



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee

June 4, 2026

MINUTES

A hybrid meeting of the Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee was held on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Chair Condon called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Members: Ken Amaro, Jimmy Anderson, Betsy Condon, Andy Dance, Jim Renninger and Christian Whitehurst

Excused: Larry Harvey, John Martin

Staff: Elizabeth Payne, Donna Starling, Tyler Nolen, Annie Sieger, Kenajawa Woody and Sheron Forde

*Approval of Minutes

Chair Condon called for a motion on the May 7, 2026 draft meeting minutes. Councilmember Amaro motioned to approve the May 7, 2026 Meeting Minutes; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carried.

*April 2026 Financial Report

Ms. Starling presented the April 2026 Financial Report reflecting a net loss of \$12,889 for the month, with a year-to-date net income of \$29,123. The loss is primarily due to payment of the approved donation to the James Bennett scholarship and Council membership dues. She directed the Members' attention to the financial statements provided, which was not included in the preliminary packet. Staff continues to review the best way to reflect the budget percentages utilized to date. A brief discussion followed.

Chair Condon called for a motion. Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the April 2026 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Whitehurst. Motion carried.

*FY 25/26 Proposed Amended Budget

Ms. Starling reminded the Members of the timeline in which the Council prepares and adopts its budget. Based on that timeline staff predicted a deficit of approximately \$70,000, which would be balanced using general funds if no further funding were received. Ms. Starling stated that the provided FY 25/26 proposed amended budget reflects that additional funding was received that covered the initial deficit. She provided an overview of the proposed amended and highlighted the revenues at \$3,647,573, an increase of \$171,159; and total expenses at \$3,621,367, an increase of \$70,252. However, she stated that several grants are ending this year, i.e., the Military Installation Readiness Review and the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative. Discussion followed.

Chair Condon called for a motion. Commissioner Dance motioned to approve the FY 26/27 proposed amended budget; seconded by Councilmember Amaro. Motion carried.

*FY 26/27 Proposed Budget

Again, Ms. Starling informed the Members of the timeline regarding the Council's budget adoption and the start of its fiscal year. She provided an overview of the FY 26/27 proposed budget with estimated revenues at \$2,745,067 and expenses at \$2,917,588; reflecting a deficit of \$172,521. Again, if no additional funding is received prior to October 1st, the budget will be balanced with funds from the general fund. Staff shared the grants applied for and pending that, if awarded, would more than cover the shortfall. Discussion followed, including the implications of the proposed property tax reform amendment pending.

Councilmember Amaro suggested that staff create alternative scenarios in preparation for reduced/loss of dues. **Commissioner Anderson** agreed with the suggestion.

The Members also discussed how the Council has saved the Counties money by not raising the dues since 2018. It was suggested that staff prepare a document showing what the fee would have been if the population was increased each year. Ms. Payne stated that staff will work on the suggestions/recommendations and bring them to the Executive Committee's August meeting.

Chair Condon called for a motion. Councilmember Amaro motioned to approve the FY 26/27 proposed budget; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carried.

Upcoming CEO Evaluation / Contract Renewal Reminder

Ms. Payne informed the Members that staff will be emailing the CEO evaluation in early July for consideration by the Executive Committee at its August meeting. She encourages the Members to please complete the evaluation as she welcomes their feedback. Discussion followed.

Public Comment: None

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 3, 2026.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.



Betsy Condon
Chair



Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer