



The COMET Service Committee Meeting minutes are prepared and presented in summary form, audio recordings of the meetings are on file at The COMET and are part of the approved minutes. If you would like to hear the recording from the meeting, please contact Paige Jernigan at COMETadmin@catchtheCOMET.org.

Per SC Code of Laws, Title 30, Chapter 4, Section 30-4-80 - All public bodies shall notify persons or organizations, local news media, or such other news media as may request notification of the times, dates, places, and agenda of all public meetings, whether scheduled, rescheduled, or called, and the efforts made to comply with this requirement must be noted in the minutes of the meetings. The COMET complied with the notification of this meeting on Sunday, September 3, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

**Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority Service Committee
Tuesday, September 3, 2019 -1:30 P.M.
3613 Lucius Road, Columbia, SC 29201 – Conference Room A**

Members Present:

John V. Furgess, Sr
Derrick Huggins*
Skip Jenkins*
Lill Mood *
Colonel (R) Roger Leaks, Jr., Chair

Guests Present:

None

Absent Committee Members:

Carolyn Gleaton
Geraldine Robinson

**Indicates participation by phone.*

The COMET Staff Present

John Andoh, Executive Director/CEO
Paige Jernigan, Interim Administrative & Customer Service Specialist
Missey Lawlor, Transit Operations Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Col. Leaks called the meeting to order at 1:31 P.M.
A quorum was present at the opening of the meeting.



1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Furgess and seconded by Mr. Huggins to adopt the agenda.

Approve: Furgess, Huggins, Leaks, Mood

Absent: Gleaton

Motion passed.

2. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Hurricane Dorian Update (Missey Lawlor)

Ms. Lawlor told the committee that The COMET staff have been actively monitoring the track of Dorian all weekend. She mentioned at this time, no shelters are open, and she sees no major changes occurring in the track of the storm. Winds are at fifteen (15) - twenty (20) miles per hour and our area will only receive about two (2) inches of rain. She confirmed that we have five (5) drivers on standby all living in close proximity to The COMET. Currently The COMET is not in emergency preparedness mode.

Mr. Furgess asked about the rural areas and how are we handling it. Ms. Lawlor confirmed that we will operate the same way as we would in the city limits. Ms. Lawlor noted that we have a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with Richland County as we are the support function of the state. Mr. Andoh added that we will help regardless of location. Mr. Furgess stressed the importance of including all the rural areas.

Col. Leaks asked about the "flow" and how the emergency plan is activated. Ms. Lawlor stated that Richland county will contact her directly, as she is the primary Emergency Operations Communication (EOC) contact. She will then contact Transdev. Drivers and all essential personnel will be called in and began evacuation plan. She added that Mr. Andoh is called first, and he then will notify the Board of Directors. Mr. Andoh added that Ms. Lawlor is the participatory COMET person and he is more of the leadership/spokesperson for The COMET.

Mr. Andoh mentioned that the FTA and SCDOT will be contacted and kept apprised because there is a possibility of funding for food, fuel, etc. Col. Leaks stated since we are declared a state of emergency will we be eligible for reimbursement. Ms. Lawlor agreed and added that we have to keep meticulous records for reimbursement. Mr. Huggins stated his concerns about the areas that are prone to flooding. Mr. Furgess stated that we will make sure we are covering all areas. Col. Leaks asked who determines the areas that are safe to travel. Ms. Lawlor confirmed that the EOC will make sure we are all safe. Mr. Andoh urged that safety of our staff is top priority. He concluded that the only call we would make is if we are suspending routes. Ms. Lawlor assured the committee that they will be kept in the loop.



3. ADJOURN

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Furgess and seconded by Mr. Huggins to adjourn.
The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Adopted this 9/16/19, 2019, Agenda Item _____

Prepared by:



Paige Jernigan, Interim Administrative & Customer Service Specialist

Approved by:



Andy Smith, Secretary

