

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #70 on Thursday, January 17, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Embassy Suites Miami International Airport at 08:00 AM EST – 1:10 PM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Representative Jay Trumbull, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Senator Doug Broxson  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
ADM Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
Representative Holly Raschein  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Task Force Members on the Phone:**

Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

MG Mike Calhoun, USA, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

#### **Speakers Present:**

Representatives from Ballard Partners  
Representatives from the DLA-Baker-Mabus Team  
Representatives from Squire Patton Boggs and Cardenas  
Representatives from The Principi Group  
Representatives from Van Scoyoc Associates

#### **Others Present:**

Liz Miller, DEO  
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base  
Will Leahey, South Florida Defense Alliance  
Rob Palumbo, South Florida Defense Alliance  
Pamela Berkowsky, South Florida Defense Alliance  
Elsa Rodriguez, Office of Representative Holly Raschein  
LTC Jason Hunt, USA, FLNG (Phone)

#### **Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Terry McCaffrey, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)  
Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #70**  
**Embassy Suites Miami International Airport,**  
**3974 NW South River Drive, Miami, FL 33142**  
**AGENDA for January 17, 2019 (As of: Jan 8, 2019)**

	<b>CALL-IN</b>
<b>NUMBER:</b>	<b>800.501.8979</b>
<b>ACCESS CODE:</b>	<b>1869945</b>

<b>KEY:</b>
<i>(I) = Information</i>
<i>(D) = Discussion</i>
<i>(A) = Action</i>

- 0800 – 0805 Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0805 – 0835 Welcome from Local Defense Community..... SFC Peter L. Wright II **(I)**
- 0835 – 0845 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Budget, Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
- 0845 – 0915 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports
  - 2018 FDSTF Annual Report Approval Terry McCaffrey **(D) / (A)**
  - Mil & Def Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
- 0915 – 0920 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 0930 – 1300 Advocacy Proposal Presentations (in alphabetical order)
  - 0930 – 1000: Ballard Partners
  - 1015 – 1045: DLA-Baker-Mabus Team
  - 1100 – 1130: Squire Patton Boggs and Cardenas
  - 1145 – 1215: The Principi Group
  - 1230 – 1300: Van Scoyoc Associates
- 1310 – 1345 CLOSED SESSION / Working Lunch..... Chairman
- 1345 – 1400 Reconvene Meeting..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates:		February 21, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
March 28, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	April 18, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
May 16, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	June 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>
July 18, 2019	Milton, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>

**Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer** began the meeting at 08:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer** welcomed attendees and guests. He thanked the South Florida Defense Alliance for the nice dinner held the night prior. He asked guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves. He asked LTC Jason Hunt to lead the Task Force and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF the meeting is governed by Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Welcome from Local Defense Community

**Terry McCaffrey** provided an update from SOUTHCOM later on