

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

January 3, 2011

The South Florida Regional Planning Council met this date at the Council Offices, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida. The Vice-Chair, Councilmember Gunzburger, called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM ONE: Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA ITEM TWO: Roll Call

Councilmember Patricia Asseff
Councilmember Michael Blynn
Councilmember Heather Carruthers
Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger
Councilmember Jose Riesco
Councilmember Paul Wallace
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

The following Ex-Officio members were present:

Mr. Gary Donn, representing the Florida Department of Transportation
Mr. Tim Gray on behalf of Kevin Claridge, representing the Department of Environmental Protection

The following Council Members and Ex-Officio Members arrived after roll call:

Councilmember Bruno Barreiro
Councilmember Stacy Ritter
Mr. Norman Taylor, representing the Broward County Office of Economic Development

Mr. Samuel S. Goren, Legal Counsel, stated that the Council Meeting would be conducted as an expanded Executive Committee due to lack of a quorum, and all members present could participate.

Councilmember Ritter arrived at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM THREE: Minutes of previous Meetings (December)

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Minutes from the December meeting. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FOUR: Project Reviews

a) Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Riesco seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM FIVE: Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Program

a) DRI Assessment Reports

None

b) Development Orders (DO)

None

c) DRI Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SIX: Proposed Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

- a) Proposed Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Updates Amendments - None
- b) City of Marathon
- c) City of Parkland
- d) City of Doral

Councilmember Carruthers moved to approve the staff recommendation for items 6b, 6c and 6d. Councilmember Blynn seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN: Adopted Local Government Comprehensive Plan/Amendment Reviews

- a) Adopted Public Education Facilities Element (PEFE)/Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Amendments
 - City of Aventura
 - Broward County
 - City of Plantation
 - City of West Park
- b) Miami-Dade County
- c) Islamorada, Village of Islands

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the staff recommendation for items 7a, 7b, and 7c. Councilmember Asseff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT: Reports

a) Executive Committee Report

Vice-Chair Gunzburger informed the Council that Chair Scuotto was unable to attend because he needed to attend a funeral. The Executive Committee discussed the Transition Team's recommendations from the Governor-Elect and decided to take a wait and see position, because what the Transition Team may suggest and what gets approved by the Legislature may be two very different things. It would be wiser to wait to see what happens during Committee Weeks and then decide what action to take.

Mr. B. Jack Osterholt, Interim Executive Director, stated that the Council was being provided with a copy of one of the two Transition Reports; this is the one that deals with the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) most directly. It is the Report that the Governor receives. Historically these Reports are put together by people, some of whom are in government and some are not. The Report is presented to the Governor's Chief of Staff. This is a big think item, but there is no need for concern at this point, because no bills have been filed.

b) Financial Report (November)

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the Financial Report for November. Councilmember Blynn seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

c) Interim Executive Director's Report

1) Current Conditions Report

Mr. Osterholt stated that this was a look at the Council's revenue analysis. He stated that he takes a very conservative view on this stuff so he did not put anything in the secured column that he did not feel was secure. It turns out that we are \$251,000 away from Heaven; that is not anything that needs to be of concern, but we will be watching it very closely. The Council will be getting updates on this as we go along. I am happy to report, he stated, that we are going to receive the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant money. The awkward part of this is that these analyses are done on gross not net and I hope to change that in the near future. That does not change the number at the bottom. Mr. Osterholt stated that he would provide the Council a detailed analysis of expenses at the February meeting. It is important that the Council understand where the money goes and the contracts that the Council is under for this building. After we talk about expenses, we will talk about staffing.

Councilmember Walters stated that she was very pleased to see this and felt that it was a very good analysis.

Councilmember Barreiro arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Taylor arrived at the meeting.

2) Planning in Florida Talking Points

Vice-Chair Gunzburger stated that the talking points were great, and thanked staff. She recommended that all of the Council Members save this for reference when talking to the legislators.

Mr. Goren stated that there was now a quorum present and the remainder of the meeting could be conducted as a full Council Meeting. He added that all the motions made at the November and December meetings as well as the motions made this morning would all need to be ratified by the full Council.

