

EAST LAKE NORTHWEST ORANGE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING

MOUNT DORA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MARCH 24, 2017 @ 10:00 AM

MEETING MINUTES

MPO Board Members Present

Commissioner Leslie Campione, Lake County  
Mayor Nick Girone, Mount Dora  
Mayor Robert Morin, Eustis

Other Elected Officials Present

Mayor Joe Kilsheimer, Apopka  
Commissioner Diane Velazquez, Apopka  
Commissioner Doug Bankson, Apopka  
Commissioner Anthony Sabatini, Eustis  
Commissioner Linda Bob, Eustis  
Council Member Cathy Hoehst, Mount Dora

Others Present

T.J. Fish, Lake~Sumter MPO  
Robert Chandler, Lake County Economic Growth  
Sam Weekley, Lake County Economic Growth  
Mary Brooks, CFX/FDOT  
Rob English, Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce  
Ron Neibert, City of Eustis

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Mount Dora Mayor Nick Girone, who welcomed the group to Mount Dora and acknowledged Rob English and the Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce for hosting the meeting. The agenda included three presentations:

PRESENTATIONS

A. Mary Brooks, representing the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), presented an update on the Wekiva Parkway project. She provided information and schedules for each of the segments being constructed by CFX and by FDOT. The presentation included an aerial flyover of portions under construction and simulation of the US 441/SR 46 intersection plans.

B. Robert Chandler, Lake County Economic Growth, presented on Lake County's economic development efforts. A portion of the presentation focused on the opportunities for job creation in Mount Dora's Wolf Branch Innovation District as the Wekiva Parkway is constructed. He also spoke about ecotourism opportunities surrounding Lake Apopka and the future Wekiva Trail.

C. T.J. Fish, Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented on the development of the Wekiva Trail. The presentation included details on two segments in East Lake to be constructed by FDOT as part of the Wekiva Parkway project. The presentation also included details on two segments about to be designed connecting Mount Plymouth-Sorrento and Mount Dora. The presentation placed emphasis on the unique nature of the project on the segment that must be acquired from an active railroad, Florida Central Railroad, and the owner of the right-of-way, CSX Transportation.

#### GROUP DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

At the conclusion of the presentation, the group engaged in general discussion about the economic development opportunities afforded by the investments in transportation infrastructure. There was no action taken. The group agreed by consensus to meet again in three to four months, no later than July.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.