

Apalachee Regional Planning Council

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday – March 27, 2014

10:30 a.m. ET / 9:30 a.m. CT



279th Public Meeting

ARPC OFFICE – Conservation Center Conference Room

2507 Callaway Road, Suite 200

Tallahassee, Florida

www.thearpc.com

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council serves its citizens and local governments by providing technical assistance and a forum for communication and collaboration, to preserve and enhance the economic, natural, man-made, and social environments of the Apalachee Region.

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

JOHN JONES, CHAIRMAN (JEFFERSON)
RANDY MERRITT, VICE-CHAIRMAN (WAKULLA)
JANE SAULS, SECRETARY/TREASURER (LEON)
DELORES MADISON, FRCA REPRESENTATIVE (GADSDEN)

Calhoun County

Darrell McDougald County Commissioner
Wes Johnston Mayor, Town of Altha
Don Stephens Governor's Appointee

Franklin County

Cheryl Sanders County Commissioner
Brenda LaPaz Commissioner, City of Carrabelle
Dawn Radford Governor's Appointee

Gadsden County

Brenda Holt County Commissioner
Delores Madison Commissioner, City of Midway
Henry Grant Governor's Appointee

Gulf County

Joanna Bryan County Commissioner
Tony Justice Commissioner, City of Wewahitchka
Michael Hammond Governor's Appointee

Jackson County

Kenneth Stephens County Commissioner
Gene Wright Mayor, Town of Malone
Vacant Governor's Appointee

Jefferson County

Stephen Walker County Commissioner
John Jones Commissioner, City of Monticello
Vacant Governor's Appointee

Leon County

Jane G. Sauls County Commissioner
Nancy Miller Commissioner, City of Tallahassee
Lisa Miller Governor's Appointee

Liberty County

Davis Stoutamire County Commissioner
Woody Stewart Commissioner, City of Bristol
Steve Cutshaw Governor's Appointee

Wakulla County

Randy Merritt County Commissioner
Gail Gilman Commissioner, City of St. Marks
Ed Brimmer Governor's Appointee

Ex-Officio Members

Benjamin Blich FL Dept. of Environmental Protection
Paul Thorpe NW FL Water Management District
Virgie Bowen FL Dept. of Transportation
Diane Scholz Enterprise Florida

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING**

**ARPC OFFICE – Conservation Center Conference Room
2507 Callaway Road, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida**

**THURSDAY – MARCH 27, 2014
10:30 AM Eastern Time / 9:30 AM Central Time**

AGENDA

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10. <u>Adjournment</u>	

Lunch will be served immediately following the meeting.

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
Holiday Inn & Suites - Tallahassee, Florida**

February 6, 2014

MINUTES

Item 1: Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked all in attendance to introduce themselves and note the local government or agency they represented.

ARPC Board Members in Attendance:

Calhoun County	Wes Johnston	Altha Mayor
Franklin County	Cheryl Sanders	Franklin County Commissioner
	Brenda LaPaz	Carrabelle City Commissioner
	Dawn Radford	Governor's Appointee
Gadsden County	Delores Madison	Midway City Councilwoman
	Henry Grant	Governor's Appointee
Gulf County	Joanna Bryan	Gulf County Commissioner
	Tony Justice	Wewahitchka City Commissioner
	Michael Hammond	Governor's Appointee
Jackson County	Kenneth Stephens	Jackson County Commissioner
Jefferson County	John Jones	Monticello City Councilman
Leon County	Jane Sauls	Leon County Commissioner
	Nancy Miller	Tallahassee City Commissioner
	Lisa Miller	Governor's Appointee
Liberty County	Davis Stoutamire	Liberty County Commissioner
	Woody Stewart	Bristol City Councilman
	Kendall Wade	Governor's Appointee
Wakulla County	Randy Merritt	Wakulla County Commissioner

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance

Karen Kebart	Northwest FL Water Management District
Virgie Bowen	FL Dept. of Transportation

ARPC Staff in Attendance

Chris Rietow	Executive Director
Vanita Anderson	Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinator
Bruce Ballister	Senior Planner: Economic Development
Denise Imbler	Senior Planner: Emergency Management
Keith McCarron	Senior Planner: Community Development
Janice Watson	Finance Officer

Others in Attendance

Parrish Barwick	Jefferson County Coordinator
Sheri Coven	Florida Regional Councils Association

Chairman Jones asked that the records show a quorum of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council in attendance.

Item 2: Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2013, ARPC meeting as presented was made by Davis Stoutamire. The motion was seconded by Kendall Wade. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Chairman's Report:

Chairman Jones reported briefly to the Board on the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board retreat he had attended along with Councilwoman Madison on January 9th and 10th in Tallahassee. He stated that the workshop was scheduled to enhance the FRCA and RPCs role in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing Florida's regions and the State in general. Chairman Jones noted that after several brainstorming exercises and extended discussions, the retreat workgroups had identified the following ideas that need to be further developed by the RPCs: improved communications; revenue alternatives; becoming the regional convener and organizer of partners; and becoming the regional data source. He also discussed that FRCA had requested 3 members of the ARPC Board participate as FRCA Policy Board Members. Chris Rietow noted that in addition to the role that Councilwoman Madison was currently fulfilling the role as the FRCA Representative; the ARPC would also need to appoint a Governor's Appointee and a County Elected member to represent the ARPC on the FRCA Policy Board. Sheri Coven of FRCA offered to give a brief report on the activities and responsibilities of the FRCA Policy Board and its members, at a future ARPC Board meeting before the next semi-annual FRCA meeting in July. Chairman Jones asked the County Elected Members and Governor's Appointees present to consider volunteering to serve in this capacity.

Chairman Jones reviewed with the Board a proposed ARPC Board Meeting schedule for 2014 consisting of the following meeting dates: March 27th, May 29th, July 31st, September 25th and October 30th. By general consensus the Board approved the meeting schedule as proposed. Chairman Jones noted that it would most likely be necessary for the Executive Committee consisting of the ARPC Officers to also meet in the off months when there is not a regular Council meeting scheduled.

Item 4: Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Chris Rietow reported that there had been many changes since the last ARPC meeting, namely the merging of the Blountstown and Tallahassee ARPC staff offices into a new single location in Tallahassee. He noted that the positive results of having the entire staff under one roof had been immediate and more than expected. Mr. Rietow reminded the Board that the ARPC offices and conference room were available for their use if they ever needed to use them while in Tallahassee.

Executive Committee Meetings: Mr. Rietow reported on the last two Executive Committee meetings stating that the meeting on October 16th was held at ARPC Attorney Ed Blanton's office to discuss a salary to be proposed to the full Board for the new Executive Director Position and also to review the ARPC's outstanding Accounts Payable schedule. He explained that after the October 24th ARPC Meeting officially hiring him as the Executive Director and giving him access to all the financial records of the ARPC, he had asked the Executive Committee to reconvene on November 14th at the ARPC Office to review the overall financial position of the Council and to discuss possible options for paying off the \$50,000 of accumulated accounts payable. Mr. Rietow stated that proposed staff changes and the immediate expenditure cutbacks necessary to bring the Council back into a financially solvent entity were also discussed at length. Mr. Rietow reported he had asked ARPC Finance Officer Dollie Reed, already in the FL Retirement System DROP program, to take an early retirement and the Finance Officer Position had been combined with the ARPC Loan Officer Position effective November 28, 2013. He noted that the combining of the Finance and Loan positions as well as the October 24th Board action that combined the Executive Director Position and the LEPC Staff Position represented an overall annual savings to the Council of approximately \$225,000. Mr. Rietow explained that additional steps were being taken to change the Council's accounting system from GMS to QuickBooks, which represented an additional annual savings of over \$8,000. He noted that all of the across the budget line item reductions would be discussed later in the agenda when the Board reviewed the proposed budget amendment. Mr. Rietow commended the remaining ARPC staff for their continued team effort in going the extra mile to accomplish the mission of the ARPC as the Board worked through the present financial crisis.

The Board discussed how the loss of the annual State Appropriation for Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) for the last three years had been a key factor in the current financial problems facing the Council and for Council staff as they continued to work toward fulfilling the now unfunded State mandates for RPCs. Michael Hammond encouraged the Board to begin as soon as possible calling and meeting now with their respective legislators on the restoration of the State RPC funding, cautioning that waiting until March or April would be too late. Mr. Hammond commended Mr. Wade and the rest of the members of the Executive Committee on their commitment to restoring the financial solvency of the ARPC, for their diligence in making the hard decisions necessary to get the ARPC back on the right track, and for their recommendation of hiring Mr. Rietow as the new Executive Director. He along with the Board thanked Mr. Rietow for all he had accomplished in his first 60 days as the ARPC Executive Director and for his obvious commitment to the transparency of the programs, issues and finances of the ARPC.

Meeting with Governor's Office Staff: Mr. Rietow reported that in response to a postcard received from Governor Scott in June 2013, Bruce Ballister had written a cordial letter to the Governor outlining the programs of the ARPC and summarizing the specific impacts of the RPC funding allocation vetoes on the ARPC. Mr. Rietow explained that upon receipt of Mr. Ballister's letter, Mark Kruse, Coordinator of the Governor's Office on Policy and Budget called and invited a team from the ARPC to his office to discuss the programs and needs of the ARPC. Mr. Rietow reported that he along with Mr. Ballister and Ms. Watson had a well received

meeting with Mr. Kruse on October 31st and were asked by Mr. Kruse to submit further written documentation on the programs and funding restraints currently facing the ARPC. Mr. Rietow noted that Mr. Ballister's initial response letter to the Governor as well as the follow-up information provided to Mr. Kruse had been included for Board information in the agenda package beginning on page 17. He noted that to date no further response had been received from the Governor's office on the submission.

Statutory Requirements: Mr. Rietow reviewed briefly for the Board an overview of State RPC mandates provided by the Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA). He explained that most RPCs in the State are trying at a minimum to continue reviewing comprehensive plans and fulfilling the remainder of the obligations only as overflow time and funding will allow. Mr. Rietow pointed out that recent changes to the State's Growth Management Legislation now allowed many additional options for both local governments and developers to opt out of the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) process and likewise had basically eliminated the RPCs role in that level of developmental review. It was the general consensus of the Board for ARPC staff to just continue doing what they could with what they had on fulfilling the requirements of unfunded mandates, and to place a higher priority on the fee for service contracts currently in place.

ARPC County Dues: Mr. Rietow reviewed the current overall dues structure of the ARPC and handed out a chart summarizing the dues structure, population, and dues calculation for all of the RPCs in the State. He pointed out that the ARPC County Annual Dues had remained \$5,000 per County since the ARPC was founded in August 1977 and currently the ARPC was the only RPC in the State that did not use a per capita type formula for calculation of its County Dues. Mr. Rietow stated that the majority of the total annual dues of \$45,000 received from the ARPC Counties were used to fulfill the match requirement for the EDA Planning Grant. The Board discussed the unique situation of the Apalachee region with 60% of its population located in Leon County and difficulty of designing a dues structure that would not place an undue financial burden on Leon County. Commissioner Nancy Miller stated that she would be willing to push for the Tallahassee City Commission to participate in the ARPC dues. Commissioner Jane Sauls asked if ARPC Staff could come up with a list of additional services that could be provided to Leon County as a result of the increase in funding. She also suggested that ARPC staff prepare a palm card type ARPC brochure outlining what the ARPC brings to the table and what ARPC staff has to offer, something that could be shared with members of the County and City Commissions that don't serve on the ARPC Board, but whose support would be required in approving a budget increase request. It was generally agreed that the first hurdle was to work out the situation with Leon County and the City of Tallahassee and for ARPC staff to prepare Commissioner Sauls and Commissioner Miller with the needs and services information before they are asked to present a potential dues increase to their respective Commissions. Mr. Rietow suggested that ARPC staff's access to and proficiency in using the REMI economic modeling software might be a valid selling point to Leon County and the City of Tallahassee. Mr. Ballister noted that the County and City currently do not have this capability.

Commissioner Randy Merritt suggested a possible dues calculation formula of \$4,000 per county plus \$0.07 per capita, stating that this would provide a revenue increase for the ARPC but at the same time would necessarily require that Leon County shoulder the entire obligation. Commissioner Merritt stated that he would be willing to submit an ARPC funding increase request to the Wakulla County Commission during the summer budget workshops.

The Board questioned the process for changing the dues structure of the ARPC. Mr. Rietow answered that all of Florida's Counties are required to be members of a Regional Planning by Florida Statute and that the Interlocal Agreement establishing the ARPC in August 1977 simply stated that the Counties are required to pay dues. He explained that the annual assessment to the Counties is handled through the ARPC Budget process and a change in the dues structure would not require making changes to the Interlocal Agreement. Michael Hammond stressed that education is the key, and personal contact with the local governments was needed to explain the many services and capabilities of the ARPC. Commissioner Kenneth Stephens suggested that letters outlining the programs and funding needs of the ARPC could be sent to the Counties preceding the budget process, in order that the Commissions are prepared and expecting a renewed budget request. Kendall Wade gave the Board a brief history of his association with the ARPC both as a Franklin County Representative and a Liberty County Governor's Appointee and stressed the importance of the ARPC to all the Board members present and encouraged their continued participation and support of the ARPC. Commissioner Davis Stoutamire reported that Governor Scott had made a recent visit to Liberty County and in his discussions with him the Governor had been most attentive to the needs and funding constraints of Liberty County as well as the other rural counties of the region.

Mr. Rietow emphasized that education and outreach to the local governments of the ARPC was his most his most important priority as the ARPC's Executive Director and stated that he looked forward to making personal visits and establishing a renewed partnership with all the local governments of the Apalachee Region. He noted that he and Mr. Ballister had made a presentation at the Monticello City Council meeting on February 4th and stated that he would be scheduling visits with the other local governments as time and schedules allowed. Commissioner Delores Madison requested that a member of ARPC staff attend the next meeting of the newly formed City of Midway Economic Development Committee, explaining they could definitely use the technical expertise of ARPC staff in this new undertaking. Michael Hammond stressed that the information submitted to the local governments should be very County specific and not a one size fits all approach and noted that the continued personal outreach by the Executive Director was the most valuable component toward educating folks about the importance of the ARPC.

