

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

January 24, 2019
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
Robert Brown, Hamilton County
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
James Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Gigi Simmons, City of Gainesville
Len Stapleton, Suwannee County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristina Wright

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Ben Glass, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Sean Greene, Florida Fish and
Wildlife Conservation Commission
Tom Miriti, Suwannee River
Water Management District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Matt Hersom, City of Newberry
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
Linda Jones, City of High Springs
James Montgomery, Columbia County
James Tallman, Union County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Buck-Camp
Joe Helfenberger
Brian Kauffman
Stew Lilker
Steven Seibert

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons
Jean Strong
Tara Tucker
Lauren Yeatter

Executive Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Riddick.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council and guests pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Davis stated there was a quorum of the Council, and welcomed and introduced Brian Kauffman, County Coordinator of Madison County; Joe Helfenberger, City Manager of Lake City; Sandra Buck-Camp, member of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - December 13, 2018
- B. Monthly Financial Reports - November 2018 and December 2018
- C. Agreement with Florida Division of Emergency Management for Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2018-19

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Davis asked for approval of the regular agenda.

ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Steve Seibert Executive Director, Florida Humanities Council

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Steven Seibert Executive Director, Florida Humanities Council. Mr. Seibert gave an overview of the Florida Humanities Council and the role that the arts and humanities play in contributing to the creation of vibrant communities and distributed copies of the Florida Humanities Council Forum Fall 2018 magazine. Chair Davis thanked him for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chair Davis welcomed new Council members Marihelen Wheeler, Commissioner from Alachua County and Kristina Wright, non-voting delegate from the City of High Springs.

B. Resolutions of Appreciation - Robert Hutchinson
Michael Williams

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Rick Davis, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Robert Hutchinson from Alachua County and Michael Williams from Madison County. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Committee Appointments

1. Charles Chestnut IV as Chair of the Finance Committee
2. Robert Brown to the Clearinghouse Committee and Regional Planning Committee

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Mortimer, to approve Committee Appointments for Charles Chestnut IV from Alachua County as Chair of the Finance Committee and Robert Brown from Hamilton County to the Clearinghouse Committee and Regional Planning Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee -

1. Employee Pension Plan Trust Trustees

Scott Koons, Executive Director recommended to accept the resignation of Steven Dopp as a trustee of the North Central Florida Regional Council Employee Pension Plan Trust and appoint Lynn Franson-Godfrey as a trustee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Employee Pension Plan Trust.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to accept the resignation of Steven Dopp as a trustee of the North Central Florida Regional Council Employee Pension Plan Trust and appoint Lynn Franson-Godfrey as a trustee of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Employee Pension Plan Trust. The motion carried unanimously.

2. 50th Anniversary of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Mr. Koons, stated that the Council was formed in 1969 by Alachua County and the City of Gainesville as the fourth regional planning council in Florida. The Council now consists of 12 counties, Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties, and the 13

municipalities of the Cities of Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, Jasper, Lake City, Live Oak, Madison, Newberry, Perry, Starke and Waldo. Mr. Koons recommended to authorize the Executive Director to plan a celebration to be held on May 7, 2019 commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to authorize the Executive Director to plan a celebration to be held on May 7, 2019 commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Recognizing 50th Anniversary of Town of Otter Creek Resolution

Mr. Koons stated that Otter Creek is a town in Levy County with a population of approximately 140 residents and that Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto crossed Otter Creek during his explorations of Florida in 1539. He stated that in the 1930s and 1940s, Otter Creek was the second largest community in Levy County, with a population approaching 1,000 residents. Mr. Koons also stated that a lumber mill that made cypress fitches for citrus crates and two railroads which bisected the Town were the economic base of the community at that time. He further stated that the Executive Committee recommends to adopt the attached Resolution No. 2019-01 recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Town of Otter Creek.

ACTION: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to adopt the attached Resolution No. 2019-01 recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Town of Otter Creek. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Proclamation Declaring February 11-15, 2019 as Economic Development Week

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Economic Development Council has designated February 11-15, 2019 as Economic Development Week and that the Council assists local governments and economic development organizations in promoting economic well-being and quality of life for communities to create, retain and expand jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. He further stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council proclaim February 11-15, 2019 as Economic Development Week.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Mortimer to, approve a proclamation declaring February 11-15, 2019 as Economic Development Week in the north central Florida region. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Resolution Recognizing Service of Brian D. Teeple, Chief Executive Officer
Northeast Florida Regional Council

Mr. Koons stated that Brian D. Teeple, Chief Executive Officer of the Northeast Florida Regional Council will be retiring on February 28, 2019. He noted his career with the Council spanned 33 years. Mr. Koons reported that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council adopt Resolution 2019-02 recognizing the service of Brian D. Teeple.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve Resolution No. 2019-2 recognizing the service of Brian D. Teeple as Chief Executive Officer of the Northeast Florida Regional Council. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Mortimer, Clearinghouse Committee Vice-Chair, gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. She 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.

