

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
MINUTES

Quality Inn and Conference Center
Lake City, Florida

July 22, 2004
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Carlson, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Steve Futch, City of Starke
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
Ray Kirkland, City of Lake City
Roselyn Mattingly, Alachua County
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
L. B. Nelson, City of Archer
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Gerald O'Neil, Alachua County
James Painter, Alachua County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Andrew Smith, Union County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison

STAFF PRESENT

Robin Barnes
Steve Dopp
Charles Justice
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jayne Moraski

MEMBERS ABSENT

William Alexander, City of Perry
Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
Gordon Dasher, Gilchrist County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
John Driggers, Dixie County
Gail Garrard, Lafayette County
Mitchell Gentry, Gilchrist County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Grady Hartzog, City of Newberry
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
John Hersey, Bradford County
Ricky Jenkins, Union County
James King, Madison County
Rodney Long, Alachua County
Craig Lowe, City of Gainesville
Eddie Martin, City of Hawthorne
Edd Sadler, Taylor County
Paul L. Remzey Samarrai, Town of Micanopy
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Penny Wheat, Alachua County

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Henderson, DOT
Russell Simpson, representing Mario Taylor,
DEP

GUESTS PRESENT

Consuelo Dodge
Edith Roberson

Board Members names are bolded

In the absence of Chairman Sadler and Vice-Chairman Martin, Secretary-Treasurer Charles Maultsby called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

ACTION: Mayor Kirkland made the motion, with a second by Mr. Painter, to elect Charles Maulsby to act as temporary Chairman for the July 22, 2004 Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously

Chairman Maulsby noted that there was not a quorum of the Council. Chairman Maulsby stated that there was a quorum of the Board and he announced that, due to the changes made to the organization policy, all Council members were able to vote.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 27, 2004

Chairman Maulsby asked that the minutes of the May 27, 2004, meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Futch made the motion, with a second by Mr. Dodge, to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2004, meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Maulsby asked that Item IV.A.4, Authorization for Executive Director to Retain the Services of Consultants be added to the agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Futch made the motion, with a second by Mr. Dodge, to add Item IV.A.4, Authorization for Executive Director to Retain the Services of Consultants to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program

1. Coordinating Board Membership Certification - Lafayette County
2. Community Transportation Coordinator Annual Performance Evaluation - Lafayette County

B. Memorandum of Agreement with Mid-Florida Area Agency on Aging

Chairman Maulsby asked if there were questions regarding the items listed on the Consent Agenda, and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Mayor Nelson, to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chairman Maulsby welcomed and introduced a new member from Suwannee County, County Commissioner Randy Hatch.

B. Committee Appointments

Mr. Justice asked that the appointments recommended by Chairman Sadler to the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Clearinghouse Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and Representatives to FRCA be approved as recommended.

ACTION: Dr. O'Neil made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Futch, to approve the appointments to the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Clearinghouse Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Regional Planning Committee and Representatives to FRCA as recommended by the Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Consider Ratifying Executive Committee Action to Establish Line of Credit

Mr. Justice reported that a problem developed in June as a result of some \$78,000 in checks being lost in the mail when depositing them into the Council's account. He stated that the state and local governments who issued the checks were contacted to stop payment and issue new checks. Mr. Justice reported that the problem was compounded by the fact that there is no longer Ford Foundation money to use as cash flow and also that the Council is frequently asked to perform work without advance payment.

