

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
MINUTES

Quality Inn and Conference Center
Lake City, Florida

May 26, 2005
7:36 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chuck Chestnut, City of Gainesville
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
David Dodge, Bradford County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Steve Futch, City of Starke
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
John Hersey, Bradford County
Eddie Martin, City of Hawthorne
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
Heather Neill, Lafayette County
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
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County

STAFF PRESENT

Robin Barnes
Steve Dopp
Charles Justice
Scott Koons

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Auger, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
Jordan Green, representing Aage Schroder,
Florida Department of Transportation
Jim Poole, Enterprise Florida

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
Martha Butler, Hamilton County
John Carlson, Alachua County
Melaine "Red" Clyatt, Union County
Gordon Dasher, Gilchrist County
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
John Driggers, Dixie County
Kirk Eppenstein, City of High Springs
Gail Garrard, Lafayette County
Mitchell Gentry, Gilchrist County
John Glanzer, City of Newberry
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
Rodney Long, Alachua County
Rosalyn Mattingly, Alachua County
Malcolm Page, Taylor County
Tracy Reeves, Madison County

GUESTS PRESENT

Kent Cichon, City Manager of Jasper
Diana Davis
James Montgomery
Jon Wershow

Board Members names are bolded

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m., noting that there was a quorum of the Council and that all Council members were able to vote.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 28, 2005

Chairman Martin asked that the minutes of the April 28, 2005, meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Futch made the motion, with a second by Ms. Dixie Donovan, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2005, meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Meeting Schedule 2005-2006

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - 2005-2006 Planning Grant Resolution

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

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

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chairman Martin introduced and welcomed Kent Cichon, the new City Manager of Jasper.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), 2004-2005 Annual Report

Mr. Justice stated that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report is an annual report of economic development activities in the region, and includes a list of potential projects submitted by the local governments which the Council contacted in preparation for

the CEDS submittal to the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Mr. Justice stated that this report is part of the Council's contractual requirement with EDA regarding the funding it provides the Council's economic development program. He stated that the CEDS report lists projects which includes those that could be funded through the EDA as well as projects which could be funded through other revenue sources.

ACTION: Dr. Gerald O'Neil made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Futch, that the CEDS 2004-2005 Annual Report be approved for submittal to the counties within the region and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). The motion carried unanimously

2. Contract with Florida Department of Community Affairs for Growth Management Funds, FY July 2005-2006

Mr. Justice stated that this contract is entered into with the State each year to cover costs of the Council's growth management activities. He stated that this contract includes money to support the Council's general review activities including the review of local plan amendments, maintaining and implementing the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, activities in support of the DRI process not covered by a fee system, and defined technical assistance to local governments. Mr. Justice stated that it is anticipated that the State will pay the Council from \$200,000 to \$215,000 for the services rendered by the Council.

ACTION: Commissioner Futch made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, that the contract with Florida Department of Community Affairs for Growth Management Funds, FY July 2005-2006 be approved. The motion carried unanimously

3. Contract with Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Emergency Management, for State Appropriated Funds, FY July 2005-2006

Mr. Justice stated that this contract will contain a scope of work which provides for assistance by staff to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for meetings, plan updates and exercises. He stated that this contract will help to cover the Council's costs in providing staff support to the LEPC. Mr. Justice stated that it is anticipated that the State will pay the Council \$40,900 for the services rendered by the Council.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Ms. Sandra Haas, that the contract with the Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Emergency Management, for State appropriated funds, FY July 2005-2006 be approved. The motion carried unanimously

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Ms. Sandra Haas, Clearinghouse Committee Chair, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the following four local government comprehensive plan amendments which require Council action.

#62 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 05-1)

Ms. Haas stated that Item # 62, City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 05-1) has no significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance and, if the City plan is amended as proposed, it will remain consistent with the regional plan.

Ms. Haas reported that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the City of Lake City and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Ms. Sandra Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendation for Item # 62. The motion carried unanimously.

#63 - City of Perry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DCA No. 05-1)

Ms. Haas stated Item #63 - City of Perry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments (DCA No. 05-1) has no significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities, or adjoining local governments, and that the City plan, as amended, remains consistent with the regional plan. Ms. Haas reported that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the City of Perry and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

#64 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 05-2)

Ms. Haas stated Item #64 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 05-2) has no significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities, or adjoining local governments, and that the County plan, as amended, remains consistent with the regional plan. Ms. Haas reported that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to Bradford County and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Ms. Sandra Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendations for Item # 63 and Item # 64. The motion carried unanimously.

