



**Roundtable of Volusia County Elected Officials
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER – 9:00 a.m.

The Dennis McGee Room – Daytona Beach International Airport 700 Catalina Daytona Beach, Florida.

Those attending included the following Roundtable members: Heidi Herzberg, Roundtable Chair, Mayor, Deltona; Nancy Miller, Roundtable Vice Chair, Mayor, Daytona Beach Shores; Karen Chazez, Mayor, DeBary; Bob Apgar, Mayor, DeLand; Cameron Lane, Mayor, Lake Helen; Russ Owen, Mayor, New Smyrna Beach; Douglas Gibson, Mayor, Oak Hill; Gary Blair, Mayor, Orange City; Michael Thomas, Mayor, Edgewater; Samuel Bennett, Mayor, Pierson; Lois Paritsky, Mayor, Ponce Inlet; Bill Hall, Mayor, South Daytona; Don Burnette, Mayor, Port Orange; Jeff Brower, County Chair, Volusia County; George Recktenwald, County Manager, Volusia County. Kurt Swartzlander, Asst. City Manager, Daytona Beach Shores; Michael Booker, City Manager, Daytona Beach Shores; Dru Driscoll, Deputy City Manager, Daytona Beach; John A. Peters, Acting City Manager, Deltona; Phyllis Buletin, Vice Mayor, DeBary; Christine Power, Council Member, Edgewater; Glenn Irby, City Manager, Edgewater; Joe Forte, City Manager, Holly Hill; Lee Evett, City Administrator, Lake Helen; Kohn Evans, City Administrator, Oak Hill; Dale Arrington, City Manager, Orange City; Joyce Shanahan, City Manager, Ormond Beach; Jeaneen Witt, Town Manager, Ponce Inlet; Wayne Clark, City Manager, Port Orange; Les Gillis, City Manager, South Daytona

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Roundtable Chair Heidi Herzberg welcomed those in attendance and following introductions of the attendees, led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opioid Litigation and Legislation Update

Paolo Soria, Senior, Assistant County Attorney, Volusia County, presented to Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Soria provided background for the Opioid litigation. Mr. Soria provided an update on the class action lawsuit Volusia County and four other municipalities sued various opioid manufactures. He also provided an update on the other settlements the State of Florida had settled, and how these settlements would adopt the Florida Participation Plan for local governments to participate in the settlements and receive funds.

Restriction on the Use of Funds

Mr. Soria stated funds could only be for “Approved Uses.” He stated that the State has provided a non-exhaustive list of Core Strategies and Approved Uses for which the funds can be spent. Mr. Soria explained the funds must be used for a new service, program, or expansion of an existing program. He stated this restriction applied to both the Regional Fund and for City/County Funds received directly by a local government. Mr. Soria also reviewed the reporting measures that are required for these funds.

Mr. Soria stated the Opioid Advisory Board was created by the Interlocal Agreement Governing Use of Volusia County Regional Opioid Settlement. Appointments to the board would be of 1 member designated by participating local governments. Mr. Soria stated this was an advisory board only, not subject to holding dual office and subject to all sunshine and public records laws.

Mr. Soria reviewed the duties of an advisory board member.

Mr. Soria explained the opioid settlement funds could only be used for new approved uses or to enhance or expand current uses. Mr. Soria stated the funds may not be used to supplement or replace funding for existing services. The adopted Abatement Plan does not narrow the list of uses that regional funds may be used toward beyond recognizing already existing programs. The plan should be refined by consideration of needs/gap analysis to determine current deficiencies in opioid substance abuse abatement programs and services as well as community input from affected local governments. The abatement plan is reviewed for efficacy by the Opioid Funding Advisory Board, with final amendments approved by County Council.

Discussion and questions ensued between Mr. Soria and committee members.

Michael J. Chitwood, Sheriff of Volusia County, provided an update on the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC), and the services that will be provided. Sheriff Chitwood stated that the Department of Juvenile Justice would be moving their local office to be housed out of JAC. He also reviewed a list of community partners that will be participating and housed at JAC. He stated they anticipated the center would be open and operational sometime in November 2022.

