



Central Florida Regional Planning Council

February 12, 2014

Hardee County Commission Chambers

412 West Orange Street

Wauchula, FL 33873

9:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Pat Huff called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Norman White led the Council in prayer. The Council Pledged Allegiance to the Flag. Roll was called and the following members were present.

CFRPC Chairman, City Commissioner Pat Huff, Ridge League of Cities, City of Bartow
CFRPC Vice-Chairman, Councilman Clayton Williams, City of Okeechobee
Jackie Tucker, DeSoto County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Sue Birge, Hardee County
City Councilwoman Neda Cobb, Wauchula
Chet Huddleston, Hardee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Ron Handley, Highlands County
Andy Tuck, Highlands County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Ray Domer, Okeechobee County
Elvie Posey, Okeechobee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Melony Bell, Polk County
City Commissioner Edie Yates, Lakeland
Kevin Denny, Hardee County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Gary Ritter, South Florida Water Management District, Ex-officio

Members absent:

Commissioner Buddy Mansfield, DeSoto County
City Councilman Robert Heine, Arcadia
City Councilman Bud Whitlock, Sebring
Dr. Marshall Goodman, Polk County Gubernatorial Appointee
City Commissioner J.P. Powell, Winter Haven
Tom Cookingham, DeSoto County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Mark Hill, Highlands County Development Services Director, Ex-officio
Bill Royce, Okeechobee County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Tom Dearnorff, Polk County Director of Growth Management, Ex-officio
Gina Reynolds, Florida's Heartland Regional Economic Development Initiative, Ex-officio
Jennifer Stults, Florida Department of Transportation, Ex-officio
Jim Golden, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Ex-officio



Under announcements, Pat Steed congratulated Andy Tuck for his recent appointment to the Florida State Board of Education. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Tuck was a member of the Highlands County School Board for a number of years. Also, Ms. Steed presented two Awards of Merit which the Council recently received from the Heart of Florida Section of the American Planning Association. The awards were in recognition of the Affordable Housing Tool Kit for the Heartland and the Council's work on the Broadband Polk Plan.

AGENDA ITEM #1 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Huff opened and closed the public comment period with no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2 COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

December 11, 2013 Council Meeting Minutes

Chairman Huff asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the December 11, 2013 Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION

There being none, Chet Huddleston moved to approve the Council Meeting Minutes as submitted. Jackie Tucker seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #3 GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE PRESENTATION BY NORMAN WHITE, COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Norman White referred to a paper he had written, which was mailed to each Council Member, providing information on Government in the Sunshine Laws, Rules and Regulations that govern Council Members and their communications. Discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM #4 REPORT ON FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION (FRCA) RETREAT AND SURVEY RESULTS

Pat Steed, Executive Director, presented an overview of the history of Florida's regional planning councils and the many mandates they have had over the years as well as currently. She also included the history of the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) and how the association has benefited the RPCs over the years. Ms. Steed stated that FRCA conducted a Strategic Assessment Survey in November 2013, prior to the FRCA retreat which was held on January 9 and 10, 2014, in Tallahassee. Council members attending the retreat were Vice Chairman Clayton Williams and Mrs. Jackie Tucker. Out of 236 responses to the online survey, 28 had comments specific to the CFRPC. Those retreat survey results were discussed.

AGENDA ITEM #5 RECOGNITION OF CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL'S (CFRPC) 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Pat Steed stated that in 2014 the CFRPC will mark its 40th Anniversary. The Council discussed how this milestone may be acknowledged.

Chairman Huff suggested that perhaps former members of the Council could be invited.

Jackie Tucker said that she thought it would be a good idea to put the anniversary in local newspapers.

Melony Bell suggested proclamations could be presented to the County Commissions in each of the five counties.

AGENDA ITEM #6 APPOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2014

Chairman Pat Huff appointed the following members to serve on the Council's Executive Committee: Ray Domer, Melony Bell, Buddy Mansfield, Sue Birge, Clayton Williams, Jackie Tucker, Andy Tuck and Pat Huff.

MOTION

Chet Huddleston moved to approve the Executive Committee for 2014 as appointed. Edie Yates seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING PROGRAM SUBMISSION

Pat Steed stated that the Government Finance Officers Associations Certificate Program promotes the preparation of high quality financial reports to promote better transparency to citizens and other stakeholders. This award is a positive factor in decision making for grantors, credit rating agencies, and other interested parties.

MOTION

Edie Yates moved to approve the request to apply for a Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting. Chet Huddleston seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #8 HEARTLAND 2060 STATUS REPORT

Pat Steed presented a PowerPoint summary of the Heartland 2060 Building a Resilient Region report. The report was recently completed by staff and provides a plan of action for how to become a resilient region. The Heartland is comprised of seven inland counties sharing a similar geography and economy. Heartland 2060 is a grassroots effort that began in late 2007 by business, education, agriculture, environmental, government and interested citizens to plan the Heartland's future. Ms. Steed reviewed each section of the plan with the Council. The report in its entirety can be accessed at www.heartland.org.

AGENDA ITEM #9 DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT (DRI) UPDATE

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Planning and Administrative Director, updated the Council on the status of current Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) and activities anticipated for 2014. She distributed a summary of DRI activity, including a location map.

AGENDA ITEM #10 STATUS OF SEBRING-AVON PARK-HIGHLANDS URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO) FORMATION

Pat Steed discussed the status of the CFRPC's transit grants that are related to the status of the Sebring-Avon Park-Highlands Urbanized Area Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) formation. She distributed a chart that showed each transportation program the Council administers and discussed how its funding would be affected by the new urbanized area.

AGENDA ITEM #11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pat Steed reported on the following current work activities.

A. Brownfields Grant Activities

Ms. Steed stated that the Council authorized staff to apply for a Brownfields Assessment Grant, which was a follow-up to the Areawide Planning Brownfields Grant in Polk County, covering the Combee-East Lake Parker neighborhoods. Staff received notice that the application was sufficient to be forwarded for review and ranking. Ms. Steed will keep the Council posted on the application's status.

B. Legislative Activities

Ms. Steed distributed the Florida Regional Councils Association 2014 Legislative Agenda and stated that FRCA supported realigning their legislative platform with the Six Pillars concept. She described the other items on the agenda. The Legislative Highlights for January 2014 were also distributed. These items relate to transportation, tourism, economic development and housing finance. Ms. Steed pointed out the Governor's Budget Highlights and stated that the Regional Planning Councils were not in the Governor's budget again this year.

AGENDA ITEM #12 OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting was scheduled for April 9, 2014, in Arcadia at the DeSoto County Commission Chambers at 9:30 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Patrick Huff, Chairman
February 12, 2014, Council Meeting Minutes