Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He led the pledge of allegiance and requested roll call.

The following members and alternates were present from Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council:

Indian River County: Commissioner O’Bryan

Martin County: Commissioner Smith
Commissioner Fielding
Mayor Campo

Palm Beach County: Mayor Burdick
Commissioner Valeche
Commissioner Kerner
Vice Mayor McKinlay, Alternate
Commissioner Abrams, Alternate
Councilman Hmara
Commissioner Katz
Councilmember Weinroth, Alternate
Councilmember Gottlieb, Alternate
Commissioner Hardy, Alternate

Gubernatorial Appointees: Douglas Bournique, Indian River County
Michael Davis, Palm Beach County
Mark Llano, Palm Beach County
Tobin Overdorf, Martin County
Reece Parrish, St. Lucie County
Kelly Smallridge, Palm Beach County

Ex-Officios: Jeremy Upchurch, FDOT
Kathy LaMartina, SFWMD
Jennifer Smith, FDEP
Loraine Cargill, SFRTA
AGENDA

Councilmember Sandra Walters, Gubernatorial Appointee from Monroe County, moved approval of the agenda. Vice Mayor Melissa McKinlay from Palm Beach County seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

WELCOMING REMARKS – THE HONORABLE PAULETTE BURDICK, MAYOR OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

On behalf of herself and her colleagues from the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, Mayor Burdick welcomed everyone to the meeting. She noted that while the elected officials present may represent different counties and communities, they share the responsibilities of representing the citizens in their jurisdictions and ensuring they have the services and infrastructure they need. She stated it is important to work collaboratively throughout the region in order to have a stronger voice and be more effective and cost-efficient when planning and providing needed services to their citizens. She noted Palm Beach County’s legislative priorities include affordable housing, homelessness, and combating the opioid epidemic.
TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND PREVENTION: RESPONSE AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB AND FORT LAUDERDALE/HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MASS SHOOTING EVENTS – CARRIE PROUDFIT, SENIOR PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, ORANGE COUNTY AND BERTHA HENRY, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, BROWARD COUNTY

Ms. Proudfit and Ms. Henry provided presentations regarding the shooting events that took place in Orlando and Fort Lauderdale. The presentations included the immediate and on-going emergency response during the incident; caring for employees and families post-incident; legal requirements regarding public information requests; and lessons their agencies learned.

Councilmember discussion included proposing changes to current legislation regarding how the names and autopsy reports of victims are released. Councilmember Bournique made a motion to have staff, in consultation with their attorneys, develop a proposal to be brought to the Florida Legislature to restrict the release of autopsy reports and the names of deceased victims until the families have been notified. Commissioner Katz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Representative Kristin Jacobs offered to sponsor the proposed legislation.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CORAL REEF TRACT – RESOLUTION TCSF #17-01 – REPRESENTATIVE KRISTIN JACOBS AND SENATOR LAUREN BOOK

Representative Jacobs indicated that since 2014 there have been dramatic record deaths of many coral species in our regional coral reef tract, which runs from Key Biscayne to the St. Lucie Inlet. She stated last year the Florida Legislature and Governor appropriated $1 million to begin studying this issue. The next step will be to draw a line around this area, have it named a conservation area, and then seek further funding to protect the area. She asked for the regional planning councils to support this effort by passing Resolution TCSF#17-01 in support of proposed House Bill 53 and Senate Bill 232, to establish the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem as a conservation area. Vice Mayor Furr made a motion to approve the resolution. Vice Mayor Caplan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

U.S. HIGHWAY 27 MULTI-MODAL CORRIDOR PROJECT UPDATE – THOMAS J. LANAHAN, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TCRPC

Staff provided an overview of the project which proposes to explore the possibilities of running railroad tracks along U.S. Highway 27 between Miami, South Bay, and beyond to Orlando. The project would have a positive impact regionally because of potential benefits that include: reducing freight traffic through the population centers of the coast between Ft. Pierce and Miami; freeing up capacity on the FEC for commuter passenger trains; diverting truck traffic from U.S. Highway 27, I-95, and the Turnpike; and supporting economic development and job creation for the distressed communities along the south, east, and west sides of Lake Okeechobee.

