



**Business Meeting**

October 5, 2021 12:15 PM- 2:00 PM  
Chateau Elan Winery and Resort  
Braselton, GA

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<b>Laurie Puckett</b>	<b>Alisha Gamble</b>
<b>Dena Bosten</b>	<b>Chiquita Danzy</b>
<b>Angie Sorrow</b>	<b>Linda Cook</b>
<b>Abby Branan</b>	<b>Cindy West</b>
<b>Vita Dotson</b>	<b>Amy Bennett</b>

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Sheryl Bowman**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS PRESENT:**

<b>Jennifer Fricks</b>	<b>Joseph Johnson</b>
<b>Ramona Bivins</b>	<b>Carlos Encinas</b>
<b>Anna Payne</b>	
<b>Susan Van Nus</b>	
<b>Ashlan Troutman-Webb</b>	

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Laurie Puckett called the meeting to order at 12:15 P.M. and recognized our sponsors and contributors and thanked them for being part of GGFOA and supporting us every year.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes for the 2020 Business Luncheon Meeting call was made by Alisha Page and seconded by Geneva Thomas. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT**

Alisha Gamble presented the 2020 financial report and audit. A statement of financial position for the calendar year end October 31, 2020 was provided in the Treasurer's Report and emailed to all members. The total assets are \$461,867 and total liabilities are \$1,000. For 2020 our total revenue was \$163,099 and total expenses were \$65,813, with ending net assets of \$460,867. Our financial statement was prepared by Mauldin & Jenkins auditors and we do have a clear opinion.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion to adopt the financial report of 2020 was made by Kelly Bush and seconded by Angie Sorrow. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**GFOA UPDATE**

Emily Brock thanked the GGFOA membership for having her at the 2021 Conference. She shared GFOA has added resources over the last two years. The mission of GFOA has stayed the same, even thru the pandemic, advancing excellence in governmental financing. The next 2022 GFOA conference will be in Austin Texas. She shared the biggest challenges government leaders said they faced in 2018 and



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compared them to the challenges government leaders are saying they are facing in 2021: COVID, funding, employees, retention, schedules, GASB, etc. GFOA continues to serve members in a world that is volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous. Emily also shared the core principles for spending the American Rescue Plan Act Funds.

**GGFOA - YEAR IN REVIEW**

Laurie Puckett stated it has been a very challenging year for all of us. However, we all have continued to serve our governments and agencies with the same level of excellence and standards. We have met the challenges and will continue to meet them. She also stated GGFOA has made improvements to the Website, updated the policies and procedures, and reviewed the strategic plan. The Carl Vinson of Institute of Georgia had the kickoff of the Public Finance Leadership Academy during the year. She had the opportunity to attend the graduation. The graduation was refreshing and exciting. She stated it was an honor serving as president, it has been a rewarding experience. She thanked the membership in allowing her to serve.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Annual Conference:** Ashlan Troutman-Webb thanked everyone for being at the in person conference. This was her first year as the conference chair. The conference committee persevered through all the challenges to hold the conference this year. She thanked all of the Annual Conference Committee members. There were 341 attendees, 40 exhibitors and 24 sponsors. Anyone interested in serving on the Annual Conference committee can sign up at the help desk. Next year's conference will be October 2-5 at Jekyll Island.
- **Career Development:** Ramona Bivins stepped in midterm to fill in for John Hulsey. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to be able to serve. News you can use events in November, December, January, April, and May. She reminded members to look for the emails from GGFOA. The webinars are an hour long. She asked the membership to email recommended topics for future webinars.
- **Communications:** Joe Johnson stepped in as the committee chair right before the conference. He thanked everyone for the couple of months he has been serving. He stated there are no real updates. Not much has happened this last year. He thanked Anna Payne for her help. He will be stepping down as the committee chair next year.
- **Membership:** Laurie Puckett gave the update since the chair was vacant at the time. She stated it is filled for the next year. We have a total of 816 members: 714 regular members, 85 associate members, 7 educators, 7 students and 3 retirees.



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- **Scholarship/Award:** Susan Van Nus stated the purpose of the Scholarship committee. She stated for 2021 we had seven categories of GGFOA scholarships with 10 scholarships awarded. She thanked everyone for their generous support, we are close to raising \$3,700 and raffle tickets would be available thru the end of the day. She encouraged everyone to check the GGFOA website next March for scholarship opportunities.
  - **Technical Resources:** Anna Payne stated it has been a pleasure to serve as the committee chair for the last three years. The responsibilities included maintaining the GGFOA website and constantly monitoring the email account. Major accomplishment this last year was to have the ability to enter check payments into the system. She thank the GGFOA board, committees and membership at large for the opportunity to serve.
  - **Governmental Relations:** Laurie Puckett stated there will be no report.

