

# MINUTES OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD

REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

MPO/VCOG/WAV CONFERENCE ROOM  
2570 W. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY BLVD., SUITE 120  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Cassandra Reynolds  
Mayor Greg Northrup  
Mayor George Coleman  
Mayor Robert F. Apgar  
Mayor Mike Thomas  
Commissioner Lewis Long  
Mayor James Vandergriff  
Mayor Albert Erwin  
Mayor Fredrick Costello  
Mayor James Sowell  
Mayor Nancy Epps  
Mayor Allen Green  
Council-member Art Giles  
Dr. Alfred Williams

## REPRESENTING

Daytona Beach  
Daytona Beach Shores  
DeBary  
DeLand  
Edgewater  
Mayor Shuttleworth, Lake Helen  
New Smyrna Beach  
Orange City  
Ormond Beach  
Pierson  
Ponce Inlet  
Port Orange  
Volusia County  
Mrs. Andersen, Vo.Co. School Board

Members Absent: Mayor Dennis Mulder, Deltona; Mayor Roland Via, Holly Hill; Mayor Michael Thompson, Oak Hill; Mayor Blaine O'Neal, South Daytona

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Mellon, Emergency Medical Foundation/EVAC

## OTHERS PRESENT

Joe Nolin  
Stephen Kintner  
Tara Boujoulian  
Jonas Stewart  
Chief Larry Taft  
Chief Pat Kelly  
Bob Davis  
Ray Salazar  
Ron Nowviskie  
Jim Cameron

## REPRESENTING

Vo. Co. - Ponce DeLeon Inlet & Port District  
Vo. Co. - Environmental Management  
Vo. Co. - Environmental Management  
East Volusia Mosquito Control  
Daytona Beach Fire Department  
DeLand Fire Department  
Chairman of the Board - United Way  
President of United Way of Volusia-Flagler  
Chair of United Way Campaign  
Daytona Beach/Halifax Area Chamber

## VCOG STAFF PRESENT

Mary Swiderski, VCOG Executive Director  
Bruce A. Mowry, WAV Executive Director  
Herbert M. Seely, Chief Financial Officer  
Mary Curran, Recording Secretary

## **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

At 5:00 Chairman Northrup called the September 25, 2006, regular VCOG Governing Board meeting to order.

The Roll was called and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Northrup led the Pledge to the Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Cameron talked about a State Constitutional Amendment that's on the upcoming ballot; that the Chamber has stated its support of – Constitutional Amendment #3 which calls for a 60% requirement to pass any future constitutional amendments. The Chamber has worked with the Florida Chamber in Tally in support of this amendment. He pointed out it's important because two years from now another constitutional amendment that will be on the ballot is home town democracy; which the Chamber is already on record opposing. Mr. Cameron said, "If anyone has any questions to contact him." He encouraged local jurisdictions' support of amendment #3.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS/RECOGNITION**

Chairman Northrup acknowledged Dr. Alfred Williams who was sitting in for Mrs. Andersen as the Volusia County School Board's representative.

**PRESENTATION FOR CHIEF LARRY TAFT**

The Board's Secretary/Treasurer, Mayor Apgar read VCOG Resolution 06-03, in its entirety, as follows:

**RESOLUTION 06-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE VCOG, INC. GOVERNING BOARD TO DAYTONA BEACH FIRE CHIEF LARRY TAFT IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS THE FIRE CHIEFS LIAISON TO THE VCOG, INC. GOVERNING BOARD

WHEREAS, VCOG, Inc. a Volusia Council of Governments, was established in January 1970, to develop coordinated plans, programs and policies of mutual interest for all participating jurisdictions in Volusia County; and

WHEREAS, VCOG, Inc. Governing Board consists of representatives from the Cities of Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach Shores, DeBary, DeLand, Deltona, Edgewater, Holly Hill, Lake Helen, New Smyrna Beach, Oak Hill, Orange City, Ormond Beach, Pierson, Ponce Inlet, Port Orange, South Daytona, the County of Volusia and the Volusia County School Board; and

WHEREAS, VCOG, Inc. recognizes Chief Taft's primary mission to protect lives and property through an unwavering commitment of service to all and to leave the community better than once he found it and by doing so was able to play a key role in bringing all Volusia Chiefs and Fire Departments together to improve Fire and Emergency Services throughout Volusia County. Marked as a consensus builder, Chief Taft believed "No single individual has all the answers and by working together we can accomplish much more."

WHEREAS, Chief Taft, leader of the largest municipal fire department in Volusia County since January 2003, grew up, attended high school and later returned to Daytona Beach after serving as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps. He joined the Fire Department in October 5, 1981 and became the 15<sup>th</sup> and youngest Chief in Daytona Beach Fire Department.

WHEREAS, VCOG, Inc. recognizes the outstanding services of Chief Larry Taft as the Volusia County Fire Chiefs Association Liaison to the VCOG Governing Board since 2002 with dedication, dignity and distinction. His years of service have been marked by exemplary and energetic participation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting held September 25, 2006.

Mayor Apgar requested a motion for adoption of the VCOG Resolution.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Reynolds and **SECOND** by County Councilmember Giles for adoption of VCOG Resolution 06-03 as presented; motion was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** on a voice vote.

Chief Taft accepted the resolution plaque and expressed his appreciation to the Board. He complimented the Board members and spoke of the synergy that seems to evolve from them for improving services in Volusia. He recalled progress made from the time of the Tri-Data report,

VCOG's partnership alliance with the Fire Chiefs Association, the creation of committees, and continuing processes of closest unit response, EMS transport contingency agreement, communications/regionalization, FESS program, adopting area-wide SOPs, and simultaneous training. He commended Mary Swiderski's efforts in moving initiatives forward. Chief Taft then introduced Fire Chief Patrick Kelly, City of DeLand, as the new liaison of the Fire Chiefs Association.

Chairman Northrup directed VCOG Board members to refrain from initiating discussion of proposed County Charter Amendments as these issues should be addressed instead by the Volusia League of Cities membership.

### **VCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING**

Mary Swiderski presented no additional comments on her written report that had been distributed to Board members.

Mary Swiderski reminded everyone of the Volusia League of Cities dinner-meeting, Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, hosted by City of Orange City.

### CONSENT AGENDA

#### **APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 28, 2006**

Minutes of the August 28, 2006, regular meeting of the VCOG Board had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT – MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31, 2006**

The Treasurer's report covering August 1, 2006 through August 31, 2006, had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets. *Note: Revenues and Expenditures were within the VCOG budget for the month.*

#### **APPROVAL OF A GRANT TO F.E.S.S. UP TO \$1,000 FOR VCOG ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

In order to not expend the funds dedicated for F.E.S.S. but to offset charges of VCOG providing administrative services, the VCOG Executive Committee recommended the Board approve a grant from VCOG, up to \$1,000.00, to the F.E.S.S. program.

**MOTION** by Mayor Apgar and **SECOND** by Commissioner Long for approval of all the Consent Agenda items, as presented; motion **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** on a voice vote.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **WATERS EDGE PROTECTION (PRESENTATIONS )**

##### BEACH RE-NOURISHMENT- JOE NOLIN, MANAGER OF PONCE DELEON INLET & PORT DISTRICT DIVISION, COUNTY OF VOLUSIA

Mr. Nolin presented background of the Ponce DeLeon Inlet and Port District:

- It is a special taxing district on the eastern half of Volusia County and it's managed as a division of the County;
- It's primary mission is to serve as the local sponsor of Federal Government or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for maintaining the Ponce DeLeon Inlet channel as a safe navigable access from the Atlantic Ocean to the Intra-coastal Waterway;
- It has been involved in a wide range of coastal zone management efforts [i.e. a joint participation grant program, providing grant funds to coastal municipalities (Port Orange, Oak Hill, Ponce Inlet, New Smyrna Beach, Ormond Beach, etc.) for waterway recreational access facilities such as boat ramps, riverfront parks, fishing piers, boardwalks, etc.];

- The Inlet & Port District will, on request, reimburse municipalities for derelict vessel removal within cities' waterways;
- It is also involved in artificial reef construction; provides support to the estuary and restoration program through the County's Environmental Management division; and
- It is involved in long-range beach erosion control; in 1998 the County Council directed the Inlet & Port District to enter into partnership with the State of Florida to start addressing beach erosion.

Mr. Nolin explained the sand and dune system of the beach is maintained by mining sand near the shoreline continental shelf and pumping it up onto the beach or by trucking in beach compatible sand:

- After 1999 hurricanes (Floyd and Irene), the Inlet & Port District got with FEMA and trucked in sand, creating FEMA berms;
- Following hurricanes of 2004, the Inlet & Port District entered into an agreement with Florida Inland Navigation District and off-loaded a spoil island along the Intra-coastal Waterway and hydraulically transported 750,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand onto 5 miles of south beach shoreline in New Smyrna Beach and areas of Silver Sands [project cost was \$14 million – State paid \$7 million, County \$3 million and Florida Inland Navigation District paid \$4 million];
- Dune restoration is a temporary fix; the material provides temporary protection and reestablishment of habitat and recreational access and use but it will wash-out again.

