

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the The Florida Defense Alliance of Enterprise Florida



FINAL Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Alliance

A regular meeting of the Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) Florida Defense Alliance was held on January 26, 2010 in Tallahassee, Florida.

Members Present:

Anderson	Cindy	Team Santa Rosa EDC
Banning	Walker	Florida Department of Community Affairs
Betz	George	US Navy/NSA Panama City
Borchers	Ron	Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Bowermeister	Tommy	ERAU/ FSU
Breitenfeld	Jim	Defense Support Initiative of Okaloosa County
Brock	Susanne	Florida State College Jacksonville
Buehn	Bob	City of Jacksonville
Cato	Becky	Santa Rosa County
Conyers	Harrison	City of Jacksonville
Cook	Scott	Patrick Air Force Base
Corcadden	Sean	Bay Defense Alliance
Dahl	Dave	Navy Region Southeast
Dalton	Craig	Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
DeBerry	Flynn	NSA Panama City
Dehaven	Callie	The Nature Conservancy
Fallman	Fred	MacDill Air Force Base
Fanto	Jeff	Okaloosa County
Farnand	William	Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance
Fleck	Colonel Michael	Tyndall Air Force Base
Flynn	Patrick	Florida National Guard
Forehand	Shawn	Agency for Workforce Innovation
Fudge	Jason	Florida House of Representatives
Gartland	Kevin	Navy Region SE
Gonzalez	Diana	Florida Defense Alliance
Griffin	Adele	U.S. Senator George LeMieux
Hall	Captain Pete	NAS Whiting Field
Hummel	Christina	MacDill Air Force Base
Iannuzzo	Len	AAC/XP Eglin Air Force Base
Jacobs	Stephanie	Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties
Kilberg	Kellie Jo	Clay County Chamber of Commerce
MacLaughlin	Charles	Avon Park Air Force Range
MacNeil	Harry	FL JFSAP
Marino	Joe	Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development

Martinez-Hubert	Ana	Polk County Board of County Commissioners
Offut	William	Inova Health System
Panyko	Debbie	Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Piazza	Patty	Florida Defense Alliance
Rasmussen	Kay	Okaloosa EDC
Reese	Andrea	FL JFSAP
Reeves	Matthew	Florida Army National Guard
Reidel	Ron	Avon Park Air Force Range
Robinson	Captain Harry	NSA Orlando
Roy	Randy	NAS Whiting Field
Schechter	Jill	Clay County Chamber of Commerce
Schellhorn	Matthew	NAS Jacksonville/ NS Mayport
Schwartz	Jodie	Tyndall Air Force Base
Sherman	Eric	DOD Liaison
Spangenberg	Ted	Bay Defense Alliance
Wheeler	Ken	U.S. ARMY PEO STRI
Wibberley	Jana	Bay Defense Alliance
York	Guy	Bay Defense Alliance

Present Via Phone:

None

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, Director, Military & Defense, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Juliana Pena, Program Manager, Military & Defense, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Agenda

- I. Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Florida Legislative Session Overview and Florida Council on Military Bases and Mission Support Update
- II. Military in Florida Issues Update
- III. Business and Professional Regulation Licensing Update
- IV. Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Update
- V. Defense Grants Overview-Judges Point of View
- VI. The Nature Conservancy –Ecology Assessment Opportunities with Military Bases

A quorum being present, Diana Gonzalez, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at Time 1:00p.m.

Agenda Item I: Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED)- Florida Legislative Session Overview and Florida Council on Military Bases and Mission Support Update

Joe Marino, Defense Coordinator for OTTED spoke about Governor Crist and his team's continued efforts in making Florida the most military friendly state in the nation. Mr. Marino stated that Governor Crist directed his team to focus on the following four areas:

- Encroachment – ensuring Florida military installations are protected from incompatible land use near military bases.
- Infrastructure/Transportation – supporting infrastructure and transportation projects that help installations maintain their mission viability and security, and that support growth areas.
- Energy – promoting energy policies which sustain our future, move us closer to energy independence, and create new jobs.
- Family Support – maintaining a high quality of life for our service men and women and their families in Florida.

