



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Legislative Committee

January 4, 2007

MINUTES

A meeting of the NEFRC Legislative Policy Committee was held on Thursday, **January 4, 2007**, at 12:30 p.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida, 32216. **President Laibl** called the meeting to order with the following members present representing a quorum:

Gordon Crews
Karen Stern

Harold Rutledge
Chip Laibl

Jon Netts

Todd Duncan

Staff: Brian Teeple, Mario Taylor, Mike Hadden and Angi Giles

*Approval of Minutes

Ms. Stern moved approval of the minutes of the March 2, 2006, meeting; seconded by Mr. Duncan; motion unanimously carried.

New Business

Membership

Mr. Taylor stated that this Committee was created in 2005 with the desire to make sure all counties are represented. The membership of the Legislative Committee is: **Commissioner Crews** of Baker County, **Councilwoman Brown** of Duval County, **Commissioner Rutledge** of Clay County, **Councilman Netts** of Flagler County, **Mr. Duncan** of Nassau County, **Ms. Stern** of St. Johns County (Vice-Chair) and **President Laibl** of Putnam County (Chair). Mr. Teeple also informed the Committee that the Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) has a 33 member Policy Board, 3 members from each Region, of which our members are: **Ms. Stern, President Laibl**, and **Councilwoman Brown**. **Commissioner Rutledge** introduced Ms. Jackie Slaybaugh, Clay County's Legislative Director.

2007 Local Government Legislative Priorities Submissions

Mr. Taylor stated that this is the primary purpose for this Committee. Staff mailed communications to all seven county and 27 municipal chief elected officials and chief administrative officials soliciting their recommendations to NEFRC for legislative priorities. The only submissions received to date are: The Town of Baldwin, the City of Palm Coast, Flagler County and Clay County. Mr. Taylor requested each Committee members' assistance in soliciting legislative priorities from all counties in our region. The counties that have not submitted their priorities are: St. Johns County, Putnam County, Nassau County and Baker County. Mr. Taylor pointed out that the format used by Clay County is the "legislative format", which is the format preferred by the Legislature. Mr. Taylor brought attention to the NEFRC 2006 Legislative Priorities booklet and palm card.

Proposed Activities Timeline

The Legislative Session starts on March 6, 2007. Staff will have a 2007 Regional Legislative Priorities Booklet prepared for Committee Members. Commissioner Rutledge stated that the Legislative Committee members should meet every month after the regular board meeting, in order to discuss ongoing and current legislative issues.

The Committee discussed recessing the meeting, in order to meet a deadline of 2 weeks, January 18, 2007, for the remaining counties to submit their priorities, and then meet again in 3 weeks, on January 25, 2007. Mr. Taylor stated that staff will phone the counties who have not submitted their priorities,

and the original correspondence that was sent to each county in October, 2006, will be emailed to each Legislative Committee member.

Councilman Netts moved that the meeting be recessed today, to be continued on January 25, 2007, at noon; motion was seconded by Commissioner Rutledge; motion carried unanimously.

It was concluded that a January 25th, 2007 meeting was not needed as the draft priorities would be presented to the Full Board on February 1, 2007, which meets before the Legislative Committee.