Mr. Nolin reported the Inlet & Port District is currently working on plans engineering design of a full-scale beach renourishment; cost is \$40-60 million but funding is needed; project would take about 3 million yards of sand for the approximately 5-8 miles of south beaches.

Chairman Northrup called for questions. County Councilmember Giles mentioned it is a three million dollar study [Federal government is paying 50%, State is paying 25%, and County is paying seven hundred fifty thousand dollars]. Mr. Nolin added that it's a Federal feasibility analysis for all Volusia beaches north and south. County Councilmember Giles wanted Mr. Nolin to talk a little about the project the County worked on with Ponce Inlet re the public boat ramp. Mr. Nolin reported that they are conducting a small scale dredging project to alleviate severe shoaling in the channel that accesses the public boat ramp facility in Ponce Inlet; he said, "It's been a great relationship working with the Town's public works and Manager." County Councilmember Giles expressed personal thanks to Mayor Epps; he also thanked Mr. Nolin for following through on the project.

Mayor Epps wondered if the County has looked into underwater refurbishing that Flagler has been looking into [i.e. to help build the beach naturally instead of having to pump sand]. Mr. Nolin responded the County Council's decision was to pursue beach erosion control in partnership with the State; the State strongly supports the use of beach compatibility sand as it has less environmental impact; it's the alternative that serves better in terms of public beach use and access to environmental habitat, as well as providing upland property protection.

#### LAKE & RIVER WATERWAYS – STEVE KINTNER, DIRECTOR OF VOLUSIA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Mr. Kintner introduced Tara Boujoulian to talk about permitting.

Ms. Boujoulian, the Volusia County Wetlands Manager, reported that they deal with rivers, lakes and inland wetlands; the County's wetland minimum standard applies to all unincorporated areas, as well as, all the cities. The County looks at wetland buffers as a way to protect wetland areas and to protect shorelines. Ms. Boujoulian's office is where people would come if they need a commercial or non-residential permit or site plan review; County wetland permits are required for impacts to both wetlands and buffers. She offered to answer anyone having specific questions regarding the County's minimum standards and permitting.

Mr. Kintner spoke about the Environmental Management Division and shoreline restoration

projects:

- The County's Environmental Management Division has filled an increasing role as an internal support department;
- Environmental Management contracts with the Ponce DeLeon Inlet and Port District to do a lot of work for them; also they do a lot of work for County's Public Works Division;
- After 2004 hurricanes, there was a lot of damage to public properties along coastlines, etc. and Public Works were going to place riprap and rocks to try and stabilize the shorelines; at the same time Inlet and Port District wanted Environmental Management to do some shoreline stabilization with plant materials;
- Volusia was not only losing the shoreline, the sidewalk and the pavement but also habitat; the impact on fisheries and wildlife was significant;
- Environmental Management identified areas for greatest priority and they started recruiting volunteers;
- Environmental Management planted Spartina (have planted over 1,000 feet); also they found the combination of Spartina and rock provides for a better and more stable shoreline;
- They are doing a reef ball project; they're going to put mangrove plantings inside all the holes in a reef ball [a 2' in diameter ball made out of concrete] and the mangrove will eventually grow large enough to break up the reef ball;
- Another project is oyster mats – oyster shells are attached to a mat – that is secured to the bottom of intracoastal areas to provide support for oysters to grow;
- Brazilian Pepper eradication correlates with those projects; it is an exotic plant that often competes with native plants; it provides poor habitat and doesn't provide security that mangroves do for shoreline erosion; Environmental Management does this project jointly with Mosquito Control and Public Works;
- Environmental Management has revegetated over 1,000 feet of shoreline in 2006, in conjunction with Road and Bridge, with funding from the County and the Inlet and Port District programs;
- In the coming year Environmental Management is going to start eradicating Brazilian Pepper; they are identifying areas to work on and prioritizing projects;
- One project in 2007 is shoreline stabilization and restoration on Chicken Island in New Smyrna Beach; it is a long-term project.

Mr. Kintner encouraged VCOG members if they have areas in their city that they'd like Environmental Management to look at for shoreline stabilization to contact their office. He mentioned that they always need volunteers and said if anyone wants to keep track of what Environmental Management is doing, they have a "list service" you can sign up for [the web address was provided in written materials <http://volusia.org/environmental/listserv.htm>]. The Environet E-mail List Service will provide up-to-date information by sending e-mail messages concerning current and interesting events and other information about the environment. Mr. Kintner called for any questions.

