



Council Minutes

April 9, 2012
10:00 a.m.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Chair, Commissioner Larry Bustle, Manatee County
Vice Chair, Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island
Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Past Chair, Vice Mayor Bill Dodson, City of Plant City
Mayor Scott Black, City of Dade City
Commissioner Neil Brickfield, Pinellas County
Commissioner Woody Brown, City of Largo
Commissioner Victor Crist, Hillsborough County
Council Member Doreen Hock DiPolito, City of Clearwater
Council Member Alison Fernandez, City of Temple Terrace
Commissioner Lorraine Huhn, City of St. Pete Beach
Mr. Robert Kersteen, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Councilman Bob Langford, City of New Port Richey
Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole
Commissioner Gail Neidinger, City of S. Pasadena
Council Member Wengay Newton, City of St. Petersburg
Vice Mayor Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton
Mr. Tim Schock, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Gary Wishnatzki, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Waddah Farah, Alt., Ex-Officio, Florida Department of Transportation
Ms. Michelle Miller, Ex-Officio, Enterprise Florida
Mr. Todd Pressman, Ex-Officio, Southwest Florida Water Management District
Ms. Pamela Vazquez, Ex-Officio, Department of Environmental Protection

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Mayor David Archie, City of Tarpon Springs
Commissioner Nina Bandoni, City of Safety Harbor
Vice Mayor Ron Barnette, City of Dunedin
Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto
Councilman Sam Henderson, City of Gulfport
Mr. Harry Kinnan, Manatee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Jack Mariano, Pasco County
Council Member Janice Miller, City of Oldsmar
Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, City of Tampa
Vice Mayor Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Kim Vance, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Charles Waller, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Earl Young, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Johnson, Hillsborough County
John Healey, Planner, Hillsborough County
Powers Dorsett, Bell Frut LLC
Dean Neal, Zoning Director, Pinellas Park
Jason Mickel, Senior Planner, SWFWMD
Bryant Grant, Engineer, Mosaic
Lisa Ballett, Planner, Manatee County
Joel Christian, Manatee County
Rob Brown, Manatee Co NRD
Alissa Powers, Manatee Co NRD
Will Augustine, Sr. Planner, Hillsborough County Planning Commission

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Manny Pumariega, Executive Director
Mr. Donald Conn, Legal Counsel
Mr. Kevin Biegler, Planner
Ms. Suzanne Cooper, Principal Planner
Ms. Lori Denman, Recording Secretary
Mr. John Jacobsen, Accounting Manager
Ms. Wren Krahl, Director of Admin & Public Info.
Ms. Jessica Lunsford, Senior Planner
Mr. John Meyer, Principal Planner
Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner
Mr. Brady Smith, Senior Planner
Mr. Avera Wynne, Planning Director

Call to Order – Chair Bustle

The April 9, 2012 regular meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call -- Recording Secretary

A quorum was present.

Voting Conflict Report -- Recording Secretary - None

Announcements: - Chair Bustle

New Council Member Introductions:

Commissioner Gail Neidinger, representing the City of South Pasadena, and
Commissioner Lorraine Huhn, representing the City of St. Pete Beach.

Chair Bustle thanked Council members who attended the 20th Annual Future of the Region Awards luncheon and the 50th Anniversary Reception on March 23rd. Both events were a great success. The Commemorative Programs were distributed and additional copies can be obtained by contacting Wren Krahl.

A flyer on the Coastal Cities Summit for 2012 was distributed. This Summit will take place May 1st - 3rd at the Bayfront Hilton in downtown St. Petersburg. Council Members will receive a free registration. For additional information, please contact Wren Krahl.