AMERICAN FLOOD COALITION

Kate Wesner, Florida Director, American Flood Coalition (AFC), spoke on how to prepare for infrastructure. Ms. Wesner provided a background and history for the coalition. She stated the organization was a nonpartisan, nonprofit working on solutions for flooding for those communities affected by flooding. Ms. Wesner stated there were three driving factors contributing to flooding in Florida: Sea level rise, stronger storms and heavy rainfall events.

Ms. Wesner reviewed the effects of flooding and sea level rise have on Florida's economy. Such events can have a negative impact on sales tax revenue, agriculture, main street impacts, put property values at risk, and bond ratings.

Ms. Wesner explained the Flood Funding Finder. She stated this tool breaks down federal grant and technical assistance programs best suited for flooding and sea level rise initiatives. She explained this tool identifies programs by characteristics, including (but not limited to) Presidential Disaster Declarations, no local cost share requirements, special considerations for small municipalities and project planning support. Ms. Wesner stated also, the adaptation for AFC's guide provides several examples of how to build flood resilience for communities of every size.

Ms. Wesner stated for Volusia County flooding there were Hurricanes Matthew and Irma that caused a combined total of over \$760 million of damage. Ms. Wesner explained another event was a rainstorm in May 2009 left properties in two feet of water and caused \$69 million of damage. Ms. Wesner stated Volusia County can expect an increasing risk of hurricanes and tropical storm events, and ten inches of sea level rise is projected by 2040.

Ms. Wesner provided an overview of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a historic investment in flood resilience. She stated AFC was able to secure \$34.7 billion of the \$38 billion requested for flood resilient infrastructure in the law.

LEGISLATION UPDATE

John Booker, Government Affairs Liaison, Volusia County, spoke on the special legislative session that just ended recently. Mr. Booker provided an update on Senate Bill 224 (regarding smoking and local government restrictions) and Senate Bill 2512 (related to Drones and their usage).

Smoking – Beaches and Public Parks

Mr. Booker stated this bill amends the “Florida Clean Indoor Air Act,” to allow counties and municipalities to restrict smoking within the boundaries of any of the public beaches and public parks they own, except with regard to the smoking of cigars that do not contain a filter or a plastic tip or the smoking of pipe tobacco in a pipe. Mr. Booker stated that “smoking” is defined as “inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying, or possessing any lighted tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, and pipe tobacco.” He stated the bill authorizes law enforcement officers to issue citations in the form as prescribed by a county or municipality punishable by a maximum civil penalty not to exceed \$25 or 50 hours of community service.

The Legislature has found cigarettes are the leading cause of fire deaths in Florida and found that with a year-round risk of wildfires, cigarettes can cause wildfires when discarded as litter.

Drones

Mr. Booker explained this bill modifies the law relating to the DMS-approved drone manufacturers list, requiring the DMS to publish a list of approved manufacturers and related model numbers for use of drones by governmental agencies by July 1, 2022, and each July 1 thereafter. He stated the bill specifies the DMS must grant waivers to governmental agencies so long as the public’s interest is protected and requires the DMS to establish the process for waivers by rule.

Mr. Booker also discussed the Congressional maps and redistricting and where the governor and legislature stood at this time.

Lisa Lewis, Supervisor of Elections, Volusia County, announced qualifying for county elections is June 13 – 17, 2022. Ms. Lewis also stated there will be an additional congressional seat for the state of Florida due to redistricting.

Georgia McKeown, Government Consultant, provided an update on the state and federal legislative sessions. Ms. McKeown explained the timing of the gas tax holiday and discussed the upcoming Special Session for the State Legislatures to discuss Insurance coverage and increased costs to the citizens of Florida.

Ms. McKeown reviewed the End of Session report. Ms. McKeown explained the importance of local leaders of Volusia County to speak with the governor’s office, in regards to the water projects for Volusia County.

Discussion and questions ensued between Mr. Booker, Ms. McKeown, and Committee Members.

TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Heidi Herzberg, Mayor of Deltona and Round Table Chair, provided an update on the Transportation Subcommittee.

Chair Herzberg explained those interested in participating would have to provide the staff person to organize the meeting and keep meeting minutes.

