

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
MINUTES

Quality Inn and Conference Center
Lake City, Florida

March 23, 2006
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Carlson, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Jack Donovan, City of Gainesville
John Driggers, Dixie County
Roy Ellis, Madison County
Steve Futch, City of Starke
Mitchell Gentry, Gilchrist County
Sandra Haas, Suwannee County
Randy Hatch, Suwannee County
Emily Weed Ketring, City of Perry
Eddie Martin, Alachua County
Charles Maultsby, Taylor County
Heather Neill, Lafayette County
Gerald O'Neil, Alachua County
James Painter, Alachua County
Tracy Reeves, Madison County
Andrew Smith, Union County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Myra Valentine, City of Madison
Lewis Vaughn, Hamilton County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Jordan Green, representing Charles Baldwin,
Florida Department of Transportation
Jim Poole, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

GUESTS PRESENT

Arthur Bellot, Dixie County Coordinator
Gayle Cannon
Diana Davis
James Montgomery
Jon Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Martha Butler, Hamilton County
Mike Byerly, Alachua County
Rick Bryant, City of Gainesville
Chuck Chestnut, City of Gainesville
Gib Coerper, City of Alachua
Melaine "Red" Clyatt, Union County
Paula DeLaney, Alachua County
David Dodge, Bradford County
Dixie Donovan, Columbia County
Kirk Eppenstein, City of High Springs
Gail Garrard, Lafayette County
John Glanzer, City of Newberry
Matthew Hawkins, City of Jasper
John Hersey, Bradford County
John Martin, City of Hawthorne
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Malcolm Page, Taylor County
Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County

STAFF PRESENT

Robin Barnes
Steve Dopp
Charles Justice
Scott Koons
Carol Laine
Jayne Moraski

Board Members names are bolded

Chairman Maultsby 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 26, 2006

Chairman Maultsby asked that the minutes of the January 26, 2006 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Mayor Futch made the motion, with a second by Mr. Smith, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2006, meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Transportation Disadvantaged Program

1. Board Membership Certifications - Dixie and Gilchrist Counties
2. Dixie and Gilchrist Counties Community Transportation Coordinator Selection
3. Community Transportation Coordinator Designation: Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties

B. Statewide Hurricane/Terrorism Exercise Support

C. North Florida Regional Domestic Security Terrorism Exercise Support

D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - 2006-2007 Planning Grant Resolution

Chairman Maultsby asked if there were questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Commissioner Gentry made the motion, with a second by Mayor Futch, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Members

Chairman Maultsby introduced and welcomed former Council member James Montgomery, Arthur Bellot, Dixie County Coordinator and Gayle Cannon, a resident of Columbia County.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Resolutions of Appreciation

Chairman Maultsby asked that a Resolution of Appreciation for past services as a member of Madison County's Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board be approved for Mr. DeWayne O'Quinn, who served as the Public Education Representative and for Mr. Jim Scruggs, who served as the Elderly Representative for the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

ACTION: Commissioner Gentry made the motion, with a second by Mayor Futch, to approve the Resolutions of Appreciation for Mr. DeWayne O'Quinn and Mr. Jim Scruggs. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee - None

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Ms. Sandra Haas, Clearinghouse Committee Chair, reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met on February 23, 2006 and reviewed two items on behalf of the Council as per Clearinghouse Committee procedures for local government comprehensive plan amendments with response deadlines prior to the next regularly-scheduled Council meeting. The reviewed items were:

#22 - University of Florida Draft Campus Master Plan, 2005 - 2015

#46 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment (DCA No. 06-D1)

She reported that a copy of the Committee report and findings for these items were included in the packet mailed to each Council member.

Ms. Haas reported that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier and reviewed one Committee-level item which required Council action.

#56 - Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment (DCA No. 04-1ER)

Ms. Haas stated that, with regards to item #5613, Taylor County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment, the draft version of the Plan amendment was reviewed by the Council in October 2004. Ms. Haas reported that at that time, the Council forwarded no Objections, Recommendations, or Comments and that the Council found the County Comprehensive Plan, if amended as proposed, would remain consistent with the regional plan. She stated, however, that the Florida Department of Community Affairs issued an Objections, Recommendations, and Comments Report on the draft amendment and that a significant change was made to the adopted version of the amendment which increased maximum allowable residential dwelling unit densities to 20 units per acre within areas that are both classified as Mixed Use - Urban Development on the Future Land Use Plan Map and located within the Coastal High Hazard Area. Ms. Haas added that under the draft version of the amendment, these densities varied from 4 to 12 units per acre and that it is important to note that no local government data and analysis was submitted with the adopted version of the amendment concerning the change in residential densities in the Coastal High Hazard Area.

