

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL (NCFRPC)
MEETING NOTES (UNOFFICIAL)
MAY 23, 2019

ALACHUA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 10, 2019

ROBERT W. WILFORD, COMMISSIONER
(ALACHUA CITY COMMISSION DELEGATE TO NCFRPC)

NOTE: The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC) is comprised of the following twelve counties, Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union, and, thirteen municipalities, Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, Jasper, Lake City, Live Oak, Madison, Newberry, Perry, Starke and Waldo.

Call to Order

Mayor Davis, City of Waldo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Quorum

A quorum was met in accordance with the Council's bylaws.

Invocation

Commissioner Wilford, City of Alachua, Vice Chair, delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees recited the pledge to the flag in honor of the United States of America.

Introduction of Guests

Mayor Davis recognized the guests in attendance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were **approved unanimously**.

Minutes

Minutes of the April 25, 2019, meeting.

Financial Report for April 2019

Revenues and expenditures are within budget for the first seven months of the fiscal year. Revenues are at 45% of the budget while expenditures are at 47% of the budget. The financial condition of the Council remains strong and the adjusted general fund balance should remain at an acceptable level at the end of the fiscal year.

Agency Regulatory Plan for FY 19/20

It is required in **Section 120.74, Florida Statutes**, that the agency regulatory plan must include statements concerning laws enacted or amended during the previous twelve months related to rulemaking responsibilities, laws expected to be implemented by rulemaking prior to July 1 of the succeeding year, whether the agency desires to update the regulatory plan for the previous year, and agency officials with rulemaking authority have reviewed the plan and existing agency rules, and whether existing rules are consistent with the rulemaking authority. Approval of this action authorizes the Council's Chair, Executive Director, and Council Attorney to sign the letter transmitting the plan to the "Joint Administrative Procedures Committee."

Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for FY 19/20 to Provide Services to the North Central Florida Emergency Planning Committee for an Anticipated Amount not to Exceed \$80,000

This item is related to an annual contract by the Council to cover the costs of an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management. It specifically covers planning activity expenses such as providing assistance with meetings, assisting in plan updates, and coordinating training exercises.

Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management to Update Hazard Analyses for FY 19/20 for an Estimated Amount of \$25,898

Each fiscal year, the Florida Division of Emergency Management provides funding to the Council to update hazards analyses for locations which contain extremely hazardous substances that, if released, could cause offsite injuries. Sites in the following counties will be included in the update: Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor Counties.

Meeting Program Schedule for 2019-2020

The Council generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Holiday Inn in Lake City. However, the Council routinely does not meet in November, as well as, the December meeting is held on the second Thursday. This year's schedule is:

2019 - June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, December 12.

2020 - January 23, February 27, March 26, April 23, and May 28.

Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) Appointments

The following TDCB appointments are recommended: **Mr. John Koch, Elderly Representative**, for the Columbia, Hamilton, and Suwannee Counties TDCB, for a one year term ending on June 30, 2020, and **Mr. John "Dan" Mann, Local Medical Community Representative**, Union County TDCB, for a three year term ending on June 20, 2022.

Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) Reappointments

The following individuals are recommended for reappointment for three year terms ending on June 30, 2022, representing various entities on the Council's jurisdictional area(s) of TDCB responsibility: **Ms. Kimberly Albritton, Ms. Sandra Buck-Camp, Ms. Brittany Keeling, Mr. Scott Pendarvis, Ms. Leila Rykard, Ms. Krishna Stemple, Ms. Brooke Ward, Mr. Audre Washington, and Ms. Sandra Woodard.**

Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board (TDCB) Chair Appointment

Commissioner Don Hale, Suwannee County, is recommended to serve as Chair of the Columbia, Hamilton, and Suwannee TDCB.

Approval of Regular Agenda

*The regular agenda was **approved unanimously**.*

Guest Speaker - None.

