

**MINUTES**  
**Spartanburg County**  
**Legislative Delegation**  
**Monday, May 1, 2006**  
**5:00 p.m.**

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Legislative Delegation was held on Monday, May 1, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers of the Spartanburg County Administrative Office Building. Representative Doug Smith presided. The following members were present or absent as indicated:

Senator Glenn Reese – Present  
Senator John Hawkins – Present  
Senator Jim Ritchie – Absent  
Senator Harvey Peeler – Absent  
Representative Harold Mitchell – Present  
Representative Doug Smith – Present  
Representative Lanny Littlejohn – Present  
Representative Scott Talley – Present  
Representative Phil Sinclair – Absent  
Representative Joe Mahaffey – Present  
Representative Ralph Davenport – Present  
Representative Bob Walker – Present  
Representative Mike Anthony – Absent

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices of this meeting were mailed in advance to the local news media and other interested parties.

Invocation was rendered, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Lanny Littlejohn.

**1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

Representative Bob Walker moved to approve the February 6, 2006 meeting minutes as printed. Representative Scott Talley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2. MR. SCOTT MILLER, BOILING SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT – WORK AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRE SERVICE TASK FORCE**

Mr. Scott Miller wanted to make comments on the final report of the Fire Service Task Force that was formed some months ago. There are some concerns regarding the recommendations that Mr. Jones had presented in previous meetings. Unfortunately, at this time, the final document has not been presented, therefore, Mr. Miller is asking for presentation time once the final report has been presented.

Mr. Miller encouraged the delegation to carefully consider the final report as it will not only affect Boiling Springs Fire Department area, but it will clearly impact all the service areas of the county, whether it be a Special Purpose District or a County fire service area.

Chairman Smith is recommending a comprehensive meeting be scheduled between now and the next scheduled Delegation meeting to specifically address issues of the fire departments. Mr. David Jones would formally present the final Task Force recommendations. Comments and concerns would be addressed at the same time. Mr. Smith would contact Chairman Horton to form a task force specifically to recommend statutory changes and ordinance changes that would be necessary. Then, the Statutory/Ordinance Task Force, Delegation, County Council, and City Council members would meet to participate in this countywide issue. In order for all the fire departments to express their views, a structured arrangement would be forthcoming.

**3. DR. SHEILA BREITWEISER – SC SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND BLIND - UPDATE**

Dr. Sheila Breitweiser thanked the delegation for all their support and interest shown to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind during this legislative session. The School reminds legislators that the School for the Deaf and Blind is a state school located in Spartanburg. The School has been working through the budget process and received support from senators and representatives from other communities of the state, not just the Spartanburg Delegation. Because of the support and interest received, the School came out of the senate budget deliberations with some very desperately needed budget items. The School will be watching as the budget goes through the conference committee.

**4. MS. BETH SUMMER-STRAIT, MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF THE**

## **PIEDMONT – MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

The month of May is celebrated as Mental Health Month. So much is heard about mental illness and the struggles that folks who have mental illness face in the world and the community that the agency takes the month of May to celebrate Mental Health and Mental Wellness. The actual mission statement of the agency is “Advancing Mental Wellness across the lifespan.”

While other causes have their red or pink ribbons, the silver ribbon is part of the nationwide campaign for the brain. Mental health all starts and ends in the brain. There are many positive things going on in the community in regard to mental health issues.

The Mental Health Association is focusing on suicide prevention. In 2005, the office was overrun from calls for help from folks who had loved ones or family members that were considering suicide. The Mental Health Association has discovered that nationwide and in South Carolina, suicide is higher than the homicide rate. The latest statistical numbers in Spartanburg were from 2003 which showed that Spartanburg had an equal number. There were twenty-nine suicides and twenty-nine homicides.

The Mental Health Association has started a program called “QPR” which is a nationally recognized suicide prevention program. Free training of the program is offered through the Mental Health office. The next training is scheduled for May 18. Almost four hundred people have been trained in Spartanburg County.

At the end of May, a Magical Mind Jubilee is scheduled. This is more of making people aware of Mental Health issues.

The Spartanburg Mental Center has opened an evening crisis center to try to avert patients from going to a hospital emergency room. The crisis center is open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. There has not been much publicity on the evening crisis center therefore not many people have taken advantage of the center. This evening crisis center is a cost effective resource center providing trained professionals to deal with all aspects of behavioral health issues.

A dialogue with the Mental Health Center, hospitals, and providers of mental health services is needed to educate legislators on a laundry list of needed services to resolve issues.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **5. PRESENTATIVE BOB WALKER, COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (CTC)**

The County Transportation Committee held its quarterly meeting in April. The committee is beginning to match funds with the new county road fee making available dollars go farther. There were two intersection improvement projects selected to use matching C Fund dollars. Both Windmill Hill Road at Compton Bridge Road, and Peachtree Road at Bible Church Road are necessary intersection improvements. Each intersection improvement is estimated to cost

approximately \$500,000.

The Caldwell Road project is approximately 95% complete.

Delegation set-aside projects have all been approved for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. New funds will be available after July 1 for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

**6. PRESENTATIVE SCOTT TALLEY, PARD**

**a) Spartanburg County – Brookwood Park Trail in Landrum**

The PARD committee met and is recommending the delegation approve funding the Brookwood Park Trail in Landrum. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

**b) Town of Cowpens – Recreational Facility paving project**

The Town of Cowpens recreational facility paving project grant application was received today. With the just approved funding for the park in Landrum, the requested funding is not available. However, consideration was requested by Representative Littlejohn for the Town of Cowpens to be granted the remaining funds and additional funding will be requested once the new year funding is available. Representative Talley will poll the delegation in Columbia to consider the request.

**7. SENATOR JIM RITCHIE, SPARTANBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Senator Ritchie was absent, therefore, no report.

**8. REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD MITCHELL, SPARTANBURG CHILDREN'S SHELTER**

Representative Mitchell did not have a report to share on the Spartanburg Children's Shelter.

Chairman Doug Smith elaborated that the South Carolina Economic Development Corporation meetings are discussed in coded terms. Actual company names are not revealed to members until decisions are final. Members of the committee are given some specifics as to potential new jobs created, and potential investments. However, if questions should arise, Chairman Smith will approach Carter Smith to try to legally and rightfully get some answers.

**9. SENATOR GLENN REESE, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

No grant requests have been made from the Department of Natural Resource.

## APPOINTMENTS

### **10. ARKWRIGHT AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Term of Ronya Jones. Application received: Carole L. Davis and David A. Sherbert.

Representative Mitchell made a motion to nominate Carole L. Davis. No other nominations were made. The motion carried.

### **11. PACOLET STATION FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Terms of Carroll Rhinehart and Dale R. Campbell and unexpired term of William Heacox. Applications received: David Belton Free III, Dale R. Campbell, Carroll Rhinehart, and Jeff Edwards.

Representative Littlejohn made a motion to nominate Dale R. Campbell, Carroll Rhinehart and Jeff Edwards. No other nominations were made. The motion carried.

### **12. CONVERSE AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Terms of James R. Mabry and Donald E. Smith, Jr. Applications received: Donald E. Smith, Jr. and James R. Mabry.

Representative Smith moved to nominate Donald E. Smith, Jr. and James R. Mabry. The motion carried.

### **13. SPARTANBURG AREA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

Term of Gayle L. Singletary. Applications received: Ann J. Kelly and Gayle L. Singletary.

Representative Smith moved to nominate Gayle L. Singletary. No other nominations were made. The motion carried.

**14. FORESTRY BOARD**

Term of Richard Stanley Tillotson. Application received: Richard Stanley Tillotson.

Representative Littlejohn moved to nominate Richard Stanley Tillotson. Senator Reese seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**15. SPARTANBURG COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Terms of Dorothy T. Moss (House District 31); Billy L. Painter (House District 32); John H. Throckmorton (House District 37); Hubert Boyd Waldrop (House District 38). Applications received: John H. Throckmorton, Billy L. Painter and Hubert B. Waldrop.

Representative Walker moved to nominate Hubert Waldrop. Representative Davenport moved to nominate John Throckmorton. Representative Smith moved to nominate Billy Painter. The motions carried.

The term of Dorothy Moss (House District 31) will be carried over.

**16. CROFT AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Term of William B. Littlejohn, Jr. Applications received: None

Representative Talley moved to carry this appointment over until the next meeting. The motion carried.

**17. CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD**

Term of Milton M. Georgian. Application received: Robert Todd Stephens.

Representative Talley moved to nominate Robert Todd Stephens. The motion was seconded and approved.

**18. HILLTOP AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Term of Joe Pack. Application received: Joe Pack

Senator Glenn Reese moved to nominate Joe Pack. The motion was seconded and approved.

**19. NEW PROSPECT AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Terms of Reggie Pryor and Tommy M. Burnett. Applications received: Tommy Burnett, Richard Isaac Ledbetter, Jr., and Jerry Richard Burns.

Representative Walker moved to nominate Tommy Burnett, and, since Reggie Pryor's application was received today, carry Mr. Pryor's appointment over until the next scheduled meeting.

Senator Reese seconded the motion. The motion carried. Senator John Hawkins abstained from voting on this appointment.

**20. NORTH SPARTANBURG FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Terms of John L. Prince, Jr. and Danny E. Bridgeman, Sr. Application received: John L. Prince, Jr.

Representative Davenport moved to nominate Mr. John Prince and hold Mr. Bridgeman's appointment over until the next meeting. Representative Mahaffey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**21. PELHAM-BATESVILLE BOARD OF FIRE CONTROL**

Terms of Davis Holder and Robert F. Moore. Applications received: Davis M. Holder and Robert F. Moore.

Representative Mahaffey moved to nominate Mr. Davis Holder and Robert F. Moore. The motion carried.

**22. WESTVIEW-FAIRFOREST FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Terms of James F. West and Bobby Edgar Wilder. Applications received: James F. West and Bobby E. Wilder.

Representative Talley moved to appoint Mr. James West and Mr. Bobby Wilder. The motion was seconded and approved.

**23. WHITNEY AREA FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Unexpired term of Linda Cox. Application received: Bryce Ronald Gilmer.

Representative Smith moved to appoint Mr. Bryce Ronald Gilmer. The motion was seconded and approved.

**24. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**25. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss.

**WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.**

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Doug Smith, Delegation Chairman

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Attested:  
Carol Crowe