NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

December 2, 2010
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Alphonso Dowdell, City of Perry
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Donnie Hamlin, Lafayette County
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Eddie Martin, Alachua County
Charles Maulsby, Taylor County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Harry Nichols, City of Newberry
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Frank Ogborn, City of Archer
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County
Eleanor Randall, City of Hawthorne
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

MEMBERS ABSENT

Adeniyi Aderibigbe, Lafayette County
David Biddle, Gilchrist County
Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Ben Boukari, Jr., City of Alachua
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Thomas Collett, Alachua County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Thomas Hawkins, City of Gainesville
Scherwin Henry, City of Gainesville
Robert Krames, Alachua County
Ann Lessman, City of Jasper
Rodney Long, Alachua County
Warren Nielsen, City of Gainesville
Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville
Andrew Smith, Union County
Carolyn Spooner, City of Starke
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Wesley Wainwright, Suwannee County
Randy Wells, City of Gainesville
Charles Williams, Hamilton County
Mike Williams, Madison County
Ronald Williams, Columbia County

OTHERS PRESENT

Barney Bennett, FDOT
Diana Davis
Carlos Herd, SRWMD
David Hornsby, SJRWMD
Dale Jenkins, SWRMD
Kraig McLane, SJRWMD
Sheryl Rehberg, Executive Director, Workforce
Mickie Salter, Legislative Assistant to
Rep. Bembry
Doyle Thomas

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Dopp
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jean Strong

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

Board Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized
I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Louie Davis called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., with an invocation given by Mayor Harry Nichols and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Davis stated that there was a quorum of the Board of Directors and all Council members were able to vote.

Chair Davis introduced and welcomed Barney Bennette, Florida Department of Transportation, Carlos Herd and Dale Jenkins, Suwannee River Water Management District, Sheryl Rehberg, Executive Director of Workforce, Mickie Salter, Legislative Assistant to Representative Leonard Bembry, Doyle Thomas, husband of Council member Lorene Thomas and Chair Davis’ wife, Diana Davis.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 28, 2010

Chair Davis asked that the minutes of the October 28, 2010 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2010 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Agreement with Northeast Florida Regional Council to Assist with Special Weapons and Tactics Exercise

B. Florida’s Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Board Membership Certification - Lafayette County

C. Florida’s Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Community Transportation Coordinator Annual Performance Evaluations - Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist and Union Counties

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

ACTION: Mr. Maultsby made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CHAIR’S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Member

Chair Davis introduced and welcomed new Council member Commissioner Jason Holifield, representing Dixie County.

B. Resolutions of Appreciation

1. William Coughlin
2. Jack Donovan
3. Wesley Eubank
4. John Hersey
5. Wade Higginbotham
6. Rudolph Parker

Chair Davis asked that Resolutions of Appreciation for past services to the Council be approved for former Commissioner William Coughlin, who served as a representative for the City of High Springs, former Commissioner Jack Donovan, who served as a representative for the City of Gainesville, former school board representative Wesley Eubank, gubernatorial appointee representing Alachua County School Board, former Commissioner John Hersey, who served as a representative for Bradford County, Commissioner Wade Higginbotham, who served as a representative for Dixie County and former Commissioner Rudolph Parker, who served as a representative for Taylor County.

**ACTION:** Mr. Dodge made the motion, with a second by Mr. Martin, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for former Commissioner Coughlin, former Commissioner Donovan, former school board member Eubank, former Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Higginbotham and former Commissioner Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Committee Appointments

1. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee

Chair Davis stated that an appointment needs to be made to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. He stated that the majority of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee must be private sector representatives. He stated that Chris Coleman currently serves as a Board member of the East Gainesville Community Development Corporation. Chair Davis recommended that Mr. Coleman be appointed to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year.

**ACTION:** Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to appoint Chris Coleman to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Florida Regional Councils Association

Chair Davis stated that former Secretary-Treasurer John Hersey is no longer a county commissioner representing Bradford County on the Council and an appointment to the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board needs to be made. Chair Davis recommended that Commissioner Lewis Vaughn be appointed to the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year.
ACTION: Mr. Martin made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLaney, to appoint Commissioner Vaughn to the Florida Regional Councils Association Policy Board for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year. The motion carried unanimously.

V. WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Mr. Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Kraig McLane, Governmental Affairs Manager and David Hornsby, Technical Program Manager for the St. Johns River Water Management District. Mr. McLane then gave a presentation on the district-wide water supply assessment currently being conducted. He stated that the northeast Florida area has been identified as a priority water resource caution area in the draft Water Supply Assessment and reported that portions of Alachua and Bradford Counties are included in the priority water resource caution area. He stated that the northeast Florida area may be unable to meet all future water demands by 2030 using current and proposed water supply sources without causing unacceptable environmental impacts. He stated that when an area is designated as a priority water resource caution area, the related local government is statutorily required to identify alternative water supply sources and strategies in a water supply work plan. Mr. McLane stated that the St. Johns River Water Management District will continue to work with the Suwannee River Water Management District to ensure that the water supply planning efforts of both districts are closely coordinated. Chair Davis thanked Mr. McLane for his presentation.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Due to the absence of Clearinghouse Committee Chair Sandra Haas, Vice-Chair Paula DeLaney gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening with a quorum present and reviewed four local government evaluation and appraisal reports and eight local government comprehensive plan amendments. She further stated that these items were grouped for purposes of presentation.

#14 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report
#20 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report
#27 - Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report
#35 - City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report

Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Clearinghouse Committee found the local government comprehensive plans, if amended as recommended by the Evaluation and Appraisal Reports, are anticipated to remain consistent with the regional plan. However, she stated that the Clearinghouse Committee also found that the Council may reach different conclusions for the specific comprehensive plan amendments contained as part of any evaluation and appraisal report-based amendments to the local plans. Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding the findings contained in the staff reports to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.
ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney made the motion, with a second by Mr. Martin, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #14, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report, Item #20, City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report, Item #27, Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report and Item #35, City of Archer Comprehensive Plan Proposed Evaluation and Appraisal Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Clearinghouse Committee reviewed the following three local government comprehensive plan draft amendments.

#25 - Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
#26 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment
#28 - Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Commissioner DeLaney reported that the Clearinghouse Committee found the local Comprehensive Plans, if amended as proposed, were anticipated to remain consistent with the regional plan. However, she stated that with regards to the Suwannee County item, the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding an Objection and a request for the preparation of an Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report regarding potential adverse impacts to the Regional Road Network. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding the findings contained in the staff reports to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney made the motion, with a second by Mr. Martin, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #25, Suwannee County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, Item #26, Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment and Item #28, Town of Cross City Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner DeLaney stated that the Clearinghouse Committee reviewed five local government comprehensive plan adopted amendments.

#13 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments
#16 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments
#17 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments
#18 - Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
#19 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment

Commissioner DeLaney reported that the Clearinghouse Committee found the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, remained consistent with the regional plan. She stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommended forwarding the findings contained in the staff report to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.
ACTION: Commissioner DeLaney made the motion, with a second by Mr. Martin, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #13, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, Item #16, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, Item #17, City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendments, Item #18, Town of Fort White Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment and Item #19, Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Nominating Committee

1. Election of Executive Committee Member(s)
2. Election of Board of Director Member(s)

Commissioner Roy Ellis, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Nominating Committee met on November 23, 2010 to make, for the Council’s consideration, recommendations regarding the Secretary-Treasurer position, including the additional Executive Committee member, to serve for the remainder of the 2010-11 program year. The Nominating Committee recommendations for the Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Committee Member-at-Large positions are, as follows.

Secretary-Treasurer - Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Executive Committee Member-at-Large - Roy Ellis, Madison County

Commissioner Ellis reported that these recommendations resulted in a vacancy on the Board of Directors. He further reported that former Board of Directors member Rudolph Parker is no longer a county commissioner representing Taylor County on the Council and that an additional vacancy exists on the Board of Directors. He stated that the Nominating Committee recommendations for the Board of Directors positions are, as follows.

Board of Directors - Stephen Bailey, Columbia County
Board of Directors - Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County

Chair Davis then opened the floor for nominations from Council members. There were no nominations made from the floor.

ACTION: Commissioner Ellis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Pinkoson, to close the nominations and elect the nominees to the Executive Committee and the two Board of Directors members as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Regional Planning Committee - Evaluation and Appraisal Report of the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan

Mayor Garth Nobles, Jr., Chairman of the Regional Planning Committee reported that in October 2008, the Council approved and forwarded to the Executive Office of the Governor an Evaluation and Appraisal Report on its Strategic Regional Policy Plan. He stated that the 2008 Evaluation and Appraisal Report recommended various amendments to the Regional Plan and that these proposed amendments have been working their way
through the adoption process and will be brought before the Council for adoption in the next few months.

Mayor Nobles further reported that State law requires the preparation of an Evaluation and Appraisal Report on the Strategic Regional Policy Plan once every five years and that the next report is due by the end of this year. He stated that the Evaluation and Appraisal Report being considered does not propose any amendments to the Regional Plan other than those amendments currently being considered. Mayor Nobles stated that the Regional Planning Committee recommended that the Council adopt the Strategic Regional Policy Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report and forward it to the Executive Office of the Governor.

