

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

January 23, 2014
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Don Cook, City of Perry
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
DeLoris Roberts, City of Hawthorne
Wayne Smith, Union County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Charles Williams, Hamilton County
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Brian Delburn, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Jordan Green, Florida Dept. of Transportation
Carlos Herd, Suwannee River Water
Management District
Russell Simpson, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Susan Baird, Alachua County
Bob Barnas, City of High Springs
Susan Bottcher, City of Gainesville
Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Jim Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
Timothy Marden, City of Newberry
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville

OTHERS PRESENT

Timothy Bennett, Madison City Manager
Dave Cobb, Florida Power and Light
Diana Davis
Ceci LaFuka
Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer
Hon. W. Keith Perry, Florida House of
Representatives
Bill Steele, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority

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 Nobles called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. with an invocation given by Mr. Montgomery and a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Nobles stated that there was a quorum of the Council. Chair Nobles then asked members and staff present to introduce themselves.

Chair Nobles welcomed and introduced Timothy Bennett, City Manager for the City of Madison, Dave Cobb from Florida Power and Light, Bill Steele from the Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer and Diana Davis, wife of Council member Mayor Louie Davis.

II. LEGISLATIVE GUEST SPEAKER - Honorable W. Keith Perry, District 21
Florida House of Representatives

Mr. Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced the Honorable W. Keith Perry, representing District 21 of the Florida House of Representatives, including Dixie and Gilchrist Counties and the western portion of Alachua County. Representative Perry discussed matters being addressed by the Legislature. Chair Nobles thanked Representative Perry for his presentation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 12, 2013

Chair Nobles asked that the minutes of the December 12, 2013 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Roberts to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2013 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - November 2013 and December 2013
- B. Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Appointments

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

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

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Nobles introduced and welcomed new member Commissioner Wayne Smith from Union County.

- B. Committee Appointment - Program Committee

Chair Nobles asked that his appointment of Commissioner Wayne Smith, Union County, to the Program Committee be ratified by the Council.

ACTION: Mr. Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wainwright, to ratify the appointment of Commissioner Wayne Smith, Union County, to the Program Committee, as recommended by the Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation - Mary Lou Black

Chair Nobles asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services be approved for Mary Lou Black, who served as the Persons with Disabilities Representative on the Bradford County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board from August 1991 to January 2014.

ACTION: Commissioner Wainwright made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Smith to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Mary Lou Black. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Resolutions of Appreciation

1. Honorable Karen Cossey - Union County
2. Honorable Lee Pinkoson - Alachua County

Chair Nobles asked that Resolutions of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for Commissioner Karen Cossey from Union County and Commissioner Lee Pinkoson from Alachua County.

ACTION: Commissioner DePratter made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Commissioner Cossey and Commissioner Pinkoson. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Removal of Surplus Property from List of Capital Assets

Mr. Koons reported that the items listed on the schedule, which is attached herein and made a part of these minutes, are computer hardware of outdated technology, with related equipment. He stated that the Executive Committee recommended that this hardware be declared as surplus property and that approval be given to dispose of this equipment in accordance with Council policy, which will result in transporting it to the Leveda Brown Hazardous Waste Collection Center in Alachua County or donating the equipment to a nonprofit organization or local government.

ACTION: Commissioner Smith made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Patterson, to declare the items listed on the schedule, which is attached herein and made a part of these minutes, as surplus property and to approve the disposal of this equipment in accordance with Council policy. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Office Building Final Promissory Note Payment

Mr. Koons stated that on August 4, 1999, the Council purchased the office building and warehouse located at 2009 NW 67th Place in Gainesville. He stated that the purchase price for the 7,560 square foot office building and 1,989 square foot warehouse located on a 4.4-acre site was \$490,400. Along with \$31,400 in cash, the Council secured a 15-year promissory note from SouthTrust Bank in the amount of \$459,000 to purchase the office building and warehouse.

Mr. Koons stated that on January 1, 2014, the final payment in the amount of \$3,134.95 was made satisfying the promissory note. Therefore, the Council no longer has any outstanding long-term debt. Chair Nobles and Secretary-Treasurer Riddick then ceremoniously tore up a copy of the promissory note with SouthTrust Bank.