Councilor Bob Matthews was thanked for providing refreshments and was also provided a round of applause for the balloon logo he provided for the March 23rd events.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez
The minutes from the March 12, 2012 regular meeting were approved. (Kersteen/Newton)
2. **Budget Committee** – Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Andy Núñez
The Financial Report for the period ending 2/29/12 was approved. (Roff/Newton)

In Council folders was a Memo in regard to Consent Agenda Item #3.A.3. Staff is in the process of comparing proposals to engage a professional survey firm to assist with two projects under the TBRPC's management of the Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategy and Broadband Planning. All three proposals are within the amounts budgeted for the work and you will find a breakdown of those proposals in the Memo. Staff will negotiate with the bidders in the order ranked and will ensure the proposals will produce the desired outcomes.

Also in Council folders was a Revised Annual Report Summary. Agenda Item #3.F.4. - Gregg Business Centre RY 2011-12 Annual Report Summary has been revised to reflect an additional four year extension of the build-out and Development Order expiration dates recently granted by City Staff in association with HB7207. The revised dates are December 30, 2019 and March 16, 2020 respectively.

3. **Consent Agenda** – Chair Bustle

A. **Budget and Contractual**

1. **Hurricane Guide Printing**

The County Emergency Management agencies of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota have requested that TBRPC staff provide assistance in the production and coordination of printing and distribution of the annual hurricane guide. An RFP was advertised and bids were received from four (4) print companies based on the specifications provided. Newspaper Printing Company, Tampa, FL, a local firm and the printer was selected based on past performance and references, demonstrated capabilities and lowest cost. Print placement and management services will be provided by Printing Solutions of Florida.

Action Recommended: Authorization for the Executive Director to sign a Purchase Order for up to \$40,000 with Printing Solutions of Florida for printing and print management services of the 2012 Hurricane Guide.

Staff contact: Betti Johnson, ext. 39

2. **REMI Policy Insight® Statewide Renewal**

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council has received the new maintenance and technical support contract for the statewide version of REMI Policy Insight® from Regional Economic Models, Inc. The contract will begin on March 25, 2012 and run through March 24, 2013 at a cost of \$37,513. TBRPC owns this version of the model separately from the Council's version to allow all RPCs in the state to have REMI. \$18,513 is for the annual data and licensing while the balance is for the other RPCs to receive secondary user licenses and unlimited technical support from REMI staff. All costs are paid by the six RPC secondary users, not TBRPC. TBRPC has been a REMI user since 1999 and continues to provide technical support and assistance to the Council's members, economic development organizations, Tampa Bay Partnership and others. The REMI model can be used to forecast the economic and demographic

effects of policy initiatives. Policy Insight® answers the "What if...?" questions concerning regional and local economies. Any type of policy that influences economic activity can be evaluated including economic development, transportation, energy, environmental, and taxation.

Action Recommended: Authorize the Executive Director to sign the Annual User Agreement for Software Licensing and Services.

Staff contact: Avera Wynne, ext. 30 or Patrick O'Neil, ext. 31

3. Contracting Survey Firm

The Council seeks to engage a professional survey firm to assist with two projects under TBRPC's management: Statewide Energy Resiliency Strategy and Broadband Planning. Quotes are being requested and responses are due April 5 from three to five firms. Staff will recommend one or more firms to Council to conduct the survey work.

Action Recommended: Authorization for the Executive Director to sign agreements and/or Purchase Order(s) with a professional survey firm to assist with Energy Resiliency and Broadband Florida projects

Staff contact: Avera Wynne, ext. 30

B. Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program

1. IC&R Reviews by Jurisdiction - March 2012

2. IC&R Database - March 2012

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

C. DRI Development Order Reports (DOR) - None

D. DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)

DRI # 119 - Northwood, Pasco County

Recommended Action: Approve staff report

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29.

E. Notice of Proposed Change Reports (NOPC) - None

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

F. Annual Report Summaries (ARS) / Biennial Report Summaries (BRS)

Agenda Item #3.F.4. - Gregg Business Centre RY 2011-12 Annual Report Summary has been revised to reflect an additional four year extension of the buildout and Development Order expiration dates recently granted by City staff in association with HB 7207. The revised dates are December 30, 2019 and March 16, 2020 respectively.