Ms. Haas stated that the regional plan does not contain policy direction which limits or guides development away from coastal high hazard areas, however, the regional plan does contain policies which seek to assure that residents of Coastal High Hazard Areas can be safely evacuated and that emergency shelter capacity is adequate to house evacuees during coastal storms.

Ms. Haas reported that the Committee finds that the County Comprehensive Plan, as amended, will be inconsistent with Regional Plan Transportation Goal 5.1, Regional Plan Transportation Policy 5.1.9, as well as Regional Plan Emergency Preparedness Goal 3.1 and its associated policies and that, therefore, the Committee finds the Taylor County Comprehensive Plan, as amended, inconsistent with the regional plan. The County can remedy this inconsistency by addressing Recommendations #1 and #2, contained in the staff report.

Ms. Haas stated that the Clearinghouse Committee recommends forwarding these findings to Taylor County and the Florida Department of Community Affairs as regional comment.

ACTION: Ms. Haas made the motion, with a second by Mayor Futch, to approve the Clearinghouse Committee recommendation concerning Item #56. The motion carried unanimously.

V. GUBERNATORIAL MEMBER REPORT ON MEETING WITH GOVERNOR

Vice-Chair Lorene Thomas reported that on March 17, 2006, she, Council members John Carlson, David Dodge, Sandra Haas, Heather Neill and Gerald O'Neil and Scott Koons, Assistant Executive Director, attended the Urban Land Institute Symposium on Regional Cooperation held in Miami. She reported that the symposium addressed the recently published Urban Land Institute report on regional cooperation. Vice-Chair Thomas reported that the keynote speaker for the symposium was Governor Jeb Bush, who spoke about the benefits of regional cooperation and state growth management initiatives. She added that representatives from Tampa Bay Water, Florida Chamber Foundation and Central Florida Regional Visioning were also in attendance and shared their experiences regarding current regional cooperation efforts. She stated that the importance of balancing economic development and environmental quality through regional cooperation was emphasized.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Justice discussed his revised vacation plans and informed the Council that he would not be taking vacation in March, April and May as previously scheduled.

A. Legislative Report - Regional Boundaries Issue

Mr. Justice reported that no action from the Council is needed at this time with regard to the boundary study this year.

He reported that the budget for regional planning councils is \$3,300,000, which is approximately \$20,000 to 25,000 more for the Council than the current year.

B. Status on Formation of the North Florida Economic Development Partnership

Ms. Jayne Moraski, the Council's Director of Economic Development, reported on the region-wide Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC) meeting to be held on May 3, 2006. She stated that the RACEC group is applying for their own 501(c)6 organization status.

Ms. Moraski also reported that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee has been meeting to compile a list of regional economic development projects which will be prioritized and submitted to the federal agencies for possible funding.

C. Executive Director Position Recruitment Update

Mr. Justice reported that the job announcement for the executive director position is in the process of being published in several newsletters, publications and magazines and that applications are being received. He stated that Ms. Moraski is the staff member responsible for receiving all the applications and delivering them to the Search Committee. He reported that the deadline for receiving applications is May 22, 2006.

D. Quarterly Financial Report

Mr. Justice reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2005. 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 in line with the budgeted amount and that the fund balance should show a slight increase by September 30th.

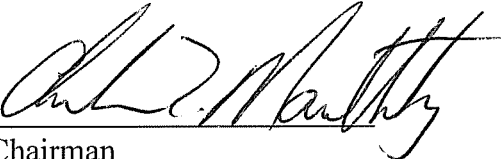
Mr. Justice reported that former Council employee Chuck Kiester has been elected to the Marco Island City Council.

Mr. Justice stated that Scott Koons, Assistant Executive Director, has been working with a number of the counties in the region to begin discussions about participating in the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Transportation Regional Improvement Program (TRIP), created as part of the Growth Management amendments through Senate Bill 360 passed by the legislature last year. Mr. Koons reported that this program created a new pot of money for transportation projects. Mr. Koons stated that in order to access these funds, a county must be a part of a multi-county transportation planning organization. He stated that at a meeting held earlier in the month, eight counties in the region requested that the Council assist them in preparing a draft interlocal agreement to establish the North Central Florida Rural Transportation Planning Organization in order to participate in the TRIP program. Mr. Koons stated that a draft interlocal agreement is currently being reviewed by the FDOT office in Lake City and will be sent out to the counties in the region for their consideration. He also added that one of the aspects of creating this organization is the development of a regional transportation plan to identify regional transportation facilities. Mr. Koons reported that the counties have also asked the Council to assist them in determining the transportation priorities. He stated that the counties involved would be Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties as well as Baker and Levy Counties outside our region.

Mr. Justice stated that the Finance, Program and Nominating Committees would meet prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Council.

Chairman Maultsby stated that the next meeting of the Council would be held at the Gathering Café in Branford.

With no further items to come before the Council, Chairman Maultsby adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.


Chairman

5/25/06
Date