

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

DATE: March 18, 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
Richard Wesch, 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
Ed Abshier, Marion County Governor's Appointee
Martha Hanson, Marion County Governor's Appointee
Ed Kelly, Marion County Governor's Appointee
Ronald Allen, Sumter County Municipal Representative
Garry Breeden, Sumter County Commissioner
Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Maureen McNiff, Municipal Representative
John Druzbeck, Hernando County Commissioner
Buddy "Walter" Selph, Hernando County Governor's Appointee
Nancy Bell, Levy County Commissioner
Danny Stevens, Levy County Commissioner
Fred Ward, Marion County Municipal Representative
Barbara Fitos, Marion County Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner
Charlie Stone, Marion County Commissioner
Mary Sue Rich, City of Ocala Municipal Representative
Ed Nowe, Sumter County Governor's Appointee
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:

Fred Landt, WRPC Attorney
Peter Rocco, Hernando County
Chuck Dixon, Citrus County Schools

STAFF PRESENT:

Michael R. Moehlman, Executive Director
Glenda J. Roberts, Office Manager/Board Secretary
Bruce Day, Planning Director
Lauren Yeatter, Planner I

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 majority quorum was present. A majority quorum is required for consideration of the dues rate.

AGENDA ITEM #5 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. O'Neal to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO ADOPT
AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM #6 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21, 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mr. Johnston pointed out that a correction needed to be made. He was listed as a Governor Appointee, but is a Municipal Representative.

A motion was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Rocco to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2010, Board of Directors Meeting with the correction. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM #7 - REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Dues Rate

Mr. Moehlman noted that the WRPC dues rate has been at \$.40 per capita since 1996/97. The 2009 population changes indicate a 5-county population of 774,097. At a dues rate of \$.40 per capita, WRPC would receive \$309,639 in total dues contribution from our five counties. Mr. Moehlman stated that in the past we have been able to give a rebate to the counties and he would try to do that again this year if possible. He recommended Board approval of the dues rate.

A motion was made by Ms. Rocco and seconded by Mr. Murray for approval of the \$.40 per capita dues rate for fiscal year 2010/2011. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF \$.40 PER CAPITA DUES RATE

B. Update on EVAC Study

Bruce Day, Planning Director and Lauren Yeatter, Planner I, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the update of the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study for the Withlacoochee Region.

C. Hometown Democracy Resolution

Mr. Allen stated that he was able to get a copy of a resolution from the Florida League of Cities as well as from the City of Wildwood for staff to use in preparation of the hometown democracy resolution.

Mr. Johnston noted two changes that needed to be made to the resolution. He felt “providing for severability” should be removed from the heading of the resolution, because it was not mentioned in the body of the resolution. The second change was to include the word “it” in the last paragraph that “WHEREAS” was used.

Mr. Damato commented that he likes the resolution because it addresses the public sector. Mr. Webb commented that he has a problem with the county taking a position, because if the county takes a position they can’t use public funds to educate the public

on the issue. He asked Mr. Landt if that was true. Mr. Landt said it was his understanding that you are not supposed to spend public money if you are taking a position. He stated that he wouldn't want to give an opinion without looking into it further. Mr. Landt did suggest if the resolution is unanimously passed that it states in the resolution that it was unanimous. Mr. Webb wanted Mr. Landt to do the research to find out if we could educate both sides if we don't take a position. Mr. Allen commented that the elected officials' hands are tied and the public needs to be educated. He gave an example of downsizing class sizes with no money to complete it and now they have to come back and deal with it again and spend more money. Mr. Allen asked Mr. Landt to write a letter/opinion and get it to Mr. Moehlman to send out to the Board ASAP. Mr. Moehlman said he didn't think hometown democracy would pass. Mr. Webb commented that he is concerned that when an amendment comes up people don't educate themselves so what is going to make them educate themselves on comprehensive plans if hometown democracy passes. Ms. Rocco felt it was important to get the information out to the general public because the bill could pass. Mr. Damato said there is an excellent article in this month's Florida Trend on this issue. He felt it shows the danger of legislating by amendment. Mr. Breeden felt it might be wise to table the resolution until the Board has more information. Mr. Johnston said we could pass the resolution and then educate. Mr. Landt clarified that the question he was being asked to answer is if you don't take a position, then can you go out and do general education equal handedly on both sides of the issue. Ms. Rocco didn't feel we should take a position at this time until the Board has more information. Mr. Landt was asked to render an opinion.

A motion was made by Ms. Rocco and seconded by Mr. Webb to table the Hometown Democracy Resolution until the next regular meeting.

Mr. Damato asked if Mr. Landt prepared the resolution. Mr. Landt answered no. Mr. Damato felt Mr. Landt should look at the resolution and make any recommendations necessary. Ms. Rocco and Mr. Webb agreed that Mr. Landt's review of the resolution be included in the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE
HOMETOWN
DEMOCRACY
RESOLUTION

Motion carried unanimously.

D. LEPC Training Courses

The District 5 LEPC Committee has approved sponsorship of the following training courses to be paid for out of HMEP funds. All courses will be taught by Emergency Response Educators & Consultants (EREC).

- 24-hour “Hazardous Materials Incident Commander” Course at a cost of \$8,233, to be held in Lecanto at a date to be determined.
- 40-hour HazMedic “Emergency Medical Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents” Course at a cost of \$12,340 to be held in Brooksville at a date to be determined.
- Two 4-hour Operations Level Refresher Courses at a total cost of \$3,935 to be held in Bronson on April 14, and 15.

Total cost of classes \$24,508.

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Johnston to approve the LEPC training courses as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Service for Levy County

Mr. Moehlman stated that Levy County wishes to contract with the WRPC for creation of the Levy County Logistics Plan. The WRPC will sub-contract with EREC on this project. Cost of the work is \$17,800.

MOTION TO APPROVE LEPC TRAINING COURSES

A motion was made by Mr. Damato and seconded by Mr. Johnston for approval of the Chair or the Executive Director to execute the necessary contracts for preparation of the Levy County Logistics Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #8 - CITIZENS’ INPUT

None.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL ON PREPARATION OF LEVY COUNTY LOGISTICS PLAN

AGENDA ITEM #9 - CHAIR’S REPORT

The next meeting of the WRPC Board of Directors was announced for Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the WRPC office in Ocala.

AGENDA ITEM #10 - DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Moehlman mentioned that he attended the Florida Regional Councils Association meeting last Thursday and Friday in Tallahassee. He felt confident that our state funding will be okay this year and that very little growth management will come out this year’s legislative session. He provided copies of proposed bills for the members information.

AGENDA ITEM #11 - OTHER BUSINESS

Bruce Day announced that Quarry Preserve DRI will be presented at next month's Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #12 - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. by the Chair, Mr. Ronald Allen.

Ronald B. Allen