

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

February 24, 2011
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Biddle, Gilchrist County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rusty DePratter, Columbia County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Alphonso Dowdell, City of Perry
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville
Eddie Martin, Alachua County
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Harry Nichols, City of Newberry
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville
Mark Wiggins, Taylor County
Charles Williams, Hamilton County
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Barney Bennette, FL Dept. of Transportation
Jack Brown, Taylor County Administrator
LaBarfield Bryant, Jasper City Councilman
Diana Davis
Randy Harris, Suwannee County
Public Works Director
Joseph Riddick, former Council member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Adeniyi Aderibigbe, Lafayette County
Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Susan Baird, Alachua County
Ben Boukari, Jr., City of Alachua
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Thomas Collett, Alachua County
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Ann Lessman, City of Jasper
Ronny Morgan, Hamilton County
Warren Nielsen, City of Gainesville
Andrew Smith, Union County
James Tallman, Union County
Byran Williams, City of High Springs

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jean Strong

Board Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Louie Davis called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., with an invocation given by Eddie Martin and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Davis stated that there was a quorum of the Council and all Council members were able to vote.

Chair Davis introduced and welcomed Jack Brown, County Administrator for Taylor County, Councilman LaBarfield Bryant from the City of Jasper, Randy Harris, Public Works Director for Suwannee County and former Council member Joseph Riddick.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 27, 2011

Chair Davis asked that the minutes of the January 27, 2011 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2011 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin, Executive Director, Florida Small County Coalition

Chair Davis informed the Council that due to a death in his family, Christian Doolin, Executive Director for the Florida Small Counties Coalition would not be speaking tonight. He stated that staff will contact Mr. Doolin and make arrangements for him to speak at a future meeting.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Transportation Disadvantaged Board Membership Certifications
- B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Planning Grant Resolution, Fiscal Year 2011-12
- C. Purchase Order with East Central Florida Regional Planning Council for Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Class
- D. Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc.

Chair Davis 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 Mayor Ogborn, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Davis introduced and welcomed new Council members Commissioner Daniel Riddick, representing Bradford County and Commissioner Mark Wiggins, representing Taylor County.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation

1. Troy Johnson

Chair Davis asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services be approved for Troy Johnson, who served as the Chairman of the Dixie County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board since January 2007.

ACTION: Commissioner Spooner made the motion, with a second by Mr. Martin, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Troy Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Major Stroupe

Chair Davis asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services be approved for Major Stroupe, who served as the Veterans Representative on the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Board since August 2004.

ACTION: Mayor Ogborn made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Major Stroupe. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Committee Appointment

Chair Davis stated that due to a vacancy on the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board, an appointment to Board needs to be made at this time. Chair Davis asked that the Council ratify the appointment of Roy Ellis to serve as a member of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year.

ACTION: Mr. Dodge made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wiggins, to ratify the appointment of Roy Ellis to the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Restricted Fund Balance - Legal

Scott Koons, Executive Director, reported that in 2007, the Council authorized the expenditure of funds from the restricted fund balance Legal Fund to pay the legal costs associated with defending the Council's interests in the SpringHills Development of Regional Impact Comprehensive Plan Amendment Lawsuit. He stated that during Fiscal Year 2009-10, \$1,099.43 was expended from the Legal Fund to pay attorney fees associated with the SpringHills lawsuit. Mr. Koons stated that in order to return the Legal Fund to a restricted fund balance of \$100,000, the Executive Committee recommended that the Council encumber

\$1,099.43 of the Council's unrestricted fund balance as part of the Legal Fund restricted fund balance.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to encumber \$1,099.43 of the Council's unrestricted fund balance as part of the restricted fund balance to bring the Legal Fund balance to \$100,000. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas, Commissioner Thomas Hawkins gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum present and reviewed two local government comprehensive plan amendments.

#70 - Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
#71 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found the comprehensive plans, as amended, remained consistent with the regional plan. However, he stated that with regards to the Suwannee County item, the Committee recommended forwarding an objection and a recommendation regarding potential adverse impacts to the Regional Road Network. Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding the findings contained in the Committee reports to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #70, Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item #71, Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Budget

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Community Affairs budget request for Fiscal Year 2011-12 submitted to the Governor last fall includes an appropriation request of \$2.5 million for all 11 regional planning councils. This is the same level of funding provided in Fiscal Year 2010-11 appropriation. The estimated Council's share of the appropriation would be approximately \$179,000.

