

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

February 23, 2017
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Harvey Budd, City of Gainesville
Jim Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Adrian Hayes-Santos, City of Gainesville
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
John Meeks, Levy County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Rory Snider, Suwannee River
Water Management District

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
Rick Coleman, City of Newberry
Rick Davis, Madison County
Jason Evans, High Springs
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
William Hunter, Hamilton County
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
James Tallman, Union County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Daniel Webb, Union County
Mike Williams, Madison County

OTHERS PRESENT

Tim Bennett
Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
LJ Johnson
Phyllis Marty
Kathy Mitchell
William Mitchell
Darryl Mortimer
Daniel Penniman

STAFF PRESENT

Steven Dopp
Scott Koons
Jean Strong
Tara Tucker

Board Members names are bolded

Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with an invocation given by Vice-Mayor Wilford and the pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Catron. Vice-Chair Thomas stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced William Mitchell, County Commissioner from Hamilton County and his wife Kathy Mitchell; Tim Bennett, City Manager from the City of Madison; Sandra Buck-Camp and LJ Johnson, members of the Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis and Darryl Mortimer, husband of Council member Janice Mortimer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Thomas asked that the agenda be approved.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. GUEST SPEAKER - Christian Doolin - Legislative Consultant
Small County Coalition of Florida

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Christian Doolin, Legislative Consultant from the Small County Coalition of Florida. Mr. Doolin stated that the Coalition's agenda was to give small counties a collective voice when dealing with the Legislature. He then reviewed issues of interest to local governments that are anticipated to be addressed in the upcoming legislative session. The Small County Coalition is a non-partisan statewide alliance of county commissions in Florida's small and rural counties. The Small County Coalition's primary mission is to help Florida's small and rural counties address legislative issues from a small/rural perspective and work effectively with the leadership of state agencies. Vice-Chair Thomas thanked Mr. Doolin for his comments.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 26, 2017

Vice-Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the January 26, 2017 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Meeks made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - January 2017
- B. Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services Agreement
Fiscal Year 2016-17 Town of Micanopy

C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Local Coordinating Board Appointments

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

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

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

B. Resolution of Appreciation - Lee Pinkoson

ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Lee Pinkoson. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation

1. Doyle Archer
2. Jamie Sanchez-Bianchi

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Mayor Davis to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Doyle Archer and Jamie Sanchez-Bianchi. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Mayor Nobles Receives 40 Years of Service as an Elected Official Award

Mr. Koons stated that City of Live Oak Mayor Garth R. Nobles, Jr. was the recent recipient of the John Land Award from the Florida League of Cities recognizing him for 40 years of service as a municipal elected official.

ACTION: Commissioner Catron made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to adopt Resolution 07-1, Recognizing Mayor Nobles for 40 Years of Service as an Elected Official which is attached. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Koons read the resolution and presented Mayor Nobles the resolution mounted on a plaque.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River

Mr. Koons stated that the City of Valdosta, GA has experienced numerous raw sewage spills over the last several years, with the most recent occurring on January 22, 2017, this spill resulted in the release of 2.2 million gallons of raw sewage into the Withlacoochee River, which flows into the Suwannee River and travels 127 miles through the State of Florida to the Gulf of Mexico. He further stated that since this problem affects several counties on a regional scale, the Madison County Board of County Commissioners is requesting the assistance of the Council to help develop a cohesive plan to remedy the situation and restore the reputation of the Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River as a tourist destination.

Mr. Koons states that all of the counties in the Suwannee River Basin and The Original Florida Tourism Task Force, with the assistance of the Council, have worked extremely hard to promote our rivers as eco-tourism destinations and have advertised our area as a great place to live and do business. He further stated that the Madison County Board of County Commissioners has requested the Council to develop and facilitate a meeting with the affected counties, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison and Suwannee Counties, to develop a plan to promote our area and help restore the reputation of our rivers.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to authorize the Executive Director to develop and facilitate a meeting with representatives from Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison and Suwannee Counties to develop a plan to promote our area and help restore the reputation of the Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Mr. Montgomery, Clearinghouse Committee Chair, gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #24 - Marion County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #27 - Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #28 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Mr. Montgomery stated with regards to the Town of Bell and Lafayette County items, the Committee finds that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to Natural Resources of Regional Significance, regional facilities or adjacent local governments.