Mr. Justice reported that to resolve the cash flow problem he asked South Trust, the Council's bank, to approve a line of credit for the Council in the

amount of \$75,000 with the interest rate for the loan to be prime, currently at 4.25%. He reported that this loan required official action of the Council and that Chairman Sadler called a special meeting of the Executive Committee on July 7, 2004, at which time the proposal was approved. He reported that the organization rule authorizes the Executive Committee to act on the Council's behalf between meetings and it further provides that such actions be placed on the next Council agenda for ratification. Mr. Justice requested that the Council ratify the Executive Committee's action in establishing a line of credit with South Trust Bank for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion, with a second by Mayor Kirkland, to ratify the action taken by the Executive Committee on July 7, 2004 to establish a line of credit with South Trust Bank for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Contract with the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
Re: Hazard Analyses Updates

Mr. Justice stated that the Council has been providing technical assistance to Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties in updating hazards analyses for locations that contain extremely hazardous substances. He added that the contract is set up so that the Council can directly contract with DCA and is renewed annually. Mr. Justice stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council approve a contract with DCA in the amount of \$16,515 to update the Hazards Analyses for the counties listed above.

ACTION: Commissioner Futch made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to authorize the Council to approve a contract with DCA in the amount of \$16,515 to update the Hazards Analyses for Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Amendment to Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- City of Waldo Updated Project List

Mr. Justice reported that the CEDS document was adopted by the Council at the May meeting. He added that since that time the City of Waldo has submitted an updated list of projects and stated that it would be appropriate for the previously adopted CEDS document be amended to include these projects. Mr. Justice stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the CEDS document be amended by the Council to include the updated list of projects as submitted by the City of Waldo.

ACTION: Mr. Dodge made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to amend the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document to include the updated list of projects as submitted by the City of Waldo. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Authorization for Executive Director to Retain the Services of Consultants

Mr. Justice stated that, in July 1997, the Council authorized the Executive Director to retain the services of environmental consultants to assist the Council staff in reviewing DRIs when necessary, provided that the payment for these services would not exceed the limits imposed by state law. He added that in August 2000, this authority was expanded to include the hiring of any needed consultants for such reviews.

Mr. Justice reported that since that time the Council has taken on various types of activities, such as hazardous materials work, homeland security and most recently, a data gathering project for the Florida Department of Transportation, all of which, at times, require special expertise and/or greater staff capacity. Mr. Justice stated that the Executive Committee requested that the Council authorize the Executive Director to retain the services of consultants when necessary to assist the staff in the review of DRIs and other approved programs and projects, with the understanding that the amount paid for such consultants shall not exceed the limit imposed by state law, which currently is \$24,999.

ACTION: Mayor Kirkland made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to authorize the Executive Director to retain the services of consultants when necessary to assist the staff in the review of DRIs and other approved programs and projects, with the understanding that the amount paid for such consultants shall not exceed the limit imposed by state law, which is currently \$24,999. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Mr. Steve Dopp, Senior Planner, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met without a quorum and reviewed seven Committee-level items which require Council action. He stated that the recommendations being put forth are unofficial Committee recommendations.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

#81 - Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 04-1)

#85 - Union County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 04-1)

Mr. Dopp stated that, with regards to items #81, Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, and #85, Union County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, the Committee finds the amendments do not adversely affect natural resources of regional significance, regional facilities, or adjacent local governments and, furthermore, the Committee does not recommend the preparation of an Objections, Recommendations, and Comments report for either item. Mr. Dopp stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the Town of Cross City, Union County, and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Mr. Dodge, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee members unofficial recommendations concerning Item #81 and Item #85. The motion carried unanimously.

#82 - Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 99-PS1)

#84 - Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 04-1)

#86 - City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DCA No. 03-1)

Mr. Dopp stated that, with regards to items #82, Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, #84, Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, and #86, City of Hawthorne Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, the Committee finds the Comprehensive Plans, as amended, remain consistent with the regional plan. Mr. Dopp added that the Committee recommends forwarding one Recommendation on the City of Hawthorne amendment which was made by the Council in its review of the draft version of the amendments. He stated that the recommendation calls for the City to replace the phrase “**prime** aquifer recharge areas” with references to “**high** aquifer recharge areas” in Objectives IV.4, V.2, and Policy V.2.12. Mr. Dopp stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the Town of Cross City, the Town of Fort White, the City of Hawthorne, and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Mayor Nelson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Futch, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee members unofficial recommendations concerning Item # 82, Item #84 and Item #86. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dopp reported that the Committee unofficial recommendations for the two Columbia County plan amendments are tied to a common theme, which focuses on a timing issue. He stated that in its EAR-based amendments, the County sought consistency with the regional plan by including copies of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance maps contained in the regional plan. Unfortunately, the County adopted its EAR-based amendments within a few weeks after the Council adopted its EAR-based amendments to the regional plan. Therefore, the regional plan maps contained in the County EAR-based amendments are now out of date. Mr. Dopp added that the Council concerns raised in its reviews of the County amendments can be addressed by the County replacing the older Natural Resources of Regional Significance maps with the newer version of these maps from the current regional plan.