Mayor Don Burnette, Port Orange, stated if the Committee decided to move forward with the subcommittee, the City of Port Orange would agree to host the Transportation Subcommittee. Mayor Burnette agreed they would provide the support staff to coordinate the meetings and

minutes he would be willing to participate. Mayor Burnette stated he believed it was important to have citizens participate or have a citizens committee.

The consensus of the committee was not to start up the Transportation Subcommittee until January 2023.

Chair Herzberg and Vice-Chair Miller informed everyone to email them if they are interested in serving on the Transportation Subcommittee.

JULY MEETING

Heidi Herzberg, Mayor of Deltona and Round Table Chair, informed the committee that historically the committee does not meet during the month of July; however, requested input from the other committee members.

Mayor Parrington, Ormond Beach, commented on the frequency and time of the Round Table meetings. Mayor Parrington suggested that the meetings be held quarterly or bi-annually and later in the day.

Mayor Via, Holly Hill agreed with Mayor Parrington suggested schedule for future Round Table meetings.

Mayor Apgar provided background and history as to how the schedule for the Round Table meetings was decided upon. Mayor Apgar stated the second Monday of the month was chosen to avoid council/commission meetings of the county and municipalities.

Mayor Chasez stated she did not see where Friday meetings would be well attended, especially, later meetings held in the day.

Mayor Miller and Mayor Paritsky commented it would be difficult to have the meetings late afternoon due to municipalities have their meetings scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday. Mayor Herzberg stated there would be little to no public participation on a Friday late afternoon meeting. The consensus of the committee was to table this for now.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Round Table Chair Herzberg stated the next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2022. Chair Herzberg informed everyone the location for the next meeting was scheduled to be held at the Dennis McGee room at the Daytona Beach International Airport at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Will Roberts, Tax Collector, Volusia County, announced new services being provided by the Tax Collector's Office. Mr. Roberts stated the fees being collected for the new services would remain within the county they were collected.

Keith Yarnish, Concerned Citizen, spoke on the need for a liaison at the local level of government in dealing with Homeowner Associations. He stated the Department of Business Regulations only helps mediate issues with Condominium Associations.

CLOSING COMMENTS/ADJOURN

Jeff Brower, Volusia County Council Chair, commented on how there does need to be more public discussion regarding growth, impact fees and roads/infrastructure.

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Mayor Burnette, Port Orange, stated he looked forward to the Transportation Subcommittee meetings to begin at the beginning of 2023. He stated he believed these discussions needed to be citizen driven.

Mayor Via, Holly Hill, clarified his position on the Round Table meetings schedule. He also stated he believes any discussion related to a sales tax needed to come from the citizen's position.

Mayor Thomas, Edgewater, gave accolades to the Tax Collector and the new services being offered to the citizens of Volusia County.

Mayor Bennett, Pierson, commented on how informative the meeting was and looked forward to seeing everyone again at the next meeting.

Mayor Gibson stated he would like there to be more concentration on how storm water drains and effects runoff. He stated there is a need to stop the runoff to the river and Indian River Lagoon.

Mayor Lane, Lake Helen, stated as a new mayor he found the Round Table meetings informative and helpful. Mayor Lane stated he likes the current bi-monthly schedule for the meetings.

Mayor Parrington announced the grand opening of the Ormond Beach Art Museum and Gardens. He commented this was an ECHO project. Mayor Parrington commented on smart growth and amending ordinances.

Mayor Apgar, DeLand, spoke on the sales tax issue and the need for infrastructure in the community.

Mayor Paritsky, Ponce Inlet, commented the need for collaboration amongst the cities and the county. He thanked the speakers for their presentations.

Mayor Miller, Daytona Beach Shores, announced Michael Booker, City Manager of Daytona Beach Shores, retirement and thanked him for his service. Mayor Miller announced Kurt Swartzlander, Assistant City Manager, will be Mr. Booker successor.

Mayor Herzberg, Deltona, commented on growth and how Florida is open for business and a desirable place to live. Mayor Herzberg spoke on the need for community involvement and educate the community on regulatory issues and procedures.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Herzberg adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.