The discussion resumed on possible options for expressing to the Governor and the Legislature the vital importance of restored State funding for the ARPC. Commissioner Miller stated that Senator Bill Montford could be extremely helpful in gaining access to the Governor and suggested that he be included on any strategy to meet with Governor Scott or his staff. Sheri Coven stated that FRCA had been met with closed doors in trying to bring the issue to the

Governor but stressed the importance of local governments reaching out to him and his staff to relay specific instances where they have benefited from the services of the ARPC. She explained that the Governor had not been open to meeting with lobbyists but had shown considerable interest in hearing directly from local elected officials. Lisa Miller suggested that the Governor might need to hear from the private sector, especially developers that have positive experiences in business that would not have been otherwise possible without the RPC. Michael Hammond suggested that the ARPC Governor's Appointees as a group might request a meeting with the Governor to report on their involvement as his representatives and from that perspective provide specific reasons why the State should reinvest in the RPCs of Florida.

ARPC Goals: Mr. Rietow handed out a document outlining his 2014 list of goals for the ARPC. He reviewed briefly the outline and the details of its three categories of 1) Returning financial stability to the Council, 2) Educating and marketing the Council's services and capabilities to the counties and municipalities of the Apalachee Region, and 3) Grow and expand the capabilities of the Council. The Board approved by consensus the goals as presented and committed to supporting ARPC staff as they worked toward the goals as presented. A copy of the goals is included to these minutes as Attachment "A".

Financial Report: Mr. Rietow reviewed with the Board the Check Registers for October 2013, November 2013, December 2013, and January 2014, included in the agenda package beginning on page 26. He also reviewed the list of accounts payable presented to the Executive Committee on November 14, 2013, as well as a list of accounts payable as of January 22, 2013, which reports that almost \$19,000 had been applied to the old debt of \$50,000 as originally reported on November 14th. Mr. Rietow stated that based on realistic cash flow projections, it would take until the end of FY 13/14 for the Council to be able to completely pay off all the old debts while remaining current on all monthly operating costs. Commissioner Merritt pointed out that in just 90 days since taking over as Director, Mr. Rietow had made remarkable progress in restoring the financial stability of the ARPC.

Ms. Watson handed out Project and Operating Costs Revenue and Expenditure Reports for October 2013, November 2013, December 2013, and January 2014. She explained that due to the current financial situation, the ARPC monthly financial reports were being reported on a cash basis instead of the accrual basis as always presented in previous reports. Mr. Rietow explained that the ARPC staff had worked diligently to invoice all contracts promptly and correctly which had been a key factor in restoring the ARPC cash flow. Additionally, Mr. Rietow stated that Ms. Watson deserved special recognition for her efforts in taking on the Loan Officer and Finance Officer position for the betterment of the Council, all while being on reduced hours.

A motion was made by Randy Merritt to approve the financial reports as presented for October 2013, November 2013, December 2013 and January 2014. The motion was seconded by Delores Madison. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rietow directed the Board to the proposed amended ARPC Budget for FY 13/14 included in the agenda package on page 33. He noted that the original FY 13/14 ARPC Budget approved by the Board in July 2013 was included on page 32 as a reference. Mr. Rietow explained that the individual budget revenue line items now included detailed project explanations and had also been grouped into the ARPC's four main areas of service: Economic Development, Emergency Management, Technical Assistance and Transportation. He stated that the proposed amended budget had been compared in detail with a 12-month cash flow projection and approved by the Executive Committee on November 14, 2013. Ms. Watson noted that the Revenue and Expenditure Reports handed out earlier in the meeting were based on the proposed budget amendment figures and not the original budget approved in July 2013. Commissioner Merritt questioned why the fund balance cited as a revenue source in the previous budget had not been included in the amended budget. Ms. Watson explained that the fund balance was never a liquid asset but merely an overall net worth which included the depreciated value of all long-term assets and should have never been included as a revenue source. She noted that all revenues amounts listed in the proposed amended budget were actual cash dollars that will be invoiced and received by the ARPC before September 30, 2014, and likewise the expenses will be actual cash expenditures. Mr. Rietow noted that the proposed Expense Line Item titled Accounts Payable for \$36,000 was to cover the remaining portion of the old accounts payables unpaid at the end of FY 12/13. He added that ARPC staff continued to pursue new fee for service projects and the budget would be reviewed at all future Board Meetings for the purpose of adding new revenue sources as contracts are received.

A motion was made by Jane Sauls to approve the Proposed Amended Budget for FY 13/14 as presented. The motion was seconded by Michael Hammond. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the Amended Budget for FY 13/14 is included to these minutes as Attachment "B".

Item 5: Council Attorney's Report

Council Attorney Ed Blanton reported that there was no litigation or other legal issues to report since the last meeting.

Item 6: Staff Reports

Comprehensive Plan Reviews Keith McCarron presented the ARPC staff report on the Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 13-5ESR reporting that the proposed amendment series revises and repeals Conservation Policies related to the establishment of wetland buffers through the development review process. Mr. McCarron stated that ARPC staff had no regional comments on the proposed amendment series.

Mr. McCarron then presented the ARPC staff report on the Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 13-6ESR reporting that the proposed amendment series established two new Crawfordville Town Center land use districts as recommended in the Crawfordville Town Plan. Mr. McCarron stated that ARPC staff had no regional comments on the proposed amendment series.

A motion was made by Randy Merritt to approve and submit to the Department of Economic Opportunity the ARPC staff reports on the Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 13-5ESR and 13-6ESR. The motion was seconded by Delores Madison. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCarron presented the staff report on the City of Port St. Joe Amendment Series 14-1ESR reporting that the proposed amendment series included supporting data and analysis, goals, objectives, and policies. Mr. McCarron stated that ARPC staff had no regional comments on the proposed amendment series.

A motion was made by Randy Merritt to approve and submit to the Department of Economic Opportunity the staff report on the City of Port St. Joe Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ESR. The motion was seconded by Joanna Bryan. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Community Development Mr. McCarron reported on his work with the Small Quantity Generator Inspection program, the FDOT Work Program Liaison project, and the City of Chattahoochee Planning and Zoning Commission.

Economic Development Bruce Ballister reported on his work with the two CDBG grants for North Port St. Joe, the City of Apalachicola Scipio Creek Boat Basin CDBG and EDA grants, the City of Midway EAR based Comprehensive Plan Amendments, and the upcoming RiverWay South Rural Summit. Commissioner Merritt stressed the importance of continuing to pursue contracts for the administration of CDBG grants. He encouraged ARPC staff to work with the County Administrators as well as local elected officials.

Emergency Management Chris Rietow reported on his work with the FL Division of Emergency Management on several projects including the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC); the Hazards Analysis Update; and a full-scale exercise at the FSU National High Magnetic Laboratory in Tallahassee on April 28, 2014. Mr. Rietow stated that the multi-jurisdictional, domestic security exercise was the first multi-venue, regional exercise held since Operation School Safety in 2008, adding that the ARPC would be partnering with the North Central FL Regional Planning Council on the eastern component of the exercise. Commissioner Miller asked that personal announcements about the exercise be sent to each of the Tallahassee City Commission. Mr. Rietow noted that the exercise always needed additional volunteers and encouraged any Board member that had time available to contact him about participating.

Denise Imbler reported on her work as the Region 2 Domestic Security Task Force Planner and her work with: the Leon County Health Department on a Points of Dispensing Exercise; the Jackson County Emergency Management Department on a Continuity of Operations Plan; and the FL Dept. of Health in Coordinating the North Florida Medical Reserve Corps. Ms. Imbler noted that work was progressing on the 3rd Annual Rural County Summit scheduled for July 9-13, 2014 at the FL Public Safety Institute in Gadsden County. She noted that the Summit would focus on emergency response in a small community and would feature guest speakers from Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona and Colorado. Councilwoman Madison noted how successful the

Summit had been last year and encouraged the Board to make plans to attend. Ms. Imbler agreed to keep the Board informed about registration for the Summit.

Revolving Loan Fund Janice Watson reviewed the report on the ARPC's Revolving Loan Fund Program report included in the board package on Page 59. Ms. Watson reviewed the fund balances and reported briefly on past due accounts. She encouraged the Board to promote the availability of the program in their respective jurisdictions.

Transportation Disadvantaged: Vanita Anderson reported on her work as the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinator for Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Jackson and Liberty Counties. Ms. Anderson stated that the Executive Director had appointed the following members to the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards effective October 1, 2013. She noted that all terms would end on June 30th of the year listed.

<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>MEMBER</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>TERM ENDING</i>
Gulf	Ward McDaniel	Elected Official/Chairman	NA
Gulf	Annie May Larry	Elderly	2015

A motion was made by Randy Merritt to approve the Executive Director's appointments to the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards as presented. The motion was seconded by Michael Hammond. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Item 7: Election of Officers

Mr. Rietow reported that each year in January the ARPC elects Officers for the coming year. He directed the Board to the list of current Officers included in the Board package on page 65, explaining that the 2013 Vice-Chairman Slot had been vacated by Steve Cutshaw, former municipal representative from Liberty County due to his decision not to seek re-election. Chairman Jones stated that Mr. Cutshaw had been very active and a valuable Executive Committee member during the transition period since the last ARPC Meeting.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations for the ARPC 2014 Officers. Commissioner Stoutamire nominated Commissioner Randy Merritt as the new Vice-Chairman and also nominated the current Officers of John Jones - Chairman, Jane Sauls – Secretary/Treasurer, and Delores Madison – FRCA Representative to remain in their positions for 2014. The nomination was seconded by Michael Hammond. Chairman Jones asked for any further nominations and there being none, he closed the floor.

A motion was made by Davis Stoutamire approve the 2014 ARPC Officers as nominated. The motion was seconded by Michael Hammond. A vote was taken the motion carried unanimously.

Item 8: Correspondence / Items of Interest

Mr. Rietow briefly reviewed several articles of interest included in the Board package beginning on page 67. Sheri Coven to spoke briefly on the article referencing the Six Pillar Community Award received by FRCA from the Florida Chamber Foundation.

Item 9: Council / Public Comment

Ms. Coven reported that the FRCA had approved funding Mr. Rietow's registration and travel to the New Executive Director Training Workshop hosted by the NADO / Southeastern Regional Directors Institute in May 2014.

Commissioner Stoutamire thanked Executive Director Chris Rietow and ARPC staff for the new agenda, the items presented and the opportunities for discussion of regional issues. He stated that it had been the most informative and productive ARPC meeting during his eight years as an ARPC Member. Chairman Jones also expressed the consensus of the entire Board's approval of the new agenda and meeting format.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

APPROVED BY THE APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION
ON MARCH 27, 2014.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

John Jones, Jr.
Chairman

Chris Rietow
Executive Director



Apalachee Regional Planning Council
Serving Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty,
Leon and Wakulla Counties and their municipalities

2014 Apalachee Regional Planning Council Goals

- I. Return financial stability to the Council
 - a. Provide a new level of financial transparency
 - b. Issue timely payments on the Accounts Payable balance
 - c. Restore the Operating Budget to the historical level of \$60,000
 - d. Continue efforts to establish increased base funding for the Council to improve the ability to provide services to member local governments

- II. Educate and market the Council's services and capabilities to member counties and municipalities
 - a. Regularly attend Commission and Council meetings to better understand local needs and to offer assistance when possible
 - b. Attend all meetings that pertain to regional initiatives in order to stay informed on current issues
 - c. Upgrade the Council's website to become a regional clearinghouse of updated economic development, emergency management and technical assistance information

- III. Grow and expand the capabilities of the Council
 - a. Return staffing levels to 40 hours/week as funding permits
 - b. Add staff as necessary to meet the assistance needs of the region
 - c. Become the recognized convener of the Apalachee region to discuss, collaborate and resolve regional issues

APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL FY 2013 / 2014 BUDGET

INCOME/REVENUES:

Apalachee RPC County Dues	45,000	9 ARPC Counties Annual Dues \$5,000 each
USDOC - EDA Planning Grant	63,000	Annual Economic Development Planning Contract
USDOC - EDA - Revolving Loan Fund	20,000	Admin. Of Revolving Loan Fund for small business
CDBG (ED) - Apalachicola Admin	30,000	Scipio Creek Marina Improvement Project
FDEM - Com-T Training Course	4,000	Coordinate a COM-T Exercise held on 12/8-10/13
FDEM - Hazard Analyses	21,000	Prepare HA summary on worst-case release data
FDEM - Annual Haz Mat Planning Project	20,000	Develop and Hold Full-Scale Haz Mat Exercise
FDEM - HMEP - Training	32,000	Conduct Transportation-Related Haz Mat Training
FDEM - Local Emer. Plan Committee	41,000	Coordinate activities of the Dist. 2 LEPC
FDEM - Reg. Dom. Secur. Task Planner	60,000	Serving as the ARPC Region's RDSTF Planner
FDEM - Reg. Evacuation Study Update	15,000	Prepare & Update the Regional Evacuation Study
FDEM - RDSTF Exercise	46,000	Develop and Hold Full-Scale Homeland Security Exercise
FDOH - MRC Admin	28,000	Coord. of the N. FL Medical Reserve Corp
Small Quantity Generator Inspections	30,000	Inspection and reporting of SQGs to FDEP
CDBG (NR) - Port St. Joe Admin	38,000	N. Port St. Joe water system improvement project
Energy Resilience Study	9,000	State Energy Resilience Plan Research
FDACS - Ag Safety Planner Admin	10,000	HR services for Animal Planner housed at FDACS
RCSC Admin	10,000	Riparian County Stakeholders Coalition Admin.
Comm. Transportation Disadvantaged	96,000	Comm. For Transp. Disadvantaged Regional Coordinator
FDOT Liasion	25,000	Prepare BCC requests for inclusion/FDOT Workplan
TOTAL FY 13/14 Revenue	643,000	

Pass - Thru (FRCA & FDACS) 154,000

TOTAL INCOME/REVENUES & Pass Thru **\$797,000**

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Accounts Payable	36,000
Accounting Fees	650
Advertising	350
Audit	15,000
Consultants (HA & HMEP)	28,500
Dues (FRCA, NADO, SERDI)	17,500
Equipment Lease - Copiers	9,900
Fringe Benefits	109,500
Insurance (Work Comp, Liability)	13,600
IT Tech Support	1,200
Legal Services	6,000
Licenses (REMI)	6,300
Office Supplies	1,500
Postage	1,200
Rent	27,000
Salaries (6 FT Professional)	353,200
Telephone	3,600
Travel	12,000
TOTAL FY 13/14 Expenses	643,000

Pass - Thru (FRCA & FDACS) 154,000

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES: **\$797,000**

Economic Development	24.6%	158,000
Emergency Management	46.2%	297,000
Technical Assistance	10.4%	67,000
Transportation	18.8%	121,000
Total FY 13/14 Budget	100.0%	643,000
FY 13/14 Pass Thru		<u>154,000</u>
TOTAL BUDGET & PASS THRU	\$	797,000

AGENDA ITEM 3

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – John Jones

The following items will be reported and discussed with the Board:

a. **Newly Appointed/Reappointed Board Members**

The Governor's Office has been active with regard to ARPC Gubernatorial Appointees. Chairman Jones will give the Board a summary of recent appointments. Attached is a copy of the press release.

b. **Policy Board Members**

The recent resignation of Kendall Wade from the ARPC Board resulted in a Gubernatorial Appointee vacancy to the Policy Board. Chairman Jones will provide a Policy Board appointment update at the meeting.