50th Anniversary Celebration of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - Special ceremony. A commemorative program was distributed to attendees highlighting the following information:

HISTORY

On May 7, 1969, local elected officials from five local governments, Alachua County, the City of Alachua, the City of Gainesville, the City of Hawthorne, and the City of High Springs, recognizing the value of working together with their neighbors, formed the fourth Regional Planning Council in Florida. At that first meeting, the elected officials adopted bylaws and agreed to name the new organization the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC).

In 1974, two neighboring counties, Bradford and Union, became member local governments. Following a reorganization and adoption of an amended interlocal agreement in 1975, the counties of Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee and Taylor, and the municipalities of Lake City, Perry, and Starke joined NCFRPC. The Council, over the next several decades, grew to a membership of twelve counties and thirteen municipalities with Levy County being the most recent member local government to join the Council in 2016. After having offices located in a number of sites in Gainesville after being established in 1969, the Council office was finally moved to its present day location, the former Koblar Contractors Building, in the Northwest Industrial Park at 2009 Northwest 67th Place in Gainesville. During the first several years of NCFRPC, legal assistance was provided by the Alachua County Attorney. Jonathan Wershow, former NCFRPC Chair in 1976-1977 and 1977-1978, has been the Council's Attorney since the early 1980's.

The Council, an association of general purpose local governments, whose members are elected officials and gubernatorial appointees, is organized under **Chapter 163, Florida Statutes**, currently administers a variety of state and federal government programs for twelve North Central Florida counties. Programs include: (1) the development of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, and (2) technical assistance to local governments in the development of comprehensive plans, land development regulations, and grant management functions. In addition, the Council staffs the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, and the *"Original Florida Tourism"* Task Force.

Expanding on the impressive history of the Council, Draper Underwood, Founding Member, cut the first piece of a ceremonial cake and made insightful, as well as, humorous comments about the daunting task of starting NCFRPC in 1969. Scott Koons, NCFRPC Executive Director, then introduced the following past chairs in attendance who shared their fond memories and challenges: Jerry Scarborough (Suwannee County - 1979 - 1980), Robert Milner (Starke - 1985 - 1986), Thomas Demps (Perry - 1988 - 1989), Eddie Martin, (Hawthorne - 1992 - 1993 and 2005), Garth Nobles, Jr. (Live Oak - 1996 - 1997 and 2013 - 2014), **Dale McPherson (Gainesville - 1999 - 2000)**, **Louie Davis (Waldo - 2003 - 2004 and 2010 - 2011)**, Charles Mautsby (Taylor County - 2005 - 2006), Carolyn Spooner (Starke - 2014 - 2015), Daniel Riddick (Bradford County - 2015 - 2016), and Lorene Thomas (Dixie County - 2017 - 2018). Following the comments made by the past chairs in attendance, Richard D. Tarbox, former NCFRPC Executive Director (May 1969 - January 1973) shared his experiences of being the Council's initial Executive Director. Charles Justice, NCFRPC Executive Director (April 1973 - September 2006), could not be in attendance. However, a congratulatory letter was read by Mr. Koons from Mr. Justice praising the many accomplishments of the Council over the past fifty years.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

The founding members were: Clyde Bell, Sr. (Hawthorne), E. G. Cann (High Springs), **Robert Cato (Alachua)**, Clayton Curtis (Gainesville), William Dorrigan (Gainesville), **George Duke, Sr. (Alachua)**, Jack Durrance (Alachua County), Clark Hodge, Jr.

(Gainesville), James Phillips (Hawthorne), and Draper Underwood (High Springs). As previously mentioned, Mr. Draper was in attendance at tonight's celebration and spoke to the group.

