



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
November 1, 2007

MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the Northeast Florida Regional Council was held on Thursday, November 1, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida, 32216

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

BAKER	Hugh Fish Darryl Register
CLAY	Paul Bue Harold Rutledge Chereese Stewart Carol Vallencourt
DUVAL	Mary Louise Dungey
FLAGLER	Jim O'Connell Bob Sgroi
NASSAU	Michael Boyle Bob Spaeth Larry Williams
PUTNAM	Nancy Harris Mary Lawson-Brown Tom Williams
ST. JOHNS	Don Crichlow Tom Manuel Karen Stern Cyndi Stevenson
EX-OFFICIO	Linda Burnette Bill Green (Greg Strong) Larry Parks

Excused: Mike Griffis, Deidra Franklin, Richard Clark, Ronnie Fussell, Milissa Holland, Joann King, Bill Leeper, Chip Laibl, Harry Maxwell

Absent: None

Others: Travis Minch, Steve Fitzgibbons, Geoff Sample, Ken Venables, Mark Mine, Cathy Foerste, JW Pratt, Al Abbatiello, MS Pratt, Harold Wilkey, Jodi Conway, John Henry David, David Ball, Harriet Pruitt, Lynda Padiste and other members of the public.

Staff: Brian Teeple, Mario Taylor, Ed Lehman, Donna Starling, Michael Hadden, Ameera Sayeed, Michael Hill, Steven Mahaven, Charles McCool, Guy Parola, Sheron Forde and Angela Giles.

President Rutledge led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

*Approval of Minutes

Mr. Larry Williams stated that "Davidson" should read "Davis" in the October minutes, page 4. That being the only change requested, **Mr. Fish moved approval of the November 4, 2007, meeting's minutes as amended; seconded by Vice Mayor Crichlow; motion unanimously carried.**

Public Comment

None.

*Consent Agenda

President Rutledge asked if any items needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda. As there were no items to be pulled, **Commissioner Manuel moved approval of the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; motion unanimously carried.**

Discussion Agenda

Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Overview

Mr. Parola gave the Board a brief PowerPoint presentation as an overview of what an EAR is, basically an "audit" of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Parola stated that they are a two part process, and told as to why they are required. Mr. Parola also informed the Board of the requirements of an EAR, and gave a typical EAR schedule. Discussion followed. A copy of the presentation, flow chart and regional schedule of the EAR process was provided to all members.

*City of Jacksonville EAR

Mr. Parola stated that the City of Jacksonville identified 14 major issues in their EAR. Staff noted some issues as being salient to the entire region – alternatives to individual cars (transit), affordable and disabled housing, St. Johns River, incorporation of mixed use projects, downtown revitalization, urban sprawl, preservation of industrial lands, and preservation of working waterfronts. The City of Jacksonville also identified several special topics – school concurrency, water supply planning, coastal high hazard areas, and financial feasibility. The Planning & Growth (P&G) Management Policy Committee voted unanimously to recommend Staff's recommendation to the Board. Staff recommends that the City of Jacksonville EAR is sufficient and should be forwarded to the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Discussion followed. **Mr. Larry Williams moved approval of staff recommendations for the City of Jacksonville EAR; seconded by Commissioner Stevenson; motion carried unanimously.**

Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)/Medicaid Reform

Mr. Teeple called attention to an issue that will affect each county. The Transportation Disadvantaged program is basically the only transit system in most of our more rural areas. This coordinated system has been in place since 1979. A large portion of the funds for this system is Medicaid. Now, with Medicaid Reform under way, Managed Care Organizations have been providing their own transportation. This cuts into the coordinated system, and many areas are in jeopardy of losing the transit system in rural areas. The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) has several legislative proposals: 1) to change the law that guides Medicaid Reform to exclude non-

emergency transportation services from reform efforts; 2) to change the Medicaid Reform guidelines to require that the Managed Care Organizations must follow Chapter 427, F.S. and require them to contact the Community Transportation Coordinator first, prior to arranging separate transportation services, and; 3) strengthening Chapter 427, F.S. to ensure that all agencies must contact the CTD for services and comply with established guidelines when pursuing transportation outside the coordinated transportation system. Discussion followed. Mr. Teeple stated that this issue would be vetted through the Legislative Committee for the possibility of adding it to the Regional Legislative Priorities.

