

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

May 25, 2017
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Harvey Budd, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
James 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
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Barney Bennett, Florida Department
of Transportation
Darrell Smith, Suwannee River
Water Management District
James Triano, St. Johns Water
Management District

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rick Coleman, City of Newberry
Rick Davis, Madison County
Jason Evans, City of High Springs
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
William Hunter, Hamilton County
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
James Tallman, Union County
Daniel Webb, Union County
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
Sean Greene
LJ Johnson
Stew Lilker
Darryl Mortimer

STAFF PRESENT

Steven Dopp
Carmelita Franco
Sandra Joseph
Scott Koons
Jean Strong

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 Commissioner Wilford and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Vice-Chair Thomas stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced 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; Darryl Mortimer, husband of Council member Janice Mortimer and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Thomas asked that the agenda be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL PRESENTATION
YEAR 2016 REVIEW

Scott Koons, Executive Director, gave a presentation which reviewed Council activities during the past year in the Regional Planning, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance, Economic Development, Local Government Assistance and Transportation Programs of the Council. In particular, he highlighted the services that the Council provides, which benefit its local governments, including community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities. Vice-Chair Thomas thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 27, 2017

Vice-Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the April 27, 2017 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Catron, to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - April 2017
- B. Agency Regulatory Plan - Fiscal Year 2017-18
- C. Agency Certification of Minor Rule Violation
- D. Meeting Schedule Program Year 2017-18

- E. Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Appointments
- F. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Reappointments
- G. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Chair Appointment
Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties

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 Commissioner Demps, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Introduction of New Member

Vice-Chair Thomas welcomed new Council member Commissioner David Arreola from City of Gainesville.

- B. Resolution of Appreciation - Adrian Hayes-Santos

ACTION: Commissioner Arreola made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Adrian Hayes-Santos. The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolutions of Appreciation
 - 1. Ricky Lyons
 - 2. Cindy Morgan
 - 3. Donald Pettit
 - 4. Mike Pittman
 - 5. Linda Tatum

ACTION: Commissioner Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Ricky Lyons, Cindy Morgan, Donald Pettit, Mike Pittman and Linda Tatum. The motion carried unanimously.

- D. Certificates of Service for Council Employees
 - 1. Carmelita Franco - 10 Years
 - 2. Sandra Joseph - 10 Years

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Carmelita Franco, who has been an employee of the Council for ten years and currently serves as Planning Administrative Assistant for Local Government Comprehensive Planning. He then introduced Sandra Joseph who has also been an employee of the Council for ten years and currently serves as Senior Planner for Local Government Comprehensive Planning. Vice-Chair Thomas presented ten-year Certificates of Service to Carmelita Franco and Sandra Joseph. Mr. Koons and Vice-Chair Thomas thanked them for their years of dedicated service to the Council.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - Council Meeting Format/Meeting Time

Mr. Koons stated the Council referred the matter of Council meeting format to the Executive Committee for review and recommendation. The Executive Committee discussed the following three options.

- Option One: Decrease the number of or eliminate guest speakers and staff presentations at Council meetings;
- Option Two: Change the time of day for Council meetings from evening to daytime; or
- Option Three: Change the starting time of Council meetings to 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Koons stated the Committee recommends Option Three: Change the start time of Council meetings to 7:00 p.m.

ACTION: Commissioner Arreola made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to change the start time of the Council meetings to 7:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Sessions, Clearinghouse Committee Vice-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.

- #83 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
- #83 - Town of Bell Comprehensive Adopted Plan Amendment

Commissioner Sessions stated with regards to these items, the Committee finds that the local government comprehensive plans as amended, are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance, or adjacent local governments. He stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Commissioner Sessions made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Budd, to approve the Committee recommendations concerning Item #82 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment; and Item #83 - Town of Bell Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Program Committee - 2017-18 Overall Program Design

Ms. Thomas, Program Committee Chair, stated that the Program Committee met on April 27, 2017 to develop an Overall Program Design for the Council's consideration for Program Year 2017-18.

ACTION: Commissioner Meeks made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wilford, to approve the Overall Program Design for Program Year 2017-18 as recommended by the Program Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2017-18

Mayor Davis, Finance Committee Chair, stated that the Finance Committee has agreed upon a budget to recommend for the coming fiscal year. He stated that this document was included in the meeting packet. Mayor Davis stated that anticipated expenditures for next year will be \$2,102,300 which is \$197,000 more than the budget for the current year.

Mayor Davis also pointed out that it is proposed that a \$.30 per capita dues assessment will be maintained, which is the 36th year it has been held at this level, based upon the University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research population estimates for 2016, member local government dues will produce approximately \$261,000. He stated that the most important policy decision made by the Council regarding the budget has to do with personnel. Mayor Davis stated that it is proposed that there will be 11 full-time staff positions, plus funds for part-time positions, which is the same number of full-time staff positions budgeted for the current year. He finally stated it is recommended that the budget include a recurring cost of living pay increase of two percent for all employees, including the Executive Director and one percent salary budget for merit increases for all employees, except the Executive Director.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Nominating Committee - Program Year 2017-18
Election of Officers and Board of Directors

Commissioner Riddick, Nominating Committee Chair, gave the Nominating Committee report. He stated that the Nominating Committee met on May 17, 2017 to make, for the Council's consideration, recommendations regarding all officer positions, including the Executive Committee member, and other members of the Board of Directors to a one-year term for Program Year 2017-18.

He stated that the Nominating Committee recommendations for the officer positions are, as follows.

Chair - Lorene Thomas
Vice-Chair - Louie Davis

Secretary-Treasurer - Robert Wilford
Member - Larry Sessions
Immediate Past Chair - Rick Davis

He stated that the Nominating Committee recommendations for the Board of Directors are, as follows.

City Representatives

LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

County Representatives

Charles Chestnut, IV, Alachua County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Kendrick Thomas, Gilchrist County

Gubernatorial Representatives

James Montgomery, Columbia County
William Hunter, Hamilton County
Daniel Webb, Union County
Mike Williams, Madison County

ACTION: Commissioner Riddick made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cornell, to elect the slate of nominees to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors to a one-year term for Program Year 2017-18 as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Barney Bennett, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2 stated that comments concerning the draft Complete Sheets Handbook should be submitted to the Department by May 26, 2017.

James Triano, St. Johns Water Management District, stated that is the new local government liaison for Alachua, Marion and Putnam Counties and looks forward to working with the Council.

Darrell Smith, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that he is the Division Director for Agricultural and Environmental Projects and works with local governments thorough the north central Florida region. Mr. Smith also stated that Noah Valenstein, Executive Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, has been appointed as the new Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer recognized Sandra Buck-Camp and LJ Johnson for their service on the Columbia, Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Board. He also made comments concerning transit services in rural counties of the north central Florida region.

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 April 2017 activities report 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 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 May 2017 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.


C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Legislative Session adjourned on May 8, 2017. He reported that of the 28 bills that the Council was tracking only one passed, that was House Bill 181 relating to natural hazards.

D. Financial Disclosure Report Filing

Mr. Koons reported that all members of the Council are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1st of each year. He stated the financial disclosure forms filed by county commissioners and city commissioners for their elected offices fulfill this requirement. Gubernatorial members must file a financial disclosure form with the Supervisor of Elections office in their respective counties to fulfill this requirement. Council members should have received a copy of the financial disclosure form in the mail within the past few weeks.

Vice-Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on June 22, 2017 starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

6/22/17
Date