

# MINUTES OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD

## REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 25, 2007

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  
Mayor Roland Via  
Mayor James Vandergriff  
Mayor Albert Erwin  
Mayor Fredrick Costello  
Mayor James Sowell  
Council-member Andy Kelly  
Mrs. Candace Lankford

### REPRESENTING

Daytona Beach  
Daytona Beach Shores  
DeBary  
DeLand  
Edgewater  
Holly Hill  
New Smyrna Beach  
Orange City  
Ormond Beach  
Pierson  
Council-mbr. Giles, Volusia County  
Volusia County School Board

Members Absent: Mayor Mulder, Deltona; Mayor Shuttleworth, Lake Helen; Mayor Thompson, Oak Hill; Mayor Epps, Ponce Inlet; Mayor Green, Port Orange; Mayor O'Neal, South Daytona

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

### OTHERS PRESENT

Joni Hunt  
Dan Scales, Fire Chief  
Pat Kelly, DeLand Fire Chief  
Betty Holness  
Dr. John Johnson  
Jim Ryan

### REPRESENTING

ERAU  
Ponce Inlet  
Volusia County Fire Chiefs Association  
Volusia County  
ERAU  
Volusia County Emergency Management

### 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 P.M., Chairman Vandergriff called to order the June 25, 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**

No Public Comments were expressed.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS/RECOGNITION**

Chairman Vandergriff expressed appreciation to everyone who attended the "How Shall We Live in Volusia?" summit on Saturday [6/16/07]. He commended the organizers and speakers for their work in the summit; he declared the summit a success.

**VCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING**

Mary Swiderski referenced her written report and gave an overview on the following:

- Budget seminar - May 30<sup>th</sup> & May 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Actual cost was less than the amount allocated;
  - Combined attendance of both dates was 97;
  - Got great publicity in a DeLand Beacon article and an editorial in the News Journal;
  - Several municipalities have requested a copy of the Budget Seminar PowerPoint presentation to use for their respective jurisdiction's workshops.
- "How Shall We Live In Volusia?" Smart Growth Summit
  - Event was successful due to team efforts. Mary Swiderski acknowledged the Steering Committee, especially Betty Holness, Steve Kintner, Kelli McGee and she working with the moderator, Don Upton and his staff;
  - Joni Hunt, of Embry Riddle, was also given recognition for assisting with the summit.
- Update re VCOG Smart Growth resolution on Map A
  - DeBary, DeLand, Deltona, Edgewater, Orange City, Ormond Beach, and Ponce Inlet have adopted resolutions;
  - Daytona Beach Shores, Holly Hill, Lake Helen, New Smyrna Beach, Oak Hill, Pierson, Port Orange, South Daytona, Volusia County, and Volusia County School Board have indicated adoption by the end of July 2007;
  - City not yet heard from is Daytona Beach. [Commissioner Reynolds was encouraged to follow up with other Daytona Beach Commissioners re adoption of the resolution.]
- Members were reminded there's no VCOG Board meeting in July
- Referring to correspondence from Steve Strawn regarding Map A, Mary Swiderski reported having contacted Steve Kintner and being told this is a County issue. Mary Swiderski brought this to the attention of the VCOG Board because Mr. Strawn's correspondence was addressed to VCOG and its Smart Growth Committee.
- Appreciation was expressed to ERAU for provision of food for the meeting.

Members' discussions ensued regarding:

- Smart Growth Resolution on Map A - That Daytona Beach has more active participation on the Committee.
- Smart Growth Summit - The [Steering] Committee was complimented on its professional handling of the arrangements and program. Comments were made of the media's reporting on the summit. Mr. Upton was complimented on doing a good job keeping summit on track.
- Steve Strawn's correspondence relating to Map A [i.e., Epbe Inc. property] - This should not effect the resolution on Map A. This is actually the County's issue because the property is in the unincorporated area. It was noted that the majority of lands in Map A are under the jurisdiction of the County.

**CONSENT AGENDA****APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2007**

Minutes of the May 21, 2007, regular meeting of the VCOG Board had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets.

**APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT - MONTH ENDED MAY 31, 2007**

Treasurer's report covering the period of May 1, 2007 to May 31, 2007, had been mailed with Board

members' agenda packets. *Note: Revenues and Expenditures were within the budget for the month.*

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

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### **SMART GROWTH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Mayor Northrup announced the Committee would start having monthly meetings again beginning in August.

**REQUEST** made by Mayor Northrup for VCOG Executive Director to look at scheduling the next Smart Growth Committee meeting on the second Monday (13<sup>th</sup>) in August.

**RECOMMENDATION** made by Mayor Costello, as August 13<sup>th</sup> is also the date of the Mayors Luncheon, to hold the Smart Growth Committee meeting either prior to or following the luncheon.

Members discussed a focus for the Committee [August meeting] on putting together a toolbox for Map A on how to protect that area; not taking away property rights [e.g. not to increase density but that density doesn't get bigger].

Mayor Thomas made comments of how far ahead Volusia is of other surrounding counties in this and how proud he is of being a part of this.

Mary Swiderski pointed out that when Deltona adopted their resolution on Map A, that they added language that made it more stringent for the Map A area and to promote walkable communities; she commended their action.

##### **UPDATE ON BUDGET SEMINAR [MAY 30, 2007 & MAY 31, 2007]**

Mary Swiderski already provided the update under the "VCOG Executive Director's Briefing" item.

**SUGGESTION** made by Mayor Via to hold a Budget Seminar on an annual basis or at least every other year and involve newly elected officials and for the general public. He proposed the Board should have a future discussion and decide if VCOG wants to do this yearly or bi-annually. Mayor Via also had suggestions of potential datelines (November, December, or January).

Mary Swiderski mentioned she had also been asked by some cities if VCOG could do a seminar for newly elected officials on ethics and the Sunshine law. Members' discussions ensued of the Florida League of Cities having workshop sessions on these topics.

**RECOMMENDATION** made by Mayor Apgar to let the Executive Committee talk about this matter and maybe set some schedule for the types of programs. His thought was that should be decided on a case by case basis.

##### **"HOW SHALL WE LIVE IN VOLUSIA?" SMART GROWTH SUMMIT UPDATE**

Mary Swiderski already covered item under "VCOG Executive Director's Briefing"; there were no additional comments made.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### **EMBRY RIDDLE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE - DR. JOHN JOHNSON, ERAU PRESIDENT**

Dr. Johnson thanked the VCOG Board for the opportunity to speak before them. He gave a PowerPoint presentation of Embry Riddle, including: its mission; annual operating budget; number of faculty and staff; campuses; college and degree programs; areas of academic emphasis;

research projects; new initiatives; challenges; and a master plan for Daytona Beach campus expansion.

Ms. Lankford suggested Dr. Johnson should include under ERAU initiatives the joint ventures with the Volusia County School District; Seabreeze High School has an aviation academy where ERAU professors are teaching two classes and DeLand High School has an engineering academy where students can study aviation crash investigation.

There was also some discussion regarding faculty and staff recruitment.

Chairman Vandergriff thanked Dr. Johnson for bringing this information to the VCOG Board.

### **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS – JIM RYAN, DIRECTOR OF VOLUSIA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Mr. Ryan thanked the VCOG Board for the opportunity to speak before them. He called attention to information he had distributed:

- Emergency Management Current Items of Interest – provides an overview of vital activities, issues, programs and training, and planning;
  - A lot of generators have been purchased; a collective effort, involving every jurisdiction's participation and cooperation, is to figure out how to keep them fueled.
  - Home Inspection and Matching Grant Program – this is a program for lower income homeowners known as "My Safe Florida Home Program" to upgrade their home to better withstand windstorm damage.
  - Tsunami Plan Development – Volusia County Emergency Management Division is working continually with the Beach Division in developing a tsunami readiness plan.
  - Shelters – Volusia Co government in conjunction with School Board have been involved over past 6 years to improve survivability and capacity of shelters [e.g. provision of window covering and purchase of generators and generator housing].
  - Electrical Power Restoration – County Emergency Operations working with cooperation of Progress Energy and Florida Power and Light on plan for restoring electrical power.
  - Managers' Advisory Group – Do a variety of training exercises and sessions on emergency operations. Main purpose is to have cooperative, cohesive framework of coordination.
- Time Line for Key Events – shows how, in a coordinated manner, a framework is established for the decision making process [especially for a hurricane event].
- Emergency Support Function (ESF) comparison chart – shows parallel of federal, state and local governments of emergency support functions and the lead agencies responsible for a particular function.
- 2007 Disaster Preparedness Guide that is specific to Volusia County – to inform public about certain aspects of disaster preparedness [

There were members' discussions re the "Home Inspection and Matching Grant Program"; if Volusia has a tsunami early warning system [buoys have already been established in a network that would send tsunami alert information]; what are local governments not doing that they need to do [more directed elected leadership involvement/participation is needed].

**SUGGESTION** made by Mayor Costello that this topic [emergency preparedness] be included with items for a potential seminar.

**SUGGESTION** made by Mayor Via that VCOG should keep emergency preparedness as a priority.

Ms. Lankford requested that Mr. Ryan include, as part of his presentation, that [school] shelters are manned by school personnel; she remarked of the general public not knowing that.

Chairman Vandergriff thanked Mr. Ryan for his presentation.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**COUNTY COUNCIL-MEMBER ANDY KELLY

Citizens for Property Tax Reform is trying to do a petition have on ballot in January senior citizens 62 or older would pay 30% of property tax portion of the bill with 70% savings; homestead property would pay 40% with 60% savings; second homes/investment homes/commercial properties would pay 50%

MAYOR ROBERT APGAR

He reminded everyone of the Working Group on Tax Reform on June 27th, at 8:30 AM. Mayor Apgar commented that it's mainly a follow up of the Legislature's Special Session; he also wanted to have discussion about the future.

Mayor Apgar expressed appreciation to Mary Swiderski for all her hard work on both the Budget Seminar and the "How Shall We Live In Volusia?" Summit. Mary Swiderski included Mary Curran for acknowledgement.

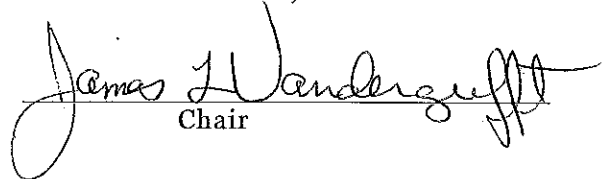
Mary Swiderski reminded everyone of the Affordable Housing Summit also on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM to 1 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**


There being no further business to come before the VCOG Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

AS SUBMITTED, THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD WERE APPROVED IN AN OPEN MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 27, 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