

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes

July 11, 2016

The South Florida Regional Council met on this date at its corporate office at 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, FL 33021. Chair Asseff called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. Chair Asseff asked for a moment of silence for our country, the events that have recently occurred, and the families involved. Councilmember Goldberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chair Patricia Asseff
Councilmember Mario J. Bailey (via phone)
Councilmember Margaret Bates (absent)
Councilmember Mark Bogen (absent)
Councilmember Frank Caplan
Councilmember Daniella Levine Cava (via phone)
Councilmember Tim Daubert
Councilmember Beam Furr (absent)
Councilmember Cary Goldberg
Councilmember Nelson Hernandez (absent)
Councilmember Martin Kiar (via phone)
Councilmember George Neugent (absent)
Councilmember David Rice (absent)
Councilmember Greg Ross
Councilmember Xavier Suarez
Councilmember Paul Wallace
Councilmember Sandra Walters
Councilmember Jimmy Weekley

Isabel Cosio Carballo, Executive Director, and Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, were present.

The following Ex-Officio Members were present:

Lisa Colmenares was in attendance for Dat Huynh, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, District VI
Laura Corry, representing the South Florida Water Management District
The Honorable Roberto Martell, representing the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity / Mayor of the Town of Medley

The following Ex-Officio Member was not present:

Jennifer Smith, representing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Chair Asseff requested those present to introduce themselves. Chair Asseff started the process and the Councilmembers, SFRC staff, and attendees followed suit.

A modification of the Council Agenda was requested by Chair Asseff to review Agenda Item IV.I., FY 2016-17 Membership Fees to the beginning of the meeting.

II. Approval of Council Agenda

Councilmember Suarez moved to approve the amended Agenda. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Action Items

I. FY 2016-17 Membership Fees

Chair Asseff stated that the Membership Fees have not been changed since 2011 despite increases in population. Chair Asseff then explained the information provided regarding the projected resident population for April 2017 and the corresponding fees for each county at the current rate per resident, along with the options for increasing the rate per resident. The Council was reminded that the SFRC is the largest regional council with the lowest fees. Ms. Cosio Carballo explained that the Executive Committee, on June 24, 2016, requested a list of the other RPCs' membership fees. This information is part of the Agenda Item. Ms. Cosio Carballo reminded the Councilmembers that this item is to certify the membership fees based on the population projections for the FY 2016-17. Ms. Cosio Carballo explained in detail the alternatives for the membership fees. There was discussion on the SFRC needs, such as, upgrading the sound system, the microphones, and technology. Ms. Cosio Carballo expressed she would like to make the Councils' part-time transportation planner and sea level rise consultant full-time, as well as appoint a conflict resolution employee. The establishment of a conflict resolution program would be pertinent for the SFRC staff to become more involved with facilitating large scale projects. Data is also a large growth area in which our local governments and partners can benefit. Ms. Cosio Carballo would like to discuss a strategic plan and move forward to make this Council more relevant.

Councilmember Kiar, also the Broward County Mayor, stated he would personally support a slight increase and recognizes the importance of the Board. It was recommended that a detail of the Council's future needs be provided before bringing the SFRC membership increase to the member counties for approval. The discussion continued with a possible Option 4 at a \$.20 per capita rate. Ms. Cosio Carballo stated that she would like to continue the membership rate increase conversation over the next few weeks. Council staff will have the additional information available.

Councilmember Wallace moved to approve Agenda Item IV.I, FY 2016-17 Membership Fees based on the population projections for FY 2016-17. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

Councilmember Goldberg commented on the value and authority of the Council to make attendance worthwhile. Ms. Cosio Carballo reminded the Councilmembers that although the Council's regulatory status has changed, the Department of Economic Opportunity values and considers the Council's recommendations. Additionally, the SFRC has a positive impact through its work with communities and regional stakeholders in areas of significance such as sea level rise, transportation, and affordable housing. She stated that it is Council staff's job to tell the story that supports the Councilmembers. She reminded the Councilmembers that their voice is important.

