



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA (ONLINE)

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes (A)** **Paige Brown**
GNRC President
2. **Public Comment**
3. **Action Items:**
 - a. **Approve Monthly Financial Report (A)** **Gayle Wilson**
Finance Director
4. **Informational Items**
 - a. **2021 Meeting Schedule and Membership Resource Guide (A)** **Michael Skipper**
Executive Director
Staff will present an overview of the 2021 calendar and an updated Membership Resource Guide distributed with the packet.
 - b. **Update on COVID-19 Recovery Loan Program (A)** **Angela Hubbard**
Director of Economic and Community Development
On December 1, GNRC opened the new Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program to help small businesses recover from economic injury caused by the pandemic. Staff will provide an update on the program.
 - c. **COVID-19 Mobility Trends** **Max Baker**
Director of Research and Analytics
Staff will present highlights from recent analysis of mobility trends resulting from the ongoing pandemic.
5. **Regular Reports:**
 - a. **Chair's Report** **Paige Brown**
 - b. **Staff Report** **Michael Skipper**
6. **Other Business**
7. **Adjourn**

****11:30 a.m., or immediately following the 10:15 a.m. Transportation Policy Board meeting.**

GNRC will be using the Microsoft Teams platform for the online meeting.

Meeting Link and Call-In Details available at www.GNRC.org/Calendar

Roll Call will be taken at www.GNRC.org/RollCall

(A) Indicates an attachment is available in the packet

GNRC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed or disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. This policy applies to applicants for employment and current employees as well as sub-recipients and subcontractors of the GNRC that receive federal funding. Complaints should be directed to Laylah Smith, Non-Discrimination Coordinator, 220 Athens Way, Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37228, phone number 615-862-8863. GNRC meetings may be audio and video recorded.

Agenda Item 1.

Meeting Minutes October 21, 2020

Background

Meeting minutes have been prepared and are ready for approval.

Recommendation

Approve meeting minutes.

GNRC

Greater Nashville Regional Council
220 Athens Way, Suite 200
Nashville, Tennessee 37228

GNRC Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2020 11:30 am
Via Microsoft Teams
Nashville, Tennessee

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Paige Brown	Gallatin
Mike Callis	Portland
Stephen Chamber	Hartsville/Trousdale County
Faye DiMassimo	Nashville-Davidson County
Jim Durrett	Montgomery County
Anthony Holt	Sumner County
Jerry Kirkman	Westmoreland
Victor Lay	Spring Hill
Kerry McCarver	Cheatham County
Joe Pitts	Clarksville
Bob Rial	Dickson County
Billy Vogle	Robertson County

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mayor Paige Brown, called the Executive Board Meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, Via Microsoft Teams, Nashville, TN.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Brown called for corrections or additions to the minutes of the September 23, 2020 Annual meeting.

Mayor Bob Rial made a motion to approve the September 23, 2020 minutes as presented. Mayor Jim Durrett seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor Brown called for corrections or additions to the minutes of the August 19, 2020 Executive Board meeting.

Mayor Jim Durrett moved to approve the minutes of August 29, 2020 with Mayor Joe Pitts seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

a) FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Gayle Wilson, GNRC Financial Director, said that financial report has been updated to include the budget that was adopted by the Board at the September meeting. She said that at the end of August the revenue received was \$31,604.00. The total expenditures were \$1,546,306.00. The total available cash is \$3,357,001.00 after deducting the TCAD advance.

Mayor Joe Pitts moved to approve the financial report with Mayor Mike Callis seconding. The motion was unanimously approved.

b) Resolution GNRC-2021-05 Requesting a Waiver from the U.S. SBA Requirements that Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation have at least One Directly Employed Full-time Professional to Manage the Community Development Company and Approving of the FY 2021 Professional Services Agreement Between the Mid-Cumberland Area Development Corporation and the Greater Nashville Regional Council.

Ms. Angie Hubbard, Interim Chief Legal Counsel, said that this resolution allows us to participate in the public safety program which will help fund safety equipment for COVID.

Mayor Bob Rial asked how this compares to the last one signed. Ms. Hubbard said it is the same except for previously Amanda Giner served in an executive director role and we have reorganized creating a manager role for the MADC staffing purposes which is more in line with the waiver regulation.

Mayor Mike Callis moved to approve the resolution authorizing participation in the public partners "safety partner" program. Mayor Jerry Kirkman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Resolution GNRC 2021-06 Temporarily Amending the Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund Plan

Ms. Hubbard, Interim Chief Legal Counsel, said that funding through a revolving loan fund. This amendment allows to make credit more quickly and easily available to small businesses impacted by COVID-19 the EDA has provided the following waivers to existing revolving loan fund programs through May 6, 2021.