MEMBER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DATES OF JOINING

May 7, 1969 (**Alachua County, Alachua, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs**)
November 9, 1974 (Union County)
December 11, 1974 (Bradford County)
June 1, 1975 (Counties - Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee and Taylor, and, Municipalities - Lake City, Perry, and Starke)
September 17, 1976 (Live Oak)
December 1, 1976 (Madison County)
December 6, 1976 (Lafayette County)
March 8, 1977 (Madison)
February 9, 1978 (**Waldo**)
February 16, 1981 (Dixie County)
March 2, 1981 (Gilchrist County)
September 12, 1983 (**Archer**)
February 18, 1992 (Jasper)
January 1, 2000 (**Newberry**)
August 26, 2016 (Levy County)

ALACHUA COUNTY AND ALACHUA COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES (PAST CHAIRS)

1969-70 - Clayton Curtis (Gainesville)	1970-71 - Clayton Curtis (Gainesville)
1971-72 - E. G. Cann (High Springs)	1972-73 - Jack Durrance (Alachua County)
1973-74 - Clayton Curtis (Gainesville)	1974-75 - Robert Spence (Hawthorne)
1975-76 - Samuel Holloway (Gainesville)	1976-77 - Jonathon Wershow (Alachua County)
1977-78 - Jonathon Wershow (Alachua County)	1980-81 - Robert Lisle (Gainesville)
1982-83 - Thomas Coward (Alachua County)	1986-87 - Jane Walker (Alachua County)
1987-88 - Beverly Hill (Gainesville)	1990-91 - Leveda Brown (Alachua County)
1992-93 - Eddie Martin (Hawthorne)	1997-98 - Charles Chestnut, III (Alachua County)
1999-00 - Dale McPherson (Gainesville)	2003-04 - Louie Davis (Waldo)
2005 - Eddie Martin (Hawthorne)	2010-11 - Louie Davis (Waldo)
2018-19 - Louie Davis (Waldo)	

FORMER CITY OF ALACHUA COUNCIL MEMBERS

Benjamin Boukari, Jr.	Robert Cato
Gib Coerper	Glenn DuBois
George Duke, Sr.	Oscar Harris, Jr.
Cleather Hathcock	Evelyn Holland
Patrick Murphy	Tamara Robbins

CURRENT ALACHUA COUNTY AND ALACHUA MEMBERS

David Arreola (Gainesville)	Particia Bouie (Hawthorne)
Charles Chestnut, IV (Alachua County - Secretary-Treasurer)	Kenneth Cornell (Alachua County)
Louie Davis (Waldo - Chair)	Matt Hersom (Newberry)
Fletcher Hope (Archer)	Linda Jones (High Springs)

Gigi Simmons (Gainesville)
Marihelen Wheeler (Alachua County)

Helen Warren (Gainesville)
Robert Wilford (Alachua - Vice Chair)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

May 1969 - January 1973 - Richard D. Tarbox
October 2006 - Present - Scott R. Koons

April 1973 - September 2006 - Charles F. Justice

PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES, AND SERVICES

First Decade (1969 - 1979)

- Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Study
- Gainesville Metropolitan Area Storm Water Study
- Local Comprehensive Plans
- Community Block Grant Applications
- Economic Development District Designation
- Regional Comprehensive Plan
- Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization

Second Decade (1980 - 1989)

- Overall Economic Development Program
- Alachua County Research and Development Park Feasibility Study
- Suwannee River Committee
- Regional Inland Hurricane Shelter Study
- Coastal Hazard Mitigation and Research Protection Report
- Southeast Gainesville Commercial Revitalization Study
- Regional Solid Waste Management Master Plan
- County Hazardous Waste Monitoring Program
- Job Training Partnership Act Administrator
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Transportation Disadvantaged Program Planning Agency

Third Decade (1990 - 1999)

- Original Florida Tourism Task Force
- Local Government Comprehensive Planning Assistance
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Big Bend Tri-County Task Force
- County Local Mitigation Strategies

Fourth Decade (2000 - 2009)

- Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team
- Statewide Water Distribution Recommendation Review
- Economic Impact Analysis Modeling Services
- Interstate 75 Corridor Council

- Interstate 75 Interstate Development Report

Fifth Decade (2010 - 2019)

- Regional Economic Disaster Resiliency Study
- Statewide Evacuation Study
- Statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Regional Pipeline Training Safety Project
- Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force

