



**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**April 6, 2023**

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MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council's Executive Committee, pursuant to Chapter 120.525, F.S., held a hybrid meeting both in-person and virtually via Zoom, on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:58 a.m.

**President DeFoor** called the meeting to order with the following members present, representing a quorum:

BAKER        Mr. Register (In Person)  
CLAY         Commissioner Condon (In Person)  
DUVAL        Councilmember DeFoor (In Person)  
                 Councilmember Morgan (In Person)  
FLAGLER     Commissioner Sullivan (In Person)  
PUTNAM      Commissioner Harvey (In Person)  
ST. JOHNS    Commissioner Whitehurst (In Person)  
Also Present   Mr. Conkey, SJRWMD (In Person)

Excused:      Commissioner Martin

Guests:        Ashley Cook (Senator Rubio's Ofc), Jeannie Rickman (Congresswoman Kat Cammack's Ofc – via zoom), Eric Summa (zoom), and John Nooney

Staff Present: Eric Anderson, Matamron Bacon, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Donna Starling, Leigh Wilsey, Sheron Forde, et al.

INVITATION TO SPEAK

**President DeFoor** stated that members of the public are welcome to speak on any item before the Board.

Mr. John Nooney, 8356 Bascom Road, Jacksonville, FL 32216(address), spoke in support of the Council's resiliency efforts and the City of Jacksonville's Waterways.

\*CONSENT AGENDA

**President DeFoor** asked if anyone would like to pull any item on the consent agenda for discussion. Hearing none, she **called for a motion on the consent agenda. Mr. Register motioned to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Commissioner Harvey. Motion carried.**

OTHER REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

\*January 2023 Financial Report

Ms. Starling provided the financial report for the month of January 2023 reflecting a net income of \$8,081 and a year-to-date net income of \$29,526.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on the January 2023 Financial Report. Commissioner Harvey moved approval of the January 2023 Financial Report; seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Motion carried.**

\*February 2023 Financial Report

Ms. Starling provided the financial report for the month of February 2023 reflecting a net income of \$15,185 and a year-to-date net income of \$44,710.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on the February 2023 Financial Report. Commissioner Harvey moved approval of the February 2023 Financial Report; seconded by Mr. Register. Motion carried.**

\*Healthcare Coalition Request For Bid

Ms. Wilsey stated that due to a contract amendment allocating additional funding, the Coalition solicited bids for pediatric restraint devices for Emergency Medical Services. She provided an overview of what the devices do and why there is a need. She stated that staff received two responses: FERNO and DiaMedical. Based on staff's review, FERNO was ranked highest with DiaMedical coming in second. Per the contract, the funds must be expended by the end of June; therefore, staff request the Committee's approval to purchase the pediatric restraint devices from FERNO. However, should FERNO be unable to fulfill the entire order by the deadline, staff requested to purchase the additional equipment from DiaMedical. Discussion followed.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on the Request for Bid. Commissioner Harvey moved approval for staff to purchase the pediatric restraints from FERNO. However, if FERNO is unable to complete the entire order by the deadline, staff is authorized to purchase the remaining restraints from DiaMedical; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried.**

\*MIRR Discussion

Ms. Ilami provided an overview of the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR), a program to analyze and implement actions necessary to foster, protect, and enhance military installation resilience and sustainability. The Northeast MIRR program could potentially include Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport, Whitehouse Navy Outlying Field, Marine Corp Support Facility on Blount Island and Camp Blanding. This program is focused on the communities outside the installation's fence line. Ms. Ilami shared some of the activities surrounding the pre-application period, the application due date, the project period and costs associated with the MIRR. She stated that staff is seeking the Members' approval to proceed and authorization to provide up to ten percent match if needed. Discussion followed.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on the Military Installation Resilience Review. Councilmember Morgan moved approval of staff proceeding with the determination & findings, application, and provision of up to ten percent match for the MIRR; seconded by Commissioner Condon. Motion carried.**

\*Transportation Disadvantaged LCB Membership

Mr. Bacon presented the list of the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) members for each of the seven counties for the Members review and approval consideration. He stated that the Regional Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for the seven Transportation Disadvantaged LCBs in our region. As such, it is the responsibility of the Regional Council to approve the members of the LCBs. Upon approval, it will then be provided to the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission. Discussion followed.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Membership. Mr. Register moved approval of Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordination Board memberships for Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties; seconded by Commissioner Sullivan. Motion carried.**

\*Resolution 2023-02: Water Conservation Month

Ms. Payne presented the proposed resolution recognizing the Month of April as Water Conservation Month. The resolution was read into the record and is attached.