Councilmember discussion included dealing with local ordinances; public/private partnerships; economic development; locations for an inland port; impacts to proposed passenger rail service; and potential environmental impacts. Commissioner Abrams made a motion to have staff develop a joint letter from the Chairs to the Florida Department of Transportation encouraging them to undertake a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the U.S. Highway 27...
Multimodal Corridor which, at a minimum, examines an extended project between PortMiami and the I-4 Corridor. In addition, further planning studies related to the PD&E and the project should address the effects of sea level rise; environmental impacts to the Everglades; and opportunities to improve hydraulic characteristics of the corridor that will better-allow the flow of water south. Commissioner Geller seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA HOUSING UPDATE – RESOLUTION TCSF #17-02
SUPPORTING FULL APPROPRIATION OF STATE AND LOCAL HOUSING TRUST FUNDS FOR HOUSING: VERDENIA BAKER, PALM BEACH COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND SUZANNE CABRERA, CFRE, PRESIDENT AND CEO, HOUSING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Ms. Baker gave an overview of the history and current housing prices in Palm Beach County. Additionally, she outlined what activities the county has undertaken to address the lack of affordable housing for the residents, as well as transitional housing for the homeless. Ms. Cabrera gave an overview of the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act, which was established to create a dedicated source of revenue for state and local housing programs. Over the past eleven years, however, more than $1.3 billion has been diverted from the State and Local Housing Trust Fund to other programs not related to affordable housing.

Councilmember discussion included discussion of the proposed resolution and encouraging other agencies and local governments to support making the issue of affordable housing one of the top priorities for the Legislature in the upcoming session. Commissioner Geller moved approval of the proposed resolution with the addition of a new section for the regional planning councils to request all local governments and other public and private agencies adopt affordable housing as a top priority and encourage their state legislative advocacy staff and lobby teams to support the appropriation of all State and Local Housing Trust Fund money for housing. Commissioner Abrams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

AMAZON CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS 2.0, REGIONAL APPLICATION UPDATE – PRESENTATION BY KELLY SMALLRIDGE, CEO, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Ms. Smallridge provided an update on the status of the joint application submitted by Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties in response to Amazon’s nationwide request for proposal as part of its competitive site selection process for a second North American corporate headquarters. She stated Miami-Dade was ranked 7th among the candidates by the rating firm Moody’s. However, she indicated the speculated list of top contender applications includes: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, New York, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Toronto, and Washington D.C. She noted all the literature put forward has framed this as the Miami Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), even though it is the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA. She asked for Councilmember support in requesting Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach be included in the name. Councilmember discussion included how the MSA should be defined and questions about the proposed locations. Ms. Smallridge explained she could not disclose the sites in Miami-Dade or Fort Lauderdale, because the packages are not public and protected by Florida Statutes; however she did indicate the proposed site in Palm Beach County was located in the City of West Palm Beach.
PUBLIC COMMENT

Drew Martin, representing the Loxahatchee group of the Sierra Club, thanked Councilmembers for their support of coral reef protection efforts. He stated he is very concerned about potential offshore drilling and seismic exploration off our coast. He noted potential impacts include additional damage to the coral reef tract and tourism if there is an oil spill, and the adverse effects seismic exploration has on underwater ocean animals. He asked both councils to consider a resolution to oppose both oil drilling and seismic testing. Commissioner Cava made a motion to direct staff to bring back to their respective councils a resolution to oppose offshore drilling and seismic testing. Commissioner Geller seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Michelle McGovern, on behalf of Senator Nelson, thanked everyone for their support after Hurricane Irma. She offered the Senator’s support and resources for recovery efforts. Vice Mayor McKinlay asked Ms. McGovern to let Senator Nelson know we appreciate both he and Senator Rubio’s efforts for our region.

STAFF COMMENT

Staff thanked the City of West Palm Beach for the use of their City Hall meeting room.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Commissioner Geller indicated there is a pending appeal to recently adopted environmental standards by the Florida Environmental Resource Commission that will increase the level of carcinogens allowed in Florida waterways. He noted the City of Miami and the Seminole Tribe have filed the appeal. He asked for other counties and cities to intervene and help support this appeal. There was discussion of how to support this effort, including providing letters from the local governments as well as the Florida Association of Counties.

Vice Mayor McKinlay asked for all Councilmembers to go back to their local commissions and continue to urge the Governor to provide emergency assistance on the opioid issue.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Daubert adjourned the joint meeting at 12:55 p.m. This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary or a designated nominee of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, and that the information provided herein is the true and correct Minutes of the October 20, 2017 meeting.

___________________________  
Date  Signature