**REQUEST MADE** by Mayor Costello that he would like County to monitor what Flagler is doing regarding the baffles and let him know if that's going to impact south of Flagler.

**REQUEST MADE** by Mayor Costello that Mr. Nolin and he talk later regarding a problem of red soft sand and if that sand can be replaced.

**REQUEST MADE** by Mayor Costello that Mr. Nolin and he talk later regarding beachfront property and buying of it.

#### JONAS STEWART, VOLUSIA COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL.

Mr. Stewart stated that Mosquito Control is a division within the Volusia County Public Works Department. He reported that Mosquito Control had about ten projects they did since 2004 that cost about \$1.6 million and he discussed some of them:

- In Port Orange, 4,000 feet of granite rubble was put along a ditch; a major ditch that takes care of a lot of water and affects a lot of communities along that area from the Airport to Spruce Creek;

- In Ormond Beach/Holly Hill area, Road and Bridge put in about 4,000 feet of coquina by a road;
- Mosquito Control is using a machine called an amphibious track hoe along the Intra-coastal to try and control salt marsh mosquitoes;
  - the amphibious track hoe allows fish to be a more permanent control rather than using chemicals;
  - most mosquitoes this year have been from high tides;
- Mosquito Control has also done several jobs leveling old spoil areas at Tomoka State Park, St. Johns River areas, and Canaveral Seashore;
- They did some Midge control work [midge is often called a blind mosquito] using a lighted barge, the County created, as a decoy placed offshore to keep midges from going in shore; large mass of midges congregate on panels of the barge; County has one barge out there and is making a second one for placement;
- Increasing urbanization is causing more work than Mosquito Control has typically had;
- West Nile Virus wasn't a problem for Volusia in 2006 or 2005 but there were some concerns in 2002 [test positive chickens, horses, mosquitoes, etc.];
- Resource Conservation Service basically paid for erosion control along the river and ditches;
- Mosquito Control worked with stormwater divisions in Volusia and other counties on salt marsh restoration;
- Mosquito Control worked with Department of Environmental Protection on Brazilian Pepper problem;
- Mosquito Control does contract work with west side of the County; the division is the East Volusia Mosquito Control and it is a taxing district.

Chairman Northrup called for questions and there being none, he thanked all the speakers for coming before the VCOG Board.

### **COMMUNITY AGENDA—UNITED WAY PRESENTATION BY BOB DAVIS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD & RAY SALAZAR, PRESIDENT OF UNITED WAY OF VOLUSIA-FLAGLER COUNTIES**

Mr. Davis expressed appreciation for the opportunity of speaking before the VCOG Board. He wanted to talk to them about two issues (1) the United Way campaign which has just begun for 2007; and (2) the Community Agenda initiative/report. Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their past contributions. He then called up Mr. Ron Nowviskie, United Way Campaign Chair.

Mr. Nowviskie introduced himself [Vice President of Root Real Estate and Chair of United Way Campaign]; he thanked Volusia cities and the County for their past support. Mr. Nowviskie talked a little about contributors [public sector, School Board, Volusia County employees, cities, Florida state employees and Federal employees]; that contributions go to fund 47 partner agencies; and one-third of residents in Volusia and Flagler counties receive direct benefits.

Mr. Salazar, President of the United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties, stated how United Way hold all its agencies to a high level standard of performance and one thing they needed to do was a real-time needs assessment. The Community Agenda Snapshot report is a document that shows these kinds of measurements. Mr. Salazar thanked the counties of Volusia and Flagler which funded part of the study, as well as, a number of other organizations to make sure United Way had a better view of services and to be able to tell contributors if there is a duplication of services. Mr. Salazar hoped to come back at future meetings to provide updates of this effort.

### **BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

#### COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER ART GILES:

He distributed copies of the sample ballot information and he called to members' attention that

the County won't be referencing its proposed Charter Amendments by number because the proposed State Constitutional Amendments are numbered and that will lessen confusion between the two.

MAYOR ROBERT APGAR:

**REQUESTED** that VCOG have a discussion about ways the County Charter Review process can be improved; he thought it would be constructive and Councilmember Giles can relay the VCOG Board's issues back to the County Council.

MAYOR JAMES VANDERGRIFT:

He wanted to know if anyone on the VCOG Board had attended a recent myregion.org meeting; he also wondered whether they were represented as part of that.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the VCOG Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

AS SUBMITTED, THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD WERE APPROVED IN AN OPEN MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2006, IN THE MPO/VCOG/WAV CONFERENCE ROOM AT 2570 W. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 120, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA.

**VCOG, Inc.**

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Recording Secretary