



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
September 6, 2007

MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Council was held on Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

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

| | |
|------------|--|
| BAKER | Hugh Fish Mike Griffis Darryl Register |
| CLAY | Harold Rutledge Chereese Stewart Carol Vallencourt |
| DUVAL | Mary Louise Dungey |
| FLAGLER | Milissa Holland Jim O'Connell Bob Sgroi |
| NASSAU | Michael Boyle Bob Spaeth Larry Williams |
| PUTNAM | Nancy Harris Chip Laibl Tom Williams |
| ST. JOHNS | Don Crichlow Tom Manuel Harry Maxwell Cyndi Stevenson |
| EX-OFFICIO | Linda Burnette Larry Parks Jodi Conway (Greg Strong) |

Excused: Ginger Barber, Paul Bue, Deidra Franklin, Richard Clark, James Fletcher, Bill Leeper and Karen Stern.

Absent: Joann King, Mary Lawson-Brown

Others: Bill Killingsworth, Susan McDonald, Geoff Sample, Kirby Green, Greg Kupperman, Daniel Chitwood, Valerie Britt and other members of the public.

Staff: Brian Teeple, Mario Taylor, Ed Lehman, Donna Starling, Kathy Dennis, Michael Hadden, Michael Hill, Guy Parola and Angela Giles.

President Laibl called the meeting to order. **Mr. Spaeth** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fish moved approval of the August 2, 2007, meeting's minutes; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion unanimously carried.

President's Report

President Laibl welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment

None.

*Consent Agenda

President Laibl asked if there were any items to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. There being no items to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda, **Commissioner Manuel moved approval of the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Larry Williams; motion unanimously carried.**

DISCUSSION AGENDA

*Election of 2007/2008 Board Officers

Commissioner O'Connell stated that the Personnel, Budget and Finance Policy Committee (PBF) recommended the 2007/2008 slate of Officers as follows: President – Commissioner Rutledge (Clay); 1st Vice President – Commissioner Michael Boyle (Nassau); 2nd Vice President – Commissioner Michael Griffis (Baker); Mr. Hugh Fish (Baker) – Secretary/Treasurer. **Mr. Larry Williams moved approval of the 2007/2008 Officers recommended by the PBF Committee; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion carried unanimously.**

*Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Contract

Mr. Teeple stated that an additional \$400,000 in revenue was received during the last Legislative Session to be distributed among the 11 Regional Councils (3.7 million divided among the Regional Councils). That translates into an increase of \$35, 853 for the NEFRC. The distribution is driven by proviso language stating that 70% of the distribution is to be distributed equally among the Regional Councils and 30% by population. The DCA has proposed to cut the \$400,000 increase as part of its pending budget cuts. Should that happen, funding will be essentially level with last year, with little impact on staff operations. Mr. Teeple recommended that the Board approve the contract, and authorize the CEO to sign it. Mr. Taylor pointed out to the Council the formal memo from the House and Senate regarding the change to the proposed date of the Legislative Special Session. **Commissioner O'Connell moved approval of the 07/08 DCA contract and authorization for the CEO to sign it; seconded by Commissioner Rutledge; motion carried unanimously.**

*Putnam County Transmitted Amendment 07-2

Mr. Parola stated that the Putnam County Transmitted Amendment 07-2 consists of three amendments to the Future Land Use Maps and one text amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. The first Land Use change is 36 acres off of HW 17 – staff voiced concerns about lot ingress/egress. The Planning & Growth Management Policy Committee (P&G) voted that the language of the recommendation be changed from “recommendations” to “comments”, and that County staff and the developer shall work with the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) prior to adoption of this amendment to address ingress/egress from US 17. The second Land Use amendment is adjacent to the Town of Hastings. Staff voiced concerns that there appeared to be tacit approval by the County for non-regional system for water and sewer (package plant), and that the location, type, and condition of donated parkland was at the sole discretion of the developer. Language within the comment regarding water and sewer has been amended as follows: To require the development pursuant to this amendment meet all requirements for water and sewer under current Putnam County ordinances and policies contained within the comprehensive plan. The 3rd amendment involves 92 acres of agricultural to industrial. The P&G Committee voted that the County will work with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to address the use of conservation easement. Stricken from the original staff recommendation is the comment any reference to retaining the original footprint. The text amendment places limitations on the density, prohibits industrial activities. Staff respectfully recommends that the Board transmit the recommendation as amended to the DCA. **Commissioner Harris moved approval of staff recommendation to transmit Putnam County Transmitted Amendment 07-2 to DCA; seconded by Ms. Dungey; motion carried unanimously.**