PROCLAMATIONS AND LETTERS

Proclamations and **Letters** were included in the commemorative program. Each of the twelve member counties and thirteen member municipalities issued a proclamation declaring May 7, 2009, as “North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Day” in specific jurisdictions to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Council highlighting its many contributions in advancing the regional agenda of cooperation and partnerships. Congratulatory letters were also received from: Congressman Neal Dunn, Congressman Ted Yoho, State Senator Keith Perry, National Association of Development Organizations, National Association of Regional Councils, Florida Association of Counties, Small County Coalition, Florida League of Cities, Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council, Florida Chamber Foundation, Greater Gainesville Chamber, and Lake City/Columbia County Chamber of Commerce.

CURRENT NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL STAFF

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

Michael Escalante, AICP, Senior Planner (Transportation Planning)

Carmelito Franco, Planning Administrative Assistant (Local Government Comprehensive Planning)

Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner (Transportation Disadvantaged)

Sandra Joseph, Senior Planner (Local Government Comprehensive Planning)

Dwayne L. Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director

Kevin D. Parish, Information Technology and Property Management Director

Tara Tucker, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director

Lara Yeatter, AICP, Senior Planner (Geographic Information Systems, Community and Economic Development, and Regional Planning)

Chair Report - Mayor Davis, City of Waldo

Resolution Recognizing the TDCB Service of Ms. Colleen Cody as the Children at Risk Representative for Three TDCB's

A resolution was **approved unanimously** in recognition of **Ms. Colleen Cody** for her service representing the Suwannee County TDCB, Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee TDCB, and Lafayette County TDCB.

Executive Committee Report

Mr. Koons presented the report. He stated that the Council undertakes an auditor selection process every three years with the intent of selecting a firm to perform audit's on the Council's financial activity for each of the succeeding three years. In addition, the auditor is required to complete and audit the pension program during the term of the contract. It is recommended that the Executive Committee, with a representative from the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, serve as the Audit Committee, and this Committee be authorized to establish selection criteria, begin the auditor selection process, negotiate a contract for audit services, and present a recommendation for auditing services to the Council for approval. Motion was **approved unanimously**.

Clearinghouse Committee Report

Commissioner Adams, Lafayette County, Chair, presented the report and stated that the Committee recommends the following “Comprehensive Plan Adopted/Draft Amendments” be approved for: City of Gainesville (Adopted), Hamilton County (Draft), and Levy County (Draft). Motion was ***approved unanimously***.

Program Committee Report

Commissioner Wilford, City of Alachua, Chair, presented the report. He stated that a copy of the “Overall Program Design” report for FY 19/20 was included in the Council’s backup material. This report is a planning and management tool which is used to assist the Council approach its work program in an orderly and comprehensive manner. Strategies, standards, objectives, and long-range elements are re-evaluated based upon previously identified problems and priorities. This is the 46th annual update of the work program. During the current program year, the Council activities and discussions at meetings have highlighted the need for continued emphasis on economic development programs and for the provision of technical assistance and support to local governments. Regional planning activities have also continued to be a topic of discussion. The report contains the following specific information:

Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life of the Region’s citizens by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development, and providing technical services to local governments.

Chapter I: Executive Management

Objectives - To implement the goals and objectives of the Council; to update the Overall Program Design and conduct periodic program evaluation; and, to investigate and develop new programs which have been identified by the Council as potentially beneficial.

- A. General Administration
- B. Overall Program Design and Evaluation
- C. Program Development

Chapter II: Public Information and Participation

Objective - To acquire and disseminate information regarding planning issues generally and Council programs specifically.

- A. Communications Program

Chapter III: Regional Planning

Objective - To maintain a long-range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of the regions; to study and plan for changes in the economy of the region including economic development and fiscal impacts of development and redevelopment; to study and plan for the safety and security of the population of the region; and, to assist in securing resources for counties in the region to provide increased services to citizens determined to be disadvantaged.

