

BETHANY | BRANFORD | EAST HAVEN | GUILFORD | HAMDEN | MADISON | MERIDEN | MILFORD | NEW HAVEN | NORTH BRANFORD
NORTH HAVEN | ORANGE | WALLINGFORD | WEST HAVEN | WOODBRIDGE

Meeting Notice & Agenda

Executive Committee

DATE January 22, 2025	LOCATION SCRCOG Office	DIAL-IN +1-929-205-6099
TIME 9:00 am	MEETING URL https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88161629109	MEETING ID 88161629109

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Adopt Minutes of November 20, 2024, SCRCOG Executive Committee Meeting (motion) Pages 2-3
- 3 Adopt Minutes of December 23, 2024, Special Executive Committee Meeting (motion) Page 4
- 4 Recommend Amendment to SCRCOG Legislative Agenda (motion) Page 5
- 5 Regional Services Grant Spending Plan Discussion
- 6 Regional Cooperation/Other Business
- 7 Possible Executive Session: Personnel – Interim Executive Director
- 8 Adjournment

Agenda and attachments for this meeting are available on our website at www.scrkog.org. Please contact SCRCOG for copy of agenda in a language other than English. Auxiliary aids/services and limited English proficiency translators will be provided with two weeks 'notice.

“Necesidades especiales: a las personas con discapacidad auditiva se les proveerá con medios auditivos y/o intérpretes de signos. Igualmente intérpretes para personas que hablan poco inglés, pero será preciso avisar con dos semanas de antelación. Se puede solicitar la agenda en otro idioma que no sea inglés comunicándose con SCRCOG”.

TO: SCRCOG Executive Committee Members
FROM: Mayor Lauren Garrett, *Secretary*
DATE: November 21, 2024
SUBJECT: SCRCOG Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2024

Present:

Bethany First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, *Chair*
East Haven Mayor Joseph Carfora
Guilford First Selectman Matthew Hoey
Hamden Mayor Lauren Garrett, *Secretary*
Madison First Selectman Peggy Lyons, *Vice Chair*
West Haven Mayor Dorinda Borer, *Treasurer*
Woodbridge First Selectman Mica Cardozo

SCRCOG Staff Laura Francis, Christopher Rappa, Joan Paglinco

Guests

Brian Borgerson, CPA - Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto LLP

NOTE: The November SCRCOG Executive Committee meeting was a hybrid meeting

1. Call to order

Chair Cofrancesco called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Adopt Minutes of October 23, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting (motion)

Chair Cofrancesco referred to the minutes of the SCRCOG Executive Committee Meeting of October 23, 2024, which were included in the agenda packet on pages 2-3. Motion made by First Selectman Cardozo and seconded by First Selectman Hoey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Renew and Accept Audit Report for FY 2023-24 (motion)

Brian Borgerson, CPA of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto LLP presented an overview of the SCRCOG Audit of the Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedules for FY 2023-24. Motion to accept made by First Selectman Hoey and seconded by First Selectman Cardozo. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Recommend Proposed FY 2025-2026 SCRCOG Municipal Dues (motion)

Interim Executive Director Francis explained the proposed one-cent increase in municipal dues. Motion to accept was made by First Selectman Lyons and seconded by First Selectman Hoey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. Recommend Adoption of SCRCOG Legislative Agenda (motion)

Interim Executive Director Francis referred to the edits to the Legislative Agenda. Motion made by First Selectman Cardozo and seconded by First Selectman Lyons. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

6. **Adoption of Regional Housing Strategy (motion)**

Motion made by First Selectman Lyons to table giving all members time to review. Some questioned whether it is necessary to accept or adopt the plan. Motion was seconded by First Selectman Hoey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

7. **Regional Cooperation/Other Business**

Interim Executive Director Francis asked for feedback on creating a working group to share the Regional Services Grant Spending Plan. Consensus reached that it is a good idea.

8. **Adjournment**

First Selectman Hoey made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.

TO: SCRCOG Executive Committee Members
FROM: Mayor Lauren Garrett, *Secretary*
DATE: December 23, 2024
SUBJECT: SCRCOG Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of December 23, 2024

Present:

Bethany First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, *Chair*
East Haven Mayor Joseph Carfora
Guilford First Selectman Matthew Hoey
Hamden Mayor Lauren Garrett, *Secretary*
Madison First Selectman Peggy Lyons, *Vice Chair*
Orange First Selectman Jim Zeoli
Woodbridge First Selectman Mica Cardozo

SCRCOG Staff Laura Francis

NOTE: The December SCRCOG Special Executive Committee meeting was virtual meeting

1. **Call to order**

Chair Cofrancesco called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. **Recommend Executive Session to Discuss a Personnel Matter (motion)**

Chair Cofrancesco recommended going into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter at 10:05. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The committee came out of Executive Session at 10:18.

3. **Recommend Approval Leave of Absence Request (motion)**

Motion made by First Selectman Zeoli, seconded by First Selectman Hoey to approve up to six (6) weeks of unpaid leave of absence for Drew Thomas and after that period an additional four (4) weeks of part-time work schedule subject to review of the Interim Executive Director. Any modifications to this approval will come back to the Executive Committee for consideration. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. **Adjournment**

First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 a.m.

SCRCOG Legislative Agenda 2025 - Addendum

Original Agenda Adopted: November 20th, 2024

Addendum Proposed: January 22nd, 2025

The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) adopted its Legislative Agenda back in the fall of 2024. This addendum adds two items to the list of legislative priorities for the 2025 Legislative session.

Legislative Priority Items and Policy Areas

Government Administration and Elections

- Early Voting

Based on the low voter turnout and the higher than anticipated cost to conduct the 2024 elections, it is imperative that the state adjust and remedy early voting to make it more efficient and cost effective. This should be done either by reducing the current number of required days to conduct early voting or increasing state funding to carry out the requirements of early voting.

Veterans' and Military Affairs

- Veterans Tax Exemption

In 2024, the Connecticut General Assembly enacted Public Act 24-46, establishing a property tax exemption for veterans with a service-connected permanent and total disability rating. However, the implementation of this legislation has resulted in varying interpretations and applications among member municipalities. To ensure consistent and equitable administration statewide, we respectfully request that the Legislature provide additional guidance and clarification to address any ambiguities in the law.