

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Lake City, Florida

March 28, 2013  
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper**  
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County  
Jim Catron, City of Madison  
Don Cook, City of Perry  
Karen Cossey, Union County  
**Louie Davis, City of Waldo**  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Rusty DePratter, Columbia County  
**Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County**  
**Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville**  
*James Montgomery, Columbia County*  
**Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak**  
Patricia Patterson, Taylor County  
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville  
**Daniel Riddick, Bradford County**  
**Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke**  
**Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County**  
*Lorene Thomas, Dixie County*  
*Charles Williams, Hamilton County*  
*Mike Williams, Madison County*  
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp  
Scott Koons  
Carol Laine  
Jean Strong

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

**Stephen Bailey, Columbia County**  
Susan Baird, Alachua County  
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs  
Todd Chase, City of Gainesville  
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County  
*Thomas Collett, Alachua County*  
*Sandra Haas, Suwannee County*  
Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, City of Gainesville  
Jason Holifield, Dixie County  
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County  
Jordan Marlowe, City of Newberry  
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer  
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County  
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne  
**Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County**  
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville  
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

OTHERS PRESENT

Tim Bennett, City of Madison  
Carlos Herd, Suwannee River  
Water Management District  
Diana Davis  
Dr. J. Michael Francis, Florida Humanities Council  
Jordan Green, Florida Dept. of Transportation  
Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer  
Elvin Lord  
Marjorie Zander, City of Archer

**Board Members names are bolded**  
*Gubernatorial Members names are italicized*

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Catron. She stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Timothy Bennett, City Manager for the City of Madison, Marjorie Zander, Vice-Mayor from the City of Archer and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer. She then introduced Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis and Elvin Lord, a retired employee from the Florida Department of Transportation.

Chair Thomas asked that Item VI.B.4. - #49, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item VI.B.5. - #50, Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, which were received by staff after the meeting packets were distributed, be added to the agenda.

**ACTION: Commissioner Spooner made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant to add Item VI.B.4. - #49, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item VI.B.5. - #50, Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 28, 2013

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the February 28, 2013 meeting be approved as written.

**ACTION: Commissioner Cossey made the motion, with a second by Mayor Davis, to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2013 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. GUEST SPEAKER - J. Michael Francis, Ph.D., Florida Humanities Council  
"Before Jamestown: Europeans, Africans and Indians in La Florida - 1513-1607"

Scott Koons, Executive Director, stated that April 2, 2013, marks the 500 year anniversary of the arrival of Ponce de León to Florida. He further stated that the goal of the Florida Department of State Viva Florida 500 celebrations throughout the state during 2013 is to stimulate cultural heritage tourism and to make history come alive with events in all 67 counties. He then introduced and welcomed Dr. J. Michael Francis from the Speakers Bureau of the Florida Humanities Council. Dr. Francis gave a presentation concerning the history of the explorers, settlers and native inhabitants of "La Florida" during the 1513-1607 timeframe, from the arrival of Ponce de Leon to the explorations of Pánfilo de Narváez, Hernando de Soto, Cabeza de Vaca and Pedro Menendez de Aviles. Chair Thomas thanked Dr. Francis for his informative presentation.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - February 2013
- B. Florida Department of Transportation Joint Participation Agreement and Resolution
- C. Application to Florida Municipal Insurance Trust
- D. Health Savings Account Payroll Deduction

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

**ACTION: Commissioner Patterson made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

V. CHAIR'S REPORT - no report

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - Proclamation Declaring April 2, 2013 as Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in North Central Florida

Mr. Koons stated Viva Florida 500 is a statewide initiative led by the Florida Department of State to highlight the 500 years of historic people, places and events in present-day Florida since the arrival of Juan Ponce de León to the land he named La Florida in 1513. He stated that Viva Florida 500 will take place year-round in 2013, and its many partners are planning more than 150 events statewide. The goal is to promote 500 years of Florida history, its people, places and cultural achievements, and this important milestone in American and Florida history. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council join in this effort by designating April 2, 2013 as *Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in north central Florida*.

**ACTION: Commissioner Spooner made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cossey to proclaim April 2, 2013 as Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day in north central Florida by adopting a proclamation, which is attached to these minutes and made a part thereof. The motion carried unanimously.**

B. Clearinghouse Committee

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

#45 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment  
#47 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment  
#48 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner Hawkins further reported that subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packets, Council staff received the following late-arriving items which require action prior to the next Council meeting.

#49 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (added to agenda)  
#50 - Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (added to agenda)

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, do not create significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local

governments. However, he stated that for the City of Alachua and Town of Branford amendments, the Committee recommended that the City and Town consider adding Transportation Best Practices found in the regional plan to their comprehensive plans. Commissioner Hawkins 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 Poe, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #45, City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #47, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #48, Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, Item #49, City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (added to agenda) and Item #50, Town of Branford Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (added to agenda). The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Program Committee - 2013-14 Overall Program Design

Chair Thomas introduced Mayor Garth Nobles, Jr., Vice-Chair and Chair of the Program Committee. He reported that the Program Committee met earlier in the evening to review a draft of the Overall Program Design for the coming year. This document is to be used as the basis for the development of a budget and is also to provide instruction to staff as to the work which is to be done during the next year. Mayor Nobles stated that the Program Committee anticipated recommending the Overall Program Design to the Council for adoption at the May 25, 2013 Council meeting.

VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Carlos Herd, Water Supply Division Director, Suwannee River Water Management District reported on the progress that the North Florida Water Supply Partnership is making during their monthly meetings being held in Lake City.

Stew Lilker, of the Columbia County Observer, reported that Gilchrist County had recently withdrawn from the North Florida Broadband Authority, created in 2009 by an interlocal agreement among counties and cities in north central Florida.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the 11 regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. He stated that the accomplishments of the Association's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Sheri Coven, are reported each month to the Council. He also highlighted several of the accomplishments listed in the report that was included in the Council meeting packet.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to develop a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. He further stated that the Scorecard reports metrics for each of the Six Pillars benchmarked to the other 49 states. 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. He reviewed the March 2013 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Senate Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee has included \$2.5 million dollars in their budget for all 11 regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2013-14. He further reported that it is expected that the House Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee will also include in their budget \$2.5 million dollars in funding for regional planning councils.

Mr. Koons then reviewed the following bills being considered by the 2013 Legislature.

**House Bill 4035** removes a section of Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, which allows local governments, regional planning councils or the state land planning agency to petition the Governor and Cabinet to increase or decrease the thresholds by 50 percent which determine a development of regional impact.

**Senate Bill 1698** repeals provisions relating to the certification of local governments to conduct developments of regional impact reviews.

**House Bill 121/Senate Bill 670** relates to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and requires Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to create a web page accessible through the Department's internet website that provides comprehensive data and information relevant to creation of new businesses, or expansion of existing businesses, within the state.

**Senate Bill 786** relates to comprehensive plan amendments and establishes a pilot program in specified areas of the state to test and review an alternative plan amendment process.

**House Bill 7/Senate Bill 244** relates to water management districts and requires districts to include certain reservations and water bodies in priority lists and schedules.

**House Bill 789/Senate Bill 978** relates to springs and requires water management districts to identify certain springs, develop certain plans, submit certain reports; authorizes districts to adopt rules and issue orders.

D. North Florida Water Supply Partnership


Mr. Koons reported that in September 2011, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection entered into an agreement that formalizes the coordination of water resource management in north Florida. He stated that ensuring sustainable water supplies and protecting north Florida's waterways and natural systems is a collaborative effort among the water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local elected officials and area stakeholders.

Mr. Koons reported that the Committee met on March 18, 2013 in Lake City and heard presentations on rainfall record keeping, water conservation practices for phosphate mining operations, as well as land coverage data collected by the water management districts.

F. Florida Leaders Organized for Water

Mr. Koons stated on March 11, 2013, the 12th meeting of the Florida Leaders Organized for Water was held in Lake City. The Board of Directors heard presentations from Dr. Robert L. Knight of the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute as well as from Chris Bird and Stacie Greco of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. He stated that the Working Group voted to hold a workshop to develop a strategy for the Working Group. Mr. Koons reported that 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.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on April 25, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

  
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Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

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4/25/13  
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to enter into the Florida Department of Transportation Joint Participation Agreement, as authorized under Section 339.12, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has the authority to receive support for transportation planning and regional visioning for Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties for the period ending June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will coordinate with neighboring regional planning councils and adjoining counties in order to accomplish said transportation planning and regional visioning; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will coordinate said transportation planning and regional visioning with the on-going Future Corridors studies of the Florida Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute the Joint Participation Agreement on behalf of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council with the Florida Department of Transportation; and

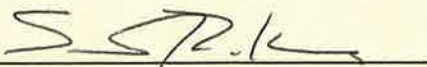
WHEREAS, this resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council authorizes the Chair to execute a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to accomplish transportation planning and regional visioning in a 13-county area.

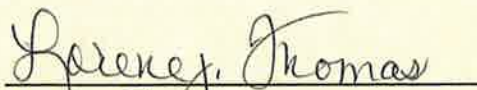
DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 28th day of March 2013.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:



Scott R. Koons, Executive Director



Lorene J. Thomas, Chair



# PROCLAMATION

## RECOGNIZING APRIL 2, 2013 AS VIVA FLORIDA 500 CELEBRATION DAY IN NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1513, Juan Ponce de León landed on the east coast of Florida and became the first recorded European to set foot on the continental United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Viva Florida 500 in 2013 marks the 500 year anniversary of the arrival of Ponce de Leon in 1513; and


WHEREAS, the 500th anniversary of landing of Ponce de Leon is a fitting time to reflect on the dynamic culture, rich diversity and economic prosperity of Florida and with recognition that five flags have flown over Florida in as many centuries, while also being the home to Native Americans for at least 12,000 years.


WHEREAS, Viva Florida 500 will take place year-round in 2013, with its goal to promote 500 years of Florida history, its people, places and cultural achievements, and this important milestone in American and Florida history.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims April 2, 2013 as Viva Florida 500 Celebration Day throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 28th day of March 2013.

ATTEST:

  
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Kenrick D. Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer

  
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Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

SEAL: