



# Council Minutes

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4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Suite 100, Pinellas Park, FL 33782  
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November 9, 2015  
10:00 a.m.

## REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Commissioner Victor Crist, Hillsborough County, Chair  
Mayor Woody Brown, City of Largo, Vice Chair  
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton, Sec./Treasurer  
Mayor David Archie, City of Tarpon Springs  
Mayor Scott Black, City of Dade City  
Commissioner Betsy Benac, Alt, Manatee County  
Councilmember Bob Boss, City of Temple Terrace  
Mr. Jacob Cremer, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Councilman Jonathan Davis., City of Palmetto  
Commissioner Carlos Diaz, City of Safety Harbor  
Vice Mayor Bill Dodson, City of Plant City  
Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Commissioner Bruce Livingston, City of Dunedin  
Commissioner Janet Long, Pinellas County  
Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole  
Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island  
Commissioner Mike Moore, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. John Neal, Manatee County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Councilwoman Darden Rice, City of St. Petersburg  
Mr. Robert Sebesta, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Commissioner Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County  
Mr. Scott Sheridan, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. Tim Schock, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. Waddah Farah, Alt., Ex-officio, FDOT

## REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Councilwoman Yvonne Yolie Capin, City of Tampa  
Mr. Nick DiCeglie, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Mr. David Dunbar, SWFWMD  
Mr. Robert "Pete" Edwards, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Council Member Michael Fridovich, City of Gulfport  
Council Member Hoyt Hamilton, City of Clearwater  
Commissioner Gail Neidinger, City of South Pasadena  
Commissioner Ronald Kitchen, Citrus County  
Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee, Past Chair  
Deputy Mayor Bill Phillips, City of New Port Richey  
Commissioner Diane Rowden, Hernando County  
Mr. Frank Rygiel, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee  
Council Member Eric Seidel, City of Oldsmar  
Councilman Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park  
Ms. Mary Yeargan, FDEP

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Trisha Neasman, Planning Supervisor, SWFWMD  
Misty Servia, Planning Manager, King Engineering

**STAFF PRESENT**

Avera Wynne, Interim Executive Director  
Don Conn, Legal Counsel  
Maya Burke, Senior Planner  
Randy Deshazo, Principal Planner  
Marshall Flynn, GIS Director  
Wren Krahl, Director of Administration/Public Information  
John Meyer, Principal Planner  
Brady Smith, Principal Planner  
Beth Williams, Accounting Manager  
Avera Wynne, Planning Director

**Call to Order** – Chair Crist

The November 9, 2015 meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Voting Conflict Report** – Agenda Item 3.E.1, filed by Mr. Scott Sheridan, Gubernatorial Appointee

The invocation was given by Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Public Comment:**

None

Motion to close the Public Comment passed without objection.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Councilman Roff, Sec./Treas.  
Approved the minutes from the October 12, 2015 regular meeting without objection.
2. **Budget Committee** – Secretary/Treasurer Roff
  - A. Approved the Financial Report for the period ending 9/30/15 without objection.  
Staff contact: Beth Williams, ext. 15 or [beth@tbrpc.org](mailto:beth@tbrpc.org)

Motion to add Item 3. J. to the Consent Agenda. The Local Emergency Planning Committee receives an annual Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Contract and allocation to provide training for the public-sector first responders. Hearing that there was some additional funding remaining for FY 2014-15, Tampa Bay LEPC staff solicited \$6,070 to coordinate a 16-Hr. "Hazmat Asst. Safety Officer" course at the request of Hernando County Fire Rescue and \$10,202 for the acquisition of a trailer and three Chlorine training props for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue that will be a shareable resource. Each of these proposals were verbally approved by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and a corresponding HMEP Contract modification was transmitted late last week. Motion authorizing the Chair to sign the contract modification passed without objection.

3. **Consent Agenda** - Chair Crist
  - A. **Budget and Contractual** - None
  - B. **Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program**
    1. IC&R Summary by Jurisdiction for October 2015
    2. IC&R Reviews - October 2015Action Recommended: None. Information Only.  
Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29, [johnm@tbrpc.org](mailto:johnm@tbrpc.org)

**C. DRI Development Order Report (DOR)**

None

**D. DRI Development Order Amendment Report (DOAR)**

None

**E. Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) Report**

1. DRI #240 – Heritage Harbour, Manatee County

Action Recommended: Approve staff Report

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29, [johnm@tbrpc.org](mailto:johnm@tbrpc.org)

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

1. DRI # 80- Big Four Mine Substantial Deviation, RY 2014-15 ARS, Hillsborough County
2. DRI # 235- Southeast Tract (Mosaic), RY 2014-15 ARS, Manatee County
3. DRI # 251- Four Corners Mine Addition/Altman Tract, RY 2014-15 ARS, Manatee County
4. DRI # 251- Four Corners Mine Addition/Phase 2 RY 2014-15 ARS, Manatee County
5. DRI # 263- Hillsborough County Mine Consolidation S/D, RY 2014-15 ARS, Hillsborough County

Action Recommended: Approve staff reports.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29, [johnm@tbrpc.org](mailto:johnm@tbrpc.org)

**G. DRI Status Report**

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29, [johnm@tbrpc.org](mailto:johnm@tbrpc.org)

**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. No Report is prepared for adopted amendments that do not require Council comments.*

1. DEO # 15-1ESR City of New Port Richey
2. DEO # 15-1ER City of New Port Richey
3. DEO # 15-2ESR Crystal River
4. DEO # 15-1ESR Manatee County
5. DEO # 15-9ESR Pasco County

Action Recommended: Approve staff report(s)

Staff contact: Brady Smith, ext. 42, [brady@tbrpc.org](mailto:brady@tbrpc.org)

**I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)**

1. DEO#15-2ESR Hernando County

Action Recommended: None

Staff contact: Brady Smith, ext. 42, [brady@tbrpc.org](mailto:brady@tbrpc.org)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed without objection. (Long/Starkey)

**4. Item(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s)**

*Council members shall notify the Chair of any items they wish to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. These items will be discussed and voted on separately after the remainder of the Consent Agenda is approved.*

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

**6. New Executive Director Recommendation- Mr. Sean Sullivan**

The Executive/Budget Committee, with the assistance of Pinellas County's Interim Human Resources Director, Ms. Beverly Waldron, conducted an independent, extensive, and nation-wide search for the new Executive Director. The committee reviewed thirty candidates, conducted phone interviews and in-person interviews with five qualified finalists. In addition to interviews with the Executive/Budget Committee, interviews were conducted by staff and stakeholders within the region. The committee unanimously selected Sean Sullivan who is an experienced leader with an extensive background in engineering, transportation and planning.

Additional Information: [Resume attached](#)

Action Recommended: Motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive /Budget Committee to hire Mr. Sean Sullivan as Executive Director.

Staff contact: Wren Krahl, ext. 22, [wren@tbrpc.org](mailto:wren@tbrpc.org)

Chair Crist commented that we were lucky to have had Manny Pumariega for 35 years and that he was a good steward of finances and kept the organization stable. Chair Crist went on to say that the process of selecting the new Executive Director was open, deliberative, and transparent. He thanked Ms. Beverly Waldron, Interim HR Director (Pinellas County) for her professional demeanor, her experience and human resource knowledge to assist the committee with the search. Chair Crist explained the extensive, independent, recruitment process the Executive/Budget Committee conducted over the past 5 months as well as how the selection committee was chosen. The Executive/Budget Committee would be the search committee however Chair Crist appointed others to the committee to ensure gender equity, racial equity, ethnic equity, older and younger Councilmembers, as well as, longstanding members and new members. The committee was balanced and fair. Pinellas County HR put together interview questions based on the type of candidate the selection committee wanted and conducted those interviews in an unbiased fashion. We conducted a national search and we received very qualified people which were narrowed down to 33. The selection committee went through the resumes and narrowed them down to 9. We interviewed those 9 candidates and we narrowed them down to 3. We then conducted interviews with the 3 candidates and it was a unanimous decision to narrow down to 1, Mr. Sean Sullivan. We found a unique and different leader with a congenial disposition, he is outgoing, he is friendly, he is approachable, he is highly intelligent but most of all he is highly accomplished. He is from the Boston area and he helped put together their extensive mass transit system. He is an expert in transportation matters which has been lacking in this market. Chair Crist worked with the Council attorney and Pinellas County in negotiating with the candidate.

Ms. Todd conveyed that it is very important to have someone who can work with our multiple jurisdictions and resolve conflict and build consensus. After our conversations with Mr. Sullivan and the extensive research we conducted on his background, we were all convinced he would be the person to do this. Our RPCs are going through an evolution and we are going to be even better. We really felt he was the one that could be the center for this.

Chair Crist mentioned that we had two staff people to apply and they are fine, outstanding, high quality candidates. Both wonderful in two different ways. They were in the game all the way up to the end. The difference is this gentleman has a strategic background and experience in an area that all of us know we need to pioneer and in an intelligent way. Having someone that has experienced it rather than having someone with philosophical experience only is an asset. In addition, it is also an asset to have someone new to the agency who can begin to evolve us to the next level. I think this gentleman can guide us to the next level with the exceptional staff we have. With all due respect to Avera and Wren, both of you scored high, both of you did well, you both had strong advocates on our committee and we love you both and don't want to lose either one of you.

Councilman Roff stated that this was a learning process for him and he was honored to be a part of the selection process. This was an extensive educational process that I will be able to take back to my city. We

also asked staff and stakeholders for their opinions. What impressed me also is that we are now an RPC with 6 counties, this individual has been working with 6 different states.

Chair Crist mentioned that staff interviewed each candidate and provided their input. Also stakeholders reported their findings as well.

Commissioner Starkey commented that he talked about economic development, transportation, and so many other things that are so relevant to the Tampa Bay area. Commissioner Starkey recommended having a meet and greet event for Mr. Sullivan to meet member governments and stakeholders. Commissioner Starkey was impressed with the process and shared paperwork with her county administrator.

Councilor Matthews commented that the process was done correctly and allowed us to accomplish what we needed to do for the Council.

Commissioner Long stated that it is important that when Mr. Sullivan arrives here that we put together some type of reception to welcome him to the Tampa Bay area. That will help jumpstart his opportunities to get out and about in the communities.

Motion to move forward with a reception for Mr. Sullivan was approved without objection. Long/Starkey

Motion to approve the hiring of Mr. Sullivan as the Executive Director based on the terms of the employment letter was approved unanimously. Long/Starkey

Chair Crist will be appointing a temporary ad hoc committee to work with the new Executive Director to review the Council's employee Policy Manual, as well as salaries, and benefits to ensure that we are doing the very best in retaining our talent and that we are doing best practices here.

Commissioner Benac asked about a timeline and Commissioner Crist said that he would work with Mr. Sullivan on that timeline. We want to make sure we have good policies in place for retention.

Commissioner Diaz asked if there were any issues that were discovered in the selection process. Chair Crist responded that he saw some inequities that probably need to be addressed involving salaries and benefits. Chair Crist said it is good to review policies on a regular basis. Chair Crist commented that we have down-sized quite a bit and that staff has taken on many more responsibilities and the compensation packages need to be in compliance with the state.

Motion to approve the appointment of a temporary ad hoc committee to review Council policies, salaries and benefits. (Mathews/Rice)

## **7. Council Members' Comments**

### **A. Announcements/Events**

### **B. Emerging Issues for Local Governments**

Chair Crist thanked Ms. Todd for the idea to further define our Council Member Comments agenda item to include 7.A. Announcements and Events in which you can share what is happening in your communities and 7.B. in order to promote the sharing of ideas and pertinent issues among our various jurisdictions. He invited everyone to participate by expressing the emerging issues within your local government.

Ms. Todd, Vice President of the FRCA Policy Board provided an update on FRCA's statewide Path Forward Committee. Ms. Todd serves as Chair of the committee. The committee is working on a branding strategy for Florida's RPCs which includes a revamped website, a data sharing base, and new promotional print materials.

Councilman Roff suggested that a way to strengthen our position is to invite each of the EDC directors to provide a short presentation to the Council on what they are doing. This will involve them in our activities.

Chair Crist thanked Ms. Todd for her dedication to the Council.

## 8. Program/Project Reports

### A. Legislative Committee - Commissioner Scott Black, Chair - No Report

Staff contact: Wren Krahl, ext. 22 or [wren@tbrpc.org](mailto:wren@tbrpc.org)

### B. Agency on Bay Management (ABM) – Mayor Bob Minning, Chair

A special joint meeting of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program Technical Advisory Committee and the Natural Resources/Environmental Impact Review committee of the ABM was held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Habitat Restoration committee is scheduled to meet on November 12<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend.

Staff Contact: Maya Burke, ext. 40, [maya@tbrpc.org](mailto:maya@tbrpc.org)

Maya Burke reported that a special joint meeting of the Agency on Bay Management Natural Resources/Environmental Impact Review Committee and the Tampa Bay Estuary Program Technical Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The committees offered feedback on the proposed revisions to several Bay Habitats Action Plans (freshwater wetlands, living shorelines, seagrass, hard bottom, etc.) to be included in the updated Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for Tampa Bay. Additionally, the committees heard presentations on the next phase of the Critical Coastal Habitat Monitoring program, numeric nutrient criteria recommendations for tidal creeks in southwest Florida, and how bioretention systems can be designed and installed to reduce nitrogen loads to Tampa Bay. Citizens and committee members also engaged in open discussion regarding the impacts associated with the rainfall events in August. Requests were made to have stormwater and wastewater staff representatives from the counties and municipalities at the full Agency meeting scheduled for December to discuss the contingency, short and long term plans necessary to improve infrastructure and reduce the likelihood of a similar impact in the future. It was also requested that staff from the regulatory agencies be invited to discuss the existing legal framework addressing stormwater and wastewater discharges within the bay and watershed. The Habitat Restoration Committee is scheduled to meet on November 12<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend.

### C. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

LEPC staff has participated in and/or conducted numerous hazardous materials outreach, planning and training activities and initiatives since the last meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29, [johnm@tbrpc.org](mailto:johnm@tbrpc.org)

### D. Solar Ready Florida

TBRPC staff is working with local governments and other stakeholders in the Tampa Bay region to implement best management practices related to solar photovoltaic (PV) electric systems. Mr. Brady Smith, AICP, TBRPC Principal Planner presented an update on TBRPC's Solar Ready Florida initiative, a *U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative Rooftop Solar Challenge* project. To view the presentation in its entirety visit [www.tbrpc.org](http://www.tbrpc.org)

Staff Contact: Brady Smith, ext. 42, [brady@tbrpc.org](mailto:brady@tbrpc.org)

## Questions and Answers:

Councilor Matthews asked Mr. Smith if he was familiar with the solar legislation and if he was doing anything with it. Mr. Smith had included this topic early in his presentation and further explained that the Council could not take a position due to the fact that these are federal dollars and this could be interpreted as lobbying.

Councilor Matthews asked if the utilities were involved in Solar Ready Florida and was their participation positive. Mr. Smith replied that their participation has been positive and was actually a necessity because of the relationship of a solar installation and the use of the grid from the utility companies. Utility companies are the experts on this and can provide a resource on how many installations are taking place as well as providing technical resources.

Mr. Smith informed the Council about the SPARC program which is in its early stages of development. SPARC is a designation program which is being formed by the DEO to provide expert technical assistance to local governments who are using best management practices (BMP) in solar.

Councilman Roff commented that some providers are starting to allow homeowners to lease the system which is causing a great deal of issues between buyers and sellers. It is not in the form of a home equity loan however it shows up at the closing table during real estate transactions potentially causing problems because home owners are unaware of it and may still be responsible to the lease. Citizens should have more information on this.

Commissioner Benac asked Mr. Smith about solar capacity. Mr. Smith explained that capacity is whatever has been installed and put together to generate electricity. Commissioner Benac, does this include utilities? Yes, if they are installing solar panels.

Commissioner Starkey asked about wind technology. Mr. Smith answered by saying wind is not a viable option in Florida and we are the Sunshine State.

Commissioner Crist asked if it was true when a person makes a solar investment they can't correctly utilize it in their home but have to buy it back from the power company? Mr. Smith said this is not true. Basically, your home is generating solar electricity. If you generate more electricity through your solar than you need, that amount is applied back to the grid and you are paid that amount at the wholesale rate from the utilities. This market is not as good as others when selling the access electricity back to the utilities. It is about 3cents a kilowatt hour.

### **E. Medical Tourism Initiative**

Staff will provide an update on the progress of the Medical Tourism Feasibility and Opportunities Study.

Staff Contact: Randy Deshazo, ext. 31, [randy@tbrpc.org](mailto:randy@tbrpc.org)

The preliminary findings of the Medical Tourism Feasibility and Opportunities Study will be presented at the December Council Meeting. The final report will be published in Spring 2016.

Commissioner Crist requested that Councilmembers speak to their high level medical community contacts (Hospital CEOs, Baycare, Health Institutions, etc.) about the study in order to assist the team of consultants and staff in gathering the appropriate information for the study from each facility.

Commissioner Long encouraged members to "open doors" with their medical contacts.

Commissioner Starkey said that Pasco County wrote a letter introducing the study and GHR to their medical providers. Commissioner Crist said Hillsborough County sent a letter of introduction as well.

- 9. Nominating Committee-** Councilor Bob Matthews, Chair- Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Vice Chair  
The Nominating Committee will present their candidate recommendation for the 2016 Secretary/Treasurer position.

Action Recommended: Motion to approve 2016 Secretary/Treasurer

Staff Contact: Wren Krahl, ext. 22, [wren@tbrpc.org](mailto:wren@tbrpc.org)

The Nominating Committee presented the 2016 Slate of Officers. The following members were unanimously accepted by the full Council:

Mayor Woody Brown, Chair

Councilman Patrick Roff, Vice Chair

Commissioner Janet Long, Secretary/Treasurer

- 10. Executive/Budget Committee Report - Chair Crist**

Commissioner Crist provided a report under Agenda Item #6 and the new Executive Director, Mr. Sean Sullivan.

Councilor Matthews complimented staff during this transition.

Commissioner Crist thanked Avera Wynne and Wren Krahl and the rest of the staff.

- 11. Interim Executive Director's Report – Mr. Avera Wynne**

Staff Contact: Avera Wynne, ext. 30, [avera@tbrpc.org](mailto:avera@tbrpc.org)

- 12. Chair's Report**

**Next Meeting: Annual Meeting** Monday, December 14, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m.**

**Adjournment 12:00 P.M.**

*The Council, in accordance with its adopted rules of procedure, may only take action on matters not on the printed agenda involving the exercise of agency discretion and policymaking upon a finding by the Council of an emergency situation affecting the public's health, safety, and welfare. Council meetings are Public Meetings within the context of Section 286.011, Florida Statutes. Public Hearings on issues before the Council are conducted by individual local governments, and are the proper forum for public comment.*

*Please note that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting or hearing, s/he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons wishing to speak at a Council*

*meeting are required to complete the form provided at the entrance to the meeting room. The form, after being completed, must be given to the Recording Secretary.*

*If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this meeting you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council at 727-570-5151 ext. 22 within 3 working days prior to the meeting.*

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Victor Crist, Chair

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Lori Denman, Recording Secretary