Mr. Montgomery stated with regards to the Marion County item, the Committee finds that the local government comprehensive plan as amended, is not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to the Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. He stated however, significant adverse impacts may occur to a segment of the Regional Road Network. Mr. Montgomery stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Mr. Montgomery made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendations concerning #24 - Marion County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, #27 - Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, and #28- Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Rory Snider, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that the District has announced that the local government river grants for water development projects application cycle is

currently open. He stated that the District competitively received \$25 million for springs projects in Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Snider also stated that the District is researching the Valdosta wastewater issue and its impact on the Withlacoochee River and Middle and Lower Suwannee River.

Daniel Penniman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission North Central Region, stated that the Commission offers wildlife conservation planning services to landowners and local governments throughout the region.

Phyllis Marty, CareerSource North Central Florida, stated that CareerSource is the workforce development board for Alachua and Bradford Counties. She stated that last program year CareerSource North Central Florida provided services to over 30,000 businesses in their community. Ms. Marty also stated that CareerSource North Central Florida received \$35 million in special grants from the U.S. Department of Labor over the past six years. She noted that the most recent one being a \$10 million grant to fund internships in the fields of Science Teaching, Engineering and Mathematics.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten 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 Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the January 2017 activities report included in the Council meeting packet.

B. Florida Regional Planning Councils Association Policy Board Meeting Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2015-16 Annual Report for the Florida Regional Councils Association was included in the Council packet. He further stated that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide association of all ten regional councils in Florida. He further stated it is governed by a Policy Board made up of three representatives (county, municipal, gubernatorial) from each Council who are in turn are advised by the Executive Directors Advisory Committee comprised of all ten executive directors. Mr. Koons reported that the following members of the Council currently serve on the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Rick Davis, Chair; Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair and Robert Wilford, Executive Committee Member. He stated that activities of the Council are featured on pages 4, 9, 10 and 11.

C. 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 related to each of the Six Pillars. 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 February 2017 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

D. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported on bills of interest to regional planning councils and local governments being considered during the 2017 Legislative Session. He noted Senate Bill 600 by Senator Grimsley and House Bill 333 by Representative Clemons relate to the Rural Economic Development Initiative Program.

Mr. Koons reported that Senate Bill 216 by Senator Rodriguez relates to economic incentive programs. He also reported that Senate Bill 464 by Senator Clemens and House Bill 181 by Representative Jacobs relates to natural hazards.

Mr. Koons reported House Bill 285 by Representative Fine relates to onsite sewage treatment and disposal system inspections and provides onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems be inspected by specified professional at point of sale in real estate transactions. He stated that House Bill 551 by Representative Stone relates to onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems and provides for appropriations from Land Acquisition Trust Fund for a grant program to offset property owner costs to retrofit onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, connect certain properties to central sewer systems and for certain dredging and stormwater improvements.

Mr. Koons reported Senate Bill 406 by Senator Bradley and Senate Bill 614 by Senator Brandes both relate to medical marijuana.

E. Florida Transportation Plan and Strategic Model System Policy Plan

Mr. Koons stated that in 2016, the Florida Department of Transportation completed the concurrent update of the Florida Transportation Plan and Strategic Intermodal System Policy Plan. He further stated that the Plan is now in the implementation phase. He noted that the Plan includes seven goals which were included in the Council meeting packet and that regional planning councils are identified as key partners for implementation of four of the goals.

F. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Mobility Enhancement Grant

Mr. Koons reported that the 2016 Florida Legislature authorized \$1,750,000 of non-recurring funds to be competitively awarded by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged through a Mobility Enhancement Grant Program. He reported the Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, the Community Transportation Coordinator for Columbia, Hamilton