1. DRI # 98 - Sabal Center, RY 2010-11 ARS, Hillsborough County

2. DRI #132 - Gateway Centre/PP, RY 2010-11 ARS, City of Pinellas Park

3. DRI #157 - Trinity Communities, RYs 2009-11 BRS, Pasco County

4. DRI # 197 - Gregg Business Center, RY 2011-12 ARS, City of Plant City

5. DRI #236 - Riviera Dunes, RY 2010-11 ARS, City of Palmetto

6. DRI #239 - River Club Park of Commerce, RY 2010-11 ARS, Manatee County

7. DRI #260 - Wiregrass Ranch, RYs 2009-11 BRS, Pasco County

Recommended Action: Approve staff report

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

G. DRI Status Report

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.
Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

H. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)

Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following reports have been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and the appropriate local government in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C.

For adopted amendments that do not require Council comments, no report is attached.

1. DEO # 12-1ESR, Hillsborough County (proposed)
2. DEO # 12-1ESR, City of Treasure Island (proposed)
3. DEO # 12-2ESR, City of Pinellas Park (proposed)
4. DEO # 12-3ESR, Pasco County (proposed)

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.
Staff contact: Jessica Lunsford, ext. 38

I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP) - None

The following report(s) are presented for Council action:

Staff contact: Jessica Lunsford, ext. 38

The consent agenda was approved. (Kersteen/Newton)

4. Item(s) Removed from Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s) - None

5. Review Item(s) or Any Other Item(s) for Discussion

DRI # 273 - Wingate Creek Mine Substantial Deviation Final Report, Manatee County

The applicant is seeking to expand mining operations within the existing 3,028-acre Wingate Creek Mine DRI. The mine site is situated in eastern Manatee County, with the eastern boundary nearly three miles from the Polk County Line. The southern boundary of the project fronts S.R. 64 and extends approximately 3.4 miles to the north. Approval of the Substantial Deviation is suggested subject to the recommended conditions and developer commitments contained in the *Final Report*.

DRI Coordinator John Meyer provided an overview of the proposal. Mosaic Fertilizer is seeking Substantial Deviation approval to the existing Wingate Creek Mine DRI in east Manatee County. No expansion to the existing 3,028+ acre Wingate Creek Mine is proposed, only authorization to mine additional 667 acres from within. Of the 667 acres, 652 acres were previously approved “for disturbance only” and the remaining 15 acres were designated as “preservation.” No changes to the annual mining rate, water withdrawal rate, number of truck trips and/or truck haul routes. Mining operations and reclamation activities would be extended by nine years. According to the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) there is a small slip on the eastern boundary that has been identified as regionally significant natural resources, areas of listed species habitat. Council staff recommends consideration of the *Final Report*.

Mr. Meyer introduced Hugh McGuire, representing the applicant. Mr. McGuire introduced Bart Erickson, Manager of Permitting for Mosaic; Jay Matteson, Engineer; and Bryant Grant, Senior Engineer. Also in the audience was Dr. John Garlinger and Steve Hendrick.

Jay Matteson, Engineer, Mosaic, explained mining and restoration methods. Mosaic produces the majority of the phosphate used by American farmers and employs approximately 7,000 people worldwide, and 3,000 in Florida. Phosphorus is essential to sustain all plant and animal life and is required for crop production. There is no synthetic substitute for phosphate.

U.S. phosphate deposits are located in Idaho, Utah, North Carolina, Hamilton County, Florida with the

largest deposits are located in Central Florida. The geology of a site consists of a top layer which is called the overburden. It ranges 15-40 feet thick and it is called an overburden because it has to be removed to get down to where the phosphate is located. The overburden consists of sand and clay. The next layer is called the matrix, which contains the phosphate. It also contains sand and clay which is why it's called matrix. It ranges 10-40 feet deep. Once you get past the matrix you get to the limey bed clay.

