

MINUTES OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 21, 2007

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor George Coleman
Mayor Robert F. Apgar
Mayor Mike Thomas
Mayor Roland Via
Mayor James Vandergriff
Mayor Fredrick Costello
Mayor James Sowell
Mayor Nancy Epps
Vice Mayor Mary Martin
Council-member Andy Kelly

REPRESENTING

DeBary
DeLand
Edgewater
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Ormond Beach
Pierson
Ponce Inlet
Mayor Green, Port Orange
Council-mbr. Giles, Volusia County

Members Absent: Commissioner Cassandra Reynolds, Daytona Beach; Mayor Greg Northrup, Daytona Beach Shores; Mayor Dennis Mulder, Deltona; Mayor Mark Shuttleworth, Lake Helen; Mayor Michael Thompson, Oak Hill; Mayor Albert Erwin, Orange City; Mayor Blaine O'Neal, South Daytona; Ms. Candace Lankford, Volusia County Schools.

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Mihalic
Cheryl Robel
Pat Kelly
Betty Holness
Gisele Found
James Noe
Melvin Stack

REPRESENTING

Concerned Citizens for Animal Welfare
Concerned Citizens for Animal Welfare
VCFCA
Volusia County
United Humanitarians
Halifax Humane Society
Halifax Humane Society

VCOG STAFF PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

At 5:05 PM, Chairman Vandergriff called to order the May 21, 2007, regular meeting of the VCOG Governing Board.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS/PARTICIPATION

There were no Public Comments expressed.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/RECOGNITION

The Chair had neither special comments nor recognitions to present.

VCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING

Mary Swiderski stated the Director's report was distributed for members' review.

CONSENT AGENDA**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2007**

Minutes of the April 23, 2007, regular meeting of the VCOG Board had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets.

APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2007

Treasurer's report covering the period of April 1, 2007 to April 30, 2007, had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets. *Note: Revenues and Expenditures were within the budget for the month.*

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE "HOW SHALL WE LIVE IN VOLUSIA?" SMART GROWTH SUMMIT OF JUNE 16, 2007

Request made for additional funds to cover cost of leasing audience response system (electronic polling device) for summit. Per recommendation of VCOG Smart Growth Committee.

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

OLD BUSINESS**VCOG SMART GROWTH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Mayor Northrup, Mary Swiderski presented the update. She reported that the Committee reviewed a revised Map A. County staff has put the mapping information on a CD and that has been distributed to all municipal managers and mayors. Regarding Map A, the VCOG Smart Growth Committee accepted it as presented and then made the recommendation that each jurisdiction consider adoption of a resolution to conserve Map A lands. Mary Swiderski gave a brief summary of changes in Map A; she reported the net effect of the changes to Map A is zero. Mayor Via commended Steve Kintner and the County staff in working closely with municipalities to bring Map A together.

"HOW SHALL WE LIVE IN VOLUSIA?" SUMMIT UPDATE

Mary Swiderski gave an overview of the planning for the summit on June 16th. Morning session will cover the state, regional and local approach on growth; in the afternoon there are three workshops [school concurrency, transportation, and smart growth toolbox) and at the end of the day will be an electronic polling. Mary Swiderski mentioned that invitations were sent to various groups, elected officials and managers. Mary Swiderski announced the information was also posted on VCOG website www.vcoginc.com which is newly created. There was a brief discussion of media coverage.

VCOG BUDGET SEMINAR (MAY 30 & MAY 31) UPDATE

Mary Swiderski updated the Board on total RSVPs for each session (Daytona Beach and DeLand). It has not been extensively advertised in the newspaper.

Mayor Via encouraged all elected officials to attend and to also encourage other elected officials' attendance. He revealed the reasoning behind his suggestion of holding a Budget seminar.

SUGGESTION made by Chairman Vandergriff to make an announcement at the Volusia League of Cities' dinner/meeting on May 24th.

Discussions ensued of residents not having awareness of jurisdictions' overall community vision and of not coming to jurisdictions' public meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

Mel Stack, President of Halifax Humane Society, thanked the VCOG Board for the opportunity to come before them. Mr. Stack made the request that the VCOG Board encourage the Volusia County Council reconsider the Universal Animal Tag Program. He suggested the VCOG Board could request the County Council lower the percentage of participating municipalities needed to implement its [pet license tag] ordinance. Mr. Stack reviewed the background of the Universal Tag Program (UTP) and emphasized the UTP would not cost the cities or the County anything.

Discussions ensued regarding:

- When an undocumented animal is received by the Humane Society, if there's no information where it's from, the Humane Society absorbs that cost;
- Halifax Humane Society is increasing its rates for housing animals because of increasing costs to them for insurance, transportation, natural gas, etc.;
- Main objection(s) by veterinarians to UTP:
 - They did not want to collect the fees;
 - They had concerns that responsible pet owners were paying for the irresponsible pet owner;
 - They were concerned that people wouldn't come in for [pet's] rabies shots;
 - They didn't want to release information on their clients.

