

# EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2008

Commissioner Teresa Jacobs Presiding

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### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

#### **County Representatives**

Commissioner Chuck Nelson, Brevard County  
Commissioner Elaine Renick, Lake County  
Commissioner Teresa Jacobs, Orange County  
Commissioner Fred Brummer, Orange County  
Commissioner John Quinones, Osceola County  
Mr. Atlee Mercer, Osceola County  
Commissioner Mike McLean, Seminole County  
Councilwoman Joie Alexander, Volusia County  
Councilman Art Giles, Volusia County

#### **Municipal Representatives**

Commissioner Patty Sheehan, City of Orlando  
Mayor John Land, Tri-County League of Cities  
Commissioner Cheryl Grieb, City of  
Kissimmee  
Vice Mayor Mary Martin, Volusia County  
League of Cities

#### **Gubernatorial Appointees**

Mr. Malcolm McLouth, Brevard County  
Mr. Jon Rawlson, Orange County  
Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, Orange County

#### **Ex-Officio and Other Municipal Reps**

Ms. Vivian Garfein, FDEP  
Ms. Susan Sadighi, FDOT  
Ms. Nancy Christman, SJRWMD  
Mr. Frank Hickson, FDOT  
Mr. Larry Pearson for Mr. Genovese, SFWMD  
Mr. Russell Gibson, City of Sanford

#### **Other Attendees**

Gerald Livingston, ECFRPC Counsel  
Mr. Mike Byerly, GEC  
Mr. Chuck Hurst, Embarq

#### **ECFRPC Staff**

Mr. Phil Laurien  
Ms. Ruth Little  
Ms. Lelia Hars  
Ms. Kimberly Loewen  
Ms. Tara McCue  
Mr. Fred Milch  
Mr. Keith Smith  
Ms. Claudia Paskauskas  
Ms. Tuesdai Brunsonbyrd-Bowden

#### **Members not in Attendance**

Commissioner Helen Voltz, Volusia County  
Commissioner Welton Cadwell, Lake County  
Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide,  
Seminole County  
Mayor Rocky Randels, Space Coast League of  
Cities  
Mayor John Bush, Seminole County League  
of Cities  
Mr. Al Glover, Brevard County  
Ms. Aileen Cubillos, Seminole County  
Ms. Maryam Ghyabi, Volusia County

### **I. Call to Order and General Business**

Chair Teresa Jacobs called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ruth Little called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Giles made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner McLean and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED. Commissioner Renick

questioned the unanimous approval of the Green Print Methodology, Item II, page two of the February minutes. The Chair asked for a Motion to Reconsider the February Minutes already approved. Mr. McLouth made the Motion to Reconsider, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Martin and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED. In a discussion of the February Minutes, both Commissioner Renick and Commissioner Jacobs voted against approval of the Green Print Methodology, which is not reflected in the minutes. Mayor Land moved to postpone the approval of the February Minutes until the April meeting. The Motion to Postpone was seconded by Commissioner Brummer and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

**III. Upcoming DRIs – Mr. Fred Milch**

Mr. Milch presented a summary overview of DRI projects. There are 21 projects in process, five of which are in the pre-application stage. A chart is available which shows land areas, numbers of dwelling units, and amount of commercial space for each DRI.

**IV. Chair's Report – Chair, Commissioner Teresa Jacobs**

After a brief review of the Interlocal Agreement among Florida's Planning Councils and the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA), Mr. McLouth made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement. The Motion was seconded and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

Commissioner Jacobs reported that the Executive Committee has recommended forming a search committee to identify potential office space. Mr. Laurien added that, after 45 years of leasing space, this could be a good time for the Council to buy or build. Mr. McLouth, Mr. Rawlson, Mr. Mercer, Vice Mayor Martin, Commissioner McLean and Commissioner Grieb volunteered to serve on an office space search committee.

**V. CFGIS Action Plan (DTS Contract) Update – Claudia Paskauskas**

Ms. Paskauskas gave a presentation on the Central Florida GIS Action Plan. She gave a demonstration of the new website and some of the new tools available. Compared with the existing website, information is easier to find and better technology and tools are available. Mr. Laurien reviewed the funding history of CFGIS and explained the current need to form a non-profit organization to host the annual CFGIS workshop.

**VI. Executive Director's Report – Phil Laurien**

Mr. Laurien explained that the Budget Amendment listed on the agenda will be covered next month after more information is available. He informed the Council that the RPC is working with Volusia County on a model conservation development code and we are currently waiting for feedback from the County after the submission of a first draft.

Mr. Laurien reported next on the plan for a Water Summit between members of the ECFRPC, the Northeast Florida Planning Council (NEFPC) and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), tentatively scheduled for April 18. He said that a water war is brewing, and the two planning councils can provide leadership in this important issue.

Senate Bill 1688 regarding limestone mining was Mr. Laurien's final topic. The Bill will make it difficult to prohibit limestone mining, which is a strategic mineral for the state. Zoning and comprehensive plans can prevent mining, but the State's automatic right of appeal can overturn those decisions. Mr. Laurien advised Council Members to inform themselves on this legislation.

**VII. Wekiva River Basin Commission Update – Kimberly Loewen**

Ms. Loewen reviewed the highlights of the 2007 Wekiva Annual Report which is filed each year with the Governor. The report is available on the ECFRPC Web site. The next Wekiva River Basin Commission meeting will be scheduled for June or July 2008. Mayor Land requested more information on funding and acquisition details.

**VIII. SRPP Public Kickoff Meeting– Kimberly Loewen**

Ms. Loewen reported on the Public Kickoff Meeting of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) on Monday, March 17. While we would like to see more involvement, the public attendance was good and positive feedback was received. It was agreed that the meeting established positive momentum for the process of updating the SRPP.

**IX. Announcements**

Mr. Laurien noted that the Greenways and Trails quarterly newsletter, *A Greener Outlook*, is included in this month's agenda packet.

Mr. Laurien asked for the Council's input on how to respond to a recent request from the state to comment on NASA's proposed commercial vehicle launch complex. Ms. Loewen gave a presentation showing maps of the two proposed location sites. After a lengthy discussion of environmental impacts and economic implications of the project, a Motion was proposed and modified and eventually finalized as follows: The ECFRPC recognizes the economic development value of the proposed commercial vehicle launch complex, and supports locating the project on the site that is least environmentally sensitive and which best utilizes the existing infrastructure. **THE MOTION WAS SECONDED AND PASSED** with Commissioner Brummer and Mr. McLouth voting in the negative.

**X. Comments**

Commissioner Jacobs provided an opportunity for Council members and members of the public to bring up events, issues or other items of interest. Commissioner Grieb said the City of Kissimmee is observing its 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday with celebrations on Saturday, March 25. Mr. Mercer invited everyone to an art festival in Celebration on April 5 and 6. Vice Mayor Martin invited everyone to attend Port Orange's Kids Days this weekend.

Commissioner Nelson thanked Mr. Laurien for his work with Brevard County and getting staff interested in the Green Print Map. Commissioner McLean thanked Mr. Laurien for taking the lead on the water summit and expressed his hope that the NEFRC will come into the summit with attitude of conservation and cooperation.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00.