**ACTION:** Mayor Nobles made the motion, with a second by Commissioner DeLanney, to adopt the Strategic Regional Policy Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report as recommended by the Regional Planning Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**A. State Constitutional Amendment No. 4**

Mr. Koons reported that at its April 22, 2004 meeting, the Council adopted Resolution No. 2004-3 in opposition to the Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment Petition. He further reported that at its September 24, 2009 meeting, the Council adopted Resolution No. 2009-2 expressing the Council’s opposition to Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment No. 4 to the Florida Constitution which was on the November 2, 2010 ballot. Mr. Koons stated that Amendment No. 4 was defeated at the polls on November 2, 2010 with a statewide vote of 67.06 percent nays to 32.94 percent yeas. He added that the top three counties with the highest percentage of no votes were Baker County at 83.12 percent, Union County at 82.88 percent and Lafayette County at 82.85 percent.

**B. Suwannee River Water Management District Water Policy Coordination**

Mr. Koons reported that the water supply assessment completed by the Suwannee River Water Management District identified the Upper Santa Fe Basin as a Water Supply Planning Region. In addition, he stated that the water supply assessment identified three river basins in the north central Florida region as proposed Water Supply Planning Regions - the Lower Santa Fe River Basin, Alapaha River Basin and the Upper Suwannee River Region. He further reported that since over 90 percent of the geographic area of the north central Florida region is located within the Suwannee River Water Management District, at its October 28, 2010 meeting, the Council authorized the Chair, Executive Director and Council Attorney to meet with the Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board to make a presentation concerning the roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils, and to coordinate policy concerning the interbasin transfer of water.

Mr. Koons stated that he, Chair Davis and Jon Wershow met with the Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board on November 9, 2010 in Cedar Key to present the roles and responsibilities of regional planning councils, review the goals and policies concerning natural resources of regional significance as outlined in the North
Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan and discuss the proposed interbasin transfer of water policy. He stated that the Governing Board directed their staff to review the information presented and make a recommendation concerning interbasin transfer of water policy for their consideration at their December 14, 2010 meeting.

C. Madison Community Covenant Supporting Military Personnel and Families

Mr. Koons stated that on January 12, 2011, community leaders from Madison County and the City of Madison are scheduled to sign the Madison Community Covenant, publicly acknowledging the community’s commitment to military members and families. He stated that he has been asked to serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the covenant signing ceremony to be held on the lawn of the Four Freedoms Chapel. Mr. Koons added that individuals who are scheduled to attend the signing ceremony include Honorable Leonard Bembry, Florida House of Representatives, District 10, Oliver Bradley, Madison County Veterans Services, Honorable Jennifer Carroll, Lt. Governor Elect, Honorable Ander Crenshaw, U.S. Congressional Representative, District 4, Lt. Colonel David O’Grady, U.S. Army Recruiting, Jacksonville Battalion, Honorable Renetta Parrish, Chair, Madison County Board of County Commissioners, Colonel William Rhoads, U.S. Air Force Chaplain, Retired and Honorable Judy Townsend, Mayor, City of Madison.

Mr. Koons stated that the Keepers of the Chapel, Inc., a not for profit corporation, dedicated to preserving the Four Freedoms Chapel as an important historic structure and landmark for future generations, is currently working to have the chapel designated by the State of Florida as a war memorial site. He stated that he, along with Immediate Past Chair Myra Valentine, is a member of the Honorary Board for the Keepers of the Chapel. The Four Freedoms Chapel was the site of the funeral of Capt. Colin Purdie Kelly, Jr., who was born in Madison in 1915 and gave his life for his country on December 10, 1941 while piloting a B-17C bomber. For his extraordinary heroism and selfless bravery, Capt. Kelly was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Mr. Koons stated that in honor of Capt. Kelly and all of the fallen military heroes, the Keepers of the Chapel is undertaking an initiative to establish the Four Freedoms Retreat and Grief Counseling Center as an adaptive reuse of this historic structure to provide grief counseling services for military war hero surviving family members along with a partnership involving the Department of Defense and Veterans Administration to bring wounded warriors to Madison for educational opportunities at North Florida Community College.

Mr. Koons asked for a moment of silence in memory of Carolyn Dekle, Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, who passed away suddenly on November 21, 2010 after a short illness. He stated that a memorial service will be held in Hollywood, Florida on December 11, 2010.

Chair Davis informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on January 27, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Lake City. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Louie Davis, Chair

1/27/11

Date