#65 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 05-1)

Ms. Donovan stated Item #65 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments (DCA No. 05-1) County item LUPMA 04-6 is anticipated to have extra-jurisdictional impacts within the Town of White Springs. She noted the Committee does not recommend requesting the preparation of an Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report for the draft amendments. She concluded by noting the Committee finds the draft amendments have no significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance and, if the County plan is amended as proposed, it will remain consistent with the regional plan provided the County adopts its Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based amendments as previously reviewed by the Council.

ACTION: Ms. Sandra Haas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendation for Item # 65. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Program Committee - Overall Program Design, FY 2005-2006

Mr. Maultsby, Program Committee Chairman, stated that the Program Committee met on April 28, 2005, to develop an Overall Program Design (OPD) for the Council's consideration which will be for next year. He stated that there are no changes proposed in the OPD which include new programs not previously discussed and/or approved by the Council. He did state that the only significant program changes are found in Section 302.4 where the "Coastal Counties Economic Revitalization Program" is replaced by the "Regional Economic Impact Modeling" Program, and in Section 303.3 where "Homeland Security Activities" is added. He stated that the document is essentially the same as the current year edition.

Mr. Maultsby reported that the Program Committee recommends approval of the OPD for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

ACTION: Mr. Charles Maultsby made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendation to approve the Overall Program Design for Fiscal Year 2005-2006. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Finance Committee - Proposed Budget, FY 2005-2006

Ms. Lorene Thomas, Finance Committee Chair, stated that the Finance Committee met on April 28, 2005, to review the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006. She stated that the anticipated expenditures for next year will be \$1,903,300, which is \$94,000 more than the current year budget. It was reported that members pay dues, which are proposed to remain at \$.30 per capita for the twenty-fourth year, producing \$114,100, or approximately \$1,000 more than last year, as a result of population increases. The Council also has unencumbered funds which may be appropriated, and it is requested that \$14,000 of this reserve be made available to increase services to members.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the most significant policy decisions to be made with respect to the budget which are personnel items. In the line item descriptions in the budget, there is a provision for a total of 16 full-time staff positions, plus limited funds for part-time positions, which is the same staff complement as for the current year. The budget includes a three percent salary increase across the board for all employees, and one percent for merit increases.

Ms. Thomas stated that this budget, while tight, provides for significant service to be rendered to member cities and counties. This is to be done by effectively using all available resources, and at the same time, ensuring that the Council remains in a sound financial condition.

Ms. Thomas reported that the Finance Committee recommends approval of the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

ACTION: Ms. Lorene Thomas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendation to approve the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 budget. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Justice asked Scott Koons, Assistant Executive Director for the Planning Council, to discuss the 2005 Infrastructure Planning and Funding Act enacted by the State legislature.

Mr. Koons reported that the Act primarily addresses transportation, schools and water supply. The Act mandates several new requirements for local governments concerning capital improvements planning, water supply planning and school and transportation concurrency. He stated that Council staff will be reviewing the Act in greater detail with local government staff on June 10, 2005, in Lake City at the Annual City Manager/County Coordinator Meeting hosted by Council.

Mr. Justice discussed his concerns regarding the requirement in the 2005 Infrastructure Planning and Funding Act for the Office of Program Analysis and Government Accountability (OPAGA) to review regional planning council boundaries. Mr. Justice stated that he has asked the Executive Committee to meet in mid July to discuss a strategy for dealing with this issue and to develop a recommendation for consideration by the Council at the July 2005 meeting.

Mr. Justice stated that the Home Town Democracy ballot initiative concerning a requirement for a referendum vote to approve local government comprehensive plan amendments has been rejected by the Florida Supreme Court. Therefore, the issue will not appear on the ballot in its present form.

B. I-75 Corridor Activity

Mr. Justice stated that James Cornett of the "Spirit of the Suwannee" and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) are in the process of developing a hardscape for the I-75/County Road 136 interchange in Suwannee County.

Chairman Martin announced that the next meeting of the Council will be held on July 28, 2005. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Chairman

7/28/05

Date