Following is a new board member fact sheet provided by the Florida Regional Councils Association with additional information relating to FRCA and the FRCA Policy Board.

Forwarded Message -----

From: Governor's Press Office <Governor'sPressOffice@eog.myflorida.com>

To:

Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2014 4:53 PM

Subject: Governor Rick Scott Appoints Five to Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Region Two

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 26, 2014

CONTACT: GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE
(850) 717-9282
media@eog.myflorida.com

Governor Rick Scott Appoints Five to Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Region Two

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced two appointments and three reappointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Region Two.

Edward E. Brimner, 55, of Crawfordville, is a realtor with the BlueWater Realty Group. He succeeds Ellen Davies and is appointed for a term beginning February 26, 2014, and ending October 1, 2015.

Steven A. Cutshaw, 48, of Bristol, is the park manager for Torreya State Park. He fills a vacant seat and is appointed for a term beginning February 26, 2014, and ending October 1, 2015.

Henry G. Grant, 65, of Quincy, is the extension director for the University of Florida in Gadsden County. He is reappointed for a term beginning February 26, 2014, and ending October 1, 2015.

Dawn E. Radford, 65, of Eastpoint, is an author and an instructor at Gulf Coast Community College. She is reappointed for a term beginning February 26, 2014, and ending October 1, 2015.

Donald R. Stephens, 74, of Blountstown, is a retired president of Lasdomar Inc. He is reappointed for a term beginning February 26, 2014, and ending October 1, 2015.

The appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

###



Apalachee • Central Florida
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Tampa Bay • Treasure Coast • West Florida • Withlacoochee

104 West Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301-1713 • 850.224.3427

FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION NEW BOARD MEMBER FACT SHEET

The Florida Regional Councils Association was formed by Florida's 11 regional planning councils in 1976. The Association is a collective body of those 11 councils. It serves to do the following:

[F]urther the interests of the regional planning councils in Florida as these interests relate to their service to their local governments and their citizens, the promotion of these interests, the promotion of harmonious, productive relationships among the several member regional planning councils, the promotion of harmonious, productive relationships among member regional planning councils and any and all state and federal agencies as well as private groups whose interests overlap those of member regional planning councils, and to do any and all things necessary to assure that Florida's regional planning councils are effective service organizations to the people of Florida. (Florida Regional Councils Association Bylaws, 2009)

The Florida Regional Councils Association is governed by a Policy Board made up of three members from each of the 11 regional planning councils – two elected officials and one gubernatorial appointee – chosen by each council. Each member's term is continuous until replaced. Each year, the Policy Board typically meets in January in Tallahassee and then again in conjunction with either the Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference in June or Florida League of Cities Annual Conference in August (it alternates from year to year).

The Policy Board Officers are comprised of a President, First Vice President, Second Vice-President, and Immediate Past President. The officers are annually selected by a nominating committee made up of members from the Association at its January meeting and voted on at its subsequent meeting later in the year. The business of the Association may include professional development, member education, sharing of regional best practices, issues of concern related to regional planning councils, identification of funding opportunities, and developing and ratifying a legislative agenda.

The 11 regional planning council executive directors serve as an advisory body to the Policy Board, known as the Executive Directors Advisory Committee. The officers include a Chair and Vice-Chair. The committee typically meets eight times a year. Four of the meetings (January through April) are held in Tallahassee to leverage opportunities to interact with state agencies, enhance partner relationships, and engage in strategic opportunities. Two of the meetings are held in June and August, in conjunction with the annual conferences mentioned above. The other two meetings are held south of Orlando, as a convenience to the Directors in that part of the state.

The Association has one full-time staff, a Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, who reports to the Chair of the Executive Directors Advisory Committee. This person runs the day to day operations of the organization, including implementing the Association's programs, policies, and priorities, and engaging with local, regional, state, and federal agencies as well as other state associations and interest groups on matters pertaining to, and in some cases benefitting, regional planning councils. The Association's bookkeeping is handled by the Apalachee Regional Planning Council in Tallahassee. The Association also has a contract lobbyist/Executive Director who reports to the President of the Association and is responsible for the Association's legislative program and strategy.

The Association is funded by dues paid by each council based on a formula approved by the Policy Board. In accordance with that formula, 70% of the dollars needed to support the Association's budget is divided evenly among the 11 regional planning councils and the remaining 30% is divided according to each council's proportionate share of the state's population.

AGENDA ITEM 4

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Chris Rietow

The following items will be reported and discussed with the Board:

- a. **Excutive Committee Meetings:** Update on status of Executive Committee Meetings.
- b. **Outreach Efforts:** Report on recent activities by Board Members and staff to promote the Planning Council as a technical assistance resource as well as aid in efforts to restore funding.
- c. **RPC Statutory Responsibilities:** The Statutory and Non-Statutory Programs and Responsibilities matrix are included with the package as a separate document. Staff will provide clarification on the “unfunded mandate” issue.
- d. **FRCA Update:** The FRCA Strategic Assessment report has been provided as a separate document. Staff will provide a summary and will discuss ongoing efforts as well as reference the FRCA monthly activity reports and legislative highlights included in the board package.
- e. **RPC Funding Update:** A brief update on the current status of the House and Senate Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations committees with respect to RPC funding.
- f. **Mission Statement:** A brief mention on the ARPC’s mission statement.
- g. **ARPC Bylaws:** The current ARPC Bylaws have been provided as a handout. Staff will provide a brief overview and discuss options for an update.
- h. **Staff Cell Phones:** Report on proposal to provide monthly stipends to employees to use personal cell phones.
- i. ***Financial Report:** On the following pages are the financial reports for February 2014 and a proposed FY 13/14 Budget Amendment.

ACTION NEEDED

Motion to accept Financial Report for the period of Feb. 1, 2014 – February 28, 2014.
Motion to approve the ARPC Proposed Amended Budget for FY 13/14.



BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Phone (850) 482-9633
Fax (850) 482-9643
www.jacksoncountyfl.com

Administration Building
2864 Madison Street
Marianna, Florida 32448-4021

The Honorable Rick Scott, Governor
Plaza Level 05, The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

I am writing today to ask for your financial support for the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) as you prepare the State budget for the coming year. I have served on the Governing Board of the ARPC since January 2009 and I can personally attest to the valuable service the ARPC provides to Jackson County as well as the other local governments and citizens of the Apalachee Region.

The ARPC is an organization that belongs to the local governments it represents through an Interlocal Agreement. It often acts as extended staff when we don't have the personnel or are just too busy to perform work activities ourselves. Our ARPC staff of six is a multi-talented team of professionals devoted to serving its counties and municipalities. Whether it's assistance with a road funding question, an infrastructure grant application, a small business loan, an emergency preparedness exercise or a host of other issues, ARPC staff is an ever-ready resource for not only the ARPC Board members, but their respective local government staff.

The ARPC Board meetings provide a regional dialogue not available to me as a Commissioner elsewhere. In an informal setting, I am able to network with other elected officials of the region as we discuss our successes and our failures in carrying out the day-to-day tasks of operating local government. It is a most valuable forum for all of us that serve on the Council. Participation on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Board is a constant reminder to me of the importance of regionalism and that Jackson County is directly affected by the issues of my neighboring counties and likewise, as they are by ours.

Unfortunately, the variety of services provided to us by the ARPC staff has been severely diminished due to the three-year absence of the historical State appropriation. The Apalachee region is predominately rural and an investment by the State would have immediate positive impacts and allow the ARPC to provide for many of the unmet needs of the Region.

Last fall, Mark Kruse of your staff requested a meeting with ARPC staff members to discuss the activities and current funding constraints of the ARPC. I want to thank you for your interest in the ARPC and follow up by your staff. The ARPC meets regularly in Tallahassee, and we would welcome your attendance at one of our Board meetings. It would be an excellent opportunity for you to talk with us in person and discuss our valuable potential for advancing your initiatives for the State of Florida. Additionally, I would be more than willing to meet with you or your staff in person to discuss this further. I look forward to working together on a better future for our great State.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Stephens
County Commissioner

Commissioners

Dr. Willie E. Spires
District 1

Edward E. Crutchfield
District 2

Chuck Lockey
District 3

Jeremy Branch
District 4

Kenneth Stephens
District 5

Ted Lakey, C 20 Administrator



Sheri Coven
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
sheri.coven@flregionalcouncils.org
(850) 294-0526

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: February 2014

OUTREACH

- Met with representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation, at their request, to offer insights and suggestions pertaining to the process being developed for the Florida Transportation Plan and Strategic Intermodal System Strategic Plan updates.
- Met with Barbara Lenczewski, Development Representative III at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to explore funding opportunities for regional planning councils.
- Spoke to representatives at the Florida Department of Health and followed up with an email that provided an overview of regional planning councils and the “single point of contact” contracting advantages.
- Wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, Ananth Prasad, critiquing the Department’s transportation planning process for non-metropolitan areas, which was signed by the Chair of the FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee, Brian Teeple (NEFRC).
- Collected data from each regional planning council that support and demonstrate implementation of the *Florida Strategic Plan for Economic Development* for the second quarter of the 2013-14 Fiscal Year and submitted the data to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.
- Continued to work with representatives from the Florida Chamber Foundation to create on-line regional scorecards for each council, including identification of the specific website segments and site map features for this metric-driven economic development tool.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, attended meetings of the Enterprise Florida Board, Stakeholders Council, and Community Competitiveness Task Force; Safe Mobility for Life Coalition; and, Tallahassee/Leon County Economic Development Council; and, participated in the Florida Chamber of Commerce’s Capitol Days and Enterprise Florida’s monthly conference call for its economic development partners.
- Distributed funding announcements from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Labor, and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Pew Charitable Trusts.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

- Issued a February Legislative Highlights report and bill tracking summary.
- Reviewed newly filed bills for the 2014 Legislative Session and monitored legislative committee meetings held during the first three weeks of February, 2014.
- Updated and distributed FRCA's talking points for the 2014 legislative session.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Participated in the February FRCA meetings and identified and confirmed presenters for the March FRCA meetings.
- Updated the FRCA website to post the most current Legislative Highlights and 2014 Legislative Agenda.



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: January 2014

OUTREACH

- Along with Scott Koons (NCFRPC), met with representatives from the Florida Chamber Foundation and their web development consultants to tackle the next steps in the creation of on-line regional scorecards for each council, including identification of the specific website segments and site map features for this metric-driven economic development tool.
- Began developing a Policy Board new member orientation packet that will include a one-page overview of FRCA, the FRCA Bylaws, and the most recent FRCA Annual Report.
- Provided support to the Florida Association of Counties by generating responses to its State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) survey.
- Met with Bill Killingsworth, Director of the Division of Community Development at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, to provide him with a slate of candidates from each region who would be willing to serve as the agency's non-voting representatives on the regional planning councils, subject to appointment by the Governor.
- Began to explore the potential for a statewide regional planning council community resiliency project with appropriate state agency representatives.
- At the request of staff from the Florida Defense Support Task Force, facilitated a teleconference between them and the Florida Association of Counties to take the first steps toward establishing a training program for local government elected officials that specifically addresses the impacts of encroachment on military bases.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING

- To enhance the partnership and strengthen the relationship between Regional Planning Councils and their state and federal partners, attended meetings of the Rural Economic Development Initiative; Florida Defense Support Task Force; Gulf Coast Consortium; and, Sadowski Coalition, and participated in Enterprise Florida's monthly conference call for its economic development partners.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

- Issued a Legislative Highlights report for the month of January and a mid-month bill tracking report.
- Reviewed newly filed bills for the 2014 Legislative Session and monitored legislative committee meetings during the weeks of January 6 and 13, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Attended and provided staff support for the FRCA Strategic Assessment Retreat.
- Prepared the required meeting documents and identified and confirmed presenters for the February FRCA Executive Directors Advisory Committee meeting.



LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

February 2014

The legislative session begins on March 4, 2014. Going forward, a bill tracking summary will be issued every Friday until the close of session on May 2, 2014.

The final interim committee weeks were held during the first three weeks of February. Among the presentations heard over this three week period were as follows:

- **Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development** received a presentation on February 19 on the Unmet and Latent Demand for Transportation Disadvantaged Services study, which was prepared by the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. The study is still in draft and is available in the committee meeting packet at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/Show/ATD/Meeting%20Packet/2509>.
- **Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee** held a workshop on springs legislation on February 20. The principal drafters of the bill include Senators Simmons (R-Altamonte Springs), Dean (R-Inverness), Simpson (R-New Port Richey), Hays (R-Umatilla), and Montford (D-Tallahassee). The legislation would define "Outstanding Florida Springs" as all first magnitude springs along with DeLeon, Gemini, Peacock, Rock, and Wekiwa Springs. It would also do the following:
 - Require protective actions to be taken in delineated springs protection zones including the establishment of minimum flows and levels;
 - Require the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to develop Basin Management Action Plans for each of the Outstanding Florida Springs, including the identification of load allocations for fertilizer, animal waste, septic tanks, wastewater treatment facilities, and stormwater; and,
 - Require local governments located within a springs protection zone to meet the minimum requirements of the Model Fertilizer Ordinance.

Within Basin Management Action Plan areas, septic tanks must be connected to central sewer systems "where available" or otherwise upgraded to a higher standard by 2019, at no cost to property owners; waste water treatment plants must also meet the higher standard by 2019; and, all agriculture producers must implement best management practices within 2 years. To fund these connections and upgrades, local governments, water management districts, utilities, and agricultural producers may submit project proposals to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for funding up to 75% of the cost of a project, with the exception of fiscally constrained counties and septic tank upgrades and connections, which are eligible for 100% of the cost of the project. Funds would be allocated from Documentary Stamp revenues and placed into the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust fund. Finally, the Acquisition and Restoration Council would be required to develop rules for evaluating and ranking projects and for pilot projects designed to test nutrient reduction technologies, with a minimum of two pilot projects approved each cycle.

Several concerns were raised in the workshop by various stakeholders including representatives from business groups, homebuilders, environmental groups, private property rights advocates, septic tank contractors, and local government. However, representatives of Associated Industries of Florida, the Florida Chamber of Commerce and the Florida League of Cities indicated that their concerns were being addressed. A primary concern for the cities was having a reliable source of funding for improving wastewater treatment.

- **House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee** was presented with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' legislative package on February 18, which is expected to become a committee bill. The package recommends numerous changes to statutes governing feed, seed, and fertilizer companies, including their processes and fees. With regard to the Florida Forest Service, among other proposals, the Department recommends combining two statues dealing with payments from forest revenues to fiscally constrained counties and clarifies how the Florida Forest Service sets usage fees on state forest lands. The proposal also addresses food safety.
- **House Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee** was given an overview of EDTS2 (now House Bill 7065) on February 19, regarding the Division of Emergency Management. The bill does the following:
 - Amends s. 252.355, F.S., relating to the registry of persons with special needs, establishing a statewide registry managed by the Division rather than each local emergency management agency but providing each local emergency management agency with access to the registry for its jurisdiction;
 - Amends s. 252.356, F.S., relating to emergency and disaster planning provisions to assist persons with disabilities or limitations, to provide that such persons must register with the Division rather than local emergency management agencies;
 - Amends s. 252.921, relating to the short title of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, to identify the statutory sections that govern it;
 - Creates s. 252.9335, F.S., relating to expense reimbursement under the Compact, to provide that expense reimbursement provisions under s. 112.061, F.S., do not apply to an employee traveling under the Compact when such expenses are reimbursed based on the amount agreed upon in an interstate mutual aid request for assistance; and,
 - Amends s. 400.506(11), F.S., relating to the licensure of nurse registries, requirements, and penalties, to provide that nurse registries must assist persons who would need sheltering during evacuations in registering with the Division, rather than local emergency management agencies.
- **House Energy and Utilities Subcommittee** heard from Agricultural Commissioner Adam Putnam on February 12, where he reported that he isn't proposing renewable energy legislation this year. He said that the need for energy diversity is waning because of falling natural gas prices.

Additional details regarding the presentations discussed above are available in committee meetings packets, which can be found via <http://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/#com-list> (for Senate Committees) or <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Committees/committees.aspx> (for House Committees).

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Details on the Governor's budget are available at <http://flitsyourmoney.com/>. Highlights by subject area are provided below:

- **Economic Development**
 - \$100 million for Visit Florida (a \$36.5 million increase)
 - \$95 million in flexible funding for economic development programs such as the Quick Action Closing Fund and Qualified Target Industry tax refund;
 - \$89.3 million for the State Apartment Incentive Loan and State Housing Initiatives Partnership programs (this is only 30% of available funding)
 - \$30 million for Workforce State Training Program
 - \$12 million for the Quick Response Training Grant Program
 - \$10 million for Space Florida
 - \$1.5 million for technical assistance/Competitive Florida Partnership
 - \$453,000 for a Labor Supply System for Business Recruitment

- **Transportation**
 - \$3.8 billion for construction of highway projects
 - \$843.3 million for maintenance and operation
 - \$528 million for public transit development grants
 - \$324.6 million for aviation improvements
 - \$192.5 million for scheduled repair of 51 bridges and replacement of 15 bridges
 - \$138.9 million in seaport infrastructure improvements
 - \$134.3 million for safety initiatives

- **Environmental Protection**
 - \$286 million for restoring waterways and water supply
 - \$130 million for Everglades restoration
 - \$125 million for petroleum tank cleanup projects
 - \$70 million for Florida Forever (\$30 million in new revenue/\$40 million for the sale of non-conservation lands)
 - \$55 million for springs restoration
 - \$50 million for Keys wastewater treatment plant
 - \$25 million for beach renourishment
 - \$19 million for State Park repairs and enhancements
 - \$6 million for dry cleaning site cleanup
 - \$4 million for hazardous waste cleanup
 - \$2.3 million for landfill closures
 - \$750,000 for the Partnership in Parks program
 - \$250,000 for Ecotourism

- **Agriculture and Consumer Services**
 - \$10 million for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program
 - \$6.9 million for oyster reseeding and rehabilitation
 - \$6.1 million for Citrus Health Response program
 - \$5 million for springs protection Best Management Practices
 - \$4 million for citrus research
 - \$4 million for statewide agricultural Best Management Practices
 - \$3 million for Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protections Area Best Management Practices

- \$2 million for expansion of Budwood facility
- \$2 million for replacement of wildfire suppression equipment
- **Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**
 - 5.1 million for boating safety and improvement programs
 - \$3.2 million for Palm Beach County Shooting Park
 - \$800,000 for artificial reef construction
 - \$200,000 for manatee rehabilitation
 - \$200,000 to marine habitat restoration projects
 - \$200,000 for youth hunting and fishing programs
 - \$160,000 to control invasive Lionfish
 - Additional \$3.4 million for lake restoration
 - Additional \$3 million invasive plant management
 - Additional \$2.8 million for Wildlife Management Area land improvements

POLICY NOTES

- **Affordable Housing:** For fiscal year 2014-15 there is an estimated \$291 million in the state and local housing trust funds and no budget deficit. The Governor's budget recommends that only about 30% of available funding be targeted for affordable housing. The Sadowski Coalition has developed talking points for those who want to meet with their legislator(s) regarding the need for full funding. The talking points area available at www.sadowskicoalition.com. A [Webinar](#) and [PowerPoint Presentation](#) about Sadowski funding in the 2014-15 Session are also available.
- **Economy:** On January 30th 2014, Florida TaxWatch published a report titled *Diversifying Florida's Economy through Local Economic Development*. This report gives local government guidance to choose between development projects to expand their economies by "using an impact analysis of common economic development projects" but does not attempt to replace local impact studies. According to TaxWatch, when determining the economic impact of an economic development project, local governments should consider projects that have the highest added value and return on investment because they will create more jobs, income, and tax revenue for cities and counties. Their results show the following:

The multi-year econometric model used to assess the impact of the additional jobs and retirees identifies that an additional 1,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector will create an estimated 28,241 private non-farm jobs and increase the state's GDP by \$3.831 billion. Adding 1,000 jobs in logistics would create 21,228 jobs and increase the GDP by \$1.834 billion, while increasing the number of retirees by 1,000 results in 5,303 jobs and a GDP increase of \$383 million. Each of these scenarios also increases Floridians' disposable income and contributes to population growth.

The report is available at

<http://floridatxwatch.org/resources/pdf/EconomicDev0114FINAL.pdf>.

- **Energy:** According to Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, businesses currently pay nearly \$450 million per year in taxes on electricity consumption. In a proposal offered by the Commissioner, these taxes would be cut in half over three years, ultimately saving businesses nearly \$225 million per year. He proposes to redirect the remaining revenue from that tax, or \$225 million per year, "to support Florida's education infrastructure, which would create a consistent, long-term source of funding to provide the resources Florida's students need to succeed in school and compete in a global economy." This proposal was filed as House Bill 899 by Representative Mike Hill (R-Pensacola Beach) and Senate Bill 1076

by Senator Anitere Flores (R-Miami). The Florida Parent-Teacher Association, Florida Association of School Administrators, Florida Council of College Presidents, Council of 100, Associated Industries of Florida, and Florida Chamber of Commerce support this legislation.

- **Environmental Regulation:** The Florida Conservation Coalition is opposed to House Bill 703 and founder and chairman, former U.S. Sen. Bob Graham, provided a section-by-section critique in a letter to the bill's sponsor, Representative Jimmy Patronis (R-Panama City) (see floridaconservationcoalition.org). House Bill 703 provides for water-use permits of up to 30 years for larger developments and up to 50 years for landowners who participate in water storage programs. The bill also would extend "right to farm" provisions in state law to prohibit enforcement of local springs and wetlands regulations that also have been modified or readopted since 2003. The bill also requires the Department of Environmental Protection to consider the cost of implementing any greenhouse gas reductions when developing a plan to meet federal regulations.

1000 Friends of Florida also opposes the bill. In a recent email, the group stated that House Bill 703 would undermine the power of each local government in Florida to enact and enforce critical local comprehensive plans, policies, and implementing regulations, and sets the stage for privatizing Florida's waters. They argue that in addition to what is stated above, the bill does the following:

- Retroactively preempts local government authority to protect wetlands and springs and regulate stormwater runoff;
 - Preempts local government authority to require a super majority vote on comprehensive plans and amendments;
 - Prevents any local government from adopting changes to plan amendments where development has been approved on bona fide agricultural lands; and,
 - Provides for land owners to secure what amounts to the privatizing of public water resources through 50 year consumptive use permits.
- **Flood Insurance (Federal):** There appear to be enough votes in the U.S. House of Representatives to pass a bill approved by the U.S. Senate that would delay flood insurance rate increases for four years, but House Republicans are still exploring other options, pointing out that the Senate proposal imposes additional costs on taxpayers. The House has also unveiled a proposal to eliminate the requirement for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to alter flood maps. The National Governors Association met with President Obama on February 24, 2014, and Governor Rick Scott used the opportunity to ask the President to delay the flood insurance increases.
 - **Flood Insurance (State):** The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee will, for a second time, hear Senate Bill 542 by Senator Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg), which seeks to attract more private insurers to offer flood coverage in Florida. The measure has been backed by the Senate Appropriations Committee. However, the Banking and Insurance Committee will hold the bill until the House determines how it wants to proceed on its measures addressing expanding flood coverage. These measures, House Bill 581 by Representative Larry Ahern (R-Seminole) and Representative Heather Dawes Fitzenhagen (R-Fort Myers) and House Bill 879, by Representative Ed Hooper (R-Clearwater) have not yet advanced through a committee. Senate Bill 542 is intended to provide "flexibility" to homeowners now covered through the National Flood Insurance Program and open the Florida market to private companies offering flood coverage. Among other things, the bill would allow homeowners to negotiate rates without private carriers needing the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation's consent and would allow flood coverage to be limited to principal buildings or the amounts of property owners' outstanding mortgages.

- **Growth Management/Developments of Regional Impact:** One of the more controversial growth management bills this session is Senate Bill 372 by Senator Bill Galvano (R-Bradenton), which would allow more counties to avoid state review of certain growth management decisions. In 2009, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 360 exempting counties designated as dense urban land areas from state review for developments of regional impact. In 2013, 242 cities met the requirement along with eight counties: Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, Pinellas and Seminole. Senate Bill 372 would eliminate a requirement that those developments be located in urban service areas and seven additional counties would be exempted: Brevard, Escambia, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Sarasota, and Volusia. The bill is being opposed by the Florida Association of Counties and several environmental groups due to the impacts large scale development could have on neighboring rural counties.
- **Tourism:** Florida attracted an estimated 94.7 million tourists last year, which is about a 3.5 percent increase over 2012. The figure marks the third consecutive year that the state has posted a record number of visitors. Visit Florida, the state's tourism arm, estimated there were 91.4 million visitors in 2012 and 85.9 million in 2011.
- **Water Policy:** The Sierra Club, 1000 Friends of Florida, Apalachicola Riverkeepers, Florida Wildlife Federation, Silver Springs Alliance, Our Sante Fe River, and other water advocates rallied at the Capitol on Tuesday, February 18, 2014. The groups were demanding that lawmakers tackle the entire spectrum of water-related issues, including the quality and quantity of the state's drinking-water sources, the state's freshwater springs, the Apalachicola River region, and South Florida.

However, based on comments made by House Speaker Will Weatherford to The News Service of Florida last week, comprehensive water policy legislation may not be the focus of this legislative session. This could compromise springs legislation and a measure that would redirect and improve the quality of the water in Lake Okeechobee. This is further reinforced by the fact that the Speaker deferred water policy issues to Representative Steve Crisafulli (R-Merritt Island), who, according to the News Service of Florida, has said he wants to make water a priority when he becomes speaker in 2015.