Chair Asseff stated that Councilmembers Walters, Caplan, along with herself, and Ms. Cosio Carballo attended the Florida Regional Planning Association (FRCA) meeting. The Chair stated that there are legislators who are very supportive of the Council's activities and how they work. Councilmember Caplan stated that the attendees at the FRCA meeting feel strongly that the mission is critical in part because of the relative void that has been created in growth management over the years. Councilmember Walters stated that FRCA is rebranding and marketing itself by preparing a new logo, e-marketing, and presentation. She suggested this Council should do the same. Councilmember Goldberg talked about his past experiences in the development sector and the difference in the Council's authority regarding large scale development.

III. Recognitions and Presentations

- A. Presentation of the SFRC Regional Champion Award to the Honorable José Félix Díaz, State Representative, 116th District; Chair, Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation

Chair Asseff introduced State Representative José Félix Díaz, 116th District and shared his titles, affiliates, accomplishments, and the biography of his academic and political life.

Representative Díaz thanked the Council for the invitation. He stated that the Miami-Dade Delegation intends to endorse the County's *Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan* and work with the County on passing significant legislation in Tallahassee to move forward to the next century. The State is relying on paving and the construction of new roads but Representative Díaz thinks the facilitation of alternative modes of transportation within the county and other counties should be a priority. The first time he visited the Council was in 2005 when he was a lawyer working on a DRI and was introduced to Ms. Cosio Carballo. He understands what the planning council does and is very supportive of the Council efforts. Representative Díaz stated that the Council should continue to ask for an allocation - if the Governor vetoes it then the Governor vetoes it. If he doesn't veto the allocation, then the Region is better for it. Because the RPCs funding has been vetoed by the Governor does not mean that the Councils do not have support in Tallahassee. He thanked the Council for what they do.

Chair Asseff thanked him for his support and helping Ms. Cosio Carballo in getting appropriations from the various committees. She stated the Council will keep trying for the appropriation.

State Representative Díaz stated that the Governor's Office needs to continue to be educated on the Council's significance considering the transitions in the Governor's Office, which is good.

Councilmember Cava commended Representative Díaz as the Chair of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and for his commitment to issues of regional importance such as energy, sea level rise, and building codes. Representative Díaz is a leader on tough issues and she is looking forward to working with him, especially at the Council.

Chair Asseff thanked Representative Díaz for working on energy and informed him that the Council has a Clean Cities Coalition Program and explained the Program's initiatives.

Representative Díaz explained there is a state funding program for local governments to convert their fleets to natural gas. This Program will be extended another year. Another program, for personal and

commercial sites, provides some tax exceptions for solar panels. There is now an appetite in Tallahassee to “be green.” Representative Díaz informed the Council that the Solar Amendment will be on the ballot in August. Chair Asseff offered the Council’s help in way.

Chair Asseff stated she was very supportive of the SMART Plan and that the Council had a presentation on it at the Council Meeting in the Keys.

Chair Asseff inquired about the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) Nominating Council. Representative Díaz was shocked at the few applications received for this cycle for membership on the Public Service Commission. He stated the Nominating Council is meeting at the end of the month. Representative Díaz said that he will express his concern that there is not any representation from Southeast Florida on the Public Service Commission.

Ms. Cosio Carballo thanked Representative Díaz for his friendship and support over many years. She would like the Board to know how amazing Representative Díaz and his aide were in assisting the Council during the 2016 legislative session. She informed Representative Díaz that she will be visiting him this year with other legislative issues. One issue has to do with the State Health Insurance access. The Council has conflicting information from the Department of Management Services regarding the Council’s participation. The other issue is regarding a physical quorum for the Council meetings. With increasing traffic congestion and travel times, it is sometimes difficult to achieve quorum. It would be helpful to be able to use technology to address this challenge.

Representative Díaz was presented with a plaque as a Regional Champion and pictures were taken.

IV. Action Items

A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

1) June 6, 2016 Council Meeting

Councilmember Suarez moved to approve the June 6th minutes. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

2) June 24, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting

Councilmember Ross moved to approve the June 24th minutes. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Financial Report

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item IV.B, Financial Report. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.C, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review Report. Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews

- Broward County 16-5ESR
- Broward County 16-7ESR
- City of Hialeah 16-1ESR
- City of Pembroke Pines 16-1ESR
- Village of Palmetto Bay 16-4ESR
- City of Sweetwater 16-1ESR

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.D, Consent: Comprehensive Plan Amendment Reviews. Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