The different permits that Mosaic has to get before mining are from EPA, DEP, wildlife permits and local county and regional levels.

Mosaic has two different mine operations. The dredge and the draglines and since we are talking about Wingate I will talk about the dredge boat, which is what Wingate uses. The dredge is a boat that floats on water. A drill mines the material which is sent through a pipeline back to the plant. "Spuds" hold the barge in place to keep it in one position while it is mining. The phosphate mining and processing use two dredges that work together to mine the material. The first dredge removes the overburden. It cuts away that overburden and sends it back around and fills in the dredge pond behind it. The pond moves around as the mining progresses. As it cuts in front the pond will grow and then it fills it in behind. The matrix dredge comes in behind the overburden dredge and it sends the matrix to the plant where it can begin to be processed. The first stage is the washing stage where some of the clay is removed and sent to the settling area and some of the phosphate is sent to the phosphate rock stockpile. If the matrix is small enough it will be sent to sizing and conditioning in which it is further processed. If it is small enough again, it will be sent to floatation and then it will be sent out to the phosphate rock stockpile. The clay is sent to the clay settling area and the sand tailings are sent to reclamation. Different materials have different properties and they flow at different levels, that is how they are separated. Anything that doesn't get to floatation is sent back and possibly makes its way through the process again. This area is contained within a water restricted system. We reuse the majority of the water and the system will also capture any rainfall or surface discharge unless it is taken through a permitted NPDES discharge outfall. Everything is connected by a dish system. If we do need to discharge, it is through the NPDES discharge permit. We monitor quality if we discharge.

Reclamation became mandatory under Florida law in 1975. The first reclamation method used is sand backfill. The sand backfill fills in the lake and then the heavy equipment comes and provides a layer of top soil. Then we can re-vegetate on top or do whatever the reclamation calls for. The machinery we use are equipped with GPS technology so they know exactly what elevation they are contouring the land to. Once we have layed the layer of top soil we lay a cover crop to help control dust and we will also disk the cover crop in to provide nutrients in the reclaimed land. We also do fresh water marshes.

The next reclamation method is land and lakes, which is when we are building a lake. We draw water down and then contour the area, and then we put the water back in and plant trees around the lake as a buffer. The lakes provide habitat for wildlife as well as bass fishing.

The last method is crustal development. Once a damn has been built and we have gotten all the spoil out of it that we can we will go in and cut ditches to dry the clay out. It forms a crust. Once that takes place you can reshape the dam and re-vegetate. Our clay settling areas have been used for agriculture. The Florida Institute of Phosphate Research did a study on 1996 which documented the summary of experiments and extension recommendations.

Different land uses that occur on reclaimed land are a shopping center in Lakeland, a power plant which uses the clay settling area for a cooling pond, and there are neighborhoods that have been built

on mined land. We have also built state parks - the Alafia River State Park as well as a community park in Manatee County.

Some specifics on the Wingate Creek Mine Substantial Deviation (DRI 273) application. As Mr. Meyer pointed out, the site is located in eastern Manatee County, just north of SR 64. We would be looking to continue processing the ore that we are mining at Wingate. We recently received a Wingate Extension Master Mine Plan approved by the county, which is just east of Wingate and we will be processing that ore at the Wingate plant. We will continue to use the utility pole that flanks the Wingate Mine Southeast Track to exchange materials back and forth between the sites. If we pick up these additional mining areas it will extend the life of the mine for 9 years. We need to update our mine reclamation plans to match these proposed activities.

The two areas that are classified as non-disturbed that we are asking to mine are 7.7 acres and another 7.7 acres along the eastern border which we now own. The .6 acres of wetland impact that are associated in the 50 foot setback are the only remaining acres of the wetland that have not been approved.

