

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

October 26, 2017
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Harvey Budd, City of Gainesville
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Rick Coleman, City of Newberry
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
William Hunter, Hamilton County
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
James Tallman, Union County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Joel Carnow, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Katelyn Potter, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Lauri Shubert, Florida Department of
Transportation
Russell Simpson, Florida Department
of Environmental Protection
James Troiano, St Johns Water
Management District

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Arreola, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
James Catron, City of Madison
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Jason Evans, City of High Springs
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Daniel Webb, Union County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Ed Booth
Robert Brown
Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
Sean Greene
Stephanie Holifield
LJ Two Spirits Johnson
Brian Kauffman
Stew Lilker
Judy Rice

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathon Wershow

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

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Brown and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Thomas stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Robert Brown, County Commissioner from Hamilton County; Brian Kauffman, County Coordinator from Madison County; Ed Booth, City Manager from City of High Springs; Judy Rice, City Clerk from City of Newberry; Sandra Buck-Camp and LJ Johnson, members of the Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Stephanie Holifield, wife of Council member Jason Holifield; Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Thomas asked that Item VIII.B.3. #2 - City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment be added to the agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Meeks made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to add Item VIII.B.3. #2 - City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Thomas asked that the agenda as amended be approved.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SURFACE WATER IMPROVEMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced, Katelyn Potter, Suwannee River Water Management District. Ms. Potter gave a presentation on the Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update recently completed by the Water Management District. Chair Thomas thanked Ms. Potter for her presentation.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 28, 2017

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the September 28, 2017 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Community Development Block Grant Fiscal Year 2016
Administrative Services Agreement - Bradford County

- B. Community Development Block Grant Fiscal Year 2016
Administrative Services Agreement - City of Madison
- C. Agreement with North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team
for Pipeline Safety Technical Assistance - Fiscal Year 2017-18
- D. Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator
Designations for Bradford and Lafayette Counties

Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions regarding 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. Committee Appointment

Chair Thomas asked for ratification of the appointment of Frank Avery, Executive Director of CareerSource North Central Florida as a member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to ratify the appointment of Frank Avery, Executive Director of CareerSource North Central Florida as a member of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee as recommended by the Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Resolution of Appreciation -
Rhiannon Griggs

ACTION: Commissioner Warren made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Budd, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Rhiannon Griggs. The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Executive Director Recognized by Florida Chamber Foundation
as a Top Three Economic Forecaster

Chair Thomas stated that Executive Director, Scott Koons serves on the Florida Chamber Foundation Board of Trustees and each year Foundation Trustees forecast leading economic indicators such as number of jobs created and unemployment rate. She stated that Mr. Koons has been recognized by the Foundation as one of the Top Three Economic Forecasters for the year.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Adams, 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.

#107 - City of Trenton Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

#108 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner Adams stated that the following item which was received following the distribution of the Council meeting packet and added to the agenda requires action prior to the next meeting.

#2 - City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Commissioner Adams stated that the Committee finds that local government comprehensive plans as amended are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of 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 Adams made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the Committee recommendations concerning Item #107 - City of Trenton Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item #108 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; and #2 - City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Regional Planning Committee - North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan
Proposed Amendments

Commissioner Warren, Regional Planning Committee Vice-Chair gave the Regional Planning Committee Report, she stated that the Regional Planning Committee met earlier in the evening. She stated as a result of the reassignment of Marion County by the Governor to the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the recent adoption of the 2018-2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy by the Council, the Regional Planning Committee has revised the proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based Proposed Amendments to the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Commissioner Warren stated the Committee is recommending that tables and maps related to Marion County be revised to remove Marion County from the proposed regional plan amendments. However, she noted that the Committee is not proposing any changes to the goals and policies of the proposed amendments to the regional plan as a result of the reassignment of Marion County to the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council. She stated that the Committee is recommending that tables in the Affordable Housing Element and the Regional Transportation Element of the proposed amendments to the regional plan be updated using the most recent U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey data.

Commissioner Warren also stated that the Committee is recommending changes to the Economic Development Element of the proposed amendments to the regional plan. She stated since the Council adopted the 2018-2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at its September 2017 meeting, the Committee is recommending that the new Strategy replace the former Strategy in the Economic Development Element of the proposed regional plan amendments.

Commissioner Warren finally stated the Committee will present the proposed amendments to the regional plan at the December 2017 meeting and request the Council authorize staff to initiate formal rule making pursuant to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, to adopt proposed amendments to the regional plan.

D. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2016-17 Amended Budget

Commissioner Cornell, Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met on October 17, 2017 and agreed upon a budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2016-17. He stated that the budget amendment takes into account action taken by the Council during the past year to accept work under contracts and additional grants which were not anticipated when the original budget was prepared as well as changes in anticipated revenues. He reviewed the proposed budget amendment and noted that it contained an overall net increase of \$2,800 which represents less than a one percent increase. Commissioner Cornell stated that the Finance Committee recommends that the Council approve the proposed amended Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget.

ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the amended to the Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Lauri Shubert, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2, stated that the District is soliciting applications for the Transportation Alternatives Program and that applications are due December 1, 2017. She also noted applications for the Small County Road Assistance Program, Small County Outreach Program, County Incentive Grant Program and Regional Transportation Incentive Program grant funds are due December 29, 2017. In addition, she stated that comments concerning the District's Tentative Five-Year Program are due November 20, 2017.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, stated that the Northeast District is available to assist local governments and individuals concerning permit applications and Department regulatory compliance issues.

Joel Carnow, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that the District has submitted their Five-Year Water Resource Development Program to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. He stated that all District lands have been reopened following Hurricane Irma. However, he noted there is minor flooding on some roads. Mr. Carnow also noted that the District springs grant funding application cycle begins January 18, 2018.

James Triano, St. Johns Water Management District, stated that the District recently awarded \$1.5 million in cost-share grants to local governments. He noted that the next cycle for District cost share projects will begin January 2018.

Sean Greene, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission stated the Commission is still in recovery mode from Hurricane Irma.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

Council member Commissioner Holifield made comments concerning the local site plan review process in Dixie County.

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 September 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 October 2017 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2018 Legislative Session is scheduled to convene on January 9, 2018 and adjourn on March 9, 2018. He reported on bills of interest to regional planning councils and local governments during the 2018 Legislative Session. Mr. Koons noted the Governor did not recommend any funding for regional planning councils for Fiscal Year 2018-19.

D. North Interstate 75 Master Plan

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Department of Transportation recently released the North Interstate 75 Master Plan which evaluated the recommendations from the Interstate 75 Relief

Task Force to enhance safety and improve operations. He noted that short-term improvements include road ranger service patrols, dynamic message boards, fiber interconnection between major cities, signal coordination on arterials, and enhanced regional transportation management center operations. Mr. Koons also stated that ultimate or long-term improvements include general use lanes and express lanes.

E. Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan currently includes nine multi-use trails in Florida for recreation, conservation and alternative transportation use to explore hiking, bicycling, paddling and equestrian activities and of these nine multi-use trails. He noted that they are located in the north central Florida region, the Hawthorne to Gainesville State Trail, the Nature Coast State Trail and Palatka to Lake Butler State Trail.

Mr. Koons stated the Florida Greenways and Trails Council is currently preparing a five-year update to the Plan and a series of open house sessions throughout the state are scheduled to receive public input on the updated Plan and Land and Water Opportunity and Priority Trails Maps. He stated an open house will be held in the north central Florida region on November 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Suwannee River Water Management District in Live Oak. He noted that written public comments will be accepted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection until December 15, 2017 and that the Florida Greenways Trails Council is scheduled to meet in January 2018 to adopt the updated Plan and maps.

F. Rural Transportation Technical Assistance

Mr. Koons reported that the University of Florida, Transportation Institute, Florida Transportation Technology Transfer Center through its Rural Transportation Technical Assistance program will be conducting community outreach meetings with local government staff in rural counties in the north central Florida region during the next several months. He noted that multi-county meetings will be held to identify training and technical assistance needs at the local level will be held throughout the region. Mr. Koons also stated that Council staff along with Center staff will be in attendance at these meetings.

G. National Association of Development Organizations Innovation Award

Mr. Koons reported that the Council in conjunction with The Original Florida Tourism Task Force received an Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for the Experience North Florida by Bicycle project.

Mr. Koons stated that the project consists of a bicycle guide web page that includes two online, interactive bicycle routes for each county in the region plus two multi-day, regional routes exposing riders to the more interesting natural, cultural and historic resources of the region. He also stated the routes include points of interest as well as lodging and restaurant locations and the locations of similar items of interest along the routes.

H. Regional Dispute Resolution Process

Mr. Koons reported that the voluntary regional dispute process initiated by Alachua County concerning a comprehensive plan dispute with the City of Gainesville has been concluded by the parties. He noted the initial settlement meeting was held October 4, 2017 at the Council office and was facilitated by Council staff. At the meeting, the parties advised Council staff that a mutually agreed upon resolution of the dispute had been achieved by the parties and that the regional dispute resolution process will not need to continue beyond the initial settlement meeting.

I. Public Records Complaint

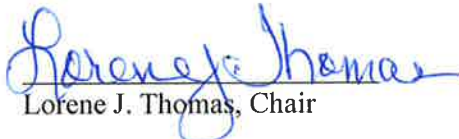
Mr. Wershow stated that the public records complaint filed by HPS Enterprises II, LCC has been satisfactory resolved by the parties entering into a settlement agreement and a voluntary dismissal order with prejudice having been filed by the complainant.

Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee is reviewing the Council's Organizational Policies (Bylaws) and will recommend amendments to them for consideration by the Council at their December 14, 2017 meeting.

Mr. Koons informed the Council that former Council employee Dorcas "Candy" Ramseuer died last month. Ms. Ramseuer worked for the Council for 19 years.

Commissioner Cornell asked if the Florida Department of Transportation would provide the Council a report on road closures during Hurricane Irma.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on December 14, 2017. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

12/14/17
Date