LEGISLATIVE EVENTS

March 4, 2014:	Regular Session Convenes
March 27, 2014:	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Action Day
April 1-2, 2014:	Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Days
April 22, 2014:	Last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
May 2, 2014:	Last day of regular session

BILL TRACKING REPORT

Due to the length of the bill tracking report, it will no longer be appended to this document but will travel as a separate attachment to the email transmitting this legislative update.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – i

FINANCIAL REPORT

Informational Summary

Attached are the following Financial Statements for Board review:

- Check Register and Budget Expenditure Report for the month ending February 28, 2014.
- ARPC Staff has proposed amendments to the ARPC Budget as amended at the February 6, 2014 Board Meeting. ARPC staff has continued to bring in additional contract revenues and collect old accounts receivable. The proposed budget reflects the additional revenue and spreads the unanticipated funding across several line items.
- The Accounts Payable Register reports all of the outstanding accounts payable as of 3/20/14. The highlighted amount of \$12,838.83 represents the remaining balance of the \$49,349.04 in accounts payable reported to the Executive Committee on 11/14/13. The balance on the old accounts payable account reported at the last Board meeting was \$18,853.01.

ACTION NEEDED

Motion to accept Financial Report for the periods ending February 28, 2014.

Motion to approve the FY 13/14 Proposed Amended Budget.

APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL FY 2013 / 2014

Income Statement 2/28/14

		<u>Oct 13 - Feb 14</u>	<u>Budget Balance</u> <u>2/28/2014</u>
INCOME/REVENUES:	BUDGET		
County Dues	45,000	20,000.00	25,000.00
EDA Planning Grant	63,000	31,500.00	31,500.00
Revolving Loan Fund - Admin	20,000	14,303.60	5,696.40
Apalachicola Scipio: CDBG/EDA	30,000	-	30,000.00
FDEM - ComTraining Course	4,000	4,000.00	0.00
FDEM - Hazards Analyses	21,000	-	21,000.00
FDEM - Annual Haz Mat Planning	20,000	6,062.26	13,937.74
FDEM - HMEP Training	32,000	16,618.58	15,381.42
FDEM - Local Emer. Planning	41,000	22,246.58	18,753.42
FDEM - RDSTF Planner	60,000	48,939.07	11,060.93
FDEM - Reg. Evacuation Update	15,000	5,000.00	10,000.00
FDEM - RDSTF Exercise	46,000	-	46,000.00
FDOH - N F. MRC Admin	28,000	14,000.00	14,000.00
Small Quantity Generator Inspections	30,000	11,400.00	18,600.00
Port St. Joe Water - CDBG	38,000	-	38,000.00
CTD - Transportation Disadvantage	96,000	58,514.86	37,485.14
Energy Resilience Study	9,000	9,604.54	(604.54)
FDACS - Animal Safety Planner	10,000	4,583.05	5,416.95
FDOT - Liasion	25,000	12,500.00	12,500.00
RCSC - Admin	10,000	1,000.00	9,000.00
FDACS - Pass Thru	50,000	22,991.43	27,008.57
FRCA - Pass Thru	104,000	44,000.00	60,000.00
Unanticipated Revenues	0	29,641.59	(29,641.59)
TOTAL INCOME/REVENUES	797,000	376,905.56	420,094.44
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Accounts Payable (Old)	36,000	24,876.22	11,123.78
Accounting	650	-	650.00
Advertising	350	240.23	109.77
Audit	15,000	2,500.00	12,500.00
Consultant (HA & HMEP)	28,500	15,593.85	12,906.15
Dues (FRCA, NADO, SERDI)	17,500	725.00	16,775.00
Equipment Lease - Copiers	9,900	1,630.38	8,269.62
Fringe Benefits	109,500	50,151.12	59,348.88
Insurance (Work Comp, Liability)	13,600	5,428.00	8,172.00
IT Tech Support	1,200	340.00	860.00
Legal	6,000	1,000.00	5,000.00
Licenses (REMI)	6,300	-	6,300.00
Office Supplies	1,500	979.00	521.00
Postage	1,200	954.11	245.89
Rent	27,000	9,281.86	17,718.14
Salaries	353,200	168,358.84	184,841.16
Telephone	3,600	1,303.45	2,296.55
Travel	12,000	6,570.59	5,429.41
FDACS - Pass Thru	50,000	21,873.00	28,127.00
FRCA - Pass Thru	104,000	45,373.00	58,627.00
Misc. Expenses	0	594.50	(594.50)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:	797,000	357,773.15	439,226.85
		9/30/13 Starting Cash	4,092.75
		Revenues Oct 13 - Feb 14	376,905.56
		Expenses Oct 13 - Feb 14	357,773.15
		Cash Balance as of 2/28/14	23,225.16

APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL FY 2013 / 2014 BUDGET - Proposed Amendment 3/27/14

INCOME/REVENUES:	Current	Proposed Changes	Amended as of 3/27/14	Description
County Dues	45,000		45,000	
EDA Planning Grant	63,000		63,000	
EDA - Regional Score Card	0	10,000	10,000	Adding new contract
Revolving Loan Fund - Admin	20,000		20,000	
Apalachicola Scipio: CDBG/EDA	30,000		30,000	
FDEM - ComTraining Course	4,000		4,000	
FDEM - Hazards Analyses	21,000		21,000	
FDEM - Annual Haz Mat Planning	20,000		20,000	
FDEM - HMEP Training	32,000		32,000	
FDEM - Local Emer. Planning	41,000		41,000	
FDEM - RDSTF Planner	60,000		60,000	
FDEM - Reg. Evacuation Update	15,000		15,000	
FDEM - RDSTF Exercise	46,000		46,000	
FDOH - N F. MRC Admin	28,000		28,000	
Jackson County - SHSGP / COOP	0	10,000	10,000	Adding new contract
Leon County POD Exercise	0	1,000	1,000	Adding new contract
Small Quantity Generator Insp.	30,000		30,000	
Port St. Joe Water - CDBG	38,000		38,000	
CTD - Transportation Disadvantage	96,000		96,000	
Energy Resilience Study	9,000		9,000	
FDACS - Animal Safety Planner	10,000		10,000	
FDOT - Liasion	25,000		25,000	
RCSC - Admin	10,000	(5,000)	5,000	Reducing Existing contract
Collected FY 12/13 Receivables	0	30,000	30,000	Adding collected receivables
FDACS - Pass Thru	50,000		50,000	
FRCA - Pass Thru	104,000		104,000	
TOTAL INCOME/REVENUES	797,000	46,000	843,000	
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Accounts Payable (Old)	36,000		36,000	
Accounting	650	400	1,050	Adding software purchase
Advertising	350		350	
Audit	15,000		15,000	
Board Meetings	0	2,000	2,000	Adding costs of Bd. Meetings
Consultant (HA & HMEP)	28,500		28,500	
Contingency	0	38,900	38,900	Accting for excess revenue
Dues (FRCA, NADO, SERDI)	17,500		17,500	
Equipment Lease - Copiers	9,900		9,900	
Fringe Benefits	109,500	1,100	110,600	Adding cell phone stipend
Insurance (Work Comp, Liability)	13,600		13,600	
IT Tech Support	1,200	600	1,800	Additional IT support
Legal	6,000		6,000	
Licenses (REMI)	6,300		6,300	
Misc. Expenses	0	1,000	1,000	Adding a Misc. Line Item
Office Supplies	1,500	1,000	2,500	Additional office supplies
Postage	1,200	1,000	2,200	Increased postage fees
Rent	27,000		27,000	
Salaries	353,200		353,200	
Telephone	3,600		3,600	
Travel	12,000		12,000	
FDACS - Pass Thru	50,000		50,000	
FRCA - Pass Thru	104,000		104,000	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:	797,000	46,000	843,000	

AGENDA ITEM 6 - a

STAFF REPORT - COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEWS

Informational Summary – Keith McCarron

Gulf County Capital Improvements Element 14-CIE1: The Gulf County Capital Improvements Element (CIE) annual review contains an updated 5-Year Capital Improvements Schedule (CIS). The attached staff report includes a copy of the updated Gulf County CIS that was adopted by ordinance in January 2014.

Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ESR: The Proposed Amendment Series contains text changes to the Capital Improvements Element and an updated 5-Year Capital Improvements Schedule (CIS). The attached staff report summarizes the proposed amendments and includes a copy of the updated Wakulla County CIS.

City of Carrabelle Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ER: The Proposed Amendment Series contains text changes to most elements of the Comprehensive Plan based on recommendations in the City's adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

ACTION NEEDED

Motions to approve draft staff reports, as amended by the Board, and forward them to the local government and the Department of Economic Opportunity.

**ARPC REVIEW OF GULF COUNTY ADOPTED
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT 14-CIE1**

Introduction

The Gulf County Capital Improvements Element (CIE) annual review was received by the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) in February 2014. The review contains an updated 5-year Capital Improvements Schedule (copy attached) that was adopted by Ordinance 2014-0 in January 2014. The review does not propose any CIE plan amendments in accordance with 163.3177 (3)(b), Florida Statutes (F.S.)

Staff Analysis

Local governments are required to review the capital improvements element on an annual basis. Modifications to the 5-year capital improvement schedule (CIS) may be accomplished by ordinance and are not deemed amendments to the local comprehensive plan in accordance with Section 163.3177 (3)(b), F.S.

Regional Comments

None

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Board find the adopted Gulf County Capital Improvements Element (CIE) annual review consistent with the Apalachee Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

Five Year Capital Improvements Schedule Summary Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Projects Required or Needed to Reduce Existing LOS Deficiencies in LOS Facilities :

ID No.	Project Name	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	Funding Responsibility
A	WATER						
B	SEWER						
C	DRAINAGE						
D	SOLID WASTE						
E	RECREATION						
F	SCHOOLS						
G	TRANSPORTATION						

Non-LOS Facility Projects or Projects to Enhance Non-Deficient LOS Facilities:

ID No.	Project Name	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	Funding Responsibility
A	WATER						
B	SEWER						
C	DRAINAGE						
D	SOLID WASTE						
E	RECREATION						
F	SCHOOLS						
G	TRANSPORTATION						
H	NON-LOS PROJECTS						
Totals		\$11,387,027	\$9,529,731	\$7,511,350	\$5,257,000	\$32,684,936	

ID No.	Project Name	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	Funding Responsibility
County Roadways							
G16	Marion Road					\$35,000	
G18	Tim Parkway, Hartman					\$2,500	
G19	777 30th Street, Hartman					\$216,000	State DOT
G20	618 20th Street, Hartman					\$1,417,000	State DOT
G21	James Dunbar Rd					\$3,363,000	State DOT
G22	Shirley Loop Road					\$1,417,000	State DOT
G23	Marion Road					\$3,363,000	State DOT
G24	CR 300 Walnut/Roseville					\$3,363,000	State DOT
G25	CR 300 Walnut/Roseville					\$3,363,000	State DOT
G26	CR 300 Walnut/Roseville					\$3,363,000	State DOT
NON-LOS PROJECTS							
H1	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H2	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H3	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H4	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H5	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H6	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H7	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
H8	Stamps Community Center					\$400,000	Community Center
Totals		\$11,387,027	\$9,529,731	\$7,511,350	\$5,257,000	\$32,684,936	

**ARPC REVIEW OF WAKULLA COUNTY
PROPOSED AMENDMENT SERIES 14-1ESR**

Introduction

The Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ESR was received by the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (APRC) in February 2014. The Proposed Amendment Series contains text changes to the Capital Improvements Element and an updated 5-Year Capital Improvements Schedule.

Staff Analysis

The proposed text amendments are indented to update language in the Capital Improvements Element to incorporate new data and analysis and address changes in Florida Statutes that have occurred since the last time the element was amended.

PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS

1. Amend Capital Improvements Policy 1.8 as follows:

Policy 1.8: Capital improvement projects that are necessary to maintain any adopted level-of-service standards within the five-year period shall be undertaken to ensure those standards are met. The tables below show the financial feasibility of the capital projects associated with this Element. Table 1 shows the capital improvement projects necessary to maintain the adopted Level of Service for the County's infrastructure. Table 2 shows the fiscal assessment of the proposed projects in the CIP that are necessary to maintain the minimum Level of Service Standard.

2. Add new Capital Improvements Policy 1.9 as follows:

Policy 1.9: The County hereby incorporates by reference the Wakulla County Adopted Infrastructure Plan dated October 15, 2012, authored by the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., to address capital projects that may or may not be needed to ensure Level of Service standards are maintained but include projects to fulfill the priorities of the Board of County Commissioners and local

3. Amend Level of Service standards contained in Policy 5.1 as follows:

Sanitary Sewer

~~For all public and private central sewage systems except Paradise Village: 80 gallons per day; Paradise Village: 96 gallons per person per day~~

(1) Minimum average daily flow to be treated from domestic units shall be 250 gallons per Equivalent Dwelling Unit per day.

(2) Wastewater effluent shall meet standards defined by State law, permit requirements of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Water Management District and County ordinance when discharged to groundwater or surface water in the County.

Potable Water

~~Talquin Service Area: 60 gallons per capita per day; Panacea Service Area: 60 gallons per capita per day; Sopchoppy Service Area: 94 gallons per capita per day; Northeast Service Area: 94 gallons per capita per day~~

(1) System capacity shall be based on 250 gallons per Equivalent Dwelling Unit per day based on maximum daily flow plus the maintenance of minimum fire flow standards.

(2) Minimum potable water quality shall be as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, except where the State or County may impose stricter standards.

Schools

Elementary Schools: 100% of FISH capacity for permanent student stations only

Middle Schools: 100% of FISH capacity for permanent student stations only

High Schools: 100% of FISH capacity for permanent student stations only

4. Amend Policy 5.2 to eliminate the requirement to demonstrate financial feasibility of public facilities for development and redevelopment.