In summary, there will be no changes to water use, no change to NPDES outfalls, no change to plant capacity or processes, no change to shipping methods, no change to air emissions, no change to mining methods, no change to preservation areas, and no change to the level of employment, but existing jobs will be extended for +/- 9 years.

Questions & Comments:

- Councilman Newton: Are there any nutrients in the discharge? Where does the discharge go? How many local jobs are associated with the mine?
- Mr. Matteson: There are nutrients but they meet the standards. We discharge into Johnson Creek and it eventually goes to the Myakka River. At the actual mine itself there are 150 people who are employed by Mosaic. That doesn't include outside contractors. I think it is closer to 300 when you look at everybody who is affected.
- Commissioner Crist: How many more years do we have left in Florida for mining?
- Mr. Matteson: I can't answer that. I know that as technology changes we can find different places to mine.
- Commissioner Crist: Are we looking at an industry that can be around for 100 years or 50 years?
- Mr. Erickson: I'm with Mosaic. We currently have plans at different mines in Manatee and Hardee Counties and DeSoto County and we anticipate mining at least over the next 30 years.
- Commissioner Crist: The reclaimed land, your company has done an incredible job advancing technologies and providing much higher standards for reclamation. In looking at some of the photos in the presentation, the lakes, once you are done with them are they swimmable?
- Mr. Erickson: In a technical sense they are. I say that because not everybody can use them like that. Can people go in there and swim, yes. Are people allowed to do that all the time? No.
- Commissioner Crist: I was looking for possible future uses of those venues. Could recreational opportunities be developed around them? How far does reclamation go for possible uses?
- Mr. Erickson: Certainly recreational options are a possibility. In fact, we have several of them.

Commissioner Crist: I have heard that reclaimed has a higher radioactive level than un-reclaimed land, is that radioactive level acceptable for development and residential everyday living?

Mr. Erickson: We are required to monitor radiation prior to mining and after mining. The Health Department does that routinely. In fact, Manatee County has been very strict on us concerning the levels before and after and we have to meet those levels. We currently meet them. The Department of Health has never found any radiation readings that are harmful to the public.

Commissioner Crist: So it's reasonable to say that part of the reclamation could be future planning for cities and counties for possible development of those sites.

Mr. Erickson: Yes. They could be developed in the future depending on what each community decides is best for that community.

Mr. Pressman: As the representative for SWFWMD on this Council I would like to make the board aware that Mosaic has been a great entity to work with. They currently re-use 95% of the groundwater that they use. They have reduced groundwater sources about 30% over the years and have brought a number of projects forward. Other expansions which have been groundbreaking, and they have been a great partner for Florida's natural water. My question Mr. Matteson is, when you are working within the confines of the current permit I am assuming you are using the same water and the same strategies to reuse surface capture with this project. I didn't see anything specific in this report.

Mr. Matteson: Yes, we are, and Wingate will be wrapped up in to the new water use permit. Currently we are permitted for 6.4 mgd and under the new permit it would be 5.8 mgd.

Councilman Newton: Do your permits depend on the use? Do you need the permit to be able to put the land back to the state it was in before the mining? For example, we have the small sports stadium in St. Petersburg and we have to monitor that site because that was built over a refinery. The required level is for the current use but if we want to put condos up it would have to be even cleaner. So I wanted people to understand what that permit does, if that permit is not for swimming then it may not be swimming quality water. Is that a fair assessment?

Mr. Matteson: I know we are planning a golf course right now. We re-claim at a class 3 standard which is recreation.

Commissioner Brown: Why was this portion not listed in the original permit process?

Mr. Matteson: I think technologies have changed. The land was permitted back in 1975 and we acquired the land in 2004.

Vice Mayor Roff: I know that area very well. That's extremely eastern Manatee County for those of you not aware. It is completely uninhabitable and it is surrounded by mining interests. A lot of the land out there is bare. I know there is an excellent nature preserve and there is a recreational gun club, but really most of the land is unused. Development is a good distance away. It's my opinion that we are going to continue to allow mining in this area which is rich in our history and we should allow them to continue in areas where it already exists.

