MEMBERS PRESENT

Martha Butler, Hamilton County
Chuck Chestnut, City of Gainesville
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
John Driggers, Dixie County
Steve Futch, City of Starke
Gail Garrard, Lafayette County
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
John Hersey, Bradford County
Eddie Martin, City of Hawthorne
Charles Maulsby, Taylor County
Heather Neill, Lafayette County
Gerald O’Neil, Alachua County
Malcolm Page, Taylor County
James Painter, Alachua County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Braddy, City of Gainesville
Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
John Carlson, Alachua County
Melaine “Red” Clyatt, Union County
Gordon Dasher, Gilchrist County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Kirk Eppenstein, City of High Springs
Mitchell Gentry, Gilchrist County
John Glanzer, City of Newberry
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Rodney Long, Alachua County
Rosalyn Mattingly, Alachua County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Fred Reeves, Madison County
Andrew Smith, Union County

GUESTS PRESENT

Patrice Boyes, Esq.
Diana Davis
Ralph Eng, Eng, Denman & Associates
Ron Locke
Sandra Sontag
Jon Wershow

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Henderson, representing Aage Schroder, DOT
Jim Poole, Enterprise Florida
Russell Simpson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., noting that there was a quorum of the Council and that all Council members were able to vote.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 27, 2005

Mr. James Painter asked that the January 27, 2005 minutes be amended to show his abstention from voting on Item IV.B - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 04-2) and requested that Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict be attached to the January 27, 2005 minutes.

Chairman Martin asked that the minutes of the January 27, 2005 meeting be approved as amended.

ACTION: Mr. Dodge made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Futch, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2005 meeting as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA - Contract with Lake City to Administer Community Development Block Grant Program

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions regarding the item listed on the Consent Agenda, and requested that this item be approved.

ACTION: Mr. Maultsby made the motion, with a second by Mr. Dodge, to approve the item listed on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Chairman Martin introduced and welcomed a new member, Commissioner Paula DeLaney from Alachua County.
IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Discussion of Regional Planning Council Boundaries

Mr. Justice stated that for the past several weeks there have been discussions about the role that regional planning councils (RPCs) should have regarding any decisions to realign regional boundaries. He added that since the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC) is frequently mentioned when the issue comes up, the WRPC has adopted a resolution to oppose any restructuring of regional planning councils without the approval of the affected region. He added that the WRPC plans to ask the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board to do the same at its meeting on March 11, 2005. Mr. Justice stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council support the resolution by the WRPC to the FRCA representatives to oppose the State’s restructuring of regional planning council boundaries without the approval of the affected regional planning council and local governments.

ACTION: Dr. O’Neil made the motion, with a second by Mr. Dodge, that the Council support a resolution to oppose the State’s restructuring of regional planning council boundaries without the approval of the affected regional planning council and local governments. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Authorization to Bid Acrylic Coating of Office Building and Warehouse Roofs

Mr. Justice stated that on several occasions over the past three years, leaks have occurred in the office building and in the warehouse and that temporary maintenance has been necessary in each of these instances. He added that after reviewing the situation, it has been determined that the long-term solution to this problem is to solicit bids to have both roofs completely refurbished and coated with an acrylic material to provide long lasting protection. Mr. Justice further added that the Executive Committee requested that staff also solicit bids for the installation of new metal roofs on both the office building and warehouse and to bring both options before the Council at the next meeting.
ACTION: Commissioner Hersey made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Garrard, to authorize staff to solicit bids for acrylic coating of the office building and warehouse and to also solicit bids for the installation of new roofs on the office building and warehouse and to bring both options before the Council at their next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Vice-Chair Garrard reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the following two committee items which require Council action.

SpringHills Development of Regional Impact, Notice of Proposed Change

#39 - Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Vice-Chair Garrard introduced Mr. Ralph Eng of Eng, Denman and Associates, Inc., authorized agent for the developer, Haufler Properties, Inc., who briefly summarized the proposed changes to the SpringHills Development of Regional Impact.

Vice-Chair Garrard then stated that, with regards the SpringHills Development of Regional Impact, Notice of Proposed Change, the Committee recommends forwarding a finding to Alachua County that the Notice of Proposed Change does not constitute a Substantial Deviation and also to recommend that the County be notified that the Council will not participate at the County’s public hearing on this request.

ACTION: Vice-Chair Garrard made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Garrard then stated that, with regards to item #39, Bradford County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, the Committee finds the amendment does not adversely affect natural resources of regional significance, regional facilities, or adjacent local governments. She added that the Committee does not recommend the preparation of an Objections, Recommendations, and Comments Report. Vice-Chair Garrard stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to Bradford County and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Vice-Chair Garrard made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to approve the Committee recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
C. Nominating Committee

Chairman Davis reported that the Nominating Committee met earlier in the evening to nominate a candidate for the vacant Executive Committee position. He reported that the Committee agreed that since there were no County members on the Committee, a county commissioner should be presented for Council consideration. He added that since the nominee for the Executive Committee position is a member of the Board of Directors and that another Board member has resigned, the Committee nominated two members to fill the vacant Board of Directors positions. Chairman Davis stated that the Committee recommends that the Council appoint Commissioner Roy Ellis to the Executive Committee and Commissioner Steve Futch and Commissioner Randy Hatch to the Board of Directors with terms to expire May 2006.

ACTION: Chairman Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to elect Commissioner Roy Ellis to the Executive Committee and to elect Commissioner Steve Futch and Commissioner Randy Hatch to the Board of Directors with terms to expire May 2006, as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A. Legislative Report

Mr. Justice reported that the Governor’s budget for regional planning councils is $2,350,000, which is about the same amount the legislature appropriated for the current year.

Mr. Justice further reported that the Florida Department of Community Affairs’ Growth Management Initiative bill was no longer being considered.

Mr. Justice reported that on the federal level, the President’s budget has significant reductions in the amount of funds available to local governments, including economic development and community development block grant programs.
B. Quarterly Financial Report for Period Ending December 31, 2004

Mr. Justice reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2004. He answered questions and noted that the financial condition of the Council is sound. Mr. Justice reported that with 25 percent of the year over, the overall expenditure level for the quarter is 22 percent of the budgeted amount and that there should be no problem in maintaining the appropriate budget to expenditure ratio for the year.

Chairman Martin announced that the next meeting of the Council will be held on March 24, 2005. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Eddie Martin
Chairman

2/23/2005
Date