Mayor Bob Rial moved to approve the resolution temporarily amending the EDA Revolving Loan Fund Plan with Mayor Joe Pitts seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

d) Resolution GNRC 2021-07 Approving the Economic Development Administration CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund Plan

Ms. Hubbard said that the GNRC has applied for and was awarded a single supplemental financial assistance award of \$2.49M to capitalize new revolving loan fund to alleviate the sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to serve the same lending area as its existing RLF and up to an additional ten percent of that amount to defray administrative costs necessary to establish the new RFL and to facilitate rapid and prudent lending to respond to the pandemic by July 23, 2022.

Mayor Brown asked what the plans are to manage this. Ms. Hubbard said that a plan had to be submitted for approval. She said that the staff is in the process of drafting the loan documents that will be used and Mid-November is the opening of the application process. A marketing and outreach plan is being developed. She said that there is already a list of businesses that want to be contacted when the applications are open. Mayor Brown said that she appreciates the organization's ability and capability to do this well. Ms. Faye DiMassimo asked if there are any segments of the business community that are prioritized. Ms. Hubbard said that any small business is eligible to apply. She said that tourism and hospitality businesses are targeted due to their impact by the pandemic.

Mayor Durrett moved to approve the Resolution GNRC 2021-07 approving the CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund Plan. Mayor Joe Pitts seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR REPORTS

a) Chair's Report

Mayor Brown said she is honored to be in this role this year and welcomes any assistance. She also thanked the professional staff for their hard work. She recognized Mayor Bob Rial as the new Vice-President who said that he was proud to serve and Mayor Joe Pitts as the new Treasurer who said that he was looking forward to moving past the pandemic.

After Mr. Michael Skipper, GNRC Executive Director, briefly went over the composition of the Executive Board as spelled out in the Bylaws. Mayor Brown said that the following appointments to the Executive Board are Mayor John Cooper as the Large City representative and Mayor Jerry Kirkman as the Small City representative. These appointments are through September 30, 2021.

b) Staff Report

Mr. Skipper said that the staff is still working remotely and will do so through December 2020. A determination will be made after that date on returning the to office full-time. He said that there is some staff at the Metro Center office to assist staff when necessary.

He said that he is looking forward to working with the new officers in the coming year.

Mr. Skipper said that we went to make sure that the monthly meetings are put to good use. He will be polling the membership for meeting topics.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Kirkman thanked Ms. Angie Hubbard for stepping up as the interim Chief Legal Counsel

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Edwards

Recording Secretary

Agenda Item 3a. Monthly Financial Report

Background

The monthly financial report has been prepared and is ready for approval.

Recommendation

Approve monthly financial report.

Agenda Item 4a.

Meeting Schedule and Membership Resource Guide

Background

Council Body

The Council body is comprised of 93 members and includes 65 mayors and county executives, 26 mayoral appointments, 2 state legislators. The ***annual business meeting of the full governing body will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.*** for the purpose of adopting the GNRC Annual Budget and Work Program.

Executive Board (XB)

The 24-member Executive Board is empowered to act on behalf of the Council Body in executing the adopted work program and budget. ***The Board generally meets the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m.*** All members of the GNRC are encouraged to attend and participate in conversation.

Finance & Personnel Committee (F&P)

The 7-member Finance and Personnel Committee is responsible for overseeing the development of GNRC's Annual Work Program and Budget, the process of hiring of an executive director, and the formulation of personnel policies for the organization. The Committee consists of the Council President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, immediate past President, and the small and large city representatives from the Executive Board. ***The committee meets only as needed, typically on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.***

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is empowered to adopt formal transportation plans and programs on behalf of the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. The TPB is comprised of mayors and county executives of member governments, the Governor (or TDOT designee), a representative of area transit agencies, a representative of county highway departments, and representatives of the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. ***The TPB generally meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:15 a.m.*** All members of the GNRC are encouraged to attend and participate in conversation.

Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC)

The Transportation Coordinating Committee is a formal advisory body to the Transportation Policy Board and coordinates with GNRC staff in the formulation of recommendations related to regional transportation plans and programs. The TCC is comprised of staff representatives of member city and county governments, state and federal agencies, and area transit providers. Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. ***The TCC generally meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 a.m.***

More information about GNRC boards and committees can be found at:
<https://www.gnrc.org/233/Regional-Council>

Information about all public meetings and events can be found at:
<https://www.gnrc.org/calendar.aspx>

Anticipated Executive Board Meeting Dates for 2021:

- January 20, 2021
- February 17, 2021
- March 17, 2021
- April 21, 2021
- May 19, 2021
- June 16, 2021
- July 21, 2021
- August 18, 2021
- September 22, 2021* – Council Body Annual Meeting
- October 20, 2021
- November 17, 2021
- December 15, 2021

*Fourth Wednesday of the month

Recommendation

For information only.

Agenda Item 4b.

Update on COVID 19 Recovery Loan Program

Background

On December 1, GNRC officially opened the new Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program to help small businesses recover from economic injury caused by the pandemic. GNRC launched the program with a press release and an informational webinar. Staff will provide an update.

Recommendation

For information only.