Motion for adoption of the *Wingate Creek Mine Substantial Deviation Final Report* and transmittal to Manatee County and the State Land Planning Agency. (Brickfield/Matthews)

Presentations provided at Council meetings can be found at:
www.tbrpc.org/council_members/council_presentations.shtml

6. **Guest Speaker - None**

7. **Council Member Comments**

Councilman Newton: The Tampa Bay Rays are currently in 1st place. Please support them at their home games. We are trying to keep this regional asset.

Council Member DiPolito: I discovered this morning that some of us have not been down to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium and the museum. You can use the Jolly Trolley back and forth between the two aquariums and spend the day. Winter the dolphin is at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

8. **Program Reports**

A. Agency on Bay Management (ABM) – Chair, Mr. Robert Kersteen

In addition to the items listed in the Council agenda, also on tap for the Thursday, April 12th meeting is a presentation on the Economic Impact of Artificial Reefs and the item on Tampa Bay Shrimp Permit Transferability may result in a full parking lot - we have received over 50 comments from the public regarding this item.

One or more of the Agency on Bay Management's committees will meet on June 14th, and the agenda for that meeting will be sent out on June 4th.

B. Clearinghouse Review Committee (CRC) - No Report

C. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – No Report

D. Emergency Management - No Report

E. Legislative Committee – Mayor Scott Black, Chair
The Legislative Chair will provide a brief report.

The following is a final report on those bills of interest we have been following which were passed during the 2012 legislative session. The governor has 15 days to act on a bill (by signing or vetoing the legislation) after it is presented to him by the legislature. If he does not act within those 15 days, the bill becomes law without his signature.

Bills that have been signed by the Governor:

1. Regional workforce boards (HB-7023) – originally the bill would have provided that executive directors and board members serve at the pleasure of the governor, but compromise language in the bill now only allows the governor to remove individuals in those positions for cause. (Ch. 2012-29, laws of Florida)
2. Numeric nutrients (HB-7051) – the bill allows Florida to override federal water pollution regulations with a more flexible threshold standard that is exempt from challenge before the Division of Administrative Hearings, and which shall be submitted to EPA for review. (Ch. 2012-03, laws of Florida)

Bills that are awaiting action by the Governor:

The legislature has presented these bills to the Governor and the 15 day time period for his action is running:

1. General appropriations act (HB-5001) – the bill provides funding for state government beginning July 1st, including funding for the RPCs. (Presented to Governor on April 6) The

Governor has until April 21st to act on the budget. Now is the time for Council members to contact the Governor and his staff to express support for the RPCs and our funding.

2. Growth management (HB-7081) – fixes obsolete language and statutory references as a result of last year’s major growth management revisions. In addition, the bill authorizes RPCs to provide consulting services to private developers or landowners if the RPC will not serve in a reviewing capacity in the future, except that statutorily mandated services may be provided by the RPCs regardless of their review role. Military base commanders may provide advisory comments to local governments on comprehensive plan changes that affect the mission, safety or economic vitality of military installations, and local governments must consider those comments in the same manner as any other reviewing agency’s comments. (Presented to Governor on March 30)

3. DRIs (HB -979) – creates a new substantial deviation exemption for DRIs that do not increase the number of external peak hour trips, and do not reduce open space and conservation areas within a development. This means that these DRIs are exempt from the NOPC process. Another DRI exemption is provided for qualified target industries when DEO, an affected local government and a developer enter into an agreement which provides the terms and conditions for development review. The bill also preempts local government land use by creating an agricultural enclave exemption process. Concerning RPCs the bill provides that regional planning council review can only include affordable housing issues if the Council has adopted an affordable housing policy as part of its strategic policy plan. It also states that RPC reports must contain recommendations that are consistent with standards required by applicable state permitting agencies or the water management districts. (Presented to Governor on March 30)