Mr. Marino stated that in 2009, the Governor and his team toured several military bases, conducted Town hall meetings with military residents, and visited VA hospitals and facilities. In addition, Mr. Marino said that the Governor met with Florida National Guard men and women at Camp Blanding who were preparing for deployment overseas and subsequently attended several deployment ceremonies honoring them before departure.

The defense coordinator continued by saying that in November, OTTED held the Florida Base Commanders meeting at MacDill Air Force base, and in December, the Governor hosted the annual Senior Military Leaders Forum at Florida's own Camp Blanding.

Mr. Marino stated that Governor Crist has sent letters to Florida's US Senators, Congressional Delegation, the the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretaries of the various services on a variety of issues such as:

- Support for dredging and eventual home porting of a nuclear aircraft carrier at Mayport Naval Station.
- Support for delaying the increased pace of retirements of "legacy fighters".
- Support for an operational squadron of F-22s to be collocated with the training wing at Tyndall AFB.

Additionally, that OTTED is following issues such as growth at Eglin AFB due to the 7th Special Forces realignment and energy issues related to the Gulf of Mexico.

Lastly, Mr. Marino provided a copy of the materials from the first meeting of the Florida Council on Military Bases and Mission Support. These materials are available on the FDA Web site www.floridadefense.org .

Agenda Item II: Military in Florida Issues Update

Rocky McPherson, Director, Military and Defense Programs for Enterprise Florida, Inc. gave a briefing concerning current Florida Military Issues. The presentation is available via the FDA website.

Agenda Item III: Business and Professional Regulation Licensing Update

Maureen C. Olson, Deputy Secretary for the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation (DBPR), spoke about DBPR's department-wide bill HB 713/SB 1330. The bill would provide that spouses of active duty members of the armed forces who are assigned to Florida may practice their professions for six months to enable obtaining Florida licensure.

Ms. Olson's presentation is available on the FDA Web site.

Agenda Item IV: Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) Update

Steve Murray, Communications Director, FDVA gave an update about recent legislation benefiting Florida Veterans.

Mr. Murray spoke about the creation of the Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc. by the Sergeant 1st Class Paul R. Smith Memorial Act. He stated that this organization is a non-profit direct-support organization designed to provide assistance, funding and support for FDVA.

The Director also mentioned the Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act, which creates state contract preference for eligible service-disabled veteran owned small businesses.

Other legislative successes mentioned by Mr. Murray are available in his presentation on the FDA Web site.

Agenda Item V: Defense Grants Overview-Judges point of view

Tommy Bowermeister (Col USAF Ret.) of Technology Services Group, and Ms. Beth Kirkland, President/CEO of Tallahassee/ Leon County EDC, presented the process by which they as judges evaluated the defense reinvestment and infrastructure grant applications.

They also provided a set of recommendations for the applicants to make their submission more competitive as well as recommendations to make the future requests for proposals more defined.

Mr. Bowermeister and Ms. Kirkland's presentation is available on the FDA Web site.

Agenda Item VI: The Nature Conservancy –Ecology Assessment Opportunities with Military Bases

Richard Hilsenbeck, Director of Conservation Projects for The Nature Conservancy, presented an overview of the *Ecological Assessment of Potential Conservation Opportunities for Military*

Base Buffering in Florida. This study was commissioned to the Nature Conservancy by Enterprise Florida, Inc., to discover where opportunities for Military/Conservation projects exist and to develop strategies that will protect the bases from incompatible development and loss of biodiversity on and around the bases.

Mr. Hilsenbeck's detailed presentation is available on the FDA Web site.

Diana Gonzalez, FDA Chair, invited all members to the next meeting scheduled for June 2010 in Miami, Florida. Confirmation of the exact location and times will be provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.