

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Lake City, Florida

June 27, 2019  
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**Anthony Adams, Lafayette County**  
Patricia, Bouie, City of Hawthorne  
Robert Brown, Hamilton County  
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper  
James Catron, City of Madison  
**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**  
Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry  
Matt Hersom, City of Newberry  
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County  
John Meeks, Levy County  
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke  
Len Stapleton, Suwannee County  
James Tallman, Union County  
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County  
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County  
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  
Stephen Schroeder Suwannee River Water  
Management Water District  
Daniel Penniman, Florida Fish and  
Wildlife Conservation Commission

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Arreola, City of Gainesville  
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer  
Linda Jones, City of High Springs  
James Montgomery, Columbia County  
Tim Murphy, Columbia County  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County  
Gigi Simmons, City of Gainesville  
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

Jonathan Wershow

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Davis  
Christian Landaeta  
Ivan Landaeta  
Makena Lang  
Stew Lilker  
Oscar Psychas  
Stephen Serabaus  
Anna Slayton  
Jim Tatum  
Emma Turner  
Noah Turner  
Elizabeth Walker  
James Williams

STAFF PRESENT

Carmalita Franco  
Scott Koons  
Tara Tucker  
Lauren Yeatter

**Executive Members names are bolded**

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 Commissioner Bouie.

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, County Coordinator; Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson of Our Santa Fe River and Suwannee St. Johns River Sierra Club; Christian Landaeta, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Ivan Landaeta, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Makena Lang, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Oscar Psychas, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Anna Slayton, 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; Elizabeth Walker, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida; Stephen Serabaus and Jim Tatum, Fort White citizens; Diana Davis, wife of Mayor Louie Davis from Waldo and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes - May 27, 2019

B. Monthly Financial Reports - May 2019

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 Councilman Bryant, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.**

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Wilford asked for approval of the regular agenda.

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

VI. NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA PLANNING COUNCIL PRESENTATION  
YEAR 2018 REVIEW

Scott Koons, Executive Director, gave a presentation which reviewed Council activities during the past year in the Regional Planning, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance, Economic Development,

Local Government Assistance and Transportation Programs of the Council. In particular, he highlighted the services that the Council provides, which benefit its local governments, including community planning assistance, grant application and administration services, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities. Chair Wilford thanked Mr. Koons for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR REPORT -

A. New Member - Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry

Chair Wilford welcomed new Council member Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry Councilwoman.

B. Resolution of Appreciation - Mike Deming

Chair Wilford asked for a motion to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Mike Deming.

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Councilman Mike Deming. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Committee Appointments

Chair Wilford asked for the 2019-20 Committee Appointments be approved.

**ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut to approve the 2019-20 Committee appointments as recommended by the Chair of the Council. The motion carried unanimously.**

D. Florida Small County Coalition - Officers and Board of Directors Election

Chair Wilford stated that at the Florida Small County Coalition Annual Meeting held on June 12, 2019 in Orlando, Levy County Commissioner John Meeks was elected Chair of the Florida Small County Coalition and Lafayette County Anthony Adams was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Florida Small County Coalition. Chair Wilford congratulated them both of them on their accomplishments.

E. Florida Association of Counties - Presidential Advocates

Chair Wilford stated that at the Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference held June 11, 2019 to June 14, 2019 in Orlando, Florida Association of Counties President Karson Turner awarded Presidential Advocate Awards to Lafayette County Commissioner Anthony Adams, Alachua County Commissioner Ken Cornell and Levy County Commissioner John Meeks. Chair Wilford congratulated them on their accomplishments.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

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 amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #49 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)
- #50 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR)
- #52 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)
- #53 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR)
- #54 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR)
- #55 - Town of Micanopy Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ER)
- #56 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR)

Commissioner Adams 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. He stated that the Committee recommended 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 Demps, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #49 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #50 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR); #52 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #53 - City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR); #54 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ESR); #55 - Town of Micanopy Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-1ER); and #56 City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR). 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 will meet with the Valdosta City Council for a second Joint Workshop to continue discussing the issue of raw sewage spills by the City and how the Task Force and City can work together to resolve this ongoing issue on July 10, 2019 in Valdosta. He stated the Task Force has provided the City of Valdosta a sewage spill notification email list. Commissioner Davis stated the list includes Task Force members, county managers, administrators and coordinators, county health department administrators, county emergency management directors, the regional planning council, the Suwannee River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. He also stated the Task Force agreed to include regular news media in the sewage spill notification email list. In addition, Commissioner Davis stated the Task Force will be sending the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a letter requesting the Agency to exercise its oversight authority to enforce the consent order between the Georgia Division of Environmental Protection. Finally, he stated, the next meeting of the Task Force will be determined following the July 10, 2019 Joint Workshop.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Stephen Schroeder, Suwannee River Waste Management District, stated that river funding projects will be reviewed by the District Governing Board in August 2019 and reported that the District will be conducting meetings in counties located in the western portion of the District to discuss designating those counties as water caution areas. He also stated that the Florida Legislature appropriated \$100 million dollars in springs project funding for Fiscal Year 2019-20.

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. Christian Landaeta, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida, addressed his concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region. Ivan Landaeta, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida addressed his concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region. Makena Long, 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. Oscar Psychas, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida addressed his concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region. Anna Slayton, 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. Emma Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild, addressed her concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region. Noah Turner, Alachua Conservation Trust, Young Leaders for Wild Florida, addressed his concerns about the proposed extension of the Suncoast Parkway through the north central Florida region. Finally, Elizabeth Walker, 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.

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

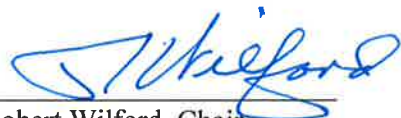
Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves 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 May 2019 activities report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the May 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 June 2019 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

Chair Wilford informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on July 25, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Robert Wilford, Chair

7/25/19

Date