*City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 08-D1

Mr. Lehman stated this Amendment is the first through the new pilot program that was adopted by House Bill 7203. The Council recommendations will now go directly to the City of Jacksonville, instead of DCA. The City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 08-D1 contains two proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map to reflect proposed changes to the Villages of Argyle development plan: 1) to change 22.06 acres from Recreation and Open Space to Public Buildings and Facilities; 2) to change 14.66 acres from Public Buildings and Facilities to Community/General Commercial. Mr. Lehman stated that the proposed change to the DRI was reviewed by Council Staff, and staff determined that the proposed change did not constitute a substantial deviation, and had no comments or concerns about this change. **Mrs. Stern moved approval of transmittal of City of Jacksonville Transmitted Amendment 08-D1 to the City of Jacksonville; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion carried unanimously.**

*City of Palatka Transmitted Amendment 07-2

Mr. Lehman stated that these changes are the amendments that are being submitted as EAR-based amendments to the City of Palatka's Plan pursuant to the 1998 EAR. Staff review was limited by the fact that the Council is contracted to prepare the EAR for Palatka, and the City of Palatka is updating their Comprehensive Plan. **Vice Mayor Lawson Brown moved approval of transmitting the City of Palatka Transmitted Amendment 07-2 to DCA; seconded by Mr. Register; motion carried unanimously.**

*City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 07-1

Mr. Parola said that this amendment contains two proposed amendments to the Future Land Use Maps as well as two text amendments. The transmitted amendment was reviewed by the Board in June 2007. The first proposed change moves uses around within the Flagler Central Commerce Park, and the text amendment limits the development potential of the property. The second amendment changes 115 acres from County Agriculture to City Agriculture – there is a difference in density – the first allows 1 unit per 5 acres, the second allows 1 unit per acre, thus allowing an increase from 23 units to 115 units. Mr. Parola stated that the P&G Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board find the Amendment consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). **Vice Mayor Lawson Brown moved approval of the City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 07-1 as consistent with the SRPP; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; opposed by Commissioner O'Connell; motion carried. Commissioner Manuel** informed the President that he would like to change his vote to support **Commissioner O'Connell**. Parliamentary Procedure was discussed. **Commissioner Manuel moved to reconsider the previous vote; seconded by Commissioner Stevenson; motion carried unanimously. Vice Mayor Lawson Brown moved approval of the City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 07-1 as consistent with the SRPP; seconded by Mr. Sgroi; opposed by Commissioner O'Connell, Commissioner Manuel and Commissioner Stevenson; motion carried.**

Review of JEA Ten Year Power Plant Site Plan 2007-2016

Mr. Lehman stated that the Council is a reviewing agency of ten year power plant site plans. Mr. Lehman introduced Ameera Sayeed. Ms. Sayeed reported that Florida Statutes requires that all major generating electric utilities submit a Ten-Year Site Plan to the Florida Public Service Commission for review. The purpose of the site plan is to disclose the general location of proposed power plant sites and facilitate coordinated planning efforts. Ms. Sayeed stated that JEA has done so. Ms. Sayeed informed the Board that JEA consists of 3 separate entities: The JEA Electric System, The St. Johns River Power Park, and the Robert W. Scherer system. JEA is also pursuing purchasing power from Southern Company. JEA continues to establish a Clean Power Capacity goal, and has a solar incentive program to promote solar energy. Ms. Sayeed informed the Board that the P&G Committee has unanimously approved the draft report and its transmittal to the Florida Public Service Commission.

