

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

May 28, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville
John Hersey, Bradford County
Eddie Martin, Alachua County
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
Harry Nichols, City of Newberry
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
James Painter, Alachua County
Blanch Parker, City of Archer
Rudolph Parker, Taylor County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County
Ronald Williams, Columbia County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

GUESTS PRESENT

Jack Brown, Taylor County
Diana Davis
Sam Donovan
Murphy McClean, Suwannee County
Gina Reynolds, Lake City/Columbia County
Chamber of Commerce
Grace Valentine

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Cynthia Chestnut, Alachua County
Gib Coerper, City of Alachua
Jack Donovan, City of Gainesville
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville
Emily Weed Ketring, City of Perry
Ann Lessman, City of Jasper
Rodney Long, Alachua County
Jeanna Mastrodicasa, City of Gainesville
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
Andrew Smith, Union County
Byran Williams, City of High Springs

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Jordan Green, representing Charles Baldwin,
FL Dept. of Transportation
Bill Henderson, FL Dept. of Transportation
Jim Poole, Enterprise Florida

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jean Strong

Board Members names are bolded

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Myra Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. with an invocation given by Grace Valentine, and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Valentine stated that there was a quorum of the Council and all Council members were able to vote.

Chair Valentine introduced her granddaughter, Grace Valentine. Commissioner Parker introduced Jack Brown, County Administrator for Taylor County. Commissioner Wainwright introduced Murphy McLean, County Coordinator for Suwannee County. Ms. Donovan introduced her son, Sam Donovan. Mayor Davis introduced his wife, Diana Davis and Jim Poole introduced Gina Reynolds from the Lake City/Columbia County Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Valentine asked that Item III.F. - Purchase Order with Apalachee Regional Planning Council for Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Class be added to the consent agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Ronald Williams made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to add Item III.F. - Purchase Order with Apalachee Regional Planning Council for Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Class to the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 23, 2009

Chair Valentine asked that the minutes of the April 23, 2009 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Ms. Donovan made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2009 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Meeting Schedule Program Year 2009-10
- B. Contract with the Florida Department of Community Affairs - Division of Community Planning, Fiscal Year 2009-10
- C. Contract with the Florida Department of Community Affairs - Division of Emergency Management, Fiscal Year 2009-10
- D. Application for U. S. Economic Development Administration Economic Adjustment Program Funds

- E. Purchase Order with Northeast Florida Regional Council for 2009 State Hurricane Exercise Evaluation
- F. Purchase Order with Apalachee Regional Planning Council for Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Class (added to agenda)

Chair Valentine asked if there were any questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hamlin, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Valentine stated that there were no new members to introduce.

- B. Resolution of Appreciation - John Glanzer

Chair Valentine asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for former Mayor John Glanzer, who served as a representative for the City of Newberry.

ACTION: Commissioner Rudolph Parker made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for former Mayor Glanzer. The motion carried unanimously.

V. PRESENTATION - I-75 Interstate Master Plan Year 2035 Jordan Green, Florida Department of Transportation

Chair Valentine introduced Jordan Green, District 2 Rural Area Transportation Development Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation. Mr. Green stated that the I-75 Master Plan Study will identify potential improvements in Alachua, Columbia, Suwannee and Hamilton Counties along the I-75 corridor from now through 2035. He reviewed the objectives of the study which include the enhancement of overall travel along I-75 and the identification of potential improvements at interchanges; to develop a reasonable schedule for building proposed short-term and long-term improvements; present alternatives that will increase mobility while minimizing impacts to the environment and surrounding communities; identify any additional right-of-way needed

for proposed improvements; and coordinate with other ongoing projects that would affect the I-75 corridor.

He further stated that two public meetings are being held during June 2009 to review and discuss the I-75 Master Plan Study. The meetings will be held on June 16, 2009 at the Florida Department of Transportation Office located at 1109 South Marion Avenue in Lake City and on June 18, 2009 at the Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel located at 4200 NW 97th Boulevard in Gainesville. Mr. Green then answered questions from Council members. Chair Valentine thanked Mr. Green for his presentation.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users Reauthorization Regional Transportation Planning Organizations

Mr. Scott Koons, Executive Director, stated that the Honorable Timothy Walz, Congressman from Minnesota, is currently sponsoring legislation to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users highway and transit act, which is set to expire on September 30, 2009. He reported that the legislation proposed would build on the existing network of regional transportation planning organizations that more than 25 states have already established.