Policy 5.2: Proposed plan amendments and requests for new development or redevelopment shall be evaluated according to the following guidelines as to whether the proposed action would:

~~(6) If public facilities are provided, in part or whole, by the County, demonstrate financial feasibility, subject to this element; and~~

Regional Comment:

None

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Board find the Wakulla County Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ESR consistent with the Apalachee Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

TABLE 1

Five-Year Schedule of Needed Capital Improvements, Wakulla County, 2014-2019

PROJECT	FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015	FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016	FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017	FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018	FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019
Potable Water					
City of Sopchoppy expansion (new well site)	TBD (to be funded by the City) HIGH PRIORITY				
Solid Waste					
No Capacity Improvements Needed to Maintain LOS					
Transportation Facilities					
Intersection improvements at Crawfordville Highway (US 319) and Wakulla Arran Road*		\$632,077 (FDOT FUNDS AND FEDERAL AID) HIGH PRIORITY			
Drainage					
No Capacity Improvements Needed to Maintain LOS					
Wastewater					
Otter Creek Wastewater Facility Expansion**					\$4,200,000 (Unfunded but looking to Legislative funds and USDA) HIGH
Lift Station Rehabilitation***	\$110,000 (Funded as part of BOCC Budget) HIGH PRIORITY	\$110,000 (Funded as part of BOCC Budget) HIGH PRIORITY	\$110,000 (Funded as part of BOCC Budget) HIGH PRIORITY	\$110,000 (Funded as part of BOCC Budget) HIGH PRIORITY	\$110,000 (Funded as part of BOCC Budget) HIGH PRIORITY
Schools					
No Capacity Improvements Needed to Maintain LOS					

*See Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency Transportation Improvement Program FY13-14

** See Wakulla County Infrastructure Plan, Additional Projects

*** See Wakulla County Capital Projects 5 Year Plan from FY13/14 Approved Final Budget

**ARPC REVIEW OF THE CITY OF CARRABELLE
PROPOSED AMENDMENT SERIES 14-1ER**

Introduction

The City of Carrabelle Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ER was received at the offices of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (APRC) in March 2014. The proposed amendment series contains text changes to elements of the Comprehensive Plan based on the recommendations of the City's Adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

Staff Analysis

FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT

1. Amend Policy 1.1.6 to withhold the certificate of occupancy (previously development orders and permits) if a development reduces the adopted level of service for public facilities below the standards adopted in the Comprehensive Plan.
2. New Policy 1.1.12 proposes to establish a Waterfront Overlay to promote the redevelopment and revitalization of the downtown waterfront through developer incentives, grant funding, streamline permitting, the relaxation of fees, or other similar incentives as specified in the land development code.
3. Amend Policy 1.6.4 to consider the urban sprawl factors in Section 163.3177(6)(a)(9)a, Florida Statutes in the review of map and plan amendments.
4. Delete Policy 1.11.2 directing the City to consider the adoption and implementation of an inclusionary zoning ordinance, which as a condition of approval requires residential developments above a certain size to include a specified number of affordable units or a donation of land and/or housing units to a housing trust fund.
5. Amend Objective 1.12 to change the name of a cross-referenced document from the Carrabelle-Thompson Airport Master Plan to the Carrabelle-Thompson Airport Layout Plan.
6. Delete Policy 1.12.2 related to minimizing the impact of future airport expansion on residential areas and nearby neighborhoods.
7. Delete Objectives 1.13 – 1.1.5 and associated Policies related to the economic development from the Future Land Use Element and move these to the Economic Development Element.

PUBLIC FACILITIES ELEMENT

8. Amend Policy 1.1.1 to require that services be in place and available to serve new development no later than the issuance by the City of a certificate of occupancy or the equivalent.
9. Amend Policy 1.9.2 to require the City to select alternative water supply and conservation project(s) from those identified in the Regional Water Supply Plan, Region V Franklin and Gulf Counties.
10. Amend Objective 1.12, and associated Policies (1.12.1- 1.12.2) to cross-reference the City of Carrabelle Stormwater Master Management Plan.

HOUSING ELEMENT

11. Delete Policy 1.3.2 related to the adoption and implementation of an inclusionary zoning ordinance to ensure the construction of affordable units or the donation of land and/or housing units to a housing trust fund.

TRAFFIC CIRCULATION ELEMENT

12. Delete Policy 1.1.7 related to the adoption of a methodology for assessing proportionate fair share mitigation options for transportation facilities and the Fair-Share Ordinance that implements this methodology.
13. Delete Policy 1.4.1 related to coordination with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) on data, analysis, programs, and policies the ARPC generates regarding traffic circulation.
14. Delete Policy 1.8.2 requiring the City to update the Future Land Use Element and land development regulations to reflect the updated Airport Layout Plan, which has already been addressed.

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

15. Amend Policy 1.1.1 to adopt 2 acres per 1,000 population as the Recreation and Open Space level of service (LOS) standards and delete the list of facility LOS standards.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

16. Delete Policy 1.2.2 requiring the City to coordinate with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council on proposed amendments to assure the changes do not represent an impact to the region or state.
17. Delete Policy 1.6.8 requiring the City to coordinate with the Franklin County School Board regarding the utilization of the Carrabelle High School because it has been accomplished.
18. Delete Policy 1.6.9 requiring the City to coordinate with Franklin County and the Franklin County School Board concerning the joint use of recreational facilities.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

19. Delete Policy 1.3.4 prohibiting new boat basins, marinas and other multi-slip docking facilities where water depths are less than four feet deep at mean low tide and dredge-and-fill activities other than maintenance dredging.
20. Amend Policy 1.4.1 to ensure implementation of the City's Stormwater Master Plan (October 2006).
21. Amend Policy 1.4.2 to require the City consider the *Stormwater Master Plan* when determining the need for and establishing priorities for drainage facilities.
22. Delete Policy 1.4.3 requiring the City to initiate the implementation of its *Stormwater Management Plan* because this has been accomplished.
23. Amend Policy 1.1.1 to establish that the Coastal High Hazard Area for the City is defined as the area below the elevation of the Category 1 storm surge line as established by a Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) computerized storm surge model.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT

24. Delete Policy 1.3.1 related to the adoption and implementation of an inclusionary zoning ordinance to ensure the construction of affordable units or the donation of land and/or housing units to a housing trust fund.
25. Delete Policy 1.4.8 related to Concurrency Management System guidelines.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

26. New Goal to enhance the economic prosperity of all citizens within the city of Carrabelle through the expansion and diversification of the economy while preserving the natural environment and rural way of life.
27. New Objective 1.1 and associated policies to diversify the local economy by coordinating with area economic development organizations on the formation and expansion of a variety of small businesses, public/private sector partnerships, economic development grants, to assist with economic development, incentives to promote infill development and promote educational, vocational, and technical training to .
28. New Objective 1.2 and associated policies to utilize natural resources to promote economic development especially water-dependent and water-related businesses in a non-destructive and environmentally responsible manner through development of, ecotourism-related partnerships and grants.
29. New Objective 1.3 and associated policies to ensure an adequate supply of industrial land on the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) for industrial or commerce parks with minimal impact on locally significant environmental resources and residential areas by encouraging use of existing or underutilized industrial areas particularly those lands surrounding Lake Morality Road.
30. New Objective 1.4 and associated policies to promote the downtown waterfront in coordination with the Community Redevelopment Area and Waterfronts Partnership by permitting a mix of uses, protecting public access and views of the water, encouraging urban agriculture and aquaculture development code amendments and training opportunities.

Regional Comments:

1. Amended Future Land Use Policy 1.1.6 directs the City to withhold the certificate of occupancy (previously development orders and permits) if a development reduces the adopted level of service for public facilities below the standards adopted in the Comprehensive Plan. Consider including a provision in the comprehensive plan that also directs the City to confirm prior to the approval of a building permit that public facilities to serve new development will be available no later than the anticipated date of a certificate of occupancy and notify the applicant if capacity is insufficient.
2. Public Facilities Element Policy 1.9.2 directs the City to select alternative water supply and conservation project(s) from those identified in the Regional Water Supply Plan, Region V Franklin and Gulf Counties. Please note the Northwest Florida Water Management District has recently completed the *2013 Water Supply Assessment Update* that concludes water supplies in Region V are projected to be adequate for the

20-year planning period. Therefore the NFWFMD has discontinued the Regional Water Supply Plan for Region V and will not revisit this decision until the next 5-year Plan update. It is recommended that the City consult with the Department of Economic Opportunity and the Northwest Florida Water Management District on the wording of this policy.

3. If the City is implementing transportation concurrency in accordance with s. 163.3180 (5), F.S. it is recommended that the Plan include a provision for assessing a landowners proportionate share cost of providing transportation facilities necessary to serve a proposed development.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Board find the City of Carrabelle Proposed Amendment Series 14-1ER consistent with the Apalachee Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - c

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Informational Summary – Bruce Ballister

Port St. Joe – North Port St. Joe Water I: The selected contractor, GAC Construction has sub-contracted to Pickron Excavating out of Blountstown to do the work. Initial visits have been made to confirm that Davis Bacon requirements were being met. It is expected that the project will be completed by mid-summer.

Port St. Joe – North Port St. Joe Water II: The City has approved a contract for the ARPC to represent them in the next annual application for funding to create an application package for the next funding cycle. A first public hearing will have to be repeated and the initial steps of grant preparation duplicated due to the City's ineligibility to apply during the current cycle. The survey work for all anticipated service areas has been completed and ARPC staff has verified that the completed survey work can be used in the next grant cycle opening in the fall of 2014.

City of Apalachicola – Scipio Creek Boat Basin: The project has been awarded \$1,855,000 from the Economic Development Administration and \$484,596 from the DEO's CDBG program. The City of Apalachicola is providing an additional \$215,000. The project, after numerous procedural delays, has finally been issued a green light from both CDBG and the EDA. The City of Apalachicola issued a notice to proceed and the Construction Manager will be on site the week of March 17th. ARPC staff will provide additional information after the project work group meeting scheduled for March 26th.

Midway EAR Based Amendments: ARPC staff has been requested to assist the City of Midway in preparing an EAR based Amendment to its Comprehensive Plan. There are also issues with the absence of a zoning map at City Hall. ARPC staff will be providing assistance to the City on these projects as funds are identified and made available. The City plans to apply for project funding through the FDEO.

RiverWay South AC Summit: ARPC staff will be assisting in the preparations for the second RiverWay South Rural Tourism and Economic Development Summit to be held at Chipola State College on April 4th. Speakers will include FL Secretary of State Ken Detzner, travel marketing guru Judy Randall, and a host of other experts from the State and the Tourism Industry. Call (850) 764-2853 for information, visit www.RWSFL.org, or call Bruce Ballister at 850-488-6211.

Wakulla Environmental Institute (WEI): ARPC staff understands that the Economic Development Administration (EDA) is very close to issuing a contract to Tallahassee Community College to help fund the access road construction and utility extensions to serve the WEI. ARPC staff has been in contact with the grant writer and the Atlanta EDA staff since the beginning of this process and will serve as the Project Administrator after official funding is awarded.

Florida Energy Resiliency Study: ARPC staff partnering with the other RPCs of Florida has completed the Florida Energy Resiliency Study. The Executive Summary outlining the results of the report is included for Board information on the following pages.

ACTION NEEDED

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Florida Energy Resiliency Report is the first of its kind developed by the Florida's eleven Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) in their capacity as Economic Development Districts (EDDs). This effort began developing an Energy Resiliency Report in November 2011. This effort was a result of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill that led to the discharge of an estimated 206 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The statewide Energy Resiliency Study is about creating a more diverse energy supply and the actions that we take in advance or before an energy event to reduce or minimize the impact of an interruption to the energy supply.

TIMEFRAME

The expansive timeframe of the Energy Resiliency Report allowed the RPCs to thoroughly analyze Florida's robust energy needs and concerns. Over 3,000 survey results helped create discussions to craft strategies and future scenarios at 9 statewide workshops. Twenty-one Case Studies were analyzed to identify early adopters and programs for new energy resiliency solutions. Confabs and discussions between the RPCs helped develop 27 strategies to help Florida become more energy resilient.

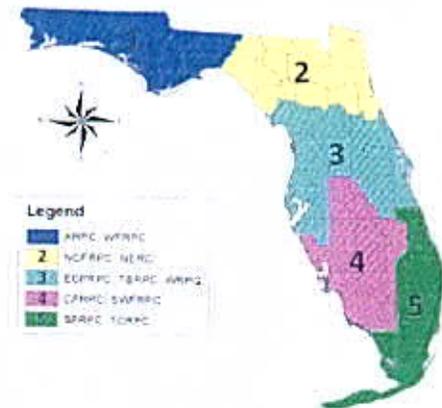
WORKSHOPS

As part of the Energy Resiliency Study, energy workshops were held to determine each Energy Planning Area's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, as well as general happenings in each EPA related to energy. These findings also included relative strengths of each area with respect to renewable and alternative energy technologies.

SURVEYS

Phone and internet surveys were conducted to understand the residential and business price elasticity, temperament towards energy policies, and potential energy-related investments. The surveys interviewed both businesses and residents, which overall indicated that over 50% of Floridians were willing to invest in energy efficiency. Additional guidance was provided by stakeholders from each of five "Energy Planning Areas".

ENERGY PLANNING AREAS



In order to address the uniqueness of Florida's regions, we divided up the state into 5 Energy Planning Areas. The EPA's were divided to align with more appropriate energy resources.

The Panhandle EPA has great wind potential along the I10 corridor and portions of it are in Plant Hardiness Zone 8 which allows for additional trees and biomass vegetation.

The South Florida EPA has access to the gulfstream, a number of islands, and Plant Hardiness Zone 10 which allows for additional trees and biomass vegetation.

