templates to showcase how the new logo would be utilized, along with the brand new GCCMA website.

Pillar and Cornerstone Awards Presentation - Cleatus Phillips, Awards Committee Chair, joined President Hobby to present the following awards.

Pillar of Excellence- Cheri Hobson-Matthews, Henry County Manager

Cornerstone Award- Kathryn Downs, Assistant County Manager, Bryan County and Freddy Morgan, Assistant City Manager, Cartersville

Lastly, GCCMA Vice-President Adam Mestres presented outgoing President Hobby with a plaque of appreciation for his dedication and service to GCCMA.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted-

Sammy Rich, Secretary/Treasurer