



Central Florida Regional Planning Council

September 10, 2014

**Bartow Public Library
2nd Floor Conference Room
2150 South Broadway Avenue
Bartow, FL 33830
9:30 a.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Pat Huff called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Clayton Williams led the Council in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 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
Commissioner Buddy Mansfield, DeSoto County
Jackie Tucker, DeSoto County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Sue Birge, Hardee County
City Councilwoman Neda Cobb, Wauchula
Commissioner Melony Bell, Polk County
City Commissioner Edie Yates, Lakeland
City Commissioner J.P. Powell, Winter Haven
Tom Deardorff, Polk County Director of Growth Management, Ex-officio
Jennifer Stults, Florida Department of Transportation, Ex-officio
Gary Ritter, South Florida Water Management District, Ex-officio
Jim Golden, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Ex-officio

Members absent:

City Councilman Robert Heine, Arcadia
Chet Huddleston, Hardee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Ron Handley, Highlands County
City Councilman Bud Whitlock, Sebring
VACANT, Highlands County Gubernatorial Appointee
Dr. Marshall Goodman, Polk County Gubernatorial Appointee
Tom Cookingham, DeSoto County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Kevin Denny, Hardee County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Mark Hill, Highlands County Development Services Director, Ex-officio
Bill Royce, Okeechobee County Planning Director, Ex-officio
Gina Reynolds, Florida's Heartland Regional Economic Development Initiative, Ex-officio



Under announcements, Pat Steed stated that, although there were many things to celebrate, she wanted to take a moment to remember Okeechobee County Commissioner Ray Domer, who passed away on August 17, 2014, just a few days after attending the August Council meeting. If he had not become a member of the Council, many of us would not have come to know him. He was a wonderful person and a great County Commissioner and supporter of the Council. He will be missed by all.

Presenting a trophy made from Legos, Ms. Steed stated that the United Way of Central Florida recognized the Central Florida Regional Planning Council at their annual campaign kick-off at Legoland in Winter Haven. Council staff was recognized for 100% participation for four consecutive years. She proudly added that there were three Leadership Givers on a small staff of 17.

AGENDA ITEM #1 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Huff opened the public comment period. With no comments, the public comment period was closed.

AGENDA ITEM #2 COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

A. August 13, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes

Chairman Huff asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the August 13, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION

There being none, Jackie Tucker moved to approve the August 13, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes as submitted. J.P. Powell seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. August, 2014 Financial Report

Kristen Guy, Finance Director, reviewed the Statement of Activities and Statement of Net Assets for the month ended August 31, 2014. Discussion followed.

MOTION

Clayton Williams moved to approve the August 31, 2014 Financial Report as presented. J.P. Powell seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Pat Steed presented a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, awarded to the Council from the United States Government Finance Officers Association. This certificate is awarded to government agencies whose annual financial reports are judged to adhere to program

standards and represents the highest award in government financial reporting. She acknowledged the Council's financial staff, former Finance Director Julie Davis and current Finance Director, Kristen Guy, who went through the onerous application process to obtain this award.

D. Fill Vacancy on Finance Committee

With the passing of Okeechobee County Commissioner Ray Domer, a vacancy was left on the Finance Committee. Chairman Pat Huff appointed Vice-Chairman Clayton Williams to fill that position.

AGENDA ITEM #3 CFRPC 40TH ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION

Pat Steed stated that this Council meeting and the luncheon scheduled at the Council office at noon, are the culmination of several months of activities. A 40th Anniversary Logo was prepared and has been used where feasible, the Council adopted a 40th Anniversary Proclamation at their June, 2014 meeting. Fortieth Anniversary presentations were made and Proclamations have been adopted and received from all five county commissions in the region. Only a few presentations and proclamations have been made at city commission meetings so far, but more are scheduled.

Ms. Steed stated that many individuals have served on the Council over the last 40 years, from all five counties and 25 cities. As many former members as possible were invited to attend this anniversary meeting. Showing a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Steed presented the names of all former members and the years they served on the Council. She also included current members. Those members serving as Chairmen over the years were also noted. The former members in attendance were introduced as their names appeared on the screen. They were recognized and thanked for their service.

Former members and invited guests attending 40th Anniversary Celebration were:

Mike O'Connor, City of Okeechobee
Dowling Watford, Okeechobee County Commission
Gordon Norris, Hardee County Commission
Minor Bryant, Hardee County Commission
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County Commission
Bob English, Polk County Commission
Missie Barletto, South Florida Water Management District
Mandy Hines, DeSoto County Administrator
Tracy Garcia, Central Florida Development Council

Doug Leonard, former Executive Director of the CFRPC attended.

Also, Ms. Steed read a letter she received from Lawrence Roberts, former Hardee County Gubernatorial Appointee, who was unable to attend.

Council staff introduced themselves and stated how long they had been with the Council and their primary duties. Ms. Steed presented various photos of Council Members over the past 40 years, to include staff and former Executive Directors. She thanked all the members of the Council, past and present, for their commitment to the Council. She also thanked staff over the years for their work.

