

FACERS Annual Business Meeting
2017 Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Annual Conference
Hilton Palm Beach Downtown
Palm Beach County, FL

June 30, 2017

Attendees: Doug Gable of Polk County, Shane Parker of Hendry County, Brian Barnes of Charlotte County, Fred Schneider of Lake County, Jim Harriott of Alachua County, Ramon Gavarrete of Alachua County, Joe Kunkel of Orange County, John Goodknight of Goodknight Consulting, Maria Cahill with T2 Center, Scott Herring of Nassau County, Jim Stivender of Lake County, Faith Alkhatib of Flagler County, Judith Clarke of Monroe County, Ben Bartlett of Volusia County, Tracy Straub of Marion County, George Webb of Palm Beach County, Lori Koontz of Lake County, Mark Van Hala of Sumter County, Margaret Smith of Pasco County, Carolyn Eastwood of Sarasota County, Chris Evers with PTI, Amy Blaida with Whitaker Contracting, Steve Ferrell with HDR Engineering, Lisa Baker with Locklear & Associates, and Shelby Dotson with FAC.

Call to Order: President Doug Gable called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Elections: Doug Gable wanted to proceed with elections. In regards to the slate of officers proposed, the members proposed Margaret Smith of Pasco County as a County Member Director since Jonathan Page is no longer employed with Nassau County. Scott Herring moved that nominations for officers be closed and for approval of the officers as presented. Brian Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Doug introduced Chairman Nate McLaughlin of the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners who conducted the swearing in ceremony. Chairman McLaughlin introduced all the Flagler County commissioners and the Flagler County administrator. Faith Alkhatib was sworn in as President, Joe Kunkel was sworn in as Vice-President, and Shane Parker was sworn in as Treasurer. Benjamin Bartlett, Judith Clarke, Fred Schneider, Margaret Smith and Tracy Straub were sworn in as County Member Directors. Amy Blaida was sworn in as Director of Business Development. Scott Herring was sworn in as NACE State Director. Ramon Gavarrete was sworn in as NACE Officer. Brian Singleton was not present to be sworn in as Secretary and Terry Dykehouse was not present to be sworn in as Municipal Member Director.

Secretary's Report: Shane Parker handed out two sets of minutes for approval. One set from the December 2, 2016 FACERS' board meeting at the FAC Fall Conference in Orlando and the other from the March 3, 2017 FACERS' board meeting at Orlando County Public Works.

Motion to accept the December 2, 2016 meeting minutes was made by Ben Bartlett and seconded by Scott Herring. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the March 3, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Ben Bartlett and seconded by Scott Herring. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Kunkel gave the treasurers report. Joe handed out a budget report that depicted an ending balance of \$54,946.59 as of May 31, 2017. Joe also handed out a proposed 2017 budget and thanked Ramon Gavarrete for his help with the budget.

Ramon mentioned we are spending more than we are receiving in the amount of \$8,434, but expects the amount to be less due to an increase in sponsorships and memberships.

Joe asked for approval of the financial report. Scott Herring motioned for approval and Ben Bartlett seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Joe Kunkel gave a recap of the membership fee. Joe wanted to know if the membership should be increased by \$5.00 as discussed awhile back at a prior board meeting. Ramon Gavarrete stated we discussed this in 2013 and that it would be revisited in 2017. Ramon suggested we wait until the November 2017 board meeting to take a vote.

Joe wanted to know if we should have a budget committee for 2018. Joe Kunkel, Tracy Straub, Ramon Gavarrete and Ben Bartlett stated they would be willing to serve on the budget committee.

Faith Alkhatib questioned why not increase the membership fee now, Ramon suggested we wait until more information is gathered and have more updated numbers in order to make a more informed decision.

Tracy asked Shelby Dotson what our registration was. Shelby did not recall what the registration was at the past meeting.

Brian Barnes mentioned that the membership fee could not be adjusted until a meeting of the general membership which occurs every June and not in November.

John Goodknight mentioned that we already approved an incremental increase. Ramon stated the incremental increase was never approved.

Ramon made a motion that the Board of Directors present to the general membership that the membership fee be increased to \$80 current year and \$85 in 2018. Scott Herring seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Doug Gable asked the general membership to raise the dues as passed by the Board of Directors. Motion passes unanimously.

Conference Agenda: Faith Alkhatib liked the idea of a joint workshop with FAC and would like to see more of such meetings.

Faith requested that ideas for speakers at our fall meeting be given to Joe Kunkel. Amy Blaida stated she had some people who were interested in presenting.

Tracy Straub stated we were a little jammed packed on the agenda and did not have time to visit the exhibit hall. Scott Herring asked perhaps we devote a certain block of time to visit the exhibit hall.

Brian Barnes asked that we have the conference agenda emailed out earlier. Brian stated some governments require an agenda before granting approval to attend such an event. Brian mentioned that Charlotte County requires an agenda for permission to attend. Discussion ensued, but it was stated that a preliminary agenda could be provided which depicted blocks of time for speakers to accommodate employees.

Break in Agenda

Awards: Rebecca Price thanked the awards committee members and Amy Blaida for their assistance.

Rebecca stated that Charlotte County was presented the award for the Downtown Development Project for Local Agency Collaboration Project of the year. Chuck Koons thanked everyone and his team of staff and consultants, and gave a brief overview of the project.

Rebecca stated that Sarasota County was presented the award for the Bee Ridge Road Improvement Project for Team Project of the year. Carolyn Eastwood thanked everyone. Thai Tran gave an overview of the project.

Agenda Resumes

Scholarship Report: Steve Ferrell gave a handout of the scholarship report.

Ben Bartlett stated he attended the University of Central Florida awards banquet to represent FACERS.

The University of Florida did not give an award due to the balance of scholarship fund being within one thousand dollars of the endowment.

Steve stated the University of South Florida (USF) gave away one scholarship and that they no longer have an awards reception and instead gives a Golden Envelope. Tracy Straub asked why a \$1,500 scholarship was given instead of the \$1,000 scholarship amount. Steve said he did not know and that USF handles the scholarship awards. Steve added that they do not seek input from sponsors.

Maria Cahill asked about the Florida International University (FIU) scholarship. Ramon Gavarrete mentioned FIU typically awards a scholarship in the fall.

LAP: John Goodknight mentioned that George Webb has not resigned from the LAP review committee. John raised the issue of the lighting agreement and wanted to make sure we have representation on that committee. Orange County, Palm Beach County, Charlotte County and the City of Gainesville serve on that committee. John suggested we have more municipalities serve on the committee such as the City of Orlando. Maria asked how we can include smaller cities. John mentioned we need entities that are LAP certified. Fred Schneider asked if they had a couple of city members. John said yes. Discussion ensued. John stated perhaps we wait until the November meeting to see if George Webb still wants to serve.

NACE: Scott Herring gave an update. George Webb added that WOTUS was discussed. Scott mentioned you should have received an email from NACE for input and wants to make sure everyone responds.

T Squared: Maria Cahill reminded everyone that they had to rebid the local technical assistance program.

Maria will be submitting a request to Faith Alkhatib for a member of the Board to serve on the T2 Technical Assistance Program Board. Maria stated if the volunteer county is strapped for funds that they can provide funding for travel assistance.

Maria discussed Greenbook training and that FDOT would like T Squared to give training by chapters.

Maria also mentioned that they are developing a traffic operation and signal training program, and that T Squared conducted two workshops on School Planning.

Greenbook: Faith Alkhatib stated the Greenbook update has been completed and posted on the FDOT website. The Greenbook Committee is scheduled to have another meeting on March 29th and 30th.

Newsletter: Lisa Baker mentioned the next newsletter would go out August 1st and that Faith Alkhatib will be in the next Member Spotlight. Project Spotlight would cover the two projects that received awards. Lisa asked that John Goodknight and Ramon Gavarrete provide information for the Legislative Update. In regards to Sponsorships, Lisa asked Amy Blaida and Shelby Dotson who to spotlight. Rebecca Price suggested HDR since they been around 100 years. Shelby added that as sponsors they all receive a write-up in the newsletter. Lisa asked if Shelby can provide a conference summary.