- A. North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee
- B. North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Emergency Response Team
- C. Homeland Security Activities
- D. Transportation Disadvantaged Program (Designated Official Planning Agency)

Chapter IV: Plan Implementation

Objective - To implement regional plans and programs.

- A. Federal Assistance
- B. Local Government Plans

Chapter V: Council Assistance

Objectives - To foster the establishment of a continuing cooperative and comprehensive transportation system development program which is in accordance with the planned development of the Gainesville Urbanized Area; to assist local governments in the preparation and maintenance of local comprehensive plans, ordinances, and regulations; to provide local governments with information about, and assistance in, the preparation of state and federal grant and loan applications; and, to assist local governments in the effective management and administration of their "Community Development Block Grant" programs.

- A. Gainesville Urbanized Area Transportation Planning
- B. Local Government Comprehensive Plans
- C. General Technical Services
- D. Community Development Block Grant Administration

The FY 19/20 "Overall Program Design" was ***approved unanimously***.

Finance Committee

Mr. Koons briefed the Council on the FY 19/20 proposed budget. He stated that the projected expenditures for FY 19/20 are ***\$2,100,700*** which is ***\$43,900*** less than the FY 18/19 budget. As usual, the majority of funds to be expended by the Council are received through contracts for services and grants. However, there is one exception. Member local governments pay dues which are being proposed to remain at ***thirty cents (\$.30)*** per capita for the 38th year. This revenue source will generate approximately ***\$162,000*** for the year.

The most significant policy decision which must be made by the Council is related to personnel costs. There is a provision to retain a total of eleven fulltime staff positions, including part-time positions, which is one less fulltime staff person than budgeted in FY 18/19. The proposed budget does include a recurring increase in wages for all employees including the Executive Director equal to ***two percent (2%)*** of the salary for each employee and ***one percent (1%)*** of the salary for merit increases for all employees except the Executive Director.

A motion was made by ***Commissioner Charles "Chuck" Chestnut, IV, Alachua County, Chair***, to approve the Council's FY 19/20 budget. Motion was ***approved unanimously***.

Regional Planning Committee Report - No report.

Nominating Committee Report

Ms. Lorene Thomas, Dixie County, Chair, indicated that the Committee met on May 15, 2019, and is recommending the following "Executive Committee" slate of officers for FY 19/20:

Commissioner Robert W. Wilford, City of Alachua, Chair
Commissioner Charles Chestnut, IV, Alachua County, Vice Chair
Commissioner Thomas Demps, Taylor County, Secretary-Treasurer

Commissioner Anthony Adams, Executive Committee Member
Mayor Louie Davis, City of Waldo, Immediate Past Chair

No nominations were received from the floor. The recommended slate of officers was ***approved unanimously***. ***NOTE: This will be the first time in the Council's history that a Commissioner from the City of Alachua will serve as the chair of NCFRPC.***

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Report - No report.

Middle and Lower Suwannee River and Withlacoochee River Task Force Report

Commissioner Ken Cornell, Alachua County, presented the report and stated that the Task Force is not scheduled to meet until next month prior to the regular Council meeting. However, he did indicate that talks with representatives from the City of Valdosta are ongoing in order to address the continuing raw sewage spills emanating from two wastewater treatment plants in Valdosta into several of Florida's rivers and streams.

The Task Force is comprised of one county commissioner from each of the twelve counties in the NCFRPC region. ***Commissioner Ken Cornell, Alachua County***, represents Alachua County on the Task Force. Following are excerpts from previous task force discussions:

- Commissioner Rick Davis, Madison County (Chair), Commissioner Cornell, Mr. Koons, and others attended a legislative committee hearing in Tallahassee during this past session and presented the Council's concerns regarding the ongoing Valdosta spills.
- The Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and his staff are being very cooperative in collaborating with the Task Force and Council.
- A meeting of the Task Force with the Valdosta City Council was recently held to discuss critical issues regarding the ongoing spills which are most often the result of major rain events.
- The City of Valdosta has 6,000 manholes.
- A holding area which will hold 10 million gallons of overflow will be developed in the near future which should alleviate some of the problems with spills.
- Measures to improve and expedite "immediate notification" requirements are being undertaken.
- Another meeting with the Valdosta City Council will be conducted on July 10, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in Valdosta.