Applications open December 1st, 2020

COVID Relief for Small Businesses

Let us help you get your business on the road to recovery. Learn how your business could benefit from available funds as a result of the CARES Act.

Program Overview

As a result of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Greater Nashville Regional Council has been awarded over \$2.4 million by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) to help capitalize new loans to help provide relief to small businesses that have suffered economic injury due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The **COVID-19 Recovery Loan** is part of the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program which provides low-cost, flexible financing options to help qualified businesses get back on the road to success.

General Loan Information

- Maximum loan size is \$250,000.
- No interest during first two years of loan term.
- Loan terms based on project type.
- No origination or processing fees.

Who can apply?

Existing small businesses located in at least one of the following counties: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, Wilson*

What are the requirements?

Eligible small businesses must demonstrate economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meet minimum credit criteria, and have sufficient collateral. For more information visit www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans

What types of projects are eligible?

- Acquisition of owner-occupied building, office, condo, or land
- Construction or rehabilitation of facilities
- Site improvements; Infrastructure or Utilities
- Machinery or Equipment Purchase
- Training (specific to business's COVID-19 recovery plan)
- Working Capital

How to apply?

Find out if you pre-qualify at www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans. If your business qualifies, you will receive instructions for completing the application process. Once you submit your application, one of our credit analysts will review your information and reach out to you to with the next steps.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the COVID-19 Recovery Loan forgivable?

No, the loans provided to small businesses through this particular Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program are not forgivable.

Can my business apply if it received an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) or SBA Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan or any other federal, state, or local assistance to address business needs resulting from the pandemic?

Yes, receipt of an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan or SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan or any other public assistance does not impact eligibility provided those loans are in good standing and RLF funds are not used for identical expenses or to make payments on or refinance existing loans.

Are the loans only for businesses?

Yes. The COVID-19 Recovery Loan Program is only open to existing for-profit small businesses as defined by the Small Business Administration, and the business must be located within the thirteen county GNRC lending area.

Are start-ups eligible?

No, COVID-19 Recovery Loans are only for existing businesses that had revenue at least for the full year prior to the initial COVID-19 emergency declaration on March 22, 2020. GNRC does offer other loan programs that assist start-up businesses acquire fixed assets such as equipment and commercial real estate. For information on other programs, please visit www.gnrc.org/212/Small-Business-Lending

Why is GNRC targeting certain industries and demographic groups?

All eligible small businesses in Middle Tennessee are encouraged to apply. The industries and business sectors targeted experienced significant disruptions from COVID-19 related closures and cancellations.

Does GNRC require collateral?

Loans will be collateralized with business assets potentially including real estate. GNRC also requires personal guarantees.

Are the payments fixed for the life of the loan?

GNRC is offering loans with zero interest for the first 24-months. The monthly payment will increase after two years because it will include both principal and interest.

May a business use the loan to refinance or consolidate other debt?

No, the proceeds may not be used to refinance or make payments on existing debt.

Who do I contact if I have a question or want to apply?

Information on the loan program including and eligibility screening tool and application are available at www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans. You may also email questions to contactus@gnrc.org.



GNRC to Invest \$2.49 Million in Small Businesses

*Regional Council Announces Loan Program to Support
Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19*

November 18, 2020

Contact: Michelle Lacewell
mlacewell@gnrc.org
850-527-4203

Nashville, Tenn. – The Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC) received \$2.49 million from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) for CARES Act Recovery Assistance to lend to small businesses that have been adversely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Applications for funding open on December 1, 2020.

The CARES Act funding will be made available to qualifying small businesses through a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), with a maximum loan amount of \$250,000. EDA has waived some costs and requirements for the loan program.

"Helping Middle Tennessee businesses regain their footing is critical to ensuring our long-term economic recovery," said Paige Brown, Mayor of the City of Gallatin and president of GNRC. "Small businesses are the backbone of our communities, and I hope this program can offer a lifeline to those who have struggled with the on-going effects of COVID-19."

This RLF is open to businesses located in Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, or Wilson County. Applicants must demonstrate economic loss due to COVID-19 and meet minimum credit and collateral criteria. A full list of eligibility requirements is available on the GNRC website.

Angela Hubbard, GNRC's director of economic and community development, stated, "We are proud to add this low-cost, flexible program to our portfolio of loan products. Investments made through this program will provide needed support to many small businesses across the region."

An informational webinar on the program and application process will be held on Tuesday, December 1, at 10 a.m., to register for the webinar visit [GNRC.org/recoveryloans](https://www.gnrc.org/recoveryloans).

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About the Greater Nashville Regional Council:

The TN General Assembly establishes GNRC as the regional council of governments for Middle Tennessee. The Regional Council convenes more than 60 area mayors with state and federal officials for cooperative policymaking and to prioritize public funding for infrastructure projects and social services. It is federally recognized as the region's lead transportation planning organization, economic development district, and area agency on aging and disability. More info at [GNRC.org](https://www.gnrc.org).