

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

April 25, 2019
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
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
Matt Hersom, City of Newberry
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
Linda Jones, City of High Springs
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Gigi Simmons, City of Gainesville
Len Stapleton, Suwannee County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Barney Bennette, Florida Department of
Transportation
Ben Glass, Suwannee River
Water Management District
Tom Miriti, Suwannee River
Water Management District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Deming, City of Perry
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
John Meeks, Levy County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathon Wershow

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
Robert Jones
Brian Kauffman
Stew Lilker
Marilyn Stephens

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons
Jean Strong
Tara Tucker
Lauren Yeatter

Executive Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION

Noting the presence of a quorum, Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Wilford.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Davis welcomed Brian Kauffman, Madison County Coordinator; Sandra Buck-Camp, member of the Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis from Waldo; Robert Jones, husband of Linda Jones Commissioner from the City of High Springs and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - March 28, 2019
- B. Monthly Financial Reports - March 2019
- C. 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: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Davis asked that VIII.B.2. Item #41 City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR) be added to the regular agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Mortimer, to add Agenda Item VIII.B.2. Item #41 City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted 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: Commissioner Wilford made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Mortimer, to approve the regular agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Marilyn Stephens, Assistant Regional Manager
Atlanta Regional Office,
United States Census

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Marilyn Stephens, Assistant Regional Manager, Atlanta Regional Office, United States Census. Ms. Stephens made a presentation concerning Census 2020 and noted that the Census population count is used to determine federal and state representation and distribute federal funds to state government and local governments. Chair Davis thanked Ms. Stephens for her presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT -

A. Resolution of Appreciation for Steven Futch

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Mortimer, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Steven Futch. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Executive Director Elected Chair of the University of Florida
Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Program Advisory Council

Chair Davis announced our Executive Director, Scott Koons, has been elected Chair of the University of Florida Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Program Advisory Council. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to provide professional guidance to the students, faculty and curriculum of the Program. The primary function of the Advisory Council is to act as a liason between planning and related professions and the Program by offering advice concerning planning issues and trends. Mr. Koons will also assist with professional development and ethics training for students, mentoring students and providing input to the curriculum of the Program.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee -

A. Executive Committee

1. Proclamation Declaring May 5-11, 2019 as Travel and Tourism Week

Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council adopt a proclamation declaring the week of May 5-11, 2019 as Travel and Tourism Week as declared by the Travel Industry Association. He also stated that activities are planned throughout the United States and Florida to support and celebrate the tourism industry.

ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Simmons to adopt a proclamation proclaiming May 5-11, 2019 as Travel and Tourism Week which is attached hereto and made part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Anthony Adams, 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 amendment which was included on the Council agenda for consideration.

#40 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR)

Commissioner Adams stated that the following item which was received following the distribution of the Council meeting packet and added to the agenda require action prior to the next meeting and was reviewed by the Clearinghouse Committee earlier in the evening.

#41 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)

Commissioner Adams also 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 Chestnut to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #40 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment; Item #41 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. 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 members heard reports concerning activities of the the Task Force earlier on the afternoon of April 25, 2019 at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites. Commissioner Davis reported that the Task Force met with Valdosta City Council for a Joint Workshop on April 10, 2019 in Valdosta to discuss the issue of raw sewerage spills by the City and how they could work together to resolve this ongoing issue. He also stated the City agreed to provide immediate notification of any future sewage spills. He also noted that the Task Force was informed that the City is awaiting a permit to construct a 10 million gallon equalization basin at the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant later this year. Finally, Chair Rick Davis stated the next meeting of the Task Force will be held on June 27, 2019 prior to the Council meeting at the Lake City Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Ben Glass, Community Affairs Manager, Suwannee River Water Management District, thanked all the cities and counties that submitted applications to the District for river grants. He stated following review of the applications, the District Governing Board will consider them for funding recommendations to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, from the Columbia County Observer, stated that the Columbia County Animal Shelter will hold a fundraiser on April 27, 2019. He also suggested that member local governments report on projects of interest to local governments throughout the region.

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 March 2019 activities report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the March 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 April 2019 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2019 Legislature Session convened on March 5, 2019 and is scheduled to adjourn on May 3, 2019. He reviewed bills of interest to regional planning councils and local governments.

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

Mr. Koons stated May 7, 2019 is the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Council. In recognition of this event, every member local government of the Council has or is scheduled to issue a proclamation declaring May 7, 2019 as North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Day in their jurisdiction. He also stated at its January 24, 2019, the Council authorized staff to plan a celebration commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Council. Mr. Koons stated that on May 23, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Lake City, the Council will hold a celebration in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Council.

Mr. Koons stated that Jean Strong, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director, will be retiring in May 2019. He noted that Ms. Strong has been employed by the Council since 2012. Mr. Koons thanked Ms. Strong for her service to the Council.

Chair Davis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on May 23, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.



Louie Davis, Chair

5/23/2019

Date