During the second portion of the presentation, Ms. Steed explained the process that created the Council. Ultimately, this five county region came together to form the Central Florida Regional Planning Council. She presented growth charts of the region over the last 40 years. She also presented challenges the region was faced with over the last 40 years. Ms. Steed pointed out the regions assets and opportunities. She concluded by thanking all members, past and present, for their service and commitment to the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and for attending this anniversary meeting. She also invited them to stay for the remainder of the business meeting, then travel to the CFRPC office for the scheduled anniversary lunch and fellowship.

AGENDA ITEM #4 STATUS OF HEARTLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (HRTPO) FORMATION

Jennifer Stults stated that FDOT had completed its legal review of the Proposed Apportionment Plan and Agreements, and would soon forward it to the Governor's Office for their review and decision.

Pat Steed thanked Jennifer Stults and FDOT District 1, for their support in this HRTPO formation effort. She announced that FDOT had identified resources to fund work on the Long Range Transportation Plan, which is one of the requirements of a TPO and has a deadline of March, 2016 to complete. This item will be brought to the Council next month.

AGENDA ITEM #5 PLANNING REPORT

A. Developments of Regional Impact

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Planning and Administrative Director, presented a map of the region showing the location of current Developments of Regional Impact (DRI). She pointed out the Ridgewood Lakes DRI, which is located south of I-4 on US-27, previously went through the DRI process, and recently filed for a Substantial Deviation Application. Also, the Williams DRI, in Polk County, has filed a Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC). The Payne Creek project in Hardee County has withdrawn from the DRI process and is now working with Hardee County on a comprehensive plan amendment.

B. New Planning Projects

Ms. Codo-Salisbury reported that in 2013, several local governments were awarded a Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). CFRPC worked with Highlands County, Bowling Green, Ft. Meade, Frostproof, Lake Placid, Polk City and Zolfo Springs to complete the various grant projects.

Ms. Codo-Salisbury reported that DEO had recently announced the grants that were awarded to local governments in the region. Polk County, Haines City, Mulberry, and Winter Haven were awarded Community Planning and Technical Assistance Grants. The CFRPC will be assisting Bartow, Bowling Green, Highlands County and Lake Placid, who were also awarded grants.

AGENDA ITEM #6 APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT GRANT AWARD

Showing a PowerPoint presentation, Helen Sears, Program Director, and Buck MacLaughlin, representing the Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR), reported that the Council has proposed an application for a Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment grant. The grant will fund activities to update and implement the recommendations of the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS), which the CFRPC conducted for the Avon Park Air Force Range. Discussion followed.

MOTION

Buddy Mansfield moved to authorize the Executive Director to submit the Department of Defense Grant Application and execute all grant documents. Edie Yates seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 FRCA POLICY BOARD REPORT

Pat Steed stated that the semi-annual Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board meeting was held in August 2014, in Hollywood, Florida. At this meeting, CFRPC Chairman Pat Huff was elected to serve as the Chairman of the FRCA Policy Board for 2015. Ms. Steed distributed the FRCA Year-End Review which was a summary of the projects FRCA staff completed in the last fiscal year.

Policy Board Members Pat Huff, Jackie Tucker and Buddy Mansfield who were in attendance at the Policy Board Meeting, shared insights and comments on the meeting.

Pat Steed congratulated Chairman Pat Huff who was elected and took office as the President of the Florida Regional Councils Association for the coming year.

AGENDA ITEM #8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pat Steed reported on the following current work activities:

A. National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Annual Training Conference

Pat Steed stated that the CFRPC received two innovation awards for the Broadband Polk project and for the Heartland 2060 project. She added that she received much interest and questions from others attending the conference about the Broadband Polk project. She celebrated the fact that the CFRPC was nationally recognized regarding their work. CFRPC also won the first annual NADO Photo Contest with the People's Choice Award for a photo of Auburndale Downtown Park. The winning photo photographer was our own Jennifer Codo-Salisbury.

B. American Planning Association (APA) – Florida Conference

Pat Steed stated that CFRPC staff members moderated three separate panels at the APA-Florida Conference. The 2014 Award of Merit for the Best Practice Category was presented to the Central

Florida Regional Planning Council and the Shimborg Center for Housing Studies, University of Florida for the Affordable Housing Toolkit for the Heartland.

C. Update on Grant Activities

Ms. Steed showed a PowerPoint presentation of charts on per-capita taxable values for each local government in the region, noting Polk County and most of its municipalities have experienced some increase, with other counties seeing continued decreases.

D. Update on Audit Schedule

Ms. Steed stated that the Finance Committee will meet before the October 8, 2014, Council Meeting. The auditor is scheduled to begin the audit next week.

AGENDA ITEM #9 OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting was scheduled for October 8, 2014, in Sebring at the Sebring Airport at 9:30 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Patrick Huff, Chairman
September 10, 2014, Council Meeting Minutes