

CATAWBA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Catawba Regional Center
Rock Hill, South Carolina
March 25, 2026

A regular meeting of the Catawba Regional Council of Governments Executive Committee was held in person at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

The following members were present:

Nettie Archie
Joe Branham, Chair
Alston DeVenny
Todd Lumpkin
Charlene McGriff

Stacey Moore
Harold Thompson, Vice Chair
Chad Williams
Leroy Worthy

Others present included the following:

Staff

Steve Allen
Amanda Baker
Randy Imler

Eleanor Mixon
Amy Roddey

Following the Call to Order and Invocation, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2025, COG Executive Committee and CRDC Board of Directors meeting. The motion was duly seconded and approved unanimously.

I. Presentation of CRCOG 2/28/2026 (8-month interim) FY26 Operating Statement

Ms. Roddey reviewed the February 28, 2026, (eight-month interim) FY26 operating statement. As of February 28, current assets were \$11,096,126, and restricted loans receivable equaled \$11,342,361. The resulting total assets equaled \$22,438,487, and total liabilities were \$651,344. The fund balance total was \$21,512,989. Operating revenues were \$2,328,163, and operating expenses were \$2,054,009; revenues exceeded expenditures by \$274,154. There were passthrough revenues and expenditures for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Workforce Housing Study, the SC BEST SCDES grant, and the EPA brownfields grant. Total revenues exceeded expenses by \$274,154. The COG recently hired a lender, so personnel expenses will increase by the end of the fiscal year. A motion was made to approve the 2/28/2026 operating statement. The motion was duly seconded and, following discussion, approved unanimously.

II. WIOA PY 2024 Performance Assessment

Ms. Baker stated that each year, the federal workforce programs are evaluated on agreed upon goals. Performance is measured by activities and the number of people served with the evaluation focused on outcomes, not activities. Ms. Baker announced that according to the WIOA PY 2024 National Performance Assessment, all areas in South Carolina met performance for PY 2024. South Carolina met or exceeded performance expectations across all indicators. The assessment is

reported at the state level but affects local Catawba Region workforce goals. Mr. Imler stated that the COG negotiates annually with the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (SC DEW) for goals that must be met across the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs using the passthrough funds SC DEW provides for the Catawba Region WIOA program. The Catawba Region WIOA program's ability to meet its goals impacts the State's ability to meet the US Department of Labor's goals for the states. This report was received as information by the Executive Committee.

III. Consideration of Adoption of the Annual CEDS Update

Mr. Allen reviewed the Catawba Region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) website (catawba.digitalceds.com). This year, the COG needs to approve the annual update to the CEDS. In 2027, the next five-year strategy will be developed. The CEDS sets goals and objectives for economic development and infrastructure in the region. Maintaining the CEDS is a requirement of receiving planning and infrastructure grant funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the CEDS is utilized in grant applications to show that proposed projects are consistent with goals / strategies for the region. The COG maintains the CEDS as a website instead of a physical report in order to allow for interactive graphs and regular updates to the incorporated data. The three CEDS goals are as follows, and under each goal are multiple strategies.

- Goal 1 – Promote Diverse Job Creation and Retention
- Goal 2 – Assist Local Governments with Industrial Recruitment Efforts
- Goal 3 – Assist State and Local Governments with Transportation, Land Use, and Environmental Planning Efforts

A motion was made to approve the annual CEDS update. The motion was seconded, and following discussion, the motion passed unanimously

IV. Consideration of Transit Grant Recommendations

Mr. Allen presented Section 5310 Transit Grant rankings and recommendations from the Transit Grants Review Committee. The Section 5310 Program is a federal transit program administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) that provides funding to improve mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities. Catawba Regional COG does not run this grant program, but Catawba Regional does facilitate a process to rate / rank proposals from throughout the region as part of the COG's contractual work with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). The SCDOT application deadline was on or before March 6, 2026. Two Catawba Region applications were sent to the COG from the SCDOT Office of Public Transit on March 9, 2026, for review. The applications were for Union County Disabilities and Special Needs (one replacement cutaway van) and York County Disabilities and Special Needs (two new purpose-built vans). The Grants Review Committee met on March 16, 2026, to review and rank the applications. The Union County Disabilities and Special Needs application ranked as number one while the York County Disabilities and Special Needs application ranked second.

A motion was made to approve the Grants Review Committee's recommended rankings for Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Rural funding awards from the South Carolina

Department of Transportation for FY 2026-27. The motion was seconded, and following discussion, the motion passed unanimously. As the COG's rating and ranking of transit grants must be provided to SCDOT before the next COG Board meeting, the Executive Committee's action will be the formal recommendations submitted on behalf of the full Board.

V. Executive Session to discuss Contractual Items per SC Code § 30-4-70 (a)(2)

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously for the Committee to go to executive session with staff invited to remain for the first two items and Ms. Roddey invited to remain for the entire session. At the conclusion of executive session, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to come out of executive session.

VI. Discussion Regarding Board Member Engagement

Discussion was held regarding Board member engagement and regular attendance at Board meetings. The Committee indicated that the existing outreach by COG staff is done well and that no additional communication efforts are needed at this time.

VII. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Imler
Executive Director