



## Eastern Carolina Council

### *Minutes*

#### ***Executive Committee Board Meeting***

***6:30 p.m. - Thursday, April 9, 2026***

***Third Floor Conference Room***

***233 Middle Street, New Bern, NC***

#### **Executive Committee in Attendance:**

Mark Brewington, County Manager Caucus Rep. (Pamlico County)  
Carol DeMoranville, Caucus Rep., Pamlico County (Town of Minnesott Beach)  
Cindy Edwards, Treasurer (City of Jacksonville)  
Frank Emory, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Jones County Commissioner)  
Cynthia Evans-Robinson, City of Havelock  
Tim Harrell, Wayne County Commissioner  
Bennie Heath, Greene County Commissioner  
Ed Riggs Jr., President (Pamlico County Commissioner)  
Maria Robles, Caucus Rep., Jones County (Town of Pollocksville)  
Bill Taylor, Caucus Rep., Carteret County (Town of Morehead City)  
Lorraine Washington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Caucus Rep., Greene County)

#### **General Membership Board in Attendance:**

Shawn Condon, Town of LaGrange-*via Zoom*  
Paul Jordan II, Town of Oriental

#### **ECC Staff in Attendance:**

David Rosado, Interim Executive Director  
Carol Bell, Finance Director  
Jenny Miller, Consultant  
Kim Baker, Deputy Finance Director  
January Brown, Interim AAA Director  
Angelia Pridgen, Lead Regional Ombudsman  
Lauren Latshaw, Regional Ombudsman  
Mickey Anderson, Senior Transportation Planner  
Carlton Gideon, Senior Community Planner  
Susan Wolf, Administrative Assistant

#### **Guests in Attendance:**

Knox Proctor, ex-officio  
Randy Martin, City of Havelock

1. **Welcome, Invocation, and Call to Order** – Ed Riggs Jr., President, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. President Riggs welcomed everyone and Commissioner Bennie Heath gave the invocation.
  
2. **Adoption of Agenda** – President Riggs stated that Agenda Item #9 Closed Session was not needed this evening; therefore, item #9 will be removed from the Agenda. He then asked for questions or comments on this evening's agenda, none were offered. President Riggs requested a motion to adopt the agenda as corrected.

*A motion to adopt the agenda as corrected was made by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Frank Emory, and seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lorraine Washington; the motion passed unanimously.*

3. **Consent Agenda** – Ed Riggs Jr., President
  - a. **Minutes** – Executive Committee Board Meeting – February 12, 2026
  - b. **Area Agency on Aging Update**
  - c. **Economic Development – CEDS Update**
  - d. **Local Government Services Update**

President Riggs asked if there were any questions about the consent agenda or any items for discussion.

*A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Pamlico County Caucus Representative Carol DeMoranville, and seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lorraine Washington; the motion was approved unanimously.*

4. **Budget & Audit Committee Report** – Cindy Edwards, Treasurer
  - a. **Check Register**
  - b. **Financial Statements**
  - c. **Committee Information & Recommendations**

Treasurer Cindy Edwards presented the Budget & Audit Committee Report to the Board reviewing the Check Register for the month of March 2026, noting the final payment for Digital Inclusion, and Financial Statement through February 28, 2026, requesting questions or comments concerning either report; none were offered. Treasurer Edwards announced the IRS has abated 2019 tax issue since proof of payment was provided; however, penalties may still need to be paid. She also stated that the Budget & Audit Committee is recommending that membership dues remain the same as last year's.

**5. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Asset Mapping and Capacity Assessment – Tom Edwards, Lara Chatterly, Heather Newton – Recovery Alliance Initiative (RAI)**

Tom Edwards opened the presentation to the Board by reviewing the steps, from gap assessment, creation of advisory committee, development of a resource guide, and forming task forces to address the 3 priorities; transportation, housing, and access to care, and processes that ECC, RAI and JG Research & Evaluations have completed to date. Next Heather Newton reviewed the 3 priorities and the importance of on-going monitoring to address each priorities changing and continued needs. Mr. Edwards then stated that the next step would be the financing through the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) grant offered by the US Department of Justice. At this time Interim Executive Director Rosado reviewed two inserts in the Agenda Packet:

- ECC's EC-COSR Hub Model and Funding Detail
- ECC's Board of Directors Overview

IED Rosado explained the Three-Hub Structure model and that the grant writing application will be done by Rulo Strategies with no match required for this grant. RAI's Tom Edwards and ECC's IED Rosado then requested that the Board continue with the next step of applying for the COSSUP grant with application assistance through Rulo Strategies.

*A motion to allow ECC and partner RAI to continue to apply for, with application assistance from Rulo Strategies, the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) grant offered by the US Department of Justice was made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lorraine Washington, and seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Frank Emory; the motion was approved unanimously.*

**6. Executive Director's Report – David Rosado, Interim Executive Director**

**The following are some highlights of Interim Executive Director David Rosado's Report:**

- On March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Recovery Alliance Initiative (RAI) presented the results of the regional Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Asset Mapping and Capacity Assessment to representatives from Craven, Jones, Lenoir, and Pamlico counties at the ECC office. RAI shared the finished assessment, including a regional asset map, capacity analysis, geospatial access review, and planning insights for our nine-county region, providing valuable insight into current challenges and barriers across the region such as transportation, housing, and access to care. For your county's result, please visit ECC website [www.eccog.org](http://www.eccog.org) /local government services/regional opioid project.

- ECC hosted Ethics Training for Newly Elected and Re-Elected Officials with Attorneys Trey Ferguson and Ross Hardeman of Sumrell Sugg. The training was held as a no cost service for ECC members from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, March 19, 2026. Ten elected officials attended the required Ethics Training and received Certificates of Completion.
- IED Rosado reviewed the two inserts included in the Agenda Packet:
  - ECC Rural Planning Organization-At Work in Our Region
  - ECC Overview of Community Planning Activities

He stated the role, value, and importance of each department when going over each insert and if anyone had any questions, needs, or concerns to reach out to staff: Mickey Anderson, Senior Transportation Planner [manderson@eccog.org](mailto:manderson@eccog.org) or Carlton Gideon, Senior Community Planner [cgideon@eccog.org](mailto:cgideon@eccog.org).

**7. ECC Membership Dues and Financial Update – Ed Riggs Jr., President and Cindy Edwards, Treasurer**

President Riggs reviewed to the Board the current financial situation and concerns within the remaining fiscal year. With the Budget & Audit Committee recommending keeping dues the same as last year, the finance department will work on next year's budget based on those amounts and hopefully will present FY 2026-2027 budget to the Board at the June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 General Membership Board meeting. He also requested the finance department to send out the yearly membership dues statements as soon as possible so members could pay once their budgets are set.

**8. Member Comments**

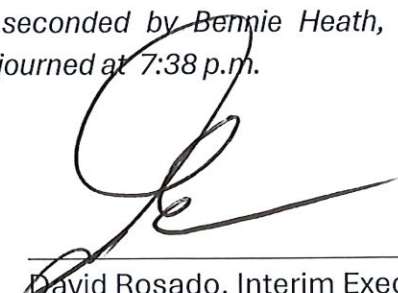
Greene County Commissioner Bennie Heath informed the Board that Greene County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) was adopted on April 6, 2026.

**9. Closed Session –Removed from Agenda.**

**10. Adjournment –** *With no further business, a Motion to Adjourn was made by Carteret County Caucus Representative Bill Taylor, and seconded by Bennie Heath, Greene County Commissioner; the Board unanimously adjourned at 7:38 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

  
 Ed Riggs Jr., President

  
 David Rosado, Interim Executive Director