The Southwest and Central Florida EPA have access to the gulf, lakes, and available land in their RACEC.

The Tampa Bay/Orlando EPA has access to the I4 Corridor, containing UF, UCF, USF, NASA, Florida Solar Energy Center, etc.

In order to address the uniqueness of Florida's regions, for purposes of this study the state is divided into five Energy Planning Areas (EPAs), which are comprised of partnerships among the eleven regional planning councils.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



SCENARIO MODELING

Scenario modeling was performed by the regional planning councils to determine the impacts of hypothetical energy or resiliency situations. A dozen hypothetical scenarios were modeled and analyzed using REMI to determine what would happen if the scenario came to fruition. The benefits of the scenarios are of interest to decision makers and Floridians in general. Overall, these scenarios were analyzed with the following results:

Natural Gas Disruption:

This fuel has become increasingly important in Florida, and currently is plentiful and inexpensive. Analysis shows however that a mere six month disruption or period of significant price increase could cause the state to lose \$4.2B in Gross Domestic Product in that short timeframe.

Gas Price Increase:

Florida is very dependent on gasoline. Increase prices by 50%-175% for five years and the State loses \$28B-\$82B in Gross Domestic Product.

Renewable Portfolio Standards:

Increase the percentage of renewable fuel sources used in Florida from the current 1% to 10% in five years, and \$6B is added to Gross Domestic Product.

Private Energy Market:

An increase in solar installations that added 1% to construction sales and reduced electric costs by .05% each year has only a minimal impact on Gross Domestic Product.

Electric Vehicles:

If 1% of all new vehicles sold in Florida in 2030 were electric, \$27M would be added to Gross Domestic Product

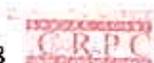
STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Strategy development and Implementation steps were the final steps in the strategy. Over 27 strategies were created to address the issue of energy resiliency in Florida. Once implemented, this preparation will counter concerns related to Florida's energy vulnerability.

The top five strategies were ranked by ease of implementation, as shown below. All these strategies were deemed to be easy or moderate to carry out, and could be implemented by different stakeholders through facilitation by Regional Planning Councils. The majority of these strategies also have a strong outreach and educational component, and some might require changes to local policies and ordinances.

STRATEGY

- 1 Provide comprehensive education on the goals, costs and benefits, obstacles, and quality of life implications related to energy efficient community design and planning.
- 2 Adopt a broad-based program to promote efficiency and conservation using all available tools, and market a consistent message of energy efficiency and conservation through comprehensive planning and school district curricula.
- 3 Continue to conduct public opinion polling and economic modeling to support the adoption of renewable energy goals by the state and its public and private partners.
- 4 Encourage innovative energy project development through collaboration of universities, entrepreneurs, and regional expertise.
- 5 Develop and encourage Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) and other locally established financing programs for energy efficiency, energy conservation, and energy generation improvement programs and make available to all sectors



AGENDA ITEM 6 - d

STAFF REPORT - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and DOMESTIC SECURITY PLANNING

Informational Summary – Denise Imbler and Chris Rietow

Regional Hazardous Materials Program

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council staffs the District 2 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) which is responsible for implementing the Emergency Planning and the Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) for the Council's nine-county region. The four primary activities of the LEPC are hazardous materials planning, training, emergency exercises and public outreach.

The most recent quarterly meeting of the District 2 LEPC was held on February 6, 2014 at the Tallahassee/Leon Public Safety Complex. The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2014 at a location yet to be determined. Staff attended the quarterly meetings of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) for Hazardous Materials in Daytona Beach, Florida on January 21-22, 2014. The next round of SERC meetings will be held in April 3-4 in Tallahassee. Staff attended the Gadsden County Fire Chief's Meeting on March 5th to discuss the LEPC as a potential training and planning resource.

Hazardous Materials Training

Staff sponsored the following training course since the last ARPC Board Meeting:

Date	Course	Location	Hours	Participants
1/22/14	HazMat Symposium	Daytona Beach	N/A	4
2/27/14	HazMat Awareness	Monticello VFD	4	30

The District 2 LEPC covered the registration and travel/lodging costs to send four personnel to the 2014 HazMat Symposium in Daytona Beach. Staff also coordinated a 4-hr HazMat Awareness Level course at the Monticello Volunteer Fire Department on February 2nd. Staff continued working on a training plan to ensure that all transportation-related hazardous materials training funds are spent for FFY 2013-14. Three 8-hr HazMat Incident Commander courses have been scheduled for April 14th, 15th and 16th for the Tallahassee Fire Department's HazMat Team A, B and C shifts. The courses are open to all fire departments within the District.

Hazards Analysis Update

Each year, staff visits 50% of the region's (excluding Jackson and Wakulla Counties) Section 302 facilities to verify Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) inventories and emergency contact information. Section 302 facilities store EHSs at or above the established Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) thresholds. Examples of common EHSs in the Apalachee region include chlorine, sulfur dioxide, sulfuric acid and anhydrous ammonia. The site visits aid in creating an electronic hazards analysis (HA) summary that includes worst-case

spill/release data. The information is used by first responders and emergency management planners. Staff recently submitted deliverables on behalf of Leon County to the Division of Emergency Management for review and is continuing additional work to complete the contract.

Staff participated on the HA Work Group conference calls on February 24th and March 10th. The Work Group's mission is to streamline the HA Program and improve the overall product. Discussions are progressing with stakeholders on shifting more the responsibilities of the HA program to the RPCs/LEPCs. Staff reported out to the 10 other LEPCs via conference call on February 25th and March 11th.

HMEP Planning Project

Staff selected the *Hazards Analysis Facility Summary* for the District 2 LEPC's annual Federal Fiscal Year 2013-14 HMEP planning project. This project will result in a hard copy binder of organized facility data to be used by dispatchers. A planning project schedule was started and will be completed in the third quarter. Staff began the process of reviewing the District 2 LEPC's 2011 Hazards Analysis Summary to identify areas for improvement. Staff also began reviewing the Microsoft Access 2010 database application that was developed by District 11 to determine potential integration with the District 2 planning project.

Biennial LEPC Exercise

The LEPC is required to facilitate an exercise every other year to satisfy the requirements of the Division of Emergency Management LEPC Staff Support contract. Staff has coordinated with the Tallahassee Fire Department and CSX to tentatively schedule a functional exercise on June 4, 2014. The exercise will involve a train derailment that releases hazardous materials in a populated area.

Domestic Security Program - Region 2 Domestic Security Task Force

Seven domestic security task forces were formed in Florida after the events of September 11, 2001 and in accordance with F.S. 943.0312. The main responsibilities of the Task Forces are to improve Florida's ability to detect and prevent terrorist threats, collect and disseminate intelligence and investigative information, protect critical infrastructure, coordinate the delivery of training and support the purchase of proper equipment for first responders and Task Force response teams. ARPC staff serves as the Emergency Management Planner for the Region 2/North Florida RDSTF.

Exercises

Council staff continued assisting with the planning and development of the regional, full scale exercise that will be held on April 28, 2014 in Tallahassee at multiple venues. The scenario of the exercise, Operation Deep Freeze, involves a large explosion at the Florida State University National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. The multi-disciplinary, domestic security exercise will be the first regional exercise held since Operation School Safety in 2008. A command level tabletop exercise will be held on April 23, 2014 and a related SWAT component will be held on May 1, 2014 in Lake City. The ARPC has partnered with the North Central Florida RPC

for assistance with the Lake City component of the exercise. Staff has now facilitated five planning conferences and three conference calls with stakeholders to continue exercise planning efforts. The next Planning Conference has been scheduled for March 27, 2014, at the Tallahassee/Leon Public Safety Complex.

The RDSTF Planner continues to participate with the planning efforts of the Region 2 full-scale exercise discussed above. Following is a list of upcoming exercise being held throughout the Region in the next quarter:

- March 5 – Mass Casualty Incident Exercise, Dixie County
- March 24 - Active Shooter Exercise, Jefferson County
- April 5 – Fire Rescue Exercise, Gadsden County
- April - EOC Exercise, Leon County
- April 10 – Mass Casualty Incident Exercise, Madison County
- April 11 – POD Exercise, Taylor County

Planning

The Planner assisted Region 2 counties apply for residual domestic security funds focused on enhancement to county emergency operating centers. The Planner will serve to support the Division of Emergency Management with a region wide accounting of resources purchased with federal funds using an automated software program. The RDSTF Planner serves as the Coordinator for the Big Bend Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) and has worked with the Leadership Group to develop a strategic plan and response procedures to enhance operational organization of the volunteer organizations in the region. The COAD has formed a working group to develop a regional mass feeding strategy and met in February and March to work on this strategy.

Meetings and Workshops

The RDSTF Planner continues to assist with the development of the 3rd Annual Rural County Summit scheduled for July 9 – 13, 2014 at the Florida Public Safety Institute. This year the Summit will focus on emergency response in a small community and feature guest speakers from:

- West, Texas (Fertilizer Plant Explosion)
- Moore, Oklahoma (F5 Tornado)
- Yarnell, Arizona (Wildfire)
- Boulder, Colorado (Flooding)

The RDSTF Planner attended the following meetings during the quarter:

- Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Meeting, January 14, 2014
- Region 2 Training and Exercise Plan Meeting, January 21, 2014
- Volunteer Leon Listening Session, January 28, 2014
- Exercise Operation Deep Freeze Planning Meeting, January 28, 2014

- Tallahassee Regional Airport Exercise Planning Meeting, January 31, 2014
- Transportation Security Agency Multi-Modal Meeting, February 5, 2014
- RDSTF Planner Conference Call, February 11, 2014
- District 2 LEPC Meeting, February 12, 2014
- Regional Mass Feeding Strategy Planning Meeting, February 12, 2014
- Tallahassee Regional Airport Exercise Planning Meeting, February 13, 2014
- 3rd Annual Rural County Summit Planning Meeting, February 19, 2014
- Regional Shelter Planning Meeting with FSU, February 27, 2014
- Region 2 Quarterly Meeting, March 13, 2014
- Regional Mass Feeding Strategy Planning Meeting, March 13, 2014
- Region 2 RDSTF Meeting, March 25, 2014
- Exercise Operation Deep Freeze Planning Meeting, March 27, 2014

Emergency Management Program

The Council contracted with the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency to facilitate an update to their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) for five Jackson County agencies including:

- Jackson County Emergency Management
- Jackson County Sheriff's Office
- Jackson County Fire Rescue
- Jackson County 911
- Jackson County Road and Bridge Department

Staff has conducted several meetings with these agencies and the COOP updates will be completed by April 30, 2014.

North Florida Medical Reserve Corps

Staff continues to serve as the Coordinator for the North Florida Medical Reserve Corps which serves an eight county region in the Big Bend. During the quarter, the Coordinator attended the Tallahassee Regional Airport full-scale exercise on February 20, 2014, hosted a Triage course for volunteers on February 8, 2014 and hosted an orientation session for new members on February 26, 2014. The North Florida MRC membership includes more than 50 licensed medical volunteers from around the region.

ACTION NEEDED

None

AGENDA ITEM 6 – e

STAFF REPORT – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Informational Summary – Keith McCarron

Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program: The Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) contracts annually with the following seven counties Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty and Wakulla to implement their Small Quantity Generator Assessment, Notification and Verification (SQG) Program in accordance with Florida Statutes. Updated SQG Program Contracts will be sent to these member Counties starting in April 2014 and staff anticipates beginning work as soon as these contracts are executed.

FDOT Work Program Liaison: Staff continues to follow-up on issues identified in the 2013 Liaison Report submitted to FDOT District 3 in October 2013. Staff is also assisting with outreach for the Transportation Alternatives Program and providing advice on the identification and prioritization of local candidate projects.

City of Chattahoochee: Staff is assisting the City of Chattahoochee with preparation and adoption of a new Florida-specific model floodplain management ordinance. The Florida Division of Emergency Management is requesting local governments adopt this new model floodplain management ordinance which was written to coordinate with changes to the Florida Building Code.

AGENDA ITEM 7

FLORIDA GREENWAYS & TRAILS FOUNDATION, INC.
www.FGTG.org

Informational Summary

Dale Allen, President of the Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation, Inc. will be making a presentation to the Board on the efforts to close the gaps along the Florida Trail within the Apalachee Region.

Staff met with Mr. Allen in February to discuss opportunities where the Council could provide assistance with the Foundation's efforts. Mr. Allen touched upon the potential economic benefits from a completed Florida Trail and staff invited him to present at the next ARPC Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Allen's presentation has been scheduled at the end of the meeting to allow for additional question and answer time during lunch.

ACTION NEEDED

None



AGENDA ITEM 8

CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS OF INTEREST

Informational Summary

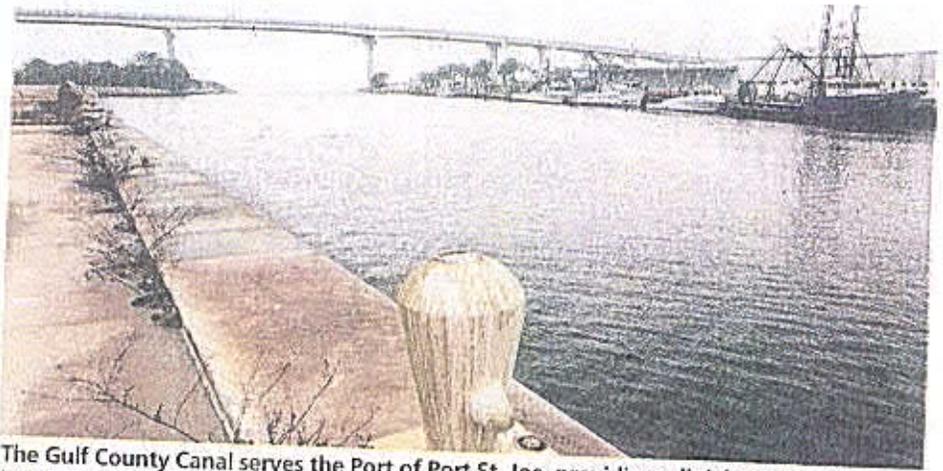
Attached is a selection of articles assembled by ARPC staff that may be of interest to the Board.