Mrs. Stern moved approval of the Draft Report and its transmittal to the Florida Public Service Commission; seconded by Commissioner Manuel; motion carried unanimously.

Review of Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. Ten Year Power Plant Sit Plan 2007-2016

Ms. Sayeed provided an overview of the Seminole Electric Cooperative's site plan. Ms. Sayeed stated that while Seminole Electric Cooperative has demonstrated the existing and future plan to diversify their fuel sources, it appears the predominant source will continue to be coal. This is demonstrated by Seminole Electric Cooperative's addition of the coal unit to the Seminole Generating Station and the strategic plan to add a third generating unit by the year 2012. The Seminole Electric Cooperative, in conjunction with the State of Florida, is also continuing efforts to develop new programs to reduce the reliance on coal and oil as future energy sources, increase conservation activities to offset the need to construct new power plants and increase the reliance of clean alternative energy systems to produce electricity. Staff recommends that the Council approve the draft report and authorize its transmittal to the Florida Public Service Commission. Discussion followed. **Mrs. Stern moved approval of the Draft Report and its transmittal to the Florida Public Service Commission; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion carried unanimously.**

Seminole Electric Unit 3 Update

Mr. Teeple stated that Seminole Electric applied to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in March of last year to build another coal fired generator, and went through the Power Plant Siting Act. The DEP denied on August 17, 2007. Seminole has since appealed that decision to the Fifth District Court of Appeals (DCA), where it awaits adjudication. Discussion followed.

Resolution 2007-14 Honoring Commissioner Jamie Fletcher

Mr. Teeple introduced Resolution 2007-14, honoring Jamie Fletcher for his service to the Council. Commissioner Fletcher resigned his seat due to family health issues. **Mrs. Stern moved approval of Resolution 2007-14; seconded by Ms. Vallencourt; motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution 2007-15 Honoring Ginger Barber

Mr. Teeple stated that this Resolution is offered in memory of Ms. Barber. Ms. Barber has been a member of the Board since 1989, and was twice President of the Board. Mr. Teeple also stated that Ms. Barber grew the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, and was a tremendous proponent for that organization. Mr. Teeple expounded slightly on Ms. Barber's interests and personality. Several members expressed their thoughts and appreciation for Ms. Barber. **Mr. Fish moved approval of Resolution 2007-15; seconded by Mr. Register; motion carried unanimously.**

Urban Land Institute's (ULI) Water Watch

Mr. Teeple informed the Board that he had provided them copies of articles from ULI's magazine, entitled "Water Watch", considering the Council's current interest in water resource issues.

OCIR – Elected Officials Reception/Regional Leadership Awards (EOR/RLA) Survey

Mr. Hadden presented the Board with copies of a Survey for those who had attended the EOR/RLA Ceremony, and thanked everyone for their participation.

Public Comment

None.

Members Reports

Mr. Larry Williams informed the Council that the Florida Association of Counties would be meeting November 13 – 16, 2007.

President's Report

President Rutledge stated that he had made a couple of changes, beginning with the President's Report being moved toward the end of the agenda, and secondly that there will now be prayer at the beginning of the meeting, provided there were no objections from the Board. **President Rutledge** also said that he would like each county to provide the prayer each month on a rotating basis. **President Rutledge** also asked each member to be more forthcoming in the Members Reports, that he thinks it would benefit the Board tremendously.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Teeple stated that Mr. Taylor would provide a handout on legislative issues, and what the Legislature is trying to do with regards to property taxes and homestead exemptions. Discussion followed.


Mr. Teeple called the members attention to the monthly Highlights, and pointed out that Mr. Ed Lehman received an award from the Florida Planning and Zoning Association (FPZA). Mr. Teeple also informed the Board that copies of news articles were available if the members wished. Mr. Teeple also invited the Board Members to attend the Holiday Lunch after the December Board Meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The next Council Board of Director's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida, 32216.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.



Harold Rutledge
President



Brian Teeple
Chief Executive Officer