Ms. Darlene Velez, Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), made a presentation to task force members in May regarding "Water Quality Monitoring" in the SRWMD service area. She stated that:

- The SRWMD Water Quality Mission is to: (1) ensure quality improvement projects in support of FDEP "Total Maximum Loads" and "Basin Management Action Plan" efforts are ongoing, (2) develop and update "Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM)" plans, (3) assist state partners in identifying trends and areas of concern in environmental monitoring functions, and (4) assist in emergency response sampling.
- SRWMD monitors trends regarding nutrients, metals, alkalinity, chlorophyll, physical parameters, total organic carbon, common anions, and cations.

- SRWMD does not monitor trends regarding bacteria, pesticides, herbicides, mercury, pharmaceuticals, radionuclides, industrial byproducts, and petroleum products.
- SRWMD and FDEP groundwater and surface water quality trend stations are strategically located and regularly-scheduled tests are done monthly, quarterly, biannually, or yearly depending on a pre-determined schedule.
- SRWMD, FDEP, and the Florida Department of Health have specific missions and collaborate with one another to address water concerns. Health advisories are issued by FDOH when E. coli results are above 410 cfu/100ml and sampling continues until an acceptable level is reached.
- The spill sampling response for the December 2, 2018, Valdosta spill was on: (1) Monday, December 3, 2018, Florida's state agencies were notified with FDEP coordinating sampling efforts, (2) Tuesday, December 4, 2018, FDEP sampled the Withlacoochee and Suwannee Rivers, (3) Wednesday, December 5, 2018, SRWMD sampled the Alapaha, Withlacoochee, and Suwannee Rivers, (4) Friday, December 7, 2018, FDEP sampled Withlacoochee and Suwannee Rivers, and (5) Tuesday, December 12, 2018, SRWMD sampled the Lower Suwannee River.

The next Task Force meeting will be held on July 25, 2018, at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Lake City beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Ex-Officio Member Reports

Reports were made by representatives from ex-officio members in attendance:

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO) - Not in attendance.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) - Not in attendance.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - Barney Bennett - No report.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) - Daniel Penniman - No report.

St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) - Not in attendance.

Southwest Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) - Not in attendance.

Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) - Tom Mirti - River grants have been received and are scheduled to be reviewed in August and September.

Citizen Comments

Eight members from the audience voiced their concerns regarding the legislature's toll road(s) proposal. Many speakers purported to be members of the Sierra Club and expressed the negative effects these roads will have on the environment including climate change. A summary of comments by each speaker follows:

Merrillee Malwitz-Jackson (Water Advocate, Environmental Activist, and Former Candidate for the Florida House of Representatives). Ms. Malwitz-Jackson distributed a handout which identified possible location(s) for the proposed toll roads through North Central Florida. She stated many citizens were concerned about the toll road proposal between I-75 and the Gulf of Mexico which may destroy our rural way of life, the area's wildlife, and farmlands. She also indicated that the communities which would be severely impacted were those having very little wealth.

Jim Tatum (Environmental Activist and Archeologist). Mr. Tatum stated that he represented the "Our Santa Fe River" organization and his group opposed the toll road(s) proposal for a number of reasons. He indicated that one road passes through rural areas which are home to the Santa Fe, Suwannee, and Ichetucknee Rivers. In addition, Mr. Tatum opined that water management districts are failing to protect our water resources and their projections for the next several years will not yield sufficient water for our current needs let alone the development of these roads. He stated that one road ends at the state line with no connector on the Georgia side. Mr. Tatum indicated that ninety (90) separate Florida groups opposed this legislation.