E. SFRC/EDA Revolving Loan Fund 5-Year Plan

Edward T. McGann, Director of Finance and Loans, made a presentation on the Council's EDA/RLF 5 Year Plan. He explained in detail the requirements from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Agency (EDA). The presentation included the history, operational procedures and future plan changes of the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). Mr. McGann explained how the RLF has impacted the Region and the Council in terms of dollars invested - \$112 million; jobs saved or created - 8,081, and funding to the Council - 38% of membership dues. He suggested that the Councilmembers can help promote the RLF program to established businesses that are expanding and need debt financing. The Councilmembers can also help by referring local banks interested in investing in expansion products. There was detailed discussion as to the reasons for the plan changes, such as, reducing underwriting losses and expenses load. The relationship with the banks and the Urban League of Broward County was discussed. There were inquiries as to the smaller loans, the reason for investing in larger loans, construction loans and job creation.

Councilmember Ross inquired about the RLF Board change from a four member committee to a nine member committee. Mr. McGann stated it was to add a broader spectrum of experiences.

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.E, SFRC/EDA Revolving Loan Fund 5-Year Plan. Councilmember Weekley seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

F. FY 2014-15 Annual Audit/Formation of Audit Committee

Kevin Adderley, audit partner from The Sharpton Group, P.A explained he had presented the report and short presentation to the Executive Committee at the June 24, 2016 meeting with respect to the results of the FY 2014-15 Financial Statements and Federal Funded Programs. The Executive Committee voted to accept the report.

Councilmember Walters moved to approve the FY 2014-15 Audit. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

G. FY 2015-16 Operating Budget Amendment

Mr. McGann reviewed the changes that have occurred to the budget since October 2015. The beginning "budget" gap of \$139,000 has been replaced with a small operating surplus due to staff reductions.

Councilmember Walters moved to approve Agenda Item IV.G, FY 2015-16 Operating Budget Amendment. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

H. FY 2016-17 Draft Operating Budget

Mr. McGann reviewed the current expected revenues and expenditures for the next Fiscal Year. Membership fees were increased based on changes in population. Council staff will be working between now and year end finalizing the projects for the next Fiscal Year. At this point the draft budget for next Fiscal Year appears to be at breakeven. However, Council staff is currently exploring various investment options for the Council so the Council may increase its capacity to serve.

Motion was carried by a unanimous consent.

I. FY 2016-17 Membership Fees

This Agenda Item was presented earlier in the Agenda.

F. FY 2014-15 Annual Audit/Formation of Audit Committee

Agenda Item IV.F FY 2014-15 Annual Audit/Formation of Audit Committee was revisited to discuss the formation of a formal Audit Committee and the Request for Proposal (RFP). The Audit Contract is a five-year contract. The Sharpton Group's contract expired in September 2015. Ms. Cosio Carballo explained the Council's procedures for the audit committee and the auditor selection. The action item would be to designate a Councilmember to serve on the Audit Committee. The Committee will interview applicants and recommend an auditing firm for the Board's consideration.

Councilmember Daubert volunteered Councilmember Ross to the Audit Committee, who accepted the position. Motion was carried by a unanimous consent.

Sam Goren, Legal Counsel, described in detail the RFP, selection process, and Councilmember Ross' role on the Audit Committee. He explained The Sharpton Group's qualifications for the RFP. There was discussion on having the same auditor contracted year after year.

Councilmember Caplan moved to permit The Sharpton Group to reapply as long as the auditor was not the previous auditor. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote

There was an inquiry about whether this Board is bound by a prior Board's decisions. Mr. Goren stated that under Florida Law, decisions made by prior Boardmembers do not bind future Boardmembers. The Sharpton Group's Contract and the provisions of that contract no longer are in effect.

J. Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program Agreement with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority – Tri-Rail Coastal Link

Christina Miskis, of Council staff, informed the Councilmembers that this Agenda Item is to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to conduct a transit-oriented development (TOD) study along the Tri-Rail Coastal Link (TRCL), funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Ms. Miskis explained the expansion of the Tri-Rail service along the Florida East Coast (FEC) rail corridor. The SFRTA is requesting new interagency agreements with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) and the South Florida Regional Council which will allocate funding to complete corridor-length analysis (water/sewer infrastructure capacity, affordable housing, bicycle pedestrian planning, TOD business fund and community engagement), and station area planning along the TRCL. The Florida Department of Transportation will be involved in this project as well. Ms. Cosio Carballo stated this is new funding for the Council. Chair Asseff stated this project will be very informative to all the cities along the FEC.

