I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with an invocation and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Ellis stated that there was a quorum of the Council.
Chair Ellis asked that Item VI.B.5. #50, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, which was received by staff after the meeting packets were mailed, be added to the agenda.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Wells made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to add Item VI.B.5. #50, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 26, 2012

Chair Ellis asked that the minutes of the January 26, 2012 meeting be approved as written.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2012 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced and welcomed a member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee in attendance at the meeting; Dennille Decker, Executive Director of the Lake City/Columbia County Chamber of Commerce. He also introduced Allen Cherry, Executive Director of the Madison County Development Council, Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis, former Council member Joe Riddick, who served as Chair of the Council during 1995-96, Jesse Quillen, Director of the Columbia County Economic Development, Bo Taff, Vice-President of Foley Timber and Land Company and Cindy Vees, Executive Director of the Madison County Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Pro Tempore Valentine introduced Tim Bennett, the new City Manager for the City of Madison.

III. GUEST SPEAKER - Six Pillars of Florida’s Future Economy

Dale Brill, Ph.D., President, Florida Chamber Foundation

Mr. Koons introduced Dale Brill, Ph.D., President of the Florida Chamber Foundation who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Foundation’s initiative to develop a statewide, 20-year strategic plan to promote prosperity and high paying jobs, vibrant communities and global competitiveness. Dr. Brill stated that the framework to accomplish such a task is known as the Six Pillars for Florida’s Future Economy. He noted that Six Pillars is a product of years of collaboration and research by the Florida Chamber Foundation, along with business, civic and government partners, which identifies the critical factors determining Florida’s future: Talent, Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places.

Dr. Brill further stated that the Six Pillars incorporates the work of a diverse range of stakeholders and their strategic thinking, including the Century Commission for a Sustainable Future, Florida Council of 100, Enterprise Florida, Inc., Florida University System, Workforce Florida, Inc., and 1000 Friends of Florida among others. The framework serves as an organizing force for strategic planning at the local, regional and state level and its real power is in the efficiency of harnessing fragmented viewpoints into a common and consistent conversation. He stated that more information about the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars for Florida’s Future Economy can be found at flchamber.com/six-pillars.
Chair Ellis thanked Dr. Brill for his presentation. Mr. Koons then presented Dr. Brill with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Council for his exemplary and outstanding leadership in promoting Six Pillars of Florida’s Future Economy and advancing prosperous and high paying jobs, vibrant communities and global competitiveness.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Planning Grant Resolution, Fiscal Year 2012-13

B. Selection of Gilchrist County Community Transportation Coordinator

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

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIR’S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Ellis reported that there were no new members to introduce.

B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Appointments

Chair Ellis asked that his appointment of Allen Cherry, Executive Director of the Madison County Development Council, Scott Frederick, Executive Director of the Taylor County Development Authority and Jesse Quillen, Director of the Columbia County Economic Development to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee be ratified by the Council.

ACTION: Commissioner Pinkoson made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to ratify the appointments of Allen Cherry, Scott Frederick and Jesse Quillen to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Resolution of Appreciation - Myra Valentine

Chair Ellis asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for Mayor Pro Tempore Valentine for representing the City of Madison since May 2001.

ACTION: Commissioner Spooner made the motion, with a second by Ms. Thomas, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Mayor Pro Tempore Valentine. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Koons then presented a 10-year Certificate of Service to Ms. Valentine for her 10 years of dedicated service to the Council, representing the City of Madison, including serving as Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary-Treasurer. Ms. Valentine then thanked the
VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - Assigned Fund Balance - Capital Reserve

Mr. Koons reported that during Fiscal Year 2010-11, $25,701 for depreciation of building and equipment was applied to the capital assets of the Council. He stated that the Capital Reserve Fund is maintained at an amount approximate to the accumulated depreciation of building and equipment to cover one-time capital expenditures for building improvements/repairs and equipment replacement/upgrades. Mr. Koons stated that in order to maintain the Capital Reserve Fund at this level, the Executive Committee recommended that $20,000 from the Council’s unassigned fund balance be encumbered as part of the Capital Reserve Fund assigned fund balance to increase the amount for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from $450,000 to $470,000.

ACTION: Commissioner Wells made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to encumber $20,000 of the Council’s unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs to $470,000. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

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

#45 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
#46 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
#47 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
#48 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
#50 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda)

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the comprehensive plans of Gainesville, Newberry and Bradford County, as amended, do not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance regional facilities or create significant adverse extrajurisdictional impacts. He reported that with regards to Item #47 City of Alachua Adopted Amendment, the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding a finding that the amendment may result in adverse impacts to a segment of the Regional Road Network as well as to segments of the Regional Road Network located in unincorporated Alachua County.