3. Proclamation Declaring February 16-22, 2014 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Mr. Koons stated that the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee has the job of increasing the safety of our communities from chemical releases. He added that public outreach and education are important to increasing chemical safety in our communities. He stated that the Florida Division of Emergency Management has designated the week of February 16-22, 2014, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommended that the Council proclaim the week of February 16-22, 2014 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week by adopting the Hazardous Materials Awareness Week Proclamation, which is attached to these minutes and made a part thereof.

ACTION: Commissioner Wainwright made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to proclaim the week of February 16-22, 2014 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week throughout the north central Florida region by adopting the Hazardous Materials Awareness Week Proclamation, which is attached to these minutes and made a part thereof. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

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

#11 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Committee found that the comprehensive plan, as amended, was not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance. However, he stated that significant adverse impacts may occur to segments of the Regional Road Network located within the City and within Gilchrist County. Therefore, he stated that the Committee recommended that the City consider adding Transportation Planning Best Practices found in the regional plan as goals and policies to the City Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Hawkins stated that the

Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding these findings to the City of Newberry 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 #11, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Finance Committee

1. Fiscal Year 2012-13 Audit
2. Authorization to Pay Auditor

Chair Nobles introduced Commissioner Daniel Riddick, Secretary-Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. Commissioner Riddick reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening with the auditor and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants. He stated that the audit conforms with both federal regulations and the rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 and 54 requirements and that there were no findings or concerns reported by the auditor.

Commissioner Riddick stated that the Finance Committee recommended acceptance and approval of the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Audit and further recommended that final payment be made to the auditor, Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants for the preparation of the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Audit.

ACTION: Commissioner Riddick made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Poe to accept and approve the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants and to make final payment to the auditor. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Jordan Green, Rural Area Transportation Development Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, reported that the Department's budget recommendation for Fiscal Year 2014-15 is \$8.8 billion. He added that in a press release, Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Prasad stated that full funding of the work program will continue the vision of creating a world class transportation system by delivering exceptional projects and providing significant return on investment.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, reported that a How to Comply with Hazardous Waste and Used Oil Regulations Workshop will be held at the Florida Gateway College in Lake City on February 18, 2014 to assist businesses and governmental agencies comply with hazardous waste and used oil storage and disposal regulations. He stated that this compliance assistance outreach project is being presented in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the North Central Florida District 3 Local Emergency Planning Committee. He added that more information can be obtained by contacting Council staff member Dwayne Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director.

Carlos Herd, Water Supply Division Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, reported that a second rule development workshop was held earlier in the week at the Alachua County Board of County Commission Chambers in Gainesville. He further stated that a North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership meeting will be held on January 27, 2014 at the Florida Gateway College in Lake City to discuss recommendations regarding the Lower Santa Fe River Basin Draft Recovery Strategy Rule.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2014 regular Legislature session will convene on March 4, 2014 and adjourn on May 2, 2014 with interim committee meetings scheduled for the weeks of September 23, 2013, October 7, 2013, November 4, 2013, December 9, 2013, January 6, 2014, January 13, 2014, February 3, 2014, February 10, 2014 and February 17, 2014. He then reviewed several committee meetings held in recent weeks.

B. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity 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 December 2013 monthly activity report included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting

Mr. Koons reported that Chair Garth Nobles, Jr., Vice-Chair Carolyn Spooner, Secretary-Treasurer Daniel Riddick, Immediate Past Chair Lorene Thomas, Executive Committee member Rick Davis and he attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Tallahassee on January 9, 2014. He stated that the Policy Board adopted the 2014 Legislative Guiding Principles, Procedures, Strategy and Policies, reviewed a financial report and ratified appointments to the Nominating Committee for Fiscal Year 2014-15. Mr. Koons then reviewed the Florida Regional Councils Association 2014 Legislative Agenda.

