

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

February 28, 2019
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne
Robert Brown, Hamilton County
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Matt Hersom, City of Newberry
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
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
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

Kristina Wright

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Barney Bennette, Florida Department of
Transportation
Tom Miriti, Suwannee River Water
Management Water District
Daniel Penniman, Florida Fish and
Wildlife Conservation Commission
Russell Simpson, Florida Department of
Environmental Protection

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Arreola, City of Gainesville
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
James Catron, City of Madison
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Linda Jones, City of High Springs
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville

OTHERS PRESENT

Hunter Anderson
Taylor Brown
Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
Chris Doolin
Gary Hollis
Seth Luther
Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson
Stew Lilker
Kristin Rubin

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 Mortimer.

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 Hunter Anderson and Gary Hollis, U.S. Senator Rick Scott Regional Office; Taylor Brown, City Manager of the City of Perry; Seth Luther, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission; Sandra Buck-Camp, member of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson and Kristin Rubin of Our Santa Fe River; Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis from Waldo and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - January 24, 2019
- B. Monthly Financial Reports - January 2019
- C. Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc.
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Planning Grant Resolutions - Fiscal Year 2019-20
- E. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointments

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Davis asked that Agenda Item VIII.B.5. Item #34 City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR) be added to the regular agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Simmons, to add Agenda Item VIII.B.5. Item #34 City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR) to the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Davis asked that the regular agenda be approved as amended.

ACTION: Ms. Thomas made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Rick Davis, to approve the regular agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Chris Doolin, Legislative Consultant
Small County Coalition of Florida

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Chris Doolin, Legislative Consultant for Small County Coalition and the Small Counties School Board Association 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 will be addressed during the 2019 Legislative Session. Chair Davis thanked Mr. Doolin for his comments.

VII. CHAIR REPORT - None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee -

1. Resolution Recognizing 150th Anniversary of the City of Gainesville

Mr. Koons, stated that The City of Gainesville was incorporated in 1869 and was named after General Edmund P. Gaines, a hero during the Seminole Wars. He stated the mid 19th Century, the City was connected to the Florida Railroad running from Fernandina and Cedar Key connecting the east coast to the west coast of Florida. Mr. Koons stated the City of Gainesville is home to the University of Florida and Santa Fe College, and is a thriving center for education, healthcare where nature and culture meet. He further stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council adopt the attached Resolution No. 2019-11 recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the City of Gainesville.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Simmons, to adopt the attached Resolution No. 2019-11 recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the City of Gainesville. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Executive Committee - Proclamation Declaring February 24, 2019 - March 2, 2019
Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Mr. Koons stated that the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee has designated the week of February 24, 2019 thru March 2, 2019 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week and that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council join in this public outreach effort by proclaiming the week of February 24, 2019 thru March 2, 2019 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in the north central Florida region.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Davis, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming February 24, 2019 thru March 2, 2019 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in the north central Florida region, which

has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Assigned Fund Balance - Capital Reserve

Mr. Koons stated that during Fiscal Year 2017-18, \$6,218 for depreciation of building and equipment was applied to the capital assets of the Council resulting in a net total of \$565,863 accumulated depreciation of fixed assets. He also stated that the Capital Reserve Fund is maintained at an amount approximate to the accumulated depreciation of building and equipment to cover one-time capital expenditures for building improvements/repairs and equipment replacement/upgrades. Mr. Koons further stated that in order to maintain the Capital Reserve Fund at this level, the Executive Committee recommends that \$6,000 from the Council's unassigned fund balance be encumbered as part of the Capital Reserve Fund assigned fund balance to increase the amount for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from \$560,000 to \$566,000.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wilford, to encumber \$6,000 of the Council's unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs to \$566,000. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Anthony Adams, Clearinghouse Committee 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.

- #28 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-2ESR)
- #29 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-3ESR)
- #30 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)
- #31 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)

Commissioner Adams stated subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packets, the Council received the following late-arriving item which required action prior to the next Council meeting Item #34 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment.

Commissioner Adams stated with regards to these items, the Committee found that the local government comprehensive plans as amended, were 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 recommended 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 Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #28 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 18-2ESR); #29 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

(DEO No. 18-3ESR); #30 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #31 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #34 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR). The motion carried unanimously.

C. 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 met earlier in the afternoon of February 28, 2019 and adopted a resolution finding the continuing and repetitive spills of raw sewage into the Withlacoochee River and Mud Creek by the City of Valdosta, Georgia to be unacceptable and intolerable and requesting support of the State of Florida, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Suwannee River Water Management District and other interested agencies in addressing the issue of raw sewage spills by the City of Valdosta, Georgia. Commissioner Davis also stated that Task Force members plan to attend the City of Valdosta City Council meeting on March 21, 2019 to discuss raw sewage spills by the City. Finally, Commissioner Davis stated the next meeting of the Task Force will be held on April 25, 2019 prior to the Council meeting at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Tom Miriti, Deputy Executive Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that on February 12, 2019, the District Governing Board held a workshop concerning raw sewage spills by the City of Valdosta, Georgia into the Withlacoochee River and Mud Creek. He also reported that, on March 12, 2019, the District Governing Board will hold a workshop concerning water quality data. Also, Mr. Miriti stated that the District will be initiating its water supply planning and water assessment process in the coming months. Finally, he reported that the District had revamped its website and that it was launched on February 28, 2019.

Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, stated that the Department is currently addressing the City of Valdosta, Georgia raw sewage spill issue and offered assistance by the Department to the Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force.

Daniel Penninman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission North Central Region, stated that the Commission will be conducting a statewide survey of private landowners in March 2019. The survey will be mailed to 5,000 private landowners of 20 acres or more. He noted that survey results will be used to assist the Commission with the wildlife management technical assistance it provides to private landowners.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, from the Columbia County Observer, spoke about the lack of a regional rural transportation system, and the lack of lighting and signage at the Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 41/441 interchange.

Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson, spoke about fracking and the need to encourage the state legislators to add matrix acidizing as a prohibited means of fracking in the state to the fracking prohibition bill being considered by the Legislator during the 2019 Legislative Session.

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 January 2019 activities report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the January 2019 report.

B. 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 February 2019 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

C. 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 reviewed bills of interest to regional planning councils and local governments.

Mr. Koons informed the Council that Arthur Bellot, former Dixie County Coordinator, recently died. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Mr. Bellot.

Chair Davis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on March 28, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Louie Davis, Chair

3/28/2019

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL
FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville, was incorporated in 1869 in Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville is named after General Edmund P. Gaines, a hero during the Seminole Wars; and

WHEREAS, in the mid 19th Century, the City of Gainesville was connected to the Florida Railroad running from Fernandina to Cedar Key connecting the east coast to the west coast of Florida ; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville is home to the University of Florida and Santa Fe College; and

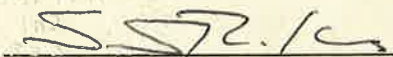
WHEREAS today the City of Gainesville is a thriving center for education, healthcare and culture where nature and culture meet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council congratulates. the City of Gainesville on its 150th Anniversary.

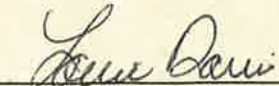
DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 28th day of February 2019.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:



Scott R. Koons, Executive Director



Louie Davis, Chair



PROCLAMATION

DECLARING FEBRUARY 24, 2019 - MARCH 2, 2019 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 24, 2019 - March 2, 2019 as *Hazardous Materials Awareness Week* throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 28th day of February 2019.

ATTEST:

SEAL

Charles Chestnut IV, Secretary-Treasurer

Louie Davis, Chair