1. Tallahassee Democrat article on a Port St. Joe Port Study
2. Jackson County Times article on the ACF water issue.
3. Apalachicola Times article on the Disaster Funding issue.

ACTION NEEDED

None

Tallahassee
Democrat
2/13/14



The Gulf County Canal serves the Port of Port St. Joe, providing a link between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Gulf of Mexico. MIKE EWEN/DEMOCRAT FILES

Study projects impact of port improvements

Economic reach said to be \$941M

By Dave Hodges
Democrat Business Editor
@TallyBiz on Twitter

Results from a just-completed economic study of the Port of Port St. Joe indicate the facility's planned improvements and operations will generate a total impact of more than \$941 million from 2015 to 2025 and add \$490 million to the state's gross domestic product.

The projections are contained in a report by The Washington Economics Group Inc., which was commissioned by the Port St. Joe Port Authority to quantify and present the expected effects from the port's future construction and operations plans.

The researchers anticipate an average of 803 annual equivalent jobs during the study period. That reflects the temporary construction jobs expected in 2015 and the additional employment the port would have from sustained business operations beginning in 2016, they wrote.

The modernization plans are projected to generate nearly \$133 mil-

lion in net state revenues for taxpayers. That translates to a return on investment of nearly \$4.66 for every dollar the state invests in the project.

"This ROI report from The Washington Economics Group is indeed good news," said Leonard Costin, port authority chairman. "This investment is classified as an infrastructure loan, which normally looks to a minimum ratio of at least one dollar return for each dollar invested."

The state's investment generating more than four times each dollar spent "is an excellent return which is competitive not just with return-on-infrastructure investments, but also with statewide economic development standards," Costin said.

Last month port officials announced they had begun an environmental study that is the precursor to the much-needed channel dredging the port needs to reactivate its shipping activities. No cargo ships have docked at the port since 1997, and its major business tenants have closed or moved away.

More recently, new potential users have indicated their interest in

shipping products via the Port of Port St. Joe. The Holland M. Ware Charitable Foundation of Fayetteville, Ga., formally expressed such intent, provided the dredging is completed and improvements are made to rail facilities that serve the port.

"It is imperative that public investment choices reflect the large contributions of the Port of Port St. Joe to the economic well-being of Gulf County and the State of Florida," WEG said in its report. Port modernization and expansion must keep pace with increasing domestic and international trade activity in the region, while generating employment opportunities and producing public revenues.

"This study validates the knowledge that investing in this port will significantly change the landscape of economics for Florida," said state Rep. Halsey Beshears, R-Monticello, in a statement. "Employment opportunities, even temporary ones, for construction workers, truckers, and rail workers will generate an impact that we have not previously seen for the people of North Florida."

2/20/14

ACF Water Wars, Peace Talks

By: C. Chadwick Taylor

If you like seafood, if you enjoy fresh and saltwater fishing, if you care about having plentiful, clean water, if regionally grown agricultural products like peanuts, cotton, vegetables and forest products are important to you, then you might be and probably are an Apalachicola, Chattahoochee and Flint (ACF) stakeholder.

If outdoor recreational opportunities, history and culture, electricity, a good job and access to goods and services of a global market make sense to you, then you probably are an ACF stakeholder.

Most people around here have heard of the ACF *Water Wars*. It is known as having something to do with the three states of Florida, Georgia and Alabama and water issues in the ACF basins. How important it is can depend on whom you ask and what their interests are.

These interests range across the five counties of Metro Atlanta, go up north of Lake Lanier into the southern Appalachian Mountains, down the Chattahoochee River through Columbus and on to Eufaula and Dothan. On the Flint River the headwaters begin at Hartsfield International Airport in Atlanta, flow through Albany on to the Florida line, where it joins the Chattahoochee River to form the Apalachicola, Florida's largest river by volume.

See WATER on Page A7

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

WATER Continued

The Apalachicola flows by the six riparian counties of Jackson, Gadsden, Liberty, Calhoun, Gulf and Franklin, and on to the Gulf of Mexico, source of some of the world's finest oysters.

After decades of negotiations and legal actions between the three states no resolution is in sight. Serious and ever worsening conditions and concerns with water issues throughout the ACF basin brought together a small group of eleven citizens and they began a now more than four year journey. That journey, one to find common ground on how to manage the waters of the entire basin, has led to the formation of the *Apalachicola/Chattahoochee/Flint Stakeholders, Inc. (ACFS)*.

ACFS has a governing board of 56 members and operates by consensus, which means that all must be in favor of any proposed action. It has a mission: "to achieve equitable water-sharing solutions among stakeholders that balance economic, ecological and social values while ensuring sustainability for current and future generations". There was a need to raise 1.5 million dollars from private sources; it was successful. The funds are used to do a Sustainable Water Management Plan and a Study of Transboundary Water Management Institutional Options that serve as models of how to manage water across the three states, all of the counties and municipalities and the many other jurisdictions, whether local, state or federal.

To assist, there is a team of two engineering firms, facilitators, administrators and five universities, including three from Florida, each with a specific task that will aid in reaching the goals. The plan is on schedule to be completed by June 2014, which, coincidentally, is about the same time that the United States Supreme Court decides whether or not to accept the latest legal action in the "War": Florida's lawsuit against Georgia.

So what is at stake here for the stakeholders and why should you care?

At stake is the future wellbeing of the fourteen stakeholder categories: recreation, water supply, water quality, seafood industry, thermal power, hydropower, navigation, farm and urban agriculture, industry and manufacturing, environmental and conservation, business and economic development, local government, historic and cultural and other (miscellaneous).

Which category fits your interest? The big one for Jackson County is obviously row crop agriculture that depends on groundwater pumping for the production of peanuts and cotton.

But for that matter any of the water categories count, because your drinking water comes from groundwater, and supply and quality is what that is all about. We share this issue with our neighbors in southwest Georgia, where groundwater pumping during droughts has led to historic low stream flows, at times pumping them dry, and consequently historic lows in the Floridan Aquifer, the source of our drinking water.

Jackson County's budding tourism industry is dependent on recreation, history and culture, business and economic development, all important to regional tourism. The stakeholder can review the tourism web site for RiverWay South Apalachicola/Choctawhatchee for information on this.

To manage these interests the ACFS divided the basin into four sub-basin caucuses: the Upper Chattahoochee River Sub-basin Caucus (north of LaGrange), the Mid and Lower Chattahoochee River Sub-basin Caucus (to the Florida line), the Flint River Sub-basin Caucus and the Apalachicola Sub-basin Caucus.

The Apalachicola Caucus includes representation for each of the fourteen categories. With four million folks living in and around Atlanta and a host more north of our state line in Georgia and Alabama, how do our six riparian counties along the Apalachicola River stay in this stakeholder game? In 2007 the six Boards of County Commissions, along with volunteers, stood up, were counted and funded by an interlocal agreement, forming the Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition (RCSC) to address water issues. With this the Sub-basin Caucus has been able to stay in the ACF Stakeholders and represent the residents throughout the River and Bay.

A couple of years ago a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (the manager of the reservoirs on the system) general said at a National Science Foundation meeting: "at times of low/base flow and drought the river system is already over-allocated". Folks on the River and Bay already knew this. Think back: in 2007 and 2012 there were droughts. The Bay collapsed ecologically in 2013, drastically impacting the seafood harvest. Streams and wells dried up.

The time to fix this problem cannot wait ten more years! It is often said that "the next drought is just two weeks away". Not everyone agrees that the ACFS can succeed. Decades of negotiation and legal wrangling goes on, with Georgia just answering Florida's U. S. Supreme Court complaint. The ACFS consensus process requires 56 voting members to say: "I can live with this". Which is the better choice? All of this makes June of 2014 potentially a very interesting month for the decades-long "War" and our ACF peace talks. Agranon Wendell Berry said: "We have no place to start but where we are". And our own Angus Gholson of Chattahoochee told us: "Cuz, you hold 'em in the road".

For more information contact Taylor at cat@phoul.com.

Note: This is the second in a series of articles about the importance of water to our area of Florida and to Jackson County in particular. Watch for a guest article from the Water Management District.

Franklin County Seeks Answers on Disaster Funding

By David Adlerstein

Published: Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 10:26 AM – Apalachicola/Carrabelle Times

The upcoming infusion of millions of federal dollars to revive Apalachicola Bay's listless oyster industry stirred up as many questions as it did answers at Tuesday's county commission meeting.

Last week's announcement that Apalachicola Bay would be getting \$6.3 million in fishery disaster funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce set the stage for what turned out to be murky waters of how everything will eventually shake out.

The first item clarified for county commissioners by Franklin County Seafood Workers Association President Shannon Hartsfield was that the bay would be getting only about \$4.5 million, its pro-rated share of the \$6.3 million also earmarked for oyster bar replenishment in Escambia, Bay and Wakulla counties.

In addition, this fishery disaster funding comes out of a total earmark of \$75 million, to be administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service to six fishery disasters throughout the nation.

"Yes, I am disappointed," he said. "We're at the bottom of the totem pole."

Hartsfield said he and other members of the county's ad-hoc oyster recovery team met Monday with Jim Estes, a representative of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which will administer the disaster funds. He said Estes provided a rough breakdown of how the monies would be spent in the affected counties, and sought input from local leaders.

Hartsfield said \$900,000 of the money would go to reimburse the state's oyster processors for upgrading their processing facilities. He said the local group asked that two items - about \$388,000 has been allocated to cover the cost of FWC monitoring of the funding, and \$563,000 for reeducation and training of displaced fishermen - be removed as funding options. "We weren't told how much would be used for barge shelling," Hartsfield said. "We don't know who's going to be over that or who it's going through."

The commissioners also pressed Hartsfield for answers concerning another pot of funds, about \$1.8 million in NRDA (Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program) monies, the county's prorated portion, which will be forthcoming in Jan. 2015, and will be administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

That money is expected to go largely for barge shelling of 110 acres in the bay, to be administered for the state by private contractors. It will also cover 60 acres in Pensacola, and another 60 acres in Bay County, Hartsfield said, noting the FCSWA didn't make that barge shelling request, and wasn't sure exactly how that decision had come about.

"We weren't even part of that discussion," he said. "We were told from the beginning it was a possibility that we would have an opportunity to shell. We thought it was going to be \$5.4 but it was \$1.8 million."

Hartsfield said Cal Knickerbocker, who heads up the state's aquaculture program, called a special meeting of the oyster industry representatives to outline how the money was going to be spent. "He apologized and said this was how it had been done," he said.

That decision didn't sit well with the commissioners, who unanimously supported a motion by Commissioner Pinki Jackel to write a letter to Gov. Rick Scott objecting to barge-only shelling and asking to have input on such decisions before they are made.

"Barge shelling does not put money back into the community," said Jackel. "There's something wrong in this system when we sit up here, who are the elected officials, and we are getting third-hand information. Cal Knickerbocker and Jim Estes need to come and talk directly with the board. I want to hear it from the horse's mouth; that's my obligation to the people I represent." Hartsfield said he, too, was frustrated by some of the state's decision-making. "I've been to many and many a meeting trying to understand this. All I can do is put my two cents in," he said. "We are just little pawns in the play. Y'all have no say at all what gets done."

Commissioner Cheryl Sanders said she spoke last week to representatives for Cong. State Southerland (R-Panama City), and they unable to tell her who would administer the disaster funds. She noted that press releases from Sen. Bill Nelson (D) and Southerland after the federal announcement noted that more than 2,500 North Florida jobs were impacted by the fishery decline. "Know where those jobs were at? Here in Franklin County, the majority of them," she said. "I want to make sure those connected with this fishing failure are taken care of, not just a chosen few."

She also expressed concern about the percentage of funding that goes to oversee this aid. "The money's going to administrative fees and not going to the people to help feed their families," said Sanders. "I'm real disappointed with all of it myself. I feel like any money that comes here I want to go for the people. I don't want administrative fees to be more than what the actual people get in this county."

The six fishery disasters

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management and Interjurisdictional Fisheries Acts has enabled Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker to declare six fishery disasters, with the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 including \$75 million for financial assistance. The following are the six disasters, and how much is earmarked for each.

- \$32.8 million for the New England Multispecies Groundfish Fishery 2013, which affects fishermen in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. Reductions in the total allowable catch for certain groundfish stocks are impacting coastal communities, fishing families, and local economies, leaving many communities on the brink of extinction.
- \$20.8 million for the Alaska Chinook Salmon 2011-12, which affects salmon fisheries in the Yukon River, Kuskokwim River and Cook Inlet. Beyond direct impacts, communities have experienced reductions in work for processor employees, tax revenues, and income for fishery dependent businesses.

- ·\$10.9 million for Mississippi River Flood 2011, which affects commercial oyster and blue crab fisheries in Mississippi. Historic flooding of the lower Mississippi River required opening the Bonnet Carre Spillway in May 2011, releasing substantial amounts of freshwater that impacted the entire ecosystem, damaging Mississippi's oyster and blue crab fisheries, resulting in severe economic hardship for commercial fishermen recovering from Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill.
- ·\$6.3 million for Florida Oysters 2012, a fishery resource disaster that resulted from excessive drought conditions in Apalachicola Bay and elsewhere in the Panhandle during the 2012-13 winter fishing season.
- ·\$3.1 million for New Jersey and New York Fisheries 2012, due to the damage caused by Superstorm Sandy that created severe economic losses for both commercial and recreational fishermen.
- ·\$1 million for American Samoa Tsunami , which affected commercial fisheries impacted by the September 2009 tsunami

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