Mayor Costello suggested that it might be more appropriate for the group to go to the County Council and ask if they would be willing to lower that percentage; if the individual municipalities are interested in doing that. Mayor Costello went on record that he, individually, supports it, the same as he supported it before.

Mr. Stack wondered if the County Council would consider a resolution from VCOG asking them to reconsider; that would bolster the group's position when they go before the County Council.

County Council-member Kelly reported of having brought up the subject at a recent Council meeting; it came about because of a discussion of the [spay/neuter] bus. The County Council decided to wait and see after the bus is in operation. He mentioned the bus will be a County-City operation; if there is agreement made between the County and each city. County Council-member Kelly suggested the group come up with something new rather than the Universal Tag Program, as it had failed before. He offered to look into the matter and contact the group in a couple of weeks.

REQUEST made by Mayor Costello that Council-member Kelly also provide information to the VCOG Board.

Ms. Mihalic stated that all jurisdictions have programs for license tags but not all are enforcing them. When asked which cities chose not to participate, Ms. Mihalic responded that it was Edgewater, New Smyrna Beach and DeBary.

Mary Swiderski recalled this topic came up again when Mr. Nole and Mr. Stack met with the managers who dealt with Halifax Humane Society and one of things discussed was the spay/neuter program. The managers expressed interest of the program.

Mayor Costello recommended the group get together with Mayor Vandergriff, Mayor Thomas, and Mayor Coleman to request if any of them now have an interest to participate; if so, then he

would consider it appropriate for the group to come back to VCOG to request a resolution to the County for reconsideration.

Chairman Vandergriff did not think VCOG, as a whole, should have involvement as this was an issue that the individual cities had made a decision on. He recalled some circumstances that existed in the past; however, he commented that a good animal tag program is needed.

Mayor Via requested the group revisit those cities that choose not to participate, find out if the same veterinarians have same objections, then come back to VCOG for consensus and we would be ready to tell the County Council how we feel about it and maybe it would help expedite the spay/neuter bus program.

Mr. Stack and Ms. Mihalic thanked the VCOG Board for allowing them to speak.

CHANGES IN NATIONAL AND STATE FUNDING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT - DISCUSSION

Mary Swiderski reported she had received from a few municipalities (Daytona Beach Shores, DeLand, Ormond Beach and Ponce Inlet) a list of unfunded mandates. Mary Swiderski commented that she would like to also have list of federal [unfunded] mandates.

SUGGESTION made by Mayor Costello that Mary Swiderski send a copy of the information VCOG received to all the managers and finance directors so they can understand what the Board has requested.

Chairman Vandergriff decided that this agenda item be combined with the next for discussion. There were no objections expressed by Board members.

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ITEM AND THE PRECEDING ITEM ARE COMBINED INTO ONE DISCUSSION.

PROPERTY TAX LEGISLATION AND ITS EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT – DISCUSSION

Chairman Vandergriff mentioned the County's budget differs from cities mainly because of the criminal justice and operation of the County Jail; he talked about the ramifications that cuts will have on them. Members briefly discussed that issue.

Chairman Vandergriff brought up about manning fire departments; he wondered how many city commissions/councils would not favor cuts. Chairman Vandergriff commented of jurisdictions' need to bring firemen's total compensation package more in line with each another so unions cannot leverage one against another.

Mayor Costello recalled the County Manager and County Chair mentioned about needing to modify the interlocal agreement regarding first response. He expressed wanting the County to publicly state they have to look at the interlocal agreement; and VCOG could have an agenda item for discussion.

Mayor Via initiated members' discussing ALS and BLS; also members discussed the number of people that are needed on a truck.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

MAYOR JIM VANDERGRIFT

Announced he had call from Senator Lynn that the Volusia Delegation had nothing to do with not allowing question/answer of property tax issue at the Chamber Breakfast. Also, after the Breakfast, she was available to anyone who wanted to talk with her.

COUNTY COUNCIL-MEMBER ANDY KELLY

Reported if any special election/referendum is required, it is at the County's expense. Another thing is the paper ballot, because Volusia County already had it available at all precincts, the

County will not be eligible for any state funding.

MAYOR ROLAND VIA

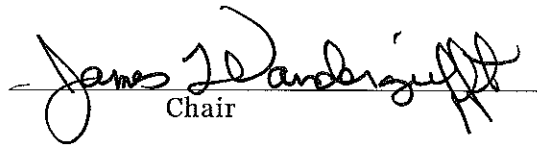
Brought up two additional unfunded mandates and that's cable franchise and workers compensation presumption (fire).

ADJOURNMENT

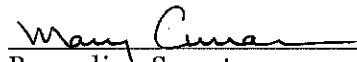
There being no further business to come before the VCOG Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 P.M.

AS SUBMITTED, THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD WERE APPROVED IN AN OPEN MEETING HELD ON JUNE 25, 2007, IN THE MPO/VCOG/WAV CONFERENCE ROOM AT 2570 W. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 120, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA.

VCOG, INC.


Chair

ATTEST:


Recording Secretary