- #16 - Gilchrist County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-1ESR)
- #18 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-1ESR)
- #19 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-2ESR)
- #22 - City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-1ESR)
- #26 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-2ESR)

Commissioner Mortimer stated that the Committee finds that, with the exception of item #19, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, 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. She stated with regards to item #19, City of Newberry amendment, the Committee notes that significant adverse impacts may occur to a portion of the Regional Road Network. Commissioner Mortimer stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Commissioner Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the Committee recommendations concerning Item #16, Gilchrist County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item #18, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item #19, City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item #22, City of Cedar Key Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; and Item #26, Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Finance Committee

1. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Audit
2. Authorize Payment of Auditor

Commissioner Chestnut, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening with the auditor and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants. He stated that the auditor issued an unqualified report and that the document contained no findings. He also stated, that the overall prevailing conclusion was that the statements provided were found in all material respects, to fairly present the financial position of the Council at the end of the last fiscal year. Commissioner Chestnut stated with respect to revenues collected vs. those budgeted, revenues received were 0.1 percent more than budgeted amounts, with respect to expenditures, funds expended were (2.7) percent less than budgeted amounts.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that the revenues received and the expenditures made are reflected in the increase in the Council's General Fund Balance of \$50,417. He also stated the audit contains various reports on compliance, internal control and management and in these reports no material weaknesses or problems were cited. Commissioner Chestnut finally stated that overall the Finance Committee was pleased with the report and it is clear from the auditor's findings that the Council is in very sound financial condition.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to accept and approve the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Annual Audit as prepared by Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants and to make the final payment to the auditor. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force

Commissioner Rick Davis, Chair of the Middle and Lower Suwannee and Withlacoochee River Task Force, stated that the Task Force held their second meeting earlier in the day at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites. He stated that the Task Force received a presentation from staff concerning the history of raw sewage spills by the City of Valdosta into the Withlacoochee River and the consent order between the City and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and ongoing raw sewage spills. Commissioner Davis also stated the Task Force heard a report concerning a meeting between the Task Force Chair, Council staff and Madison County staff and the City of Valdosta Mayor, City Manager, Utilities Director and Public Information Officer. He also stated the Task Force heard reports from Task Force members concerning local legislative delegation meetings where the issue of the raw sewage spills was discussed with state legislators. Finally, Commissioner Davis also stated the Task Force agreed that the next steps should include requesting a meeting with the Governor and Commissioner of Agriculture to discuss the issue.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Ben Glass, Community Affairs Manager, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that on February 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. the Utilities Director and the Environmental Compliance Officer from the City of Valdosta will make a presentation to the District Governing Board concerning raw sewage spills by the City of Valdosta into the Withlacoochee River. He also thanked the local governments that submitted springs grant applications to the District.

Sean Greene, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, requested that local government staff contact the Commission staff to assist with the review of large scale comprehensive plan map amendments early in the review process.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, from the Columbia County Observer, thanked the Council for moving the Citizen Comments agenda item towards the end of the regular agenda. He also commented on the need for elected officials to have business cards.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 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 December 2018 activities report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the December 2018 report.

B. Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board Meeting

Mr. Koons reported that Secretary-Treasurer Charles Chestnut IV, Immediate Past Chair Lorene Thomas, Vice-Chair Robert Wilford and himself attended the semi-annual meeting of the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board held in Tallahassee on January 11, 2019.

Mr. Koons stated the Policy Board heard presentations from Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice-President, Florida Chamber Foundation; Dr. Nick Place, Dean Extension Services, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; Davin Suggs, Director of Public Policy, Florida Association of Counties; and David Cruz, Legislative Advocate, Florida League of Cities. He stated the Policy Board also heard reports on various projects of regional planning councils throughout the state and received the 2017-18 Florida Regional Councils Association Annual Report. He stated the Policy Board also heard a legislative report from its legislative advocate and adopted a 2019 Legislative Agenda. In addition, the Policy Board reviewed a financial report and appointed a Nominating Committee for 2019-20.

C. 2017-18 Florida Regional Councils Association Annual Report

Mr. Koons stated that the 2017-18 Annual Report for the Florida Regional Councils Association was included in the Council meeting packet. He reported that the following members of the Council currently serve on the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board, Charles Chestnut IV, Secretary-Treasurer; Lorene Thomas, Immediate Past Chair; and Robert Wilford, Vice-Chair. Mr. Koons also stated that activities of the Council are highlighted on pages 4, 10 and 12 of the report.

D. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

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 developing 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. The Scorecard reports metrics for each of the following Six Pillars. Talent and Supply 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 2019 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

E. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2019 Legislature Session is scheduled to convene on March 5, 2019 and adjourn on May 3, 2019. He noted the committee meeting schedule prior to the start of the legislative session.

F. Florida Job Growth Fund

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Job Growth Fund each year provides \$85 million for public infrastructure and job training projects that support growth and employment in Florida's diverse industries. He noted that on January 7, 2019, the Governor announced \$18 million in awards for six Florida Job Growth Fund projects across the state. Mr. Koons reported that these awards included Bradford County receiving \$2,300,000 to build an access road through Keystone Heights Airport and the Town of Greenville receiving \$1,700,000 to convert a building into a manufacturing facility and to construct a publicly-owned building that would be leased as a grocery store.