4. Growth policy (HB-4003) – repeals provisions relating to the urban infill and redevelopment assistance grant program created in 1991 and terminates the program. (Presented to Governor on March 23; deadline for action is today)

5. Department of Economic Opportunity (HB-7041) – this is the DEO glitch bill that updates and revises statutory references to conform to last year’s legislation creating this agency. (Presented to Governor on March 23; deadline for action is today)

6. Environmental resource permitting (HB-7003) – requires DEP to adopt statewide rules to regulate the management and storage of surface waters and which will replace current water management district regulations. (Presented to Governor on March 30)

7. Transportation (SB-1998) – the bill restricts discretion for local expressway authorities to sell bonds to finance new road projects and assigns responsibility to fdot for administrative and fiscal accountability, including toll collections. (Presented to Governor on April 6)

Not yet presented to the Governor:

The legislature has not yet presented the following bill to the Governor. After it is presented, the 15 day period for his action will then begin to run:

1. Transportation (HB-599) – the bill provides that there should be only one MPO in an urbanized area and requires MPOs to coordinate in development of regionally significant project priorities. It also establishes a strategic port initiative, and directs FDOT to develop a statewide seaport waterways system plan. FDOT will develop a pilot program to open certain limited access highways and bridges to bicycles and other human-powered vehicles. The bill requires the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) to study the merger of their functions and governance with the goal of greater efficiency and interregional coordination.

F. Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) - No Report

G. Economic Development

Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner, provided a report on the upcoming efforts to update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

The TBRPC is a funded Economic Development District (EDD). The Economic Development Administration (EDA) provides half of the funding and TBRPC funds the other half. Tampa Bay has been a funded EDD since 2003. Advantages for local governments is that they get an extra 5% funding bonus is available and no CEDS requirement.

The primary functions of the EDD are (but are not limited to):

The preparation and maintenance of a CEDS which is good for a maximum of five years. We also assist in the implementation strategies identified within the CEDS; and we provide technical assistance to local governments and economic development organizations on their economic development activities, programs, and grant applications.

The last update of the CEDS was done five years ago, in 2007. This update will be for the next five years. The interesting thing this time is all the other economic development districts in the state, which include all the other RPCs, are updating their CEDS at the same time. Next week the Steering Committee will be selected. Later this month we will integrate the CEDS into the new framework that has been created for use by everyone updating their CEDS around the state. This way all of the CEDS will be uniform so if you want to compare with other regions it will be easier to read and identify the differences between different regions. Within the next 45 days we will integrate the Cluster Study into the CEDS to focus on our target industries. We will also hold our first meeting with the Strategy Committee to discuss the direction of the CEDS, what people want from the CEDS, different goals and projects and develop a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis. Then, in the next 60 days distribute the project admission form so everyone has different projects they would like to see happen. Before June 15 we will finish the draft CEDS and distribute it to the CEDS Committee for discussion. After 15 days we will take a vote, and provide comments and develop strategies and goals. From there we will draft the changes on the recommendations we receive and enter any projects we receive, and finalize the CEDS and distribute it to the CEDS Committee for a vote. After the vote we will bring the CEDS back to the Council at the August meeting for final approval at which time the CEDS will be sent to the EDA.

The Strategy Committee's role is to provide guidance and feedback, develop SWOT analysis, review economic analysis, prioritize importance of projects and goals, and recommend final CEDS to Council for approval. Within the Strategy Committee is a matrix of different public and private individuals and we will probably look at a having a few Council members on this committee.