Commissioner Hawkins further reported that with regards to Item #50, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda), the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding a recommendation to the City to consider adding Transportation Best Practices, as identified in the Regional Plan, to the City Comprehensive Plan. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the
respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as regional comment.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Spooner, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #45, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #46, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #47, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #48, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item #50, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**A. Legislative Report**

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity budget request for Fiscal Year 2012-13 submitted to Governor Scott does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. In addition, the budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13 submitted by the Governor to the Legislature does not include any appropriation request for all 11 regional planning councils. He further reported that the House has adopted a $69.2 billion Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget that includes a $2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils and the Senate Budget Committee has adopted a $70.7 billion Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget that also includes a $2.5 million appropriation for all 11 regional planning councils.

**Growth Management**

**Senate Bill 842**

Mr. Koons reported that Senate Bill 842 by Senator Bennett repeals provisions relating to the powers and duties of the Secretary of Community Affairs and functions of the Department of Community Affairs with respect to federal grant-in-aid programs; replaces references to the Department of Community Affairs with state land planning agency; repeals provisions relating to the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program; deletes provisions relating to the Coastal Resources Interagency Management Committee; deletes provisions excluding a municipality that is not a signatory to a certain interlocal agreement from participating in a school concurrency system; replaces references to the Department of Community affairs with the Department of Economic Opportunity; and deletes requirements for interlocal agreements relating to public education facilities.

Mr. Koons stated that with regard to the prohibition on referendums for comprehensive plan and map amendments, the bill states that any local government charter provision that was in effect as of June 1, 2011, for an initiative or referendum process in regard to development orders or local comprehensive plan or map amendments, may be retained and implemented.

The bill also affects regional planning councils as it requires regional planning councils, before accepting a grant, to determine that the purpose of the grant is in furtherance of its
functions and that will not diminish the Council’s ability to fund and accomplish its statutory functions; and, it prohibits a regional planning council from providing consulting services to a local government, private developer, or landowner for a project for which the council will serve in a review capacity. He stated that all parties have agreed to compromised language which removes the grant language, removes the local government planning assistance language and significantly modifies the consulting services language. He stated that this language has been incorporated into the House companion bill, House Bill 7081 which has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for their consideration. He stated that Senate Bill 842 is still in the Budget Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations.

Senate Bill 1180/House Bill 979

Mr. Koons stated that Senate Bill 1180 by Senator Bennett concerns developments of regional impact and requires that plan amendments proposing a development that is exempt from review as a development of regional impact follow the state coordinated review process; requires that reviewing agencies make only recommendations and comments regarding a proposed development which are consistent with statutes, rules, or adopted local ordinances that are applicable to all developments in the jurisdiction where the proposed development is located; provides legislative intent regarding the issues that may be considered during the develop-of-regional-impact review process; and requires that a local government having jurisdiction rescind a development-of-regional-impact development order, upon request, and upon a showing that all required mitigation related to the amount of development that existed on the date of rescission will be completed under a permit or other authorization issued by a governmental agency. Mr. Koons stated that the author of this bill has agreed to significant modifications and have removed most of the provisions that would have adverse impacts of limiting the ability of regional planning councils in reviewing large scale developments. He stated that both of these bills are still in committee.

Senate Bill 912/House Bill 603

Senate Bill 912 filed by Senator Bennett and House Bill 603 filed by Representative Weinstein prohibit a local government from applying transportation or school concurrency or requiring proportionate share contribution or construction for new development for a specified period; provides an exception; provides for an extension of the prohibition under certain conditions, provides application; provides for future expiration; prohibits certain counties, municipalities, and special districts from imposing certain new or existing impact fees for a specified period; provides an exception; provides for an extension of the prohibition under certain conditions; provides application; provides for future expiration. He stated that both of these bills are still in committee.

Water Management Districts

Senate Bill 560/House Bill 157

Mr. Koons stated that Senate Bill 560 filed by Senator Dean and House Bill 157 filed by Representative Porter authorizes water management districts to enter into interagency agreements for resource management activities under specified conditions; provides
applicability; requires districts to apply specified reservations, minimum flows and levels, and recovery and prevention strategies in determining certain effects of proposed consumptive uses of water; prohibits districts from authorizing certain consumptive uses of water; provides an exception; provides requirements for the challenge of specified rules.

Mr. Koons stated that the interagency agreements only apply to resource projects for which a measurable water resource benefit can be demonstrated for the geographic area of a local government or regional water supply authority. The consumptive use language applies in determining the effect of a proposed consumptive use of water on the water resources of an adjoining water management district. He reported that House Bill 157 unanimously passed the House last week and has been sent to the Senate for their consideration. Senate Bill 560 is still in the Budget Committee.


Mr. Koons reviewed the quarterly financial report for the period ending December 31, 2011. He noted that the overall expenditure pattern for the operation of the Council for the three months ending on December 31, 2011 is generally on target when compared to the budgeted figures. 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.