Mr. Koons further reported that Governor Scott released his proposed \$65.8 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12 on February 7, 2011. The proposed Fiscal Year 2011-12 budget represents a (\$4.6 billion) reduction from the current \$70.4 billion Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget. He stated that the Governor's budget does not include any appropriation request for regional planning councils and the Council's estimated share of eliminating funding for regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2011-12 would be (\$179,000). He added that the regular legislative session begins March 8, 2011. The budget is expected to be the primary issue to be addressed by the Legislature during the session.

Florida Department of Community Affairs

Mr. Koons stated that last year the Legislature continued the two-year agency sunset review of the Florida Department of Community Affairs to this legislative session. He added that the sunset process will either reauthorize the Department as presently constituted, reorganize the duties and responsibilities of the Department, or abolish the Department. He stated that Governor Scott's Fiscal Year 2011-12 budget proposal includes the transfer of the Division of Emergency Management from the Florida Department of Community Affairs to the Governor's Office. The budget proposal also includes the transfer of the Division of Community Planning from the Florida Department of Community Affairs to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. He reported that the Division currently includes 58 positions. After the proposed transfer of the Division, it would only have 10 positions and a diminished role in growth management focusing on areas of critical state concern, developments of regional impact and military base land use compatibility.

Growth Management

Mr. Koons reviewed the three bills filed in the Senate to address the ongoing litigation associated with Senate Bill 360. He stated that Senator Bennett, Chair of the Senate Community Affairs Committee, has filed Senate Bill 174, growth management, Senate Bill 176, affordable housing and Senate Bill 172, security cameras. He stated that if passed, these three bills would cover the existing law in Senate Bill 360 in the event that the State loses the pending lawsuit. He further stated that Senate Bill 174 re-enacts provisions relating to dense urban land areas with a density of 1,000 persons per square mile and exempts these areas from the development review process.

Growth Management - Century Commission

Mr. Koons stated that Senate Bill 232 related to the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida, was also filed by Senator Bennett. He reported that the bill would reorganize the existing Century Commission by providing that the chair be elected from the members in lieu of being appointed by the Governor and revise the planning time frames to include a 10-year horizon.

Growth Management - Alternative Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review and Sector Plans

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Department of Community Affairs recently released a growth management legislative proposal. The proposal would streamline the comprehensive plan amendment review process by making the current pilot alternative expedited comprehensive plan amendment review process, established in 2007, the standard uniform process applicable to all cities and counties. He stated that the pilot alternative expedited comprehensive plan amendment review process is currently in effect in Broward and Pinellas Counties and the Cities of Jacksonville, Hialeah, Miami and Tampa.

He reported that under the alternative, expedited review process, the Department's Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report is eliminated from the review

process. He stated that the Department reviews proposed comprehensive plan amendments concurrently with other state and regional agencies. After a comprehensive plan amendment is adopted by the local government, the Department or an affected party may file a challenge through the administrative hearing process. He stated that under the Department's proposal, the following comprehensive plan amendments would still remain subject to the conventional review process: Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based amendments; new statutorily required amendments; rural land stewardship areas and optional sector plans; amendments within areas of critical state concern; and comprehensive plans for newly incorporated municipalities.

Mr. Koons further reported that the Department's proposal further recommends that a new approach to alternative state review would be limited to the following compelling state interests: natural resources of statewide significance; transportation facilities of statewide significance; natural disaster preparedness; and protection of major military installations from incompatible development.

Mr. Koons stated that the second part of the Department's growth management proposal focuses on large scale planning based upon the current Optional Sector Plan Program. He stated that the pilot program established in 1998 allows for five Optional Sector Plans. Currently, there are four such Optional Sector Plans statewide, with one each located in Bay, Escambia and Orange Counties and the City of Bartow. He explained that sector plans are long-term conceptual build-out overlay plans for areas of at least 5,000 acres in size. He reported that the Department's proposal would remove the pilot status and the five plan cap and increase the minimum acreage to incentivize large scale planning.