Mr. Koons stated the projects were selected from more than 100 proposals, seeking a combined \$620 million in funding, submitted to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and over the past two years, the Governor has used the fund for 56 projects across the state totaling \$170 million.

G. Economic Development District Grantee Performance Report for period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Mr. Koons stated the Council is a federally designated economic development district by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration and each year, the Council reports on job creation/retention, private sector investment and public sector investment for projects funded by the U. S. Economic Development District or other sources that implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy adopted by the Council.

Mr. Koons also reviewed the Grantee Performance Report for the period from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. He noted that an estimated 631 jobs were either created or retained, an estimated \$67,400,000 in private investment and an estimated \$30,000 in public investment occurred on seven projects that implement the Strategy for the reporting period.

H. National Association of Development Organizations Aliceann Wohlbruck Innovation Award

Mr. Koons reported that the Council in conjunction with the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team received an Aliceann Wohlbruck Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for the public safety training and response services provided by the Team. Mr. Koons also stated that the awards this year are presented in honor of Aliceann Wohlbruck, who passed away in March 2018. He noted that Ms. Wohlbruck was the Association's first executive director, serving 24 years as a tireless champion for regional approaches to economic development in rural communities.

Mr. Koons stated that the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee is the primary hazardous materials emergency response planning agency in the north central Florida region and the Committee, with the assistance of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, initiated the formation of the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team in 2000. He stated that today, the Team is the focal point for hazardous materials emergency response for the north central Florida region and the Council provides staff support to the Team. Mr. Koons also stated that with the assistance of Council, the Team has been awarded over \$1,000,000 in competitive grants since 2001.

Mr. Koons introduced Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner, of the Council staff. He stated that Ms. Yeatter has been assigned responsibility of staffing the Clearinghouse Committee.

Mr. Koons also reported that Council employee Dwayne Mundy, Director of Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance, currently remains hospitalized at this time.

Chair Davis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on February 28, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.



Louie Davis, Chair

2/28/19
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE TOWN OF OTTER CREEK

WHEREAS, the Town of Otter Creek, with a population of approximately 140 residents, was incorporated in 1969 in Levy County; and

WHEREAS, Otter Creek was crossed by Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto during his explorations of Florida in 1539; and

WHEREAS, in the 1930s and 1940s the Town of Otter Creek was the second largest community in Levy County with a population approaching 1,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, a lumber mill that made cypress fitches for citrus crates and two railroads which bisected the Town were the economic base of the community in the early 20th Century; and

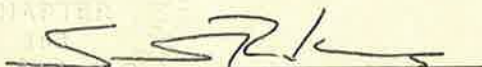
WHEREAS, in 2007, the Town Council created a local historic district consisting of neighborhoods with company residences that date from the late 19th Century and early 20th Century.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates the Town of Otter Creek on its 50th Anniversary.

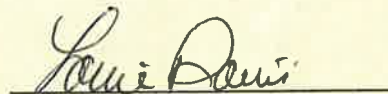
DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 24th day of January 2019.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:



Scott R. Koons, Executive Director



Louie Davis, Chair



PROCLAMATION

DECLARING FEBRUARY 11-15, 2019 AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is an economic development district designated by the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base; and

WHEREAS, economic developers stimulate and incubate entrepreneurship in order to help establish the next generation of new businesses which is the hallmark of the American economy; and

WHEREAS, economic developers are engaged in a wide variety of settings including rural and urban, local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions; and

WHEREAS, economic developers attract and retain high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions; and

WHEREAS, economic developers working in the north central Florida region support the expansions of career opportunities and quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby proclaims the week of February 11-15, 2019 as *Economic Development Week* in the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 24th day of January 2019.

Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL

Charles Chestnut, IV
Secretary-Treasurer

Louie Davis
Chair

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-02

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF
BRIAN D. TEEPLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Northeast Florida Regional Council was created in 1977 to serve citizens and member local governments of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns Counties; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Northeast Florida Regional Council is to encourage and enable local units of government and citizenry to assemble and cooperate with one another and with representatives of major economic interests, to promote health, safety, and general welfare of citizenry, and to plan for future development of the Region that will keep it competitive and afford a high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Brian D. Teeple has served as Chief Executive Officer for 30 years of the Northeast Florida Regional Council since 1989, capping a 33-year career at the Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Teeple has served and contributed to the Northeast Florida Regional Council and Florida Regional Councils Association with distinction and honor, having served as Chair of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Teeple has announced his retirement from the Northeast Florida Regional Council effective February 28, 2019.

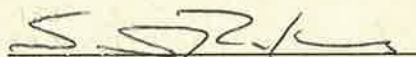
NOW, THEREFORE, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby congratulates Mr. Teeple upon the occasion of his retirement, thanks him for his many contributions on behalf of the Northeast Florida Regional Council and Florida Regional Councils Association and wishes him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

DULY ADOPTED this 24th day of January 2019.

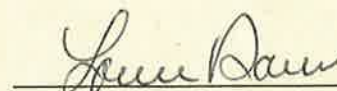
Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL



Scott R. Koons, Executive Director



Louie Davis, Chair