C. Statewide Coordinated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Mr. Koons reported that working together through the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee, the executive directors of all 11 regional planning councils have agreed to update the respective comprehensive economic development strategies of their councils on a statewide coordinated basis using a uniform format and data set. He stated that at a meeting of staff representatives from all 11 regional planning councils held in Tampa on November 16, 2011, it was agreed to use the Florida Chamber Foundation Six Pillars as the organizing framework for the Strategy updates. The Six Pillars are Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places. Council staff is serving as the project manager and coordinating the development of the comprehensive economic development strategy on a statewide basis.

Mr. Koons further reported that Council staff will be working with the Council’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee to update the Council’s Strategy using the Florida Chamber Foundation’s Six Pillars and it is anticipated that the updated version of the Strategy will be recommended by the Committee to the Council for adoption later this year.

D. Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Regional Forums

Mr. Koons stated that as reported previously, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity’s Division of Strategic Business Development is conducting regional forums to gather insights related to the creation of Florida’s 2012-2017 Economic Development Plan. He stated that the objectives of these forums are to obtain insights from each region to determine what actions or direction the state should consider adopting to assist with
economic growth; and to identify the most important strategies to support the promotion of regional business formation, expansion, recruitment and retention.

Mr. Koons reported that on March 2, 2012, the Council, along with the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council, will be co-hosting one of the ten forums at the Santa Fe College Kirkpatrick Criminal Justice Training Center Institute of Public Safety located at 3737 Northeast 39th Avenue, Gainesville, Florida.

E. Florida Leaders Organized for Water

Mr. Koons reported that on February 13, 2012, the second meeting of the North Florida Water Supply Group was held in Lake City. The group established the name of the organization as Florida Leaders Organized for Water. They adopted a mission statement and a resolution urging the Legislature to fund an unbiased, scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer due to its critical implications on statewide water supply; to redesign of the decision-making process used to issue consumptive water use permits for withdrawals from the Floridan Aquifer that includes all stakeholders affected by proposed withdrawals; and to modify the excessive water management district permits granted in 2011 from “approved” to “probationary” status until an unbiased scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer has been completed. Columbia County Commissioner Ronald Williams was elected Chair and White Springs Mayor Helen Miller was elected Vice-Chair of the organization.

Mr. Koons further reported that the current local government members attending the Florida Leaders Organized for Water meetings are: Alachua County, Bradford County, Clay County, Columbia County, Dixie County, Gilchrist County, Hamilton County, Lafayette County, Levy County, Suwannee County, Taylor County, Town of Branford, City of Keystone Heights, City of MacClenny and City of White Springs. Council members Commissioner Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County and Commissioner Wesley Wainwright from Suwannee County are serving as representatives for their respective counties to the organization.

Mr. Koons stated that the Suwannee River Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to work together and have formed the North Central Florida Water Supply Partnership. He added that a meeting concerning the Partnership will be held in the City of Alachua on March 7, 2012.

Mr. Koons stated that, in accordance with Council action taken at the January 26, 2012 Council meeting, the February 23, 2012 Council packets were noticed via electronic mail with a link to the Council website where a full packet of the Council meeting could be opened and viewed or downloaded. He added that hard copies of the packets would be available at Council meetings.

Chair Ellis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on March 22, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Roy Ellis, Chair

3/22/12

Date
RESOLUTION NO. 2012-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL RECOMMENDING SUWANNEE RIVER ECONOMIC COUNCIL, INC. AS THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR FOR GILCHRIST COUNTY

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to recommend the Community Transportation Coordinator for Gilchrist County;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council issued a request for proposals for Gilchrist County Community Transportation Coordinator on December 16, 2011;

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council appointed a Technical Review Committee to score and rank the proposals;

WHEREAS, the Technical Review Committee ranked the proposals in the following order:

1. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.; and
2. MV Transportation, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Technical Review Committee recommended that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recommend to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged the designation of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. as the Community Transportation Coordinator for Gilchrist County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL THAT:

In accordance with Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recommends to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged that Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. be designated the Community Transportation Coordinator for Gilchrist County for a five-year period effective April 1, 2012.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 23rd day of February 2012.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

Roy Ellis, Chairman

(SEAL REQUIRED)
RESOLUTION NO. 2012-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A 2012-13 TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to file a Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant Application and to undertake a transportation disadvantaged service project as authorized by Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code and Section 427.0159, Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL THAT:

1. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to file this application;

2. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to file and execute the Transportation Disadvantaged Planning Grant application on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged;

3. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Executive Director to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged;

4. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to sign any and all assurances, agreements or contracts which are required in connection with the application;

5. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes its Executive Director to sign any and all reimbursement invoices, warranties, certifications and other documents which may be required in connection with the application or subsequent agreements; and

6. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, this 23rd day of February 2012.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

ATTEST:

By: Scott R. Koons, Executive Director

By: Roy Ellis, Chairman

(SEAL REQUIRED)