There was discussion regarding the selection process of the cities that will be part of this project. There will be a competitive process where cities will be asked to provide information and proof of interest and support. There was an inquiry regarding the Council's ability to make recommendations regarding proposed station locations/cities to be part of the study. Ms. Cosio Carballo stated the Board can offer their input during the study. Staff will keep the Board updated.

Ms. Cosio Carballo recognized Ms. Miskis and Dr. Keren Bolter. They are working on a proposal for the Department of Economic Opportunity and have secured funding on how to prepare and protect infrastructure from coastal flood hazards. Chair Asseff recognized Sofia Thordin, the Clean Cities student intern.

Councilmember Ross moved to approve Agenda Item IV.J, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program Agreement with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority – Tri-Rail Coastal Link. Councilmember Caplan seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

V. Program Reports and Activities

- A. Revolving Loan Fund Report
 - 1) SFRC Revolving Loan Funds Status Report
- B. Development of Regional Impact Status Report

VI. Discussion Items

- A. Council Member Reports
- B. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Cosio Carballo stated that she attended a Broward County Commission Meeting regarding the proposed transportation/infrastructure ballot initiative. She is in process of meeting with the Commissioners to learn more about their needs and how the Council can help them in their endeavors. Mayor Ross has offered his assistance as well. Ms. Cosio Carballo attended the recent Florida Association of Counties annual conference in Orlando. Councilmembers Kiar, Furr, Cava, and Neugent were in attendance along with additional county commissioners, and

the county administrators from Monroe and Broward counties. These are all critical partners to the Council.

She also attended the Florida Regional Council Policy Board Meeting in Tampa with Chair Asseff, Councilmember Caplan, and Councilmember Walters. She announced that the new EDA Florida economic development representative is Greg Vaday who used to work with the TCRPC. He will be an important partner as this Council seeks projects and funding in our Region. The Florida League of Cities Conference is on August 18 – 20, 2016 in Hollywood. Chair Asseff will be moderating a panel on climate resiliency and resilient redesign.

C. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Goren clarified for the record the issues of the RFP. He had nothing else to report.

D. Ex Officio Reports

Lisa Colmenares representing FDOT, VI stated that there was a brief meeting with other agencies to review the proposed American Dream Mall. FDOT, VI received the traffic study from Miami-Dade County, and the interchange coordination and proposed interchange access request (Turnpike and FDOT) from the Applicant. FDOT, VI is making sure there is consistency with the different traffic studies that are being prepared by the Applicants and coordinating with all of the partners. She stated that she will forward the information to Ms. Cosio Carballo.

Councilmember Wallace requested an update on the status of the Resolution related to the cleaning of the cooling canals by FPL. He wanted to make sure this item was not forgotten. Ms. Cosio Carballo recapped the discussion from the June Council Meeting. Councilmember Cava had a resolution regarding FPL charging the customers for the cleaning canals. There was discussion on having a similar resolution. Councilmember Suarez requested that the item be postponed since it was a subject of discussion before the Miami-Dade County Commission the following day. The Council decided to continue the conversation on the resolution at a later date. Ms. Cosio Carballo stated she would follow up with Councilmember Cava's office for the Resolution's status and bring this item back to the Council.

There was discussion on the attendance for the August 1, 2016 meeting. Councilmember Wallace suggested that all Councilmembers should be involved in the Membership Fees decision, not just the Executive Committee. It was decided to poll the Councilmembers on an August Meeting date. Ms. Cosio Carballo stated that Council staff will provide back up for the August conversation related to the membership per capita rate.

VII. Announcements and Attachments

A. Correspondence and Attendance Form

B. Upcoming Meetings

- 1) August 8th, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood)
- 2) September 12th, 10:30 a.m. (FDOT, Miami)
- 3) October 3rd, 10:30 a.m. (SFRC Offices, Hollywood)

VIII. Councilmember Comments - none

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the July 11, 2016 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL adopted the 8th day of August, 2016.

Greg Ross, Secretary

Date