Councilmember Walters moved to ratify all of the motions made by the Executive Committee at the November and December meetings as well as the motions made at the beginning of this meeting. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

d) Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren informed the Council that a payment status for the Wilma loans has been included in the backup, as well as the status reports for the other loan programs. Council Officers will be asked to stay after the meeting adjourns in order to sign bank cards.

e) Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) Status Report

Information only.

AGENDA ITEM NINE: Revolving Loan Funds

a) SFRPC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report

Information only

b) Hurricane Wilma Bridge Loan Status Report

Information only

c) Eastward Ho! Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Information only

d) Broward County Cultural Division Artist Micro-Credit Revolving Loan Fund Status Report

Information only

AGENDA ITEM TEN: Contracts

a) Contract between SFRPC and Osterholt Consulting, Inc.

Mr. Goren stated that the following were a couple of items that would be corrected: paragraph 2.3 will be changed to require that Mr. Osterholt submit invoices for payment seven days in advance, and paragraph 4.0 will no longer include the sentence "Osterholt Consulting, Inc. agrees that it is a separate and independent enterprise from the SFRPC, that it has full opportunity to find other business, that it has made its own investment in its business, and that it will utilize a high level of skill necessary to perform the work". The financial portions are compatible to that which was agreed upon by the Executive Committee. This is essentially a seven month, plus, contract dependent on when the Legislature finishes its work in 2011. The contract can be extended if the Council sees fit at the end of the seven month period.

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve the contract with Osterholt Consulting, Inc. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion.

Councilmember Wallace asked about clarification of the handling of personnel issues.

Mr. Goren stated that the issue was clarified in paragraph 2.4.

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN: Highlights of Council Activities

Information only

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE: Special Projects

a) Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program - Update

None

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN: Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP)

None

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN: Regional Initiatives with Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

None

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN: Other Matters for Consideration

a) Election of Officers - 2011

Mr. Goren reported that the following were the nominations made by the Nominating Committee at the December meeting:

Chair:	Councilmember Suzanne Gunzburger
Vice-Chair:	Councilmember Heather Carruthers
Treasurer:	Councilmember Paul Wallace
Secretary:	Councilmember Rebeca Sosa
Immediate Past Chair:	Councilmember Joseph Scuotto

Mr. Goren informed the Council that Councilmember Sosa agreed to accept the position of Secretary.

Councilmember Asseff moved to approve the slate of Officers for 2011. Councilmember Ritter seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Wallace stated that Councilmember Walters has been very active in outreach to the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA), and he suggested that she continue in that capacity.

Vice-Chair Gunzburger stated that she would be very pleased to have Councilmember Walters remain in her capacity as an SFRPC representative to FRCA.

Councilmember Walters agreed that she would.

b) Draft Agency Report for the Turkey Point Power Plant Expansion

Mr. Richard Ogburn, Council staff, informed the Council that the Draft Agency Report was prepared for their review and comment. This is one of two Agency Reports to be submitted by the SFRPC as part of

the review of the Turkey Point Expansion project. This Report refers to the transmission portion of the project; the plant itself is under a different part of a combined review process that is being coordinated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Mr. Ogburn explained that at the conclusion of the period of information collection by all of the participating agencies, this goes through a series of rounds of sufficiency and at this point the final decisions with regard to sufficiency have been made so now DEP is receiving Reports from those agencies. Staff would like the Council to discuss the Report that was provided.

Councilmember Wallace stated that he wanted to revisit where the Council was on this issue. He stated that he wanted to discuss the issue of the power lines running along U.S. 1 in Miami-Dade County and through various municipalities. It has been my understanding, he stated, that FPL had begun a discussion scenario where they have said that they would be willing to push very hard to determine whether or not those lines can be put in the most discreet impact system available, priority being the possibility of attaching the lines to the Metrorail structure. If it becomes technically possible, even though it is more costly than over-heading the lines, it is far less costly than digging a tunnel and is better for aesthetic purposes. FPL has said that they would push for this option if it were deemed technically possible. He asked if this discussion had filtered up and was a corporate position.