John Quarterman (WWAL Watershed Coalition - Suwannee River Keeper). Mr. Quarterman posed the following question: “Do we really want something like this (Suncoast Connector) barreling through a river basin without one sentence as to where it is going? It appears to be a bad idea to me.”

Eileen Fox (Suwannee County). Ms. Fox stated that she had a lot of new friends who have moved into Suwannee County and other surrounding counties because they enjoy the lifestyle, like the lack of development including paving, like the lack of traffic, and this area not being a madhouse. She indicated that we will be destroying the best part of our area through overdevelopment.

Sarah Younger (High Springs). Ms. Younger stated that she moved to High Springs from South Florida in 2017 because of the attraction to a rural way of life. She said that we will be putting people in harm’s way by building out the coastlines.

Kate Gallagher (Fifth Generation Floridian). Ms. Gallagher stated that climate change is going to be a huge issue for us. This toll road is the exact opposite of what we should do. The money taken out of the general fund will place a tremendous burden on education and social services. Ms. Gallagher posed the following question: “Can we really ever trust politicians if the rich people get to funnel our tax dollars into a boondoggle which will hurt us all?”

Karen Chadwick (Native Floridian from Sarasota). Ms. Chadwick stated that she moved to this area to experience rural values. She indicated that we should not do something that we will need to undo later and that is how she views these toll roads. Ms. Chadwick said that: “I hate to see these toll roads come in and hurt the little towns and bring in a bunch more pollution.”

David Moritz (Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee). Mr. Moritz stated that, for the past seven years, he has served on this committee. He indicated that, in Alachua County, the proposed corridors will adversely affect the Paine’s Prairie and Balhamock Preserves. Mr. Moritz said that: “These preserves were meant to last forever. They were not meant to be broken apart or developed. We need to watch what we do and protect these natural areas with everything we’ve got.”

The speakers wanted NCFRPC to take a position opposing the development of the proposed toll roads in North Central Florida. Furthermore, they wanted the Council to send letters in the near future to the Governor, Legislature, and other groups and individuals stating this “anti-toll road” position. The Council was in agreement that it was too soon to take an official position on this sensitive issue until more information was obtained.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Koons briefed the council on the following items:

Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons indicated that FRCA is the statewide organization which is comprised of ten Regional Planning Councils (RPC’s). The mission of FRCA is to strengthen Florida’s RPC’s and its partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improve the consistency and quality of regional planning councils to ensure they add value to state, regional, and local initiatives. **Denise Imbler, FRCA Statewide Coordinator**, advises and supports NCFRPC in fulfilling its mission. Mr. Koons summarized FRCA’s activities for April.

Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard

Mr. Koons reminded council members that the Florida Chamber Foundation developed the Florida Scorecard to provide state leaders with the metrics needed as a tool to secure Florida’s future. In performing this task, the Florida Chamber’s primary objective is to develop a 20-year statewide strategic plan which requires an ongoing commitment to measuring the state’s current status toward accomplishing the stated goals of the “Six Pillars” which were established to measure trends and progress. The “Six Pillars” incorporate the strategic thinking of a diverse range of stakeholders including the Century Commission for a Sustainable

Future, Florida Council of 100, Enterprise Florida, Florida State University, Workforce Florida, 1000 Friends of Florida, and others. The “Six Pillars” are:

- Talent Supply and Education
- Innovation and Economic Development
- Infrastructure and Growth Leadership
- Business Climate and Competitiveness
- Civic and Government Systems
- Quality of Life and Places

Mr. Koons summarized the “State of Florida Metrics” for April 2019. Of note, the unemployment rate remained at 3.5% and is still below the full employment rate of 4%; the high school graduation rate rose to 86.1%; and, the high school graduation rate for children with disabilities remained unchanged at 77%.

Legislative Report

Mr. Koons indicated that the legislative session began on March 5, 2019, and adjourned on May 4, 2019. He stated that the majority of bills the Council was following did not pass this year. Specifically, of the 3,491 bills filed for consideration during this past session, 1,630 were House of Representatives appropriation bills. Of the remaining non-appropriation bills, 197 (10.6%) were passed by both the House of Representatives and Senate.

