



AGENDA

APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024 – 10:30 AM
APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OFFICES
WITH A ZOOM OPTION

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88992403593?pwd=rN5aY5UbfD1qUCTpbRhbHKJVO4FgrT.1>

Meeting ID: 889 9240 3593 - Passcode: 450706 - Dial In Number (309) 205 3325

10:30

- I. Call to Order – Rep. Neal Collins, Chair
 - A. Invocation
 - B. Introduction of Guests and New Staff Member
 - C. Approval of December 8, 2023, Board Minutes (Section 1, Board Packet)
 - D. December 31, 2023, Financial Statements [**Information Only**] (Section 2, Board Packet)

10:35

- II. Senior Action – Ms. Andrea Smith, Executive Director/CEO (Section 3, Board Packet)

Briefing: Ms. Smith will provide an overview of the programs and services offered to seniors. She will discuss the successes and challenges of Senior Action over the past year.

11:00

- III. South Carolina Legislative Report – Mr. Jason Zacher, Executive Director, Upstate Chamber Coalition and Mrs. Brooke Ferguson, Economic Development Director (Section 4, Board Packet)

Briefing: The Upstate Chamber Coalition represents fourteen chambers of commerce and 8,000 businesses across the region. Mr. Zacher will discuss the coalition's legislative priorities for the 2024 term of the SC General Assembly. Mrs. Ferguson will address pending legislation of interest to local governments.

11:30

IV. ARC Revolving Loan Funds, Request to Close Out Grants – Mr. Steve Pelissier, Executive Director (Section 5, Board Packet)

Briefing: ACOG has received several grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to fund its small businesses and entrepreneurial revolving loan program. As the result of an ARC policy change, that agency is now recommending that local development districts (LDDs) close out ARC RLF grants. That process was initiated by a request from the LDD board of directors. Taking this action would not change the eligible uses of the funds or ACOG's responsibility for the use of the funds. They could still only be used to fund loans. While it would reduce reporting requirements to ARC, ACOG would retain the existing reporting and monitoring requirements from its contractor, the Appalachian Development Corporation. The Economic Development Committee has reviewed this matter and recommends its approval by the entire board. Additional information and a copy of a draft request letter is included in Section 5 of the board packet.

Action Item

11:40

V. Nominations for 2024 Regional Board Members – Rep. Neal Collins, Chair

Briefing: Nominations for Regional Members to the board shall be considered. Nominations from each county are presented by board members from that county and are presented to the Board Chair in the form of a recommendation. The Chair considers recommendations for approval.

Action Item

11:50

VI. Executive Director Report – Mr. Steve Pelissier, Executive Director

11:55

VII. Member Updates – Rep. Neal Collins, Chair

Briefing: Board members will report on items of interest from their communities.

12:00

VIII. Adjourn