#87 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan EAR-based Adopted Amendments
(DCA No. 03-1ER)

Mr. Dopp reported that, with regards to Item #87, Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based Adopted Amendments, the Committee unofficially finds that the Columbia County Comprehensive Plan, as amended, is inconsistent with Regional Plan Goal 4.2 and Regional Policy 4.2.9, which call for the protection of the water quality of the Floridan Aquifer and stream-to-sink watersheds. However, such an inconsistency is not enough to find the County plan as amended, inconsistent with the regional plan. Therefore, he stated that the Committee finds the County plan, as amended, remains consistent with the regional plan.

The Committee recommends forwarding the same two Recommendations raised by the Council on the draft version of the amendments, plus one new Objection. The recommendations and objection are, as follows:

Objection: Adverse impacts may occur to stream-to-sink watersheds, a Natural Resource of Regional Significance identified and mapped in the regional plan, as a result of the adopted amendments.

Recommendation #1: It is recommended that the reference to the urban development areas as being the same as those contained within the regional plan be deleted from page I-2 of the Future Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Recommendation #2: It is recommended that the County Comprehensive Plan include an updated map from the Suwannee River Water Management District of stream-to-sink watersheds, or the updated version of the stream-to-sink watershed map contained in the 2003 amendments to the regional plan. It is also recommended that references contained in County Objective V.5 and associated policies to Natural Resource of Regional Significance maps contained in the 1997 regional plan be replaced with references to the 2003 regional plan. Mr. Dopp stated that the Committee unofficially recommends forwarding these findings to Columbia County and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Commissioner Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee members unofficial recommendation concerning Item #87. The motion carried unanimously.

#83 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 04-2)

Mr. Dopp reported that, with regards to Item #83, Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, the Committee unofficially recommends forwarding one Objection noting that adverse impacts may occur to stream-to-sink watersheds, a Natural Resource of Regional Significance identified and mapped in the regional plan, as a result of the amendment.

Mr. Dopp added that, as with item #87, the Committee recommends the County Plan include an updated map from the Suwannee River Water Management District of stream-to-sink watersheds, or the updated version of the stream-to-sink watershed map contained in the 2003 amendments to the regional plan. Mr. Dopp stated that the Committee further unofficially recommends that references contained in County Objective V.5 and its associated policies to Natural Resource of Regional Significance maps contained in the 1997 regional plan be replaced with references to the 2003 regional plan and that an Objections, Recommendations, and Comments report be prepared. Mr. Dopp stated that the Clearinghouse Committee members present recommend forwarding this finding to Columbia County and to the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Mr. Dodge made the motion, with a second by Mayor Kirkland, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee members unofficial recommendation concerning Item # 83. The motion carried unanimously.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Justice introduced Ms. Jayne Moraski, the new Economic Development Director for the Council effective July 6, 2004.

Mr. Justice stated that the Florida Department of Community Affairs will be creating a study commission to come up with a recommendation for DRI legislation for next year.

Mr. Justice reported that a House committee has been formed to evaluate the role of regional planning councils.

Mr. Justice further reported that he was contacted by the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations to provide information regarding the cost of mandates on local governments.

Chairman Maulsby announced that the next meeting of the Council will be held on August 26, 2004. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Chairman

Date