Financial Disclosure Requirement for Council Members

Mr. Koons reminded Council members that they are required to file a financial disclosure form by July 1, 2019.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on June 27, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in Lake City beginning at 7:00 p.m. Committee meetings, if applicable, will precede the Council meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC) Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life of the Region’s citizens by enhancing public safety, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development, and providing technical services to local governments.

NCFRPC Executive Director (Contact Information)

Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653
352.955.2200 (Extension 101)
352.955.2209 (Facsimile)

koons@ncfrpc.org (Email)
www.ncfrpc.org (Website)

NCFRPC Staff (Telephone Contact Information - 352.955.2200)

Scott Koons, AICP, Executive Director (Extension 101)
Dwayne L. Mundy, Public Safety and Regulatory Compliance Program Director (Extension 108)
Kevin D. Parish, Information Technology and Property Management Director (Extension 133)
Michael Escalante, AICP, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning (Extension 114)
Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner, Transportation Disadvantaged (Extension 110)
Sandra Joseph, Senior Planner, Local Government Comprehensive Planning (Extension 111)
Carmelita Franco, Planning Administrative Assistant, Local Government Comprehensive Planning (Extension 125)
Lauren Yeatter, AICP, Senior Planner, Economic Development and Regional Planning, Geographic Information Systems, and
Original Planning Florida (Extension 125)
Tara Tucker, Assistant to the Executive Director (Extension 100)

Alachua County Representation on NCFRPC

David Arreola, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
Patricia Bouie, Commissioner, City of Hawthorne
Charles Chestnut, IV, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Ken Cornell, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Louie Davis, Mayor, City of Waldo
Matt Hersom, Commissioner, City of Newberry
Fletcher Hope, Commissioner, City of Archer
Linda Jones, Vice Mayor, City of High Springs
Gigi Simmons, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
Helen Warren, Commissioner, City of Gainesville
Marihelen Wheeler, Commissioner, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Robert Wilford, Commissioner, City of Alachua
Kristina Wright, Non-Voting Delegate, City of High Springs

Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Mission Statement

Fosters regional strategies, solutions, and partnerships to support economic growth and improve quality of life; promotes a standard of excellence in the delivery of regional planning council programs and technical professional assistance and expertise; and, advocates for the role of regional planning councils as the state's primary organizations to address problems that are of greater-than-local concern.

There are ten (10) regional planning councils in Florida which serve the state's sixty-seven (67) counties. They are:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Number of Counties Served</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Headquarters</u>
West Florida Regional Planning Council (WFRPC)	7	1	Pensacola
Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC)	9	2	Tallahassee
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC)	12	3	Gainesville
Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council (NEFRPC)	7	4	Jacksonville
East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC)	8	5	Altamonte Springs
Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC)	5	6	Bartow
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)	6	7	Pinellas Park
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)	6	8	Fort Myers

Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC)	4	9	Stuart
South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC)	3	10	Hollywood

Membership on regional planning councils consists of one-third of the total representatives being gubernatorial appointees with the remainder being member local government appointees. Two-thirds of council representatives must be locally-elected officials. Regional councils provide a large variety of services to benefit its local governments in addition to coordinating regional planning and review activities. Services include: technical planning assistance, grant and loan planning assistance, transportation planning assistance, hazardous waste monitoring, emergency response planning assistance, and economic development activities.

COMMISSIONER WILFORD NCFRPC APPOINTMENTS (CURRENT AND PAST)

Vice Chair (Current)
Secretary/Treasurer (Past)
Executive Committee (Current)
Finance Committee (Chair - Past)
Program Committee (Chair - Current)
Regional Planning Committee (Past)
Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA - NCFRPC Delegate - Current)
North Central Florida Areawide Development Company (ADCO - NCFRPC Delegate - Current)