Mr. Koons stated that regional transportation planning organizations ensure rural local elected officials are given meaningful opportunities to provide input to the statewide transportation planning process; develop, identify and recommend regional policies, plans and project priorities for consideration by the state; and develop locally accountable regional transportation plans. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council authorize the Chair to send letters to Congressman Allen Boyd, Congresswoman Corrine Brown, Congressman Ander Crenshaw and Congressman Cliff Stearns requesting their support for legislation proposed by the National Association of Development Organizations to establish, fund and outline the functions of Regional Transportation Planning Organizations for areas outside the boundaries of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and to include the legislation as part of the federal surface transportation reauthorization bill.

After discussion, the following action was taken by the Council.

ACTION: Mr. Maulsby made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to table Item V.A.1. - Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users Reauthorization Regional Transportation Planning Organizations until additional information is received regarding the proposed legislation. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2.. SpringHills Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the Development of Regional Impact Lawsuit Status Report

Mr. Koons reported that following the denial by Alachua County Board of County Commissioners of a comprehensive plan amendment and development order for the SpringHills Development of Regional Impact Substantial Deviation, the Council was named as a co-defendant along with Alachua County in a lawsuit filed by the developer of the project.

Mr. Koons further stated that on November 5, 2008, Judge Roundtree issued an order dismissing the Council from Counts I, III and IV of the lawsuit and vacating protective orders and that the Council remains a defendant to Count II of the lawsuit. He stated that Council staff and the Council attorney have responded to the plaintiff's request for production of documents and interrogatories and that these documents and interrogatories have been submitted to the plaintiff.

Mr. Koons reported that on March 4, 2009, the plaintiff's attorney sent a letter to the County's attorney stating that the plaintiff has requested a suspension of all discovery concerning the lawsuit until April 13, 2009. The letter further stated that the plaintiff has engaged additional legal counsel to meet with the County attorney and Council attorney to discuss a possible settlement of the lawsuit. Mr. Koons stated that on March 6, 2009, the attorneys for all parties signed a statement agreeing to suspend all action concerning the lawsuit until the next status hearing with Circuit Court Judge Roundtree on April 16, 2009.

Mr. Koons further stated that on March 12, 2009, the attorneys for all parties met for an initial meeting to discuss a possible settlement. On April 10, 2009, the attorneys and representatives for the parties met to continue their discussions concerning a possible settlement. The plaintiff presented the attorneys and representatives for the Council and County a revised conceptual development plan for the project reducing the development to

approximately 825,000 square feet of retail space, 700 dwelling units and 240,000 square feet of office space.

Mr. Wershow, Council attorney, stated that the attorneys and representatives for the Council and County requested that the plaintiff suspend their lawsuit for six months and continue to work with the Council and County staff to review and refine the revised development plan. The plaintiff has agreed to suspend the lawsuit for six months with an option to revoke the suspension after three months. He stated that on May 12, 2009, the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners voted to authorize their staff to work with the plaintiff to review and refine the revised development plan.

Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council agree to suspend the SpringHills Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the Development of Regional Impact lawsuit for a six-month period and authorize staff to work with representatives of Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust to review and refine the revised development plan for the SpringHills development.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion, with a second by Mr. Painter, to suspend the SpringHills Comprehensive Plan Amendments for the Development of Regional Impact lawsuit for a six-month period and authorize staff to work with representatives of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust to review and refine a revised development plan for the SpringHills development. The motion carried by a vote of 24 yeas to 2 nays.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas, Vice-Chair Paula DeLaney gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum present and reviewed four agenda items. Commissioner DeLaney stated that the items have been grouped for purposes of presentation.

#109 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

#110 - Town of Mayo Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

#119 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Committee found the Comprehensive Plans, as amended, remained consistent with the regional plan. However, she stated that the Committee recommended forwarding one Objection and Recommendation on the

Bradford County item regarding potential adverse impacts to a segment of the Regional Road Network. She stated that the Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #109, Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #110, Town of Mayo Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item #119, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

#120 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Committee found no significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, or adjoining local governments concerning this Comprehensive Plan amendment. Additionally, the Committee had no Objections, Recommendations, or Comments. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the City's Comprehensive Plan, if amended as proposed, would remain consistent with the regional plan. Commissioner DeLaney reported that the Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the City of Archer and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Rudolph Parker, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #120, City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Program Committee

Mayor Louie Davis, Program Committee Chairman, stated that the Program Committee met on March 26, 2009, to develop an Overall Program Design for the Council's consideration for Program Year 2009-10. He stated that there were no changes proposed in the Overall Program Design which include new programs not previously discussed and/or approved by the Council and that the document is essentially the same as the current year edition with the exception of the deletion of discontinued programs.

Mayor Davis reported that the Program Committee members recommended approval of the Overall Program Design for Program Year 2009-10.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Hersey, to approve the Overall Program Design for Program Year 2009-10 as recommended by the Program Committee members. The motion carried unanimously

D. Finance Committee

Mr. Eddie Martin, Finance Committee Chairman, stated that the Finance Committee met on May 14, 2009, to review the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10. He stated that the proposed budget is included in the meeting packet sent to each Council member and asked if there were any questions regarding the proposed budget.

Council members discussed the Personnel Line Item regarding the proposed across the board nonrecurring payment for all employees, including the Executive Director, equal to 4.0 percent of the salary of each employee. This amount would be approximately \$38,000 distributed among 16 full-time employees. Mr. Martin then asked that the Council approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10 as recommended by the Finance Committee.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Ronald Williams, to approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10 as recommended by the Finance Committee, including a 4.0 percent across the board nonrecurring payment for all employees, including the Executive Director, equal to 4.0 percent of the salary of each employee.

After further discussion, a recommendation was made amend the motion on the floor to reduce the Personnel Line Item nonrecurring payment across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, from 4.0 percent to 2.0 percent of the salary of each employee.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion to amend the motion on the floor, with a second by Mr. Maultsby, to reduce the Personnel Line Item nonrecurring payment across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, from 4.0 percent to 2.0 percent of the salary of each employee. The motion carried by a vote of 25 yeas to 1 nay.

RESTATED AMENDED ACTION:

Approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10 as recommended by the Finance Committee as amended to reduce the Personnel Line Item nonrecurring payment across the board for all employees, including the Executive Director, from 4.0 percent to 2.0 percent of the salary of each employee. The motion carried by a vote of 22 yeas to 4 nays.

E. Nominating Committee

Commissioner Roy Ellis, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Nominating Committee met on May 13, 2009 to make, for the Council's consideration, recommendations regarding all officer positions, including the additional Executive Committee member, and other members of the Board of Directors to a one-year term for Program Year 2009-10. The Nominating Committee recommendations for the officer positions are, as follows.

Chair - Myra Valentine
Vice-Chair - Louie Davis
Secretary-Treasurer - Eddie Martin
Member - John Hersey
Immediate Past Chairman - Roy Ellis

The Nominating Committee recommendations for the Board of Directors are, as follows.

City Representatives
Emily Ketring, City of Perry
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke

County Representatives
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Rudolph Parker, Taylor County
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County

Gubernatorial Representatives
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
James Painter, Alachua County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County

Chair Valentine then opened the floor for nominations from Council members. There were no nominations made from the floor.

ACTION: Commissioner Ellis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to close the nominations and elect the slate of nominees to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors to a one-year term for Program Year 2009-10 as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated that on May 8, 2009, the last day of the extended regular session, the Legislature adopted a \$66.5 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10. The budget includes an appropriation of \$2.5 million for all 11 regional planning councils which is a 3.3 percent increase from the level of funding provided in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 appropriation. He stated that the Council is anticipated to receive \$177,800 as its share of this appropriation.

Mr. Koons also reported that on May 1, 2009, the last day of the regular session, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 360, which defines dense urban land area as any city that has a population density of 1,000 persons per square mile and a minimum total population of at least 5,000 persons and any county that has a population density of 1,000 persons per square mile or a population of at least 1,000,000. A preliminary list includes the municipality of Gainesville and no counties in the north central Florida region.

Mr. Koons stated that the bill exempts all development in dense urban land area communities from the development of regional impact process and establishes all of these communities as transportation concurrency exception areas. Local governments have two years to adopt into their comprehensive plans land use and transportation strategies to support and fund mobility, including alternative modes of transportation. In addition, development located in an urban services area designated by a county that does not qualify as a dense urban area is also exempt from the development of regional impact process. He reported that the bill removes the prohibition from local governments amending comprehensive plans to increase residential density for not adopting a public schools facility element. However, it authorizes the Florida Department of Community Affairs to ask local governments to show cause for failure to address school requirements and to take the matter before the Administration Commission for imposition of sanctions. The bill also extends the deadline for the annual adoption of a financial feasible capital improvement element from December 1, 2008 to December 1, 2011.

