

Minutes of the
NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
April 7, 2005

The monthly meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Council was held on Thursday, April 7, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

President Kanbar called the meeting to order with the following members present representing a quorum:

BAKER	Ginger Barber Hugh Fish
CLAY	Glenn Lassiter Deidra Franklin Harold Rutledge
DUVAL	Rea Fleckenstein Jerry Holland Elaine Brown
FLAGLER	Blair Kanbar Ralph Carter Bob Sgroi Joann King
NASSAU	Ansley Acree Bob Spaeth Tom Branan
PUTNAM	Brad Purcell Linda Myers Mary Lawson Brown
ST. JOHNS	Bruce Maguire Karen Stern Harry Maxwell
EX-OFFICIO	Larry Parks Linda Burnette Wes Larson

Excused Absence: Gordon Crews, Carol Vallencourt, Charles Prachar, Paul Parsons,

Ken Walker, Chip Laibl, Don Crichlow, Bill Green

Absent: Mary Louise Dungey, Clare Berry

Others: Jennifer Auger, Melinda Granlund, Geoff Sample, and other members of the public.

Staff Present: Brian Teeple, Barbara Rovedo, Walter Bowman, Ed Lehman, Mike Brown, Tobin Lilly, Ed Preston, Mike Hadden, Donna Starling, Amanda Smith, Chris Bono, and Peggy Conrad

Mr. Fish led the Council in a prayer then led the pledge of allegiance.

*Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fish moved approval of the March 3, 2005, meeting's minutes; seconded by **Mr. Sgroi**; motion unanimously carried.

President's Report

President Kanbar congratulated **Jerry Holland** on his successful election to the position of Duval County Supervisor of Elections. **Supervisor-Elect Holland** thanked City of Jacksonville, **Council President, Elaine Brown**, for allowing him to remain on the NEFRC Board.

President Kanbar welcomed new Board member, **Council President Elaine Brown**, representing the City of Jacksonville.

President Kanbar congratulated **Mr. Wes Larson** on his recent award as being amongst the top ten people who have made a difference in the area of Economic Development in the South.

*Consent Agenda

President Kanbar asked if any items needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. There were no items to be moved. **Mr. Sgroi** moved approval of the **Consent Agenda**; seconded by **Commissioner Stern**; motion unanimously carried.

Discussion Agenda

*Flagler County Transmitted Amendment 05-1

Mr. Lehman stated that the amendment was received too late to be included with the Board packet mail out. He then reviewed the amendment. Although Flagler County recommended no review, Staff's recommendation, which the Planning and Growth Management Committee unanimously adopted, was to transmit the recommendation report to DCA and request the

DCA to review the amendment. **Commissioner Stern moved approval of Staff and Committee recommendations; seconded by Supervisor-Elect Holland; motion unanimously carried.**

*Transportation Disadvantaged Appointments

Mr. Lehman stated he was reporting on behalf of Mr. Jones then called attention to the memorandum containing information on the transportation disadvantaged appointments. The recommendation to represent Workforce Development is Ms. Kathy Wilkes who will serve on the Baker, Clay, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns County Local Coordinating Boards (LCBs). Mr. Charles Ireland is recommended as the representative of the Users of the System (Citizen Advocate) in Putnam County. Mr. David Hoak is recommended as the St. Johns County Local Medical Community representative. Mr. Jim Donnelly is recommended as the St. Johns County Disabled community representative. Mr. Lehman called attention to an e-mail received after the memo was written, from Ms. Mary Ann Holanchock, requesting to be on the St. Johns County Local Coordinating Board.

Mr. Maxwell moved approval of the above named individuals to the LCBs in the above named counties; seconded by Commissioner Stern; motion unanimously carried.

*Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) Support Letters Request

Mr. Lehman called attention to the memorandum from JTA requesting letters of support from NEFRC for a variety of projects for which JTA is seeking federal funding. In a memo from Mr. Jones, he pointed out that Items #13 and #14 might pose a conflict with related projects in the larger northeast Florida region. **Mr. Sgroi moved approval of all items except #13 and #14 of the JTA letters of support; seconded by Mr. Maxwell; motion unanimously carried.**

*Proposed Budget Amendment 04/05

Ms. Starling called attention to the Proposed Budget Amendment 04/05, stating that the budget had been increased approximately 14% from \$9.6 million to \$11.3 million. This is mainly due to the addition of Emergency Management contracts and Healthy Start contracts. **Mr. Fish moved approval of the Proposed Budget Amendment 04/05; seconded by Supervisor-Elect Holland; motion unanimously carried.**

Florida Transportation Plan Update

Commissioner Maguire stated that both he and **Commissioner Myers** serve on the Florida Transportation Plan Steering Committee. Five years ago the State put together a 2020 transportation plan. The purpose is to provide guidance for transportation issues throughout the State at all levels and will be revised every five years.

Commissioner Maguire called attention to the website www.ftp2025.com and highlighted the revised goals, stating that if we want to see policy changes to the system, we have until the end of July to come up with a product. **Commissioner Myers** also called attention to the website and the various opportunities to be involved stating that she would like the NEFRC members to go to the website at some point and see where they can be involved. All entities that work with transportation are involved including environmental entities. **Commissioner**

Myers reiterated that they are talking about what can be done in the next five years to impact the 2025 transportation plan. Regional Forums will be held in May 2005, throughout the state, with a statewide summit being held in August. **Commissioner Maguire** encouraged NEFRC members to attend when the regional meetings are held or to access the website and post comments for discussion.

North Florida Procurement Association Chapter of NIGP, Inc.

President Kanbar called attention to the Highlights article and stated that a Chartering Ceremony had been held on March 17, 2005, at the Schultz Center. There are 94 members so far. Information regarding membership and benefits is available on the www.nf-pa.org website.

Jacksonville/St. Johns Bilateral Meeting

Mr. Teeple stated that the City of Jacksonville and the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners met on March 21, 2005, to foster relationships and find ways to work together since so many projects cross regional boundaries.

REMI Study – Economic Effects of Gasoline Price Increases

Mr. Bowman stated this study was completed last November when the price of gasoline was poised to exceed \$2 per gallon. As of today, the price is \$2.27 per gallon in Duval County. Mr. Bowman then gave a Power Point presentation including two graphs showing prices and trends since 1973. He then discussed the long-term and short-term economic effects of higher gasoline prices. He also discussed the regional economic impacts and the most affected industries. He concluded by discussing comparisons to other studies and possible policy implications. Mr. Bowman then stated that Staff would release the study this afternoon unless there were objections.

American Community Survey/County Growth in Northeast Florida

Mr. Teeple stated that the NEFRC had been asked to co-host a special news conference with the U.S. Census Bureau on Thursday, April 14, 2005, at the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine. This is to promote the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey, a survey product replacing the "long form". Flagler County and St. Johns County are two of the fastest growing counties in the U.S. St. Augustine was chosen as the venue for the news conference to emphasize the importance of being both the oldest city in the nation and also being part of one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S.

Satellite Meeting

Mr. Teeple reminded the Board members that satellite download capabilities had been installed at the Council and that they had recently downloaded a telecast by the Economic Development Administration. This revolved around the President's proposal for "Strengthening America's Communities". The panel was able to take e-mail questions and answer them. Mr. Teeple gave website information to view the telecast and mentioned another telecast will be held in May and information will be given regarding this.

Hometown Democracy Update

Mr. Teeple stated this issue is dead. The Florida Supreme Court has thrown out the petition and this proposed amendment would not be placed on the ballot in 2006.

Regional Leadership Update

Mr. Teeple called attention to the information regarding membership and stated that the opening retreat will be held in Nassau County on April 21, and April 22, 2005. An additional 7/8 members will be added. The next meeting will be held in Clay County.

FRCA/Legislative Update

The policy board meeting was held on March 1, 2005. No action was taken on either the proposed resolution from the Withlacoochee Regional Council or the NEFRC resolution. Representatives Proctor, Kravitz, and Davis attended the reception held the evening before the meeting. At this point in time the Regional Councils are funded at \$3 million in both the House and Senate. Special thanks go to Representative Kravitz for voicing his support of the Regional Councils. Senator King also gave support for the Councils in the Senate.

Mr. Teeple then gave a legislative update and called attention to the Bill Tracking Summary.

Healthy Start Coalition Survey

Mr. Teeple called attention to the memorandum and attached Healthy Start Survey and asked Board members to please complete. Carol Brady, Healthy Start Director, will be able to use this information to update the Healthy Start three-year plan.

Members Reports

None.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Teeple called attention to Highlights, and Newspaper Articles. In order for Board members to view issues from around the Region, Staff has started clipping newspaper articles. These will be arranged by subject matter and included with Board information. Mr. Teeple asked Board members for suggestions or comments regarding the value of this exercise.

Identifying Regional Issues and Solutions (IRIS) – Public Policy Development Issues

Baker County Update

Mr. Teeple stated that Staff has almost completed the Baker County interviews and the data is being compiled. There seems to be very little variability regarding opinions therefore the number of surveys may be reduced.

Nassau County Update

The Nassau County Board of County Commissioners have asked the NEFRC to begin the same IRIS process that has been undertaken in Baker County. It is anticipated that the opinions in Nassau County will be more diverse due to geography and outside population.

Public Comment

None.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Blair Kanbar
President

Brian Teeple
Executive Director