

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
Lake City, Florida

February 27, 2020  
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**  
**Louie Davis, City of Waldo**  
**Thomas Demps, Taylor County**  
Don Hale, Suwannee County  
Shirlie Hampton, City of Perry  
Gene Higginbotham, Dixie County  
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer  
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke  
Tim Murphy, Columbia County  
Daniel Riddick, Bradford 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

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

Tom Mirti, Suwannee River Water  
Management District  
Daniel Penniman, Florida Fish and  
Wildlife Conservation

COUNCIL ATTORNEY PRESENT

None

MEMBERS ABSENT

James Catron, City of Madison  
Ken Cornell, Alachua County  
Frank Davis, City of Live Oak  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Linda Jones, City of High Springs  
John Meeks, Levy County  
Jack Schenck, City of Lake Butler  
Gigi Simmons, City of Gainesville  
James Tallman, Union County  
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Bonts  
Sandra Buck-Camp  
C.J. Davila  
Diana Davis  
Stew Lilker  
Gabrielle Redfern  
James Williams

STAFF PRESENT

Carmelita Franco  
Scott Koons  
Tara Tucker  
Lauren Yeatter

**Executive Committee Members names are bold**  
*Gubernatorial Members names are italicize*

I. INVOCATION

Noting a quorum of the Council being present, Chair Robert Wilford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an invocation by Mayor Louie 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; Sandra Buck-Camp, Member of Columbia Hamilton Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board; Gabrielle Redfern, Executive Director, City of Live Oak Community Redevelopment Agency; Mike Bonts, Mike Bonts Public Relations Group; Diana Davis, wife of Council Member Louie Davis; and Stew Lilker, Columbia County Observer.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes - January 23, 2020
- B. Monthly Financial Reports - January 2020
- C. Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Concerning Regional Economic Modeling, Inc.
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Program Grant Resolution - Fiscal Year 2020-21
- E. Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Appointment

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

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

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

VI. GUEST SPEAKER - C.J. Davila, Executive Director  
Florida Green Building Coalition

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced C.J. Davila, Executive Director, Florida Green Building Coalition. Mr. Davila gave a presentation concerning the Florida Green Building Coalition. He stated that the Coalition is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation dedicated to improving the built environment. Mr. Davila stated their mission is to lead and promote sustainability with environmental, economic and social

benefits through regional education and certification programs. He also stated the certification programs include single family homes, high rise residential buildings, commercial buildings, local governments and local government land development codes. Chair Wilford thanked him for his presentation.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT - 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. He noted that the south Florida region has formed a Climate Change Compact and the Tampa Bay region has formed a Regional Resiliency Coalition. Chair Wilford stated that a presentation concerning this topic will be scheduled for a future Council meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. Proclamation Declaring 2020 Census Awareness Month

Mr. Koons stated that the next Decennial Census will be taken this year and will be used to determine political representation to the United States House of Representatives, state legislatures and local governments. He stated that data from the Census provides the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to communities across the country to support programs impacting the amount of funding that will be provided by the state and federal government for a number of programs, including housing, education, transportation, employment and healthcare. Mr. Koons stated April 1, 2020 marks the official, constitutionally-mandated Census Day where every resident is called on to "be counted." Mr. Koons stated the Executive Committee recommends that the Council join in a public outreach effort by designating the month of March 2020 as Census Awareness Month

**ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Arreola, to adopt a proclamation proclaiming the month of March 2020 as Census Awareness Month in the north central Florida region, which has been attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Resolution Naming the James H. Montgomery Certificate of Outstanding Attendance. Mr. Koons stated that Mr. Montgomery served on the Council from 1976 to 2004 as a member representing the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida. From 2010 to 2019, he served on the Council as a gubernatorial appointee. Mr. Koons stated Mr. Montgomery provided 38 years of distinguished leadership and service to the Council. He stated Mr. Montgomery served three times as Chair of the Council from 1983-84, 1994-95 and 2001-03. He also stated Mr. Montgomery held other leadership roles during his service on the Council, including Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, Chair of the Finance Committee, Chair of the Program Committee and Chair of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council name its annual Certificate of Outstanding Attendance the James H. Montgomery Certificate of Outstanding Attendance.

**ACTION: Mayor Witt made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Demps, to adopt the attached Resolution Naming the James H. Montgomery Certificate of Outstanding Attendance. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Assigned Fund Balance - Capital Reserve

Mr. Koons stated that the Executive Council recommends encumbering as additional \$4,000 of the Council's unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from 566,000 to \$570,000.

**ACTION: Commissioner Mortimer made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to encumber \$4,000 of the Council's unassigned fund balance as part of the assigned fund balance to increase the Capital Reserve Fund balance for accumulated depreciation of building and equipment costs from 566,000 to \$570,000. The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Land, Warehouse and Office Building

Mr. Koons, stated pursuant to Council action, the Executive Director signed a site access agreement; engaged Emerson Appraisal Company, Inc. to prepare an appraisal of the land, warehouse and office building; and secured the assistance of Colliers International, a commercial real estate organization, to identify office space purchase and lease options for relocation. He stated the appraisal has been completed resulting in a value of \$970,000. Mr. Koons stated the research of relocation purchase and lease options continues to be in progress. He stated that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council declare the land, warehouse and office building located at 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida (Parcel Nos. 07878-008-000 and 07878-009-000) to be surplus property; set a minimum bid sale price for the land, warehouse and office building of \$1,018,500, which is the appraised value plus five percent; and authorize the Executive Director to advertise for bids to sell the land, warehouse and office building.