D. 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 January 2014 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

E. North Florida Regional 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 and establishes the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership. 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 Partnership met on December 16, 2013 in Lake City. He stated that the Committee discussed questions, comments and recommendations regarding the Lower Santa Fe River Basin Draft Recovery Strategy Rule which were submitted to Committee facilitators prior to the meeting. He stated that the Committee will be evaluating and ranking the individual member recommendation statements during their January 2014 meeting as Committee comment on the draft Rule.

F. City of Waldo 2013 Florida Rural Community of the Year

Mr. Koons reported that the City of Waldo was recently named Florida's Rural Community of the Year by the U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. He stated that the award was received by the City in recognition of its efforts to improve the quality of life of its residents through a program of sustainable community and economic development initiatives in water/wastewater design and implementation and increasing economic development opportunities.

G. Check Fraud Status Report

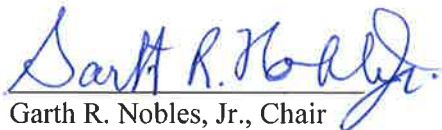
Mr. Koons reported that on March 20, 2013, a fraudulent check in the amount of \$49,523.00 that was written on the Council's bank account was processed and paid by Wells Fargo. Also on March 20, 2013, Council staff filed an affidavit of check fraud concerning this matter with Wells Fargo. On March 25, 2013, Council staff filed a crime report concerning this matter with the Gainesville Police Department. On April 18, 2013, the Council Attorney sent a letter to Wells Fargo requesting that Wells Fargo remit to the Council within 30 days the unauthorized \$49,523.00 released by Wells Fargo from the Council's account. He added that on June 3, 2013, attorneys for Wells Fargo responded

via letter stating that Wells Fargo will not reimburse the Council for the \$49,523.00 released from the Council's account by Wells Fargo.

Mr. Koons stated that at their meeting on July 25, 2013, the Council authorized the Council Attorney to file a lawsuit against Wells Fargo to recover the unauthorized \$49,523.00, to engage Stanley Cushman from the law firm of Scruggs and Carmichael to serve as co-counsel for the lawsuit and to designate Scott Koons, Executive Director, as the Council's representative concerning all matters related to such lawsuit. He stated that on August 6, 2013, a lawsuit was filed against Wells Fargo to recover the Council's funds.

Mr. Koons further reported that on September 9, 2013, Wells Fargo responded to the complaint by filing a Motion to Compel Arbitration. Council Attorney Wershow and Co-Counsel Cushman responded to the motion stating that arbitration does not apply to the dispute and have filed a motion for a hearing on the motion to compel arbitration. A hearing was scheduled for October 30, 2013 in the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida on the Motion to Compel Arbitration filed by Wells Fargo to resolve the dispute between the Council and Wells Fargo. However, the hearing has been rescheduled for January 24, 2014.

Chair Nobles informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on February 20, 2014 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.


Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Chair

2/20/14
Date



PROCLAMATION

DECLARING FEBRUARY 16-22, 2014 AS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, the safe use of hazardous materials is essential to citizens, business, industry and local governments to maintain economic stability and the public health; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recognizes the importance of protecting our communities from both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials and joins the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, and numerous municipalities, counties and school boards, in publicly promoting community hazardous materials safety; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for local governments, regional planning councils and local emergency planning committees to work together to increase community safety by encouraging emergency responders to attend free training on how to safely respond to releases of hazardous materials; and

WHEREAS, citizens need to know that local governments, businesses, emergency responders and emergency planners are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of February 16-22, 2014 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 23rd day of January 2014.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Daniel Riddick, Secretary-Treasurer

Garth R. Nobles, Jr., Chair




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January 3, 2014

TO: Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

FROM: Kevin D. Parrish, Information Technology and Property Management Director 

SUBJECT: Surplus Inventory

Number	Original Cost	Description	Serial Number	Purchased
3153	\$1,951.04	Dell Optiplex 745 Computer	G5QNXD1	10/16/07
3154	\$1,951.04	Dell Optiplex 745 Computer	65QNXD1	10/16/07
3155	\$1,951.04	Dell Optiplex 745 Computer	J5QNXD1	10/16/07
	\$5,853.12	Sum * All fully depreciated		

The above items are either broken or of such outdated technology that they are no longer being used. We need to have them taken off the inventory list so they can be disposed of.