Mr. Koons reported that none of the bills abolishing the Florida Department of Community Affairs as a separate state agency passed the Legislature. The bills would have transferred the Division of State and Community Planning and Division of Housing and Community Development and all associated resources, rules, and existing laws to the Florida Department of State, moved the Division of Emergency Management to the Governor's Office and moved the oversight of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to the Florida Department of State for administrative purposes.

Mr. Koons also reported that House Bill 7053 establishing rural agriculture industrial centers was also passed by the Legislature. It defines rural agricultural industrial centers as a developed parcel of land in an unincorporated area where an operating industrial facility exists that employs at least 200 full-time employees located in or within 10 miles of a rural area of critical economic concern. He stated that an amendment to designate or expand an existing center that is limited to a 50 percent increase in area, or 320 acres, creates 50 full-time jobs, demonstrates sufficient infrastructure capacity and addresses environmental impacts is exempt from the urban sprawl analysis requirements.

B. Financial Report for the Period Ending March 31, 2009

Mr. Koons reported that the overall expenditures for the operation of the Council for the past six months are within budgeted figures. He stated that at the end of 50 percent of the year, only two program areas are over expended - "Program Development" due to annual computer purchases made during the first quarter of the fiscal year and "Local Technical Assistance." He stated that changes in distribution of staff resources during the next six months will result in expenditures being within budgeted revenue by the end of the fiscal year in the "Local Technical Assistance" program area. He stated that this is not of particular concern at this point and the year should end with revenues exceeding expenditures.

C. St. Johns River Water Management District Water Supply Planning Regional Coordination Meeting

Mr. Koons reported that every five years water management districts are required to conduct a water supply assessment for a 20-year horizon. If that assessment indicates that a water resource supply shortage is projected to occur, the water management district must prepare a water supply plan to identify alternative water supply sources.

Mr. Koons reported that the Council hosted a water supply planning regional coordination meeting for St. Johns River Water Management District staff and staff of five regional planning councils, East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Northeast Florida Regional Council, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council on May 5, 2009 at the Council office.

Mr. Koons stated that District staff reviewed the water supply plan update process and their preliminary findings from their water supply assessment for the next 20 years. All existing designated priority water resource caution areas are anticipated to continue to remain as such. In addition, nearly all of the remaining portion of the

District, including Alachua County, is anticipated to be designated as a priority water resource caution area.

Mr. Koons stated that the District is scheduled to adopt the updated water supply plan by December 2010. During the next 18 months, several public meetings will be held to solicit public comments. He stated that the first such meeting will be held June 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Alachua County Health Department Auditorium located at 224 Southeast 24th Street in Gainesville.

D. U. S. Economic Development Administration/University of Florida Technology Incubator Facility Project

Mr. Koons stated that through a continuing economic development planning process developed by a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee representing both the public and private sector, the Council adopted the 2008-2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The strategy is a result of, and sets forth the goals and objectives necessary to solve the economic development problems of the region. Mr. Koons stated that the University of Florida, through its Office of Technology Licensing, has received preliminary approval of an application made to the U.S. Economic Development Administration for an \$8.2 million grant to help fund a new high technology business incubator. He stated that since the development of business incubators and research parks is a priority project in the Strategy, the University of Florida, Office of Technology Licensing, was able to secure U. S. Economic Development Administration funds for their project.

Mr. Koons stated that the proposed \$13 million, "Florida Innovation Hub," project will construct a 45,000 square foot multi-use facility containing office, laboratory, support, and community spaces near the Shands at Alachua General Hospital facility located on SW 2nd Avenue in Gainesville.

E. Annual City-County Managers Meeting

Mr. Koons advised Council members that the annual city-county manager growth management meeting hosted by the Council would be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 213 S.W. Commerce Boulevard in Lake City on June 30, 2009.

F. Financial Disclosure

Mr. Koons reminded all gubernatorial appointees to the Council to file their financial disclosure forms with the supervisor of elections in their respective counties by July 1, 2009.

Mr. Koons informed the Council that Dwayne Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director, was chosen to be the lead evaluator for the 2009 Statewide Hurricane Evacuation Exercise Evaluation which will be conducted at the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee on June 1-3, 2009.

Chair Valentine informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on July 23, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.



Myra Valentine, Chair

7/23/09

Date