**President DeFoor called for a motion on Resolution 2023-02. Commissioner Condon moved approval of Resolution 2023-02; seconded by Councilmember Morgan. Motion carried.**

Mr. Conkey thanked everyone for their support of, and for, the Water Conservation Month resolution.

*President DeFoor and Councilmember Morgan left the meeting.*

First Vice President, Commissioner Whitehurst, chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Regional Leadership Academy Update

Mr. Nolen provided an overview of the Regional Leadership Academy's March program entitled: Flourishing Environment & Revival. Highlights of their visit to Flagler County, with a tour of Princess Place Estate, was provided. The class received several presentations on topics such as Palm Coast Development and Floodplains; Emergency Preparedness and Community Preparedness; and Taking Advantage of our Natural Environment. The next program is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> at Nassau County's American Beach and Trader Hills Farm.

Workplan Update: Regional Ecotourism & Trails

Mr. Anderson provided an update on the Ecotourism & Trails Workplan and highlighted the scope of work; steering committee members, meeting agenda, project schedule, and trends & economic impact data; outdoor participation trends; Florida trends and economic data; revenue related to outdoor recreation, based on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; and current data gaps. Staff has begun collecting geographic information systems (GIS) data layers from various organizations such as North Florida Transportation Planning Organization and the Florida Trail; and are working with the East Central Regional Planning Council regarding GIS mapping. He stated that staff will begin the inventory of existing programs and studies, i.e., Florida's State Forest Trailwalker Program. Staff will also follow up on any legislation and/or funding that may come out of the current Legislative Session. The next Steering Committee is scheduled for mid-

May; therefore, the next update will be at the June meeting. Discussion followed.

Public Comment

None.

Local and Regional Discussions

**Flagler County** – The Army Corp program to refurbish the beach in City of Flagler Beach is now ready to move forward. This effort began four years ago at an estimated cost of \$17 million, and now will cost an estimated \$37 million.

**St. Johns County** – The County voted to provide a letter of support to Senate President Passidomo and Speaker Renner for Senate Bill 264 and it's House Bill 1355; a prohibition on a foreign government purchasing agricultural land in the State of Florida. Discussion followed.

CEO Report

Ms. Payne introduced new staff members: Regional Planner - Ms. Paige DeBold, Communications Specialist - Mr. David Chudzik, and Resiliency Intern - Ms. Payton Jamieson. She informed the Members of a staffing change; Mr. Anderson is now the Council's Deputy CEO as well as the Emergency Preparedness Manager.

Ms. Payne informed the Members that she has been meeting with many of the new Commissioners in the Region. She reminded the Members of staff attendance at each County Commission meeting. Staff will be conducting the Baker County Opioid SWOT shortly.

Staff is working with the City of Jacksonville on pursuing an Environmental Protection Agency grant: Climate Pollution Reduction grants program, non-competitive funds that is being offered the metropolitan statistical area centered around Jacksonville and includes many of our counties.

Members were reminded that Financial Disclosure is upcoming.

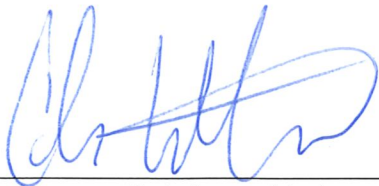
**Chair Whitehurst** recognized Ms. Ashley Cook from Senator Rubio's office in attendance. Ms. Cook encouraged the Members to feel free to contact her for assistance with anything on the Federal level.

Next Meeting Date

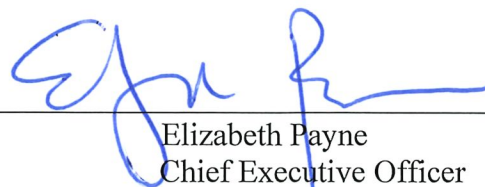
The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 3, 2023.

Adjournment

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Whitehurst** adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.



Christian Whitehurst  
President



Elizabeth Payne  
Chief Executive Officer