

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

DATE: January 21, 2010
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council
1241 S. W. 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-0323

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Joe Meek, Citrus County Commissioner
Bill Murray, Citrus County Governor's Appointee
Joe Johnston, III, Hernando County Municipal Representative
James Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Rose Rocco, Hernando County Commissioner
Pat O'Neal, Levy County Municipal Representative
Fred Ward, Marion County Municipal Representative
Barbara Fitos, Marion County Commissioner
Ed Kelly, Marion County Governor's Appointee
Ronald Allen, Sumter County Municipal Representative
Garry Breeden, Sumter County Commissioner
Ed Nowe, Sumter County Governor's Appointee

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Maureen McNiff, Municipal Representative
Richard Wesch, Citrus County Governor's Appointee
John Druzbeck, Hernando County Commissioner
Buddy "Walter" Selph, Hernando County Governor's Appointee
Nancy Bell, Levy County Commissioner
Danny Stevens, Levy County Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner
Charlie Stone, Marion County Commissioner
Ed Abshier, Governor's Appointee
Martha Hanson, Marion County Governor's Appointee
Mary Sue Rich, City of Ocala Municipal Representative
Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner
Glenn Horvath, Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member representing SRWMD
Deborah Getzoff, Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member representing DEP

Randy Welker, Non-Voting Ex-Officio Member representing DOC

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ken Hinkle, Citrus County
Fred Landt, WRPC Attorney
Peter Rocco, Hernando County
Julie Poole, Duggan, Joiner & Co.
Philip Bledsoe, Duggan, Joiner & Co.

STAFF PRESENT:

Michael R. Moehlman, Executive Director
Glenda J. Roberts, Office Manager/Board Secretary
David Connolly, Senior Planner

AGENDA ITEM #1 - CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 - INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was given and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

AGENDA ITEM #3 - WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Allen welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that they introduce themselves.

AGENDA ITEM #4 - ROLL CALL

Ms. Roberts called the roll and a quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #5 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Moehlman stated that he needed to add item 7D. Levy County Hurricane Exercise to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston and seconded by Ms. Rocco to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO ADOPT
AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM #6 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2009 Board of Directors Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM #7 - REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Annual WRPC Audit - Duggan, Joiner & Company

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Nowe to accept the audit. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AUDIT

Mr. Kelly commented that it was an excellent audit.

B. Florida Redevelopment Association

David Connolly gave a presentation on the Florida Redevelopment Association. He noted that he is a regional representative and was appointed in October. Mr. Connolly stated that the WRPC is active with the regional FRA through our Economic Development District. It is a forum to respond to redevelopment issues, to look at CRAs and anticipates meeting quarterly. He noted that the group toured downtown Ocala at their recent meeting. Mr. Connolly stated that there is a regional FRA district in each planning district. He added that the Regional FRA has been included in the CEDS as the first program. The next meeting of the Regional FRA will be in April and meetings move around the region. Ms. Fitos wanted to know examples of tangible benefits to Ocala or Dunnellon, especially enterprise zones. Mr. Connolly noted that local governments can adopt their redevelopment plans in their comp plans by reference and can help with multi-objective planning. Mr. Damato asked for some information on mixed use. Also, the Regional FRA could serve as a resource for cooperative technical assistance. For example, small and large cities may apply for funds under the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program.

C. Discussion of Hometown Democracy

Mr. Moehlman stated that his personal opinion is that hometown democracy won't pass. He doesn't think the growth issue is as important as it was a few years ago. Mr.

Moehlman noted that some of the regional councils are working on developing resolutions of opposition against hometown democracy. He wanted to know what direction the Board wanted to go regarding a resolution for or opposition to hometown democracy. Mr. Damato felt the growth issue has slowed down quite a bit and Citrus County isn't seeing a lot of growth related projects. Mr. Ward said Dunnellon hasn't seen growth since about 2008. Ms. Fitos said she would go back and look up the legislative agenda regarding the Florida Association of Counties. She noted that most are leaning toward opposition of hometown democracy. Ms. Fitos stated that the sunset of DCA is also linked to this. She said education forum will be critical. Ms. Fitos reported that the voters of St. Pete Beach approved a recommendation of land use changes. The folks that are pushing hometown democracy sued St. Pete Beach for approving those land use changes. Ms. Fitos noted that St. Pete Beach has spent plenty of money defending what the voters did. Not only will it stop the growth that you feel isn't necessary, but it will stop all growth. She said it is a very complex issue and people need to be educated first in order to understand what it means. Mr. Ward asked that the Board members receive pros and cons about hometown democracy. Ms. Rocco commented that we already have a government entity in place to do these things, and if you don't want them vote them out of office. Mr. Murray commented that locally you would come to a stand still. He added that the Florida School Board Association discussed the issue and is opposed to hometown democracy. Mr. Allen commented that Ron Book mentioned education is the front runner. Mr. Book said don't throw out hometown democracy but be very careful. Mr. Damato said he is opposed to Amendment #4. He said this is a ploy for anti-growth and its costly. He felt we need to thoroughly debate the issue and we need to be against it. Mr. Allen stated that he serves on the Florida League of Cities and they are against hometown democracy. He asked Mr. Landt if he could draft a resolution for the Board. Mr. Landt said he would get with Mr. Moehlman. Ms. Fitos suggested Mr. Allen bring information that he has from Florida League of Cities, Mr. Murray could bring information from the school board and she would do the same. She said the Chamber has already taken a position as well and all of those agencies could be listed in the resolution. Mr. Adkins commented that if hometown democracy takes place they can't help the unemployed. Ms. Rocco felt our economic conditions would be bad. Mr. Ward felt it would be a good idea to include the agencies that Ms. Fitos suggested in the resolution. There was a general consensus of the Board to move forward with a resolution against hometown democracy.

D. Levy County Hurricane Exercise

Mr. Moehlman indicated that Levy County is wanting to contract with us for preparation of a hurricane exercise. The exercise will be conducted by EREC, Inc. and the contract amount will be, EREC \$15,389 + WRPC \$1,156 = \$16,545.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston and seconded by Mr. Kelly to authorize the Executive Director or the Chairman to sign the necessary contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #8 - CITIZEN'S INPUT

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9 - CHAIR'S REPORT

The next meeting of the WRPC Board of Directors was announced for Thursday, February 18, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the WRPC office in Ocala.

Mr. Allen thanked the Board for reappointing him as Chair at our Annual meeting. He was unable to attend because of another commitment. Mr. Allen reported on the recent FRCA Policy Board meeting that he attended. He added that Ron Book, our FRCA lobbyist said people need to be educated prior to the election this year.

AGENDA ITEM #10 - DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Moehlman presented Mr. Allen with a plaque in recognition of him serving as Chairman for the last year. He mentioned the Annual Report is now posted on the WRPC website (wrpc.cc).

Mr. Moehlman mentioned that he is 99% sure we will not have a February meeting and we will meet in March.

Mr. Murray mentioned the class size amendment is also a problem. Mr. Webb said TABOR is the same kind of problem.

AGENDA ITEM #11 - OTHER BUSINESS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #13 - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by the Chair, Mr. Ronald Allen.

Ronald B. Allen

MOTION TO
AUTHORIZE EXEC.
DIR. OR CHAIR TO
SIGN CONTRACTS
FOR LEVY CO.
HURRICANE
EXERCISE