Legislative Updates: John Goodknight stated the cell tower bill will be getting an update and he wanted comments to give to FAC for the next session.

John stated we need to have a continuing effort regarding fuel indexing and need to make a formal request to FAC about fuel indexing. John volunteered to prepare a resolution to update last year's resolution. Tracy Straub stated gas tax indexing is critical. John stated he does not expect it to pass next year, but to make it a reoccurring topic. Doug Gable asked for a motion for a resolution regarding gas tax indexing. Brian Barnes made a motion and it was seconded by Fred Schneider. Motion passed.

Discussion again ensued about cell towers. Scott Herring mentioned having a time before the round table to discuss how counties have been impacted by cell towers.

Continuing Education: Amy Blaida stated we are good until May 2019.

Website: Shelby Dotson discussed the FACERS website proposal. Discussion ensued over the domain name as the FACERS URL was sold and purchased by someone else who wants a \$1,000 for it. Maria stated if it was T2's fault that they would pay the \$1,000 to get the URL back. Shelby stated FACERS.net was available for less than \$20. Consensus from everyone present was to go with FACERS.net. Ramon Gavarrete said the cost for the website proposal was included in the budget that was previously approved. Doug Gable asked for a motion on the website proposal and to approve the website with FACERS.net. Ben Bartlett made a motion and it was seconded by Ramon. Motion passed.

It was discussed about having an Organizational Committee for information to be included on the FACERS website. Brian Barnes, John Goodknight and Doug Gable volunteered.

FAC: Shelby Dotson had nothing else to add other than what was previously presented in the meeting.

Awards: Tracy Straub mentioned that award winners were asking for additional plaques for the team partners that were involved. Fred Schneider stated he gave out certificates in the past when Lake County won an award. Amy Blaida stated APWA gives one award and people can purchase the extra awards. Amy would also like to see awards on the agenda other than during a business meeting when more people are present.

New Business:

FACERS Bank Signatures: It was stated that Eric Poole with FAC is being added to sign FACERS checks. Ramon Gavarrete made a motion and it was seconded by Brian Barnes. Motion passed.

Proposed Constitution Revisions: Jim Harriott mentioned revisions to the constitution for Special Districts staff to be added for possible membership. George Webb mentioned some Special Districts have a sizeable public work force over drainage and some even have five professional engineers on staff. Shane Parker asked George if he was referring to 298 Drainage Districts and George stated yes. Scott Herring made a motion and it was seconded by Brian Barnes to revise the constitution to include Special Districts. Motion passed.

Jim raised the issue of elections. Scott recommended leaving the time for election of officers as is. Discussion ensued. Suggestion died for lack of a motion.

Designation of Honorary Members: John Goodknight suggested designating certain officer positions of our partners as honorary members. John stated for example, FHWA, FDOT, UF LTAP Center, etc. John made it clear to approve the office position and not the individual. Brian Barnes made a motion and it was seconded by Ben Bartlett. Motion passed.

Registration fees would be waived for life members, honorary members and public agencies giving a presentation in meetings. Brian Barnes made a motion and it was seconded by Fred Schneider. Motion passed.

FACER Awards: Brian Barnes suggested giving the awards at a FAC meeting and suggested the luncheon. There was consensus from the group if it was okay with FAC. Tracy Straub mentioned luncheon costs. Brian stated they could choose to buy into the luncheon. Brian stated the awards would just be mentioned and would not be a "big to do". Tracy suggested keeping the awards as is, but mention the name of the County that received the award. Discussion ensued.

Miscellaneous:

Jim Stivender stated we need to invite the new Secretary of Transportation to FACERS.

Fred Schneider questioned George Webb's and Jim Stivender's lifetime membership. Brian Barnes said we already voted on that matter and it was approved.

Brian made a motion for Danielle Slaterpryce to be approved as a lifetime member and the motion was seconded by George Webb. Motion passed.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.