**ACTION: Commissioner Demps made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Chestnut, to declare the land, warehouse and office building located at 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida (Parcel Nos. 07878-008-000 and 07878-009-000) to be surplus property; set a minimum bid sale price for the land, warehouse and office building of \$1,018,500; and authorize the Executive Director to advertise for sealed bids to sell the land, warehouse and office building. The motion carried unanimously.**

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.

- #22 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR);
- #23 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR);
- #24 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ER);
- #25 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ESR);
- #26 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ESR); and
- #27 - City of High Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-2ESR).

Commissioner Mortimer stated that the Committee finds that, with the exception of Item #25, Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment, the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments. She stated with regards to Item #25, Hamilton County Comprehensive Draft Plan Amendment, the Committee notes that significant adverse impacts may occur to a portion of the Regional Road Network. Commissioner Mortimer stated that the Committee recommends that Hamilton County include Transportation Planning Best Practices contained in the regional plan as an objective and policies in the County Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Mortimer stated that the Committee recommends 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 Chestnut, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendations concerning Item #22 -City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-3ESR); Item #23 - Columbia County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 19-2ESR); Item #24 - City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ER); Item #25 - Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ESR); Item #26 - Levy County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-1ESR); and Item #27 - City of High Springs Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DEO No. 20-2ESR). The motion carried unanimously.**

C. Regional Planning Committee - North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report

Commissioner Tim Murphy, Regional Planning Committee Chair, gave the Regional Planning Committee report. He stated that Florida Statutes requires the Council to prepare an Evaluation and Appraisal Report of its Strategic Regional Policy Plan at least once every five years. Commissioner Murphy stated the last Evaluation and Appraisal Report was approved by the Council in December 2015. He stated that the Regional Planning Committee met earlier in the evening to begin preparing an Evaluation and Appraisal Report of the regional plan.

He stated the purpose of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report will be to evaluate progress towards achieving the goals and implementing the policies of the regional plan. Commissioner Murphy stated the evaluation and appraisal process is a two-step process. He stated the first step involves the preparation and adoption of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report. Mr. Murphy stated the second step involves the preparation and adoption of amendments to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan which implement the recommendations contained in the Evaluation and Appraisal Report. He stated that earlier this evening the Regional Planning Committee received a presentation from staff regarding the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan and how it is used by the Council in fulfilling its review responsibilities.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Daniel Penniman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, stated that the Commission recently completed the 2019 Florida Private Land Survey. He also discussed the Commission's Land Owner Assistance Program and the Wildlife Recognition Program.

Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that local government river grant applications must be submitted to the District by April 20, 2020. He also discussed

the on-going impacts of the most recent City of Valdosta raw sewage spill. Finally, Mr. Mirti announced that the District will be initiating the update process for the District Water Supply Plan in the coming months.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

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 stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the February 2020 activities report included in the Council meeting packet. He reviewed the activities listed in the January 2020 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 February 2020 Scorecard™ that was included in the Council meeting packet.

E. Legislative Report

Mr. Koons reported that the 2020 Legislature Session convened on January 14, 2020 and is scheduled to adjourn on March 13, 2020. He reviewed bills of interest to regional planning councils and local governments.

F. Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance

Mr. Koons stated that the Suncoast Task Force met on February 11, 2020 in Madison and the Florida Turnpike Northern Extension Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Task Force met on February 12, 2020 in Fanning Springs. He noted that both Task Forces received updates on public engagement activities and workforce development initiatives by the Florida Department of Transportation; heard from a panel of subject matter experts concerning economic and workforce development opportunities; received an overview of local government comprehensive plans from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and an overview of the corridor planning process and a map of avoidance areas from the Florida Department of Transportation; and continued their review of draft avoidance, minimization, mitigation and enhancement guiding principles. He stated the Suncoast Task Force will meet on March 24, 2020 in Monticello and the next meeting of the Florida Turnpike Northern Extension Task Force will be held on March 25, 2020 in Ocala. Finally, he

stated both Task Forces will continue their review of draft avoidance, minimization, mitigation and enhancement guiding principles at the upcoming meetings.

E. Dwayne L. Mundy Tributes

Mr. Koons stated Dwayne L. Mundy was an employee of the Council since October 22, 1984. He stated, following 35 years of service to the Council and communities throughout the north central Florida region, Mr. Mundy died on December 7, 2019. He stated Mr. Mundy served as the Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director for the Council and dedicated his career to making the citizens of the north central Florida region safe from hazardous materials, hazardous waste, natural disasters and acts of terrorism. Mr. Koons stated in recognition of his outstanding service several organizations recently recognized the legacy of Mr. Mundy.

Mr. Koons stated the State Emergency Response Commission is comprised of first responders, emergency managers, state agency officials and private sector representatives appointed by the Governor and is responsible for implementing the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act provisions in Florida. He reported on January 22, 2020, the Commission established the Dwayne L. Mundy Lifetime Achievement Award and granted the first ever award posthumously to Mr. Mundy.

He stated the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association is the statewide trade association of emergency managers that promotes the profession through training and education, and sharing best practices. Mr. Koons reported on February 6, 2020, the Association granted their Distinguished Service Award posthumously to Mr. Mundy.

Mr. Koons also stated the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, comprised of local government first responders, local government emergency managers and private sector representatives, is responsible for implementing the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act on a regional basis. He stated Mr. Mundy provided staff support services to the Committee for 30 years. Mr. Koons also reported on February 20, 2020, the Committee named their annual hazardous materials training exercise the Dwayne L. Mundy Hazardous Materials Training Exercise.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Wilford announced that the Alachua County Fire Rescue Department recently opened a second fire station in the City of Alachua.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

Chair Wilford informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on March 26, 2020. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Robert Wilford, Chair

5/28/20  
Date