



*Georgia House of Representatives*  
*2017-2018 House Rural Development Council*

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**2017-2018 House Rural Development Council**  
**August 15-16 Agenda**  
**Ellijay/Dalton, Georgia**

**Infrastructure and Labor**

**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> (Ellijay)**

Location: Piedmont Community Center, 824 Industrial Blvd., Ellijay, GA 30540

- 12:30 – 12:40** Welcome – *Co-Chairs Terry England and Jay Powell*  
Introduction of Speaker Ralston
- 12:40 – 1:05** Local Welcome – *County Commission Chairman Charlie Paris; Mayor Al Hoyle; Chamber President Paige Green* (state of local businesses);  
*Tim Mercier, Owner Mercier Orchards* (trends of Agritourism)
- 1:05 – 1:25** Georgia Rural Water Authority – *Jimmy Matthews, Executive Director*
- 1:25 – 1:55** Dept. of Community Affairs – Community Development Block Grant and One Georgia – *Rusty Haygood, Deputy Commissioner*
- 1:55 – 2:15** Georgia Environmental Finance Authority – *Kevin Clark, Executive Director*
- 2:15 – 2:30** Break
- 2:30 – 2:50** Department of Labor – Labor Market Trends and Workforce, GDOL Business Services Unit addressing of workforce needs; Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act on the job training program successes in workforce needs and Challenges – *Lisa Adkisson, Regional Coordinator for Northwest Georgia*
- 2:50 – 3:50** Rural Cities of Success – City of Dublin: *Tara Bradshaw, Executive Director Dublin Downtown Development Authority* and *Joshua Kight Attorney*  
City of Donalsonville: *Mayor Dan Ponder*

cont.

**3:50 – 4:30** Ellijay Hospital: Successes in opening the new hospital – *Denise Ray, CEO*

**4:30 – 5:00** Questions for Presenters and Council Discussion

**5:00** Adjourn

cc.  
Speaker David Ralston  
Bill Reilly, Clerk of the House  
Tim Bearden, Director of Member & Administrative Services  
House Budget and Research  
House Media Services  
Majority Caucus  
Minority Caucus  
Rural Development Council Partners