The interesting thing about having everyone do their CEDS at the same time is that we are able to come up with a CEDS Framework. We are going with the Florida Chamber Six Pillars and make that uniform within the state. The different CEDS components are: Economic analysis - population and employment forecasts to 2060, the gross regional product will compare ours to other regions and other countries. The last time we looked at this we had an economy the size of Nigeria. We will also shift share analysis and location quotients to look at the concentration of employment and industries compared to the nation. Also with the CEDS components will be the SWOT and try to identify things in the future that will be helpful, develop different goals and strategies and implementation of projects for the future if funding becomes available.

Recently staff has been working with DEO and the Florida Chamber with the DEO Regional Forums. 12 meetings were held throughout the state. A member of our staff was at each meeting utilizing the Audience Response System to gather input and develop consensus from the participants. There were roughly 1,000 participants in total. That data will be used in the CEDS as well as within the DEO and future decisions they make.

H. Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) - No Report

9. Other Council Reports

NARC Conference 2012

Ms. Wren Krahl provided an update. In the fall of 2009 the Council voted to host the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) conference on June 10 - 14, 2012. At that time the Council voted to sponsor this event. As the host agency we are obligated to provide \$60,000 in sponsorships monies and that is made up from private sector as well as public sector. Some of you may have received a statement from us this week and that statement is in regard to the resolutions that your municipality passed back in the fall of 2009. With that sponsorship you are entitled to the benefits of sponsorship. I have worked out with NARC that our smaller municipalities who provided \$500 that they are entitled to \$1,000 sponsorship benefit. The same goes for our larger cities who provided \$2,000, they are entitled to the \$2,500 sponsor benefit. I encourage all of you to participate in the conference. Our counties are gold sponsors so they can have a booth at the event as well as the other benefits. This is an opportunity to showcase our region with a national audience. If you have any questions, please let me know. I will be putting you in touch with Lindsay Riley. She will be coordinating all of the exhibit space. I have gathered all of your logos. A flyer was distributed in the Council folders.

Registration is moving along and we should see a great attendance at this event. For those of you who are curious about the value of the registrations, for non-members of NARC registration is \$600, for members of NARC registration is \$500. Any of our staff or your staff who wish to attend it would be \$450, however Council members have a free conference registration. I hope you will all take advantage of that.

We will be putting together a list of restaurants for the conference attendees. If you would like to submit a restaurant please do so. This list will include spots that don't get recognized very often.

Chair Bustle asked that individual emails be sent to Council members explaining the sponsorship.

10. Executive/Budget Committee Report – Chair Bustle - None

11. Chair's Report

At our last meeting a motion was made by Commissioner Crist to form a task force to assess opportunities for regional collaboration. The motion passed unanimously. Working with staff, I recently appointed 13 members to the Tampa Bay Regional Collaboration Committee (TBRCC). We held our first meeting this morning to discuss potential regional collaborative endeavors and to formulate a sequence of events for the Committee.

The goal of the Committee is to identify regional endeavors and how to best collaborate on those regional opportunities. For example, seaports. That seems to be one that everybody likes to talk about. We have 3 seaports in the Tampa Bay region. There could be opportunities to collaborate between the 3 seaport locations. That is the sort of thing that we will be looking at. Also airports, education, area branding. We will keep you informed as to what is going on and

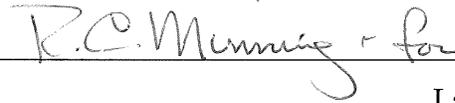
eventually we will compile the results into a draft final report which will then be presented to the full Council. Once you have signed off on the report then we will move forward.

12. Executive Director's Report

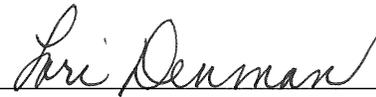
We found out about 3 weeks ago that seven of our twelve gubernatorial appointees have not been confirmed by the Senate. The Governor rescinded 400 appointments around the state. I received word Friday that the seven gubernatorial appointments are safe and are scheduled to be reappointed by April 23.

Next Meeting: April 9, 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: 11:20 a.m.



Larry Bustle, Chair



Lori Denman, Recording Secretary