

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Via Communications Media Technology

October 28, 2021
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
Mary Alford, Alachua County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
Patricia Bouie Hutchinson, City of Hawthorne
Robert Brown, Hamilton County
James Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Mark Clark, City of Newberry
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Desmon Duncan-Walker, City of Gainesville
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
Ward Ketring, City of Perry
Travis Land, Suwannee County
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Reina Saco, City of Gainesville
David Stegall, City of Lake Butler
Jody Stephenson, Dixie County
James Tallman, Union County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Marihelen Wheeler, Alachua County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

MEMBERS ABSENT

LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
Linda Jones, City of High Springs
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Donnie Waldrep, Madison County

OTHERS PRESENT

Staci Bertrand
Diana Davis
Stephen Hofstetter
Stew Lilker
Bob Tancig

STAFF PRESENT

Scott Koons
Tara Tucker
Lauren Yeatter

Executive Committee Members names are bold
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

NON-VOTING DELEGATE ABSENT

Kristin Adkins, City of High Springs

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

Ben Glass, Suwannee River Water
Management District
David Tyler, Florida Department
of Transportation

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

I. INVOCATION

Noting a quorum of the Council being present, Chair Thomas Demps called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and gave the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Demps welcomed Diana Davis, Executive Director, Alachua County League of Cities and wife of Council Member Louie Davis; Bob Tancig, North Central Florida Climate Action Team; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - September 23, 2021
- B. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area Staff Services Agreement
- C. Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program Community Transportation Coordinator Selection for Madison County
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointment

Chair Demps asked if there was a motion to approve the consent agenda.

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

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - Stephen Hofstetter, Director
Alachua County Environmental Protection Department

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Stephen Hofstetter, Director of Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. Mr. Hofstetter gave a presentation to the Council concerning the Alachua County Resiliency Vulnerability Analysis. Chair Demps thanked Mr. Hofstetter for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT -

- A. New Member - Ward Ketring, City of Perry

Chair Demps welcomed new Council member City Councilman Ward Ketring, City of Perry.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee - None
- B. Clearinghouse Committee - Committee Level Comprehensive Plan Review Items

Commissioner Bouie Hutchinson, Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met virtually via communications media technology earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #69 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR)
- #2 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR)
- #3 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-2ESR)
- #4 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 21-2ESR)
- #5 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 21-3ESR)
- #6 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR)
- #7 - City of Lake Butler Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR)

Commissioner Bouie Hutchinson 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 recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Commissioner Bouie Hutchinson made the motion, with a second by Mayor Louie Davis, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #69 - Dixie County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR); Item #2 - Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR); Item #3 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-2ESR); Item #4 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 21-2ESR); Item #5 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 21-3ESR); Item #6 - City of Chiefland Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR); and Item #7 - City of Lake Butler Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 21-1ESR). The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Finance Committee - Fiscal Year 2020-21 Amended Budget

Mayor Mortimer, Secretary-Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair, reported that the Finance Committee had agreed upon a budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2020-21. She stated this 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. Mayor Mortimer reported the proposed changes in the current year budget reflect an overall net decrease of (\$670,000), which represents (28.9) percent decrease. She also stated this includes both increases and decreases in various program areas with associated changes in Direct and Indirect expenses. Mayor Mortimer reported the Finance Committee finds that the Council remains in sound financial condition. Finally, she stated that the Committee recommends approval of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 amended budget.

ACTION: Mayor Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Alford to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-21 amended budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee

Ms. Staci Bertrand, Vice-President for Economic Development for the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee, stated the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee appointed by the Council includes representatives of the private sector, public officials and workforce development boards. She stated that the Committee is responsible for the development of the strategy and recommendation of the strategy to the Council for adoption. Ms. Bertrand stated the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee met virtually via communications media technology on October 20, 2021 to review activities conducted during the past year to support the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

She also stated that the Committee met virtually on October 20, 2021 to review activities conducted during the past year to support the goals and objectives of the Strategy. Ms. Bertrand reported that the Committee does not recommend any amendments to the Strategy at this time and recommends that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2021-18 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022.

ACTION: Commissioner Stegall made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wheeler to adopt Resolution No. 2021-18 concerning the annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

David Tyler, Rural Transportation Planning Manager, Florida Department of Transportation District 2, stated that the District held a public hearing earlier in the day on October 28, 2021 concerning the Department's Tentative Five-Year Work Program for Fiscal Year 2022-23 to Fiscal Year 2026-27.

Ben Glass, Legislative and Community Affairs Chief, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that springs cost share grant applications and alternative water supply cost share grant applications are due to the District by December 15, 2021.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bob Tancig of the North Central Florida Climate Action Team, a citizen organization in Alachua County, discussed activities being undertaken by the Team concerning resiliency.

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. He stated that 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. Mr. Koons also stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the September 2021 activity report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the September 2021 report.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. He stated that 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. Mr. Koons noted that 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 October 2021 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons stated the 2022 Legislature Session will convene on January 11, 2022 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 11, 2022. He noted that 766 bills have been filed for consideration by the Legislature to date. Mr. Koons reported that the legislative interim Committee schedule is, as follows:

- Week of September 20, 2021
- Week of October 11, 2021
- Week of October 18, 2021
- Week of November 1, 2021
- Week of November 15, 2021
- Week of November 29, 2021

D. Florida Economic Development Council Rural Deal of the Year Award- Suwannee County

Mr. Koons stated the Florida Economic Development Council is the professional association of economic, workforce and community developers. He noted that each year, the Council recognizes outstanding achievement in the location/expansion of business in the state of Florida. Mr. Koons stated awards are given annually to recognize the outstanding deal from a rural community, urban community and regional cooperative (multi-county) area. He reported Suwannee County was recently awarded the Rural Deal of the Year Award by the Council for the binderholz Group lumber company project at the North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity Catalyst Site.

U.S. Economic Development Administration Good Jobs Challenge Grant

Mr. Koons stated Ms. Bertrand discussed a U.S. Economic Development Administration Good Jobs Challenge Grant application being prepared by Santa Fe College in partnership with the University of Florida, CareerSource North Central Florida and the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Louie Davis stated that a Car Show will be held in Waldo on December 11, 2021.

Commissioner Wheeler stated that a play to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the settlement of Micanopy will be performed at the Micanopy Historical Society Museum on November 12, 2021.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Demps stated that the next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on December 9, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Thomas Demps, Chair

12/9/21
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL CONCERNING THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2018-2022; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration an economic development district; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to prepare, adopt and maintain a comprehensive economic development strategy to guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of their region; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive economic development strategy qualifies the region and local governments located within the region for federal assistance under Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Act programs; and

WHEREAS, economic development districts are required to annually review their comprehensive economic development strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby affirms that its annual review of the North Central Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022, dated September 28, 2017, did not result in any amendments to the Strategy being adopted by the Council; and

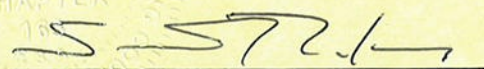
RESOLVED, FURTHER, that all resolutions or portions of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that this resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

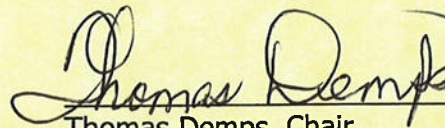
DULY ADOPTED by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council this 28th day of October 2021.

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Attest:



Scott R. Koons, Executive Director



Thomas Demps, Chair