**RECOGNITION OF CARL VINSON LOCAL FINANCE OFFICER CERTIFICATIONS**

John Hulsey presented slides recognizing all members completing the Level I and Level II Certificates. The certificates had been mailed throughout the year.

John Hulsey also recognized the graduates of the Public Finance Leadership Academy in attendance:

Ramona Bivins – Clayton County  
Alisha Gamble – City of Flowery Branch  
Keven Hutcheson – City of Gainesville  
Alicia Page – Georgia Mountains Regional Commission  
Judy Smith – Jefferson County Water Sewer Authority  
Ashlan Troutman-Webb – City of Covington  
Lisa Williams – Dekalb County

**RECOGNITION OF 2020-2021 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Laurie Puckett recognized the 2020-2021 officers and committee chairs for their dedication and service:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Dena Bosten  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Angie Sorrow  
Treasurer – Sheryl Bowman  
Secretary – Cindy West  
Historian – Alisha Gamble  
Past President – Chiquita Danzy  
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Director – Vita Dotson  
Director – Amy Bennett  
Director – Abby Branan  
Annual Conference Chair – Ashlan Troutman-Webb/Jennifer Fricks  
Career Development Chair – Ramona Bivins  
Communication Chair – Joe Johnson  
Membership Chair – Vacant  
Scholarships/Award Chair – Susan Van Nus  
Government Relationships Chair – Carlos Encinas  
Technical Resources Chair – Anna Payne

**PRESENTATION OF THE SERVICE AWARD**

Laurie Puckett awarded the service award to Suzette Arnold.

**PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S AWARD**

Laurie Puckett awarded the president’s award to Ashlan Troutman-Webb.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS**

Laurie Puckett asked all Past Presidents to please stand up and be recognized.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNERS**

David Griffin announced the winners of the Golf Tournament.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Susan Van Nus announced the following scholarship awards:

**Certificate in Public Financial Management:**

Shawn Rollins – Dekalb County Finance

**GFOA Leadership Academy Scholarship:**

Valerie Prince – Cobb & Douglas Public Health

**Level I Certified Financial Officer Scholarship:**

Shanna Ellen – Putnam County Board of Commissioners

Lashane Taylor – City of South Fulton

**Level II Certified Financial Officer Scholarships:**

Cynthia S. Porter – City of South Fulton



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**Annual Collage Scholarship:**

Sarah Watkins – Kennesaw State University

**Jim Pehrson Conference Scholarship:**

Jennifer Gordy– City of Douglasville

Brittany Lee – City of Dahlonega

**Public Finance Leadership Academy:**

Alisha Gamble – City of Flowery Branch

Judy Smith – Jackson County Water and Sewer Authority

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Chiquita Danzy presented the 2021-2022 board members:

President – Dena Boston

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Angie Sorrow

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Sheryl Bowman

Treasurer – Cindy West

Secretary – Linda Cook

Director – Abby Branan

Director – Vita Dotson

Director – Susan Van Nus

Director – Lisa Williams

Historian – Chiquita Danzy

Past President – Laurie Puckett

A motion to approve the slate of officers for 2021-2022 was made by Arlene Samuels and seconded by Ramona Bivins. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**OATH OF OFFICE:**

John Hulsey administered the Oath of Office to the 2021-2022 board members.

**NEW PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:**

Dena Boston thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as the President of GGFOA. The organization has been an invaluable resource in her career as a government finance professional. Next year the board will evaluate resources to accommodate future participants in GFOA and GGFOA.



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Dena introduced the 2021-2022 Committee Chairs:

Annual Conference Chair – Ashlan Troutman- Webb & Jennifer Fricks

Career Development Chair – Ramona Bivins

Communications Chair – Donna Todd

Government Relations/Strategic Planning Chair – Carlos Encinas

Membership Chair – Amy Bennet

Scholarship/Awards Chair – Jennifer Fricks

Technical Resources Chair – Kevin Hutcheson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ashlan reminded everyone about dinner in the Paris Ballroom tonight. The games, air hockey, etc. will be in the room next to Paddy's tonight. The afternoon session will begin at 2:30.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:34 PM**