B. Foley Master Development of Regional Impact Status Report

Mr. Koons stated that on November 5 and November 12, 2009, a pre-application conference was held with the applicant and review agencies for the master development of regional impact to begin the review process. The Foley Timber and Land Company intend to submit an application for Master Development Approval for the Foley Master Development of Regional Impact. The project is located in Taylor County and is designed to implement the Taylor County Vision 2060. The revised development is anticipated to consist of 32,710 residential dwelling units, 2,686,400 square feet of retail commercial, 1,318,900 square feet of office, 650,000 square feet of industrial/warehousing, 1,250 hotel rooms, a 600-bed hospital and educational/institutional uses.

Mr. Koons stated that transportation methodology meetings were held with the applicant and review agencies on December 1, 2009 and December 17, 2009. Following the December 17, 2009 transportation methodology meeting, the County had received from the Florida Department of Community Affairs the Objections, Recommendations and Comment Report concerning the County Evaluation and Appraisal Report amendments which include portions of the Taylor County Vision 2060. He stated that based upon the Objections, Recommendations and Comment Report, the applicant had requested that future transportation methodology meetings not be scheduled until the County responds to the objections raised by the Florida Department of Community Affairs in the Objections, Recommendations and Comment Report. The County recently responded to the Objections, Recommendations and Comment Report and adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report amendments. He stated that the final transportation methodology meeting was held on September 8, 2010 and that the Master Development Agreement

among the applicant, County and Council concerning the review process was approved by the Council on October 28, 2010.

Mr. Koons further reported that on December 8, 2010, in accordance with the transportation methodology, a meeting attended by the applicant, County representatives, state agencies and Council staff was held to review pass-by trips, background traffic and modeling for trip distribution and assignment of project trips. He stated that the applicant has indicated that they anticipate submitting the Application for Master Development Approval for sufficiency review within the next few months.

C. Quarterly Financial Report for the Period Ending December 31, 2010

Mr. Koons reviewed the quarterly financial report for the period ending December 31, 2010. He noted that the overall expenditure pattern for the operation of the Council for the three months ending on December 31 is generally on target when compared to the budgeted figures. He stated that the fund balance of the Council was \$1,511,526 at the end of the last fiscal year and for the three months ending on December 31, 2010, the fund balance of the Council had increased to \$1,534,405. He reported that the financial condition of the Council is sound and it is not anticipated that any occurrences in this fiscal year will change that situation.

D. Hazardous Materials Awareness Week Activities

Mr. Koons reported that the Council recently issued a proclamation declaring February 13-19, 2011 as *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week* in north central Florida. He added that several counties and cities throughout north central Florida also proclaimed *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week* in their respective communities. The purpose of *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week* is to inform the public that facilities, first responders and emergency management are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials.

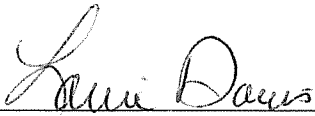
Mr. Koons stated that during *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week*, Council staff, through its support of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, conducted several seminars for business owners and government officials concerning hazardous materials and hazardous waste. He stated that on February 14, 2011, Council staff conducted a Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste How to Comply Seminar in Starke at the Bradford County Emergency Operations Center; on February 15, 2011, Council staff conducted a How to Comply Seminar in Lake City at the Lake City Price Creek Water Treatment Plant; and on February 16, 2011, Council staff conducted a How to Comply Seminar in Gainesville at the Alachua County Emergency Operations Center.

E. Original Florida Tourism Task Force Press Familiarization Tour

Mr. Koons stated that the Council provides staff services to the Original Florida Tourism Task Force to assist them in implementing their work program. In order to increase tourism generated revenues in the north Florida region, the Original Florida Tourism Task Force implements campaigns to increase tourist visits to the Natural North Florida region. He stated that the Original Florida Tourism Task Force will be conducting a culinary themed press familiarization tour March 1-5, 2011. The tour will highlight the local culinary treasures of several inland counties in the region. He stated that journalists

will sample different local specialties at each location along the route, from Gilchrist Club to White Springs to Mayo to Gainesville. Along the way, the writers will learn about local food production with a tour of the Gustafson Dairy Farm in Mayo and Hammock Hollow Herb and Vegetable Farm in Island Grove, as well as experience the fine culinary opportunities the region has to offer. He added that the tour will include a visit to the award winning Eastside High School Culinary Arts Institute in Gainesville.

Chair Davis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on March 24, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Louie Davis, Chair

3/24/11

Date