Mr. Daniel Hronec, Project Manager for the Turkey Point Transition and Substation Project for FPL, stated that they have worked with Miami-Dade County Transit and have done their own analysis on the feasibility of an attachment to the Metrorail structure. That concept as well as undergrounding the transmission lines came with the caveat that the incremental cost would have to be born by the parties that request it. We have retained a consultant to help us prepare a feasibility study for attachment to the Metrorail structure, and we have submitted the preliminary report to Miami-Dade Transit for their review and comments. Mr. Hronec stated that FPL has done some preliminary estimates of cost and feasibility of where it can take place. The estimated costs are a little less than underground construction, but still significantly higher than overhead lines. A couple of points that we are still working through, one is the A/C interference mitigation; we have still not been able to get a conclusion on the mitigation that would be required for A/C interference. The cost element of that is still being worked through. Another issue still being worked out is the location of the transition from overhead to attachment or overhead to underground, these issues also dictate cost. In summary, we submitted a report to Miami-Dade Transit right before Thanksgiving showing them where FPL stands as far as review of feasibility and constructability of this technology and are waiting for feedback from them.

Councilmember Wallace stated that there are several people who don't want the lines along this route, but if they are going to go there then if we can get it to a position where it is at least somewhat acceptable then it would be up to the communities to decide if they want to pay for it; but we can at least get it down to the least objectionable options.

Councilmember Barreiro stated that all cables should be underground. We live in a storm-prone area. It behooves this community and the power company to underground everything. On this particular issue I am definitely interested, he stated; I am going to ask our department about the report. He asked if the higher cost of running the lines attached to Metrorail was because of extra requirements like conduit, etc.

Mr. Hronec stated that the lines, if attached to Metrorail, would have to be encased in a fiberglass, shielded conduit.

Councilmember Barreiro stated that this is why people are mad at government. Here we are trying to improve things, but by attaching these high power lines to a structure that already houses a cable that is super high-voltage we are engineering our way out of this option. In order to protect the current

structure, this cable has to be shielded, which makes this cost prohibitive. Where there is a will there is a way and things can be designed that are cost-effective and utilize infrastructure that is already in place, making this a win-win situation for the community. This is what we need to focus on.

Councilmember Asseff stated that she too feels that the lines should be underground. She stated that she wondered why there wasn't a program in place to assist in covering the costs of undergrounding lines. If FPL were to foot the cost of this, everyone receiving electricity would be paying for it, without the benefit of the underground lines. If you put up another line, it will be obsolete in 10 years, when you could be spending a few more dollars and really be doing a great thing for the county and surrounding cities.

Vice-Chair Gunzburger asked if FPL did a cost-benefit analysis, assuming that over the next 10 years there could potentially be a storm, taking into account the cost of storm repair of overhead lines versus running the lines underground in the first place. Storms do cost FPL money in repairs and contractors brought in from out-of-state. Just looking at the up-front cost is very short-sighted for a utility company.

Councilmember Carruthers stated that the analysis should also include the revenue lost when the service is not provided.

Councilmember Wallace stated that it was legally impossible for FPL to pass the costs on to customers, but I don't excuse that as a reason not to underground. He suggested that the Council look into that and maybe have someone confirm this officially. Maybe the Council could start the ball rolling to inform our legislative delegation to change the legislation so that the cost of these improvements is passed on to all customers pro-rata.

Vice-Chair Gunzburger suggested that maybe a percentage of FPL's profits could be set aside for capital improvements.

Councilmember Asseff suggested bringing this up to the legislature with the suggestion to create a dedicated funding source for such a situation.

Councilmember Carruthers stated that one comment made in the Transition Team Report was to invest in Florida's infrastructure and also improve quality of life. It seems to me that this is an opportunity to start some sort of long-term capital funding for undergrounding all of our utilities.

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN: Correspondence and Attendance Form

Information only

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN: Councilmember Comments/Public Comments

None

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN: Upcoming Meetings

- a) February 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- b) March 7th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- c) April 4th, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)
- d) May 2nd, 10:30 a.m. (Council Offices, Hollywood)

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN: Adjournment

The meeting of the Executive Committee was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the January 3, 2011 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL adopted the 7th day of February 2011.

Rebeca Sosa, Secretary

Date