

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

August 22, 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
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
Don Hale, Suwannee County
Matt Hersom, City of Newberry
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Gigi Simmons, City of Gainesville
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
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 Mirti, Suwannee River Water
Management Water District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry
Linda Jones, City of High Springs
John Meeks, Levy County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

OTHERS PRESENT

Angie Cornell
Diana Davis
Stew Lilker
Merrille Malwitz-Jipson
Oscar Psyches
Kristina Rubin
Jim Tatum
Emma Turner
Noah Turner
David Tyler
James Williams

STAFF PRESENT

Carmelita Franco
Scott Koons
Tara Tucker
Lauren Yeatter

Executive Members names are bold

I. INVOCATION

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Wilford welcomed and introduced James Williams, Union County Coordinator; Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson of Our Santa Fe River and Suwannee St. Johns River Sierra Club; Jim Tatum of Our Santa Fe River; Kristina Rubin of Our Santa Fe River; Makena Lang, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Oscar Psychas, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Emma Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Noah Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Angela Cornell, wife of Commissioner Ken Cornell; Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis; and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer;

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - July 25, 2019
- B. Monthly Financial Report - July 2019
- C. Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services Agreement Fiscal Year 2019-20
- D. Hazardous Waste Monitoring Verification and Notification Service Agreements Fiscal Year 2019-20
- E. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Evaluation Amendments Fiscal Year 2019-20
Services Agreement - Town of Horseshoe Beach
- F. Community Development Block Grant Fiscal Year 2018
Administrative Services Agreement - Town of Mayo
- G. Hazards Analyses Services Agreement Fiscal Year 2019-20 Alachua County

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Davis asked for approval of the regular agenda.

ACTION: Commissioner Warren made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the regular agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice-President
Florida Chamber Foundation

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Tony Carvajal, Executive Vice-President, Florida Chamber Foundation. Mr. Koons stated that the Foundation, founded in 1968, is a business-led, problem-solver and research 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, working in partnership with state business leaders to promote a vibrant Florida economy. Mr. Carvajal made a presentation to the Council concerning the Foundation's Florida 2030 Blueprint to Secure Florida's Future project. Chair Wilford thanked Mr. Carvajal for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Member

Chair Wilford welcomed new Council member Commissioner Don Hale from Suwannee County.

B. Resolutions of Appreciation - Honorable Len Stapleton

ACTION: Commissioner Arreola made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Len Stapleton. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Committee Appointments

Chair Wilford asked for ratification of the appointment of James Tallman to the Clearinghouse Committee and Regional Planning Committee, as recommended by the Chair of the Council.

ACTION: Commissioner Corenll made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps to ratify the appointment of James Tallman to the Clearinghouse Committee and Regional Committee as recommended by the Chair of the Council. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance

Chair Wilford stated at their June 27, 2019 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed Senate Bill 7068 that established the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program. Chair Wilford also stated there will be a presentation scheduled at a future Council meeting concerning Multi-use Corridors of Regional Significance.

3. South Florida Climate Change Compact and Tampa Bay Resilience Coalition

Chair Wilford stated at their June 27, 2019 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed two regions in the state that are addressing climate change and resiliency. In particular, the south Florida region has formed a Climate Change Compact and the Tampa Bay region has formed a Regional Resiliency Coalition. A presentation concerning this topic will be scheduled for a future Council meeting.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Janice Mortimer, 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.

- #61 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)
- #62 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR)
- #64 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR)
- #65 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR)
- #66 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)

Commissioner Mortimer 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. She stated that the Committee recommended 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 Arreola, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #61 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #62 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR); #64 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR); #65 - City of Newberry Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR); and #66 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR). The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Barney Bennett, Rural Area Planning Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2 stated that the Department will be accepting applications for Transportation Alternatives Program, SunTrails Program, Small County Road Assistance Program and Small County Outreach Program beginning in September 2019 with applications due by mid-December 2019. Mr. Bennett also introduced David Tyler,

the new Rural Area Planning Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2 and stated that Mr. Tyler will be attending future Council meetings reporting for the Florida Department of Transportation, District 2.

Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that river grant project applications will be considered by the District Governing Board at their September 10, 2019 meeting for funding recommendations to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. He also reported that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has announced the availability of \$40 million statewide for alternative water supply project grants. Finally, Mr. Mirti stated that a small sewage spill occurred in the City of Valdosta, Georgia on August 21, 2019. He noted that the electronic notification system established by the Middle and Lower Suwannee and Withlacoochee River Task Force was activated by the City to notify Task Force members and agencies.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson, Our Santa Fe River and Suwannee St. Johns River Sierra Club, addressed her concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region and the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program. Makena Lang, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild, addressed her concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region and the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program. Emma Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida, addressed her concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region and Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program; Noah Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild, addressed his concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region and the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program.

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

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons reported that 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 noted that the August 2019 Scorecard™ was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2020 Legislative Session will convene on January 14, 2020 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2020. He also stated legislative committee meetings will begin the week of September 16, 2019 and conclude the week of December 9, 2019.

D. U.S. Economic Development Administration Grant Award -Florida Gateway College

Mr. Koons reported that the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration has awarded Florida Gateway College a \$2.4 million grant to support the construction of the Gateway College Commercial Vehicle Driving Postsecondary Adult Vocational Facility in Lake City. He stated that the project, to be located in a Tax Cuts and Jobs Act designated Opportunity Zone, will be matched with \$265,867 in local funds. Mr. Koons reported that students will be trained at a state-of-the-art facility to address the need for skilled truck drivers in the north central Florida region. Finally, he stated that this project was made possible by the regional planning efforts led by the Council and that the project will further strategies in the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to diversify the economy of the north central Florida region.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Wilford informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on September 26, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Robert Wilford, Chair

9/26/19
Date