*Putnam County Adopted Amendment 07-1

Mr. Lehman reviewed the Putnam County Adopted Amendment 07-1, which consists of the transmitted FLUM that were reviewed at the May 2007 meeting of the Council, at which time the Committee and Council approved staff’s recommendations on the Transmitted Amendment 07-1 for transmittal to DCA. The amendment is to change 403 acres from AG1 and Rural Residential to Urban Reserve. Putnam County has responded to the Objections, Recommendations and Comments Report issued by the Florida Department of Community Affairs. There was concern about central water and sewer, data and analysis in the adopted amendment provides the evidence needed to ensure that water/sewer is provided for. Mr. Lehman stated that the P&G Committee recommends adopting staff recommendation that this amendment is consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). **Commissioner Harris moved approval that Putnam County Adopted Amendment 07-1 is consistent with the SRPP; seconded by Mr. Register; motion carried unanimously.**

Healthy Start Coalition Separation Update

Mr. Teeple informed the Board that a press release was issued regarding the separation of the Healthy Start Coalition from the Northeast Florida Regional Council, and was in the binders for their review. Mr. Teeple stated that because of budget constraints and the desire for them to operate on their own, the HSC Board voted on August 17th, 2007, to separate from the Council by September 30, 2007. Mr. Teeple and Mr. Taylor are creating a separation agreement between the two entities. Mr. Teeple said that what this means for the Council is that operating costs will have to be reduced by about \$340,000. This may include the loss of some support staff. Mr. Teeple informed the Board that the Council has three tenants – The Early Learning Coalition of Duval County, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, and Project SOS – who have expressed desires to have more space, which will help lessen operating costs for the Council. Discussion followed.

Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board Meeting Summary

Mr. Teeple informed the Board that **Mrs. Stern** was elected as President of the FRCA Policy Board at the meeting on August 17th, 2007. Three members (1 County, 1 Municipal, and 1 Gubernatorial) from each Regional Planning Council represent the policy board. The FRCA framework for Planning Reform was also adopted at the meeting. Secretary Tom Pelham asked FRCA to assist in writing legislative language. The FRCA framework was presented to the Growth Management working group of the Florida Association of Counties, and was well received.

Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Training Update

Mr. Lehman stated that 6 of the 7 counties were represented at the workshops for CIE training. Summaries of the training are in the binders for the Board members to review. Mr. Lehman stated that FIAM (Fiscal Impact Analysis Model) was being replaced by the capital improvements element of the comprehensive plan to be reviewed on an annual basis in order to maintain a financially feasible schedule of capital improvements. Discussion followed.

Introduction of Kirby Green - SJRWMD

Mr. Teeple introduced Mr. Kirby Green, Executive Director of the St. Johns River Water Management District. Mr. Green spoke about the withdrawal of water from the St. Johns River. The WMD are required to create water supply plans that project the use of water for 20 years. The latest update, in 2005, from the SJRWMD indicated that we will be 100 – 200 million gallons short of needs, if growth continues as it is now, and if ground water is solely used to meet needs. The cap for groundwater is for projected groundwater withdrawals in Central Florida is the year 2013. SJRWMD has suggested several other ways to meet water needs – e.g. drawing water from St. Johns River, the Ocklawaha River, desalinization, etc. Mr. Green stated that the SJRWMD would be back to bring updates to the Board. Discussion followed. **Commissioner Manuel** stated that St. Johns County is very concerned about removing water from the St. Johns River. **Commissioner O'Connell** thanked Mr. Green and the SJRWMD for helping conduct the studies for water supply in Flagler County.

NEFRC Web site Enhancements

Mr. Hadden called the Board's attention to enhancements that have been implemented on the Council Web site, in particular in regard to the Board Packets posted online. The Council has gone to a paperless form of communication for the board packets. Board members can still receive paper copies of the packets in the mail if they choose to. Email notification will be sent to all board members as soon as the new packet is available on line.

Public Comment

Valerie Britt, 378 Tilefish Court – Ms. Britt commented that she considers herself a stakeholder, and does not believe that attorneys for developers should be considered stakeholders. She stated that she is very involved in citizen's groups, and is involved in DCA technical workshops. Ms. Britt stated that she is not receiving notification of meetings, and that she would like to be notified of ALL meetings. Ms. Britt states that she has given her email to the Council, and would appreciate being included on all workshop notifications.

Members Reports

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Teeple requested that the Board Members review the Draft Regional Directory, especially for their communities, and let Council staff know if they have any changes. Mr. Teeple also asked new board members to have their portraits taken by Mr. Hadden after the board meeting. Mr. Teeple also called attention to the News Articles in the back of the binders, for members to review and take with them if they wished and the monthly Highlights in the front binder pocket. Mr. Teeple informed the Board that the Council held a technical workshop meeting for local government counterparts regarding the local effort for the Regional Evacuation Study Program. Mr. Teeple mentioned upcoming events, namely the Elected Officials Reception and Regional Leadership Awards on October 11th, 2007, at the St. Johns County Convention Center in World Golf Village. Mr. Teeple stated that the next meeting will be off-site in October, location to be determined.

Next Meeting Date

The next Council Board of Director's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in Clay County, location to be determined.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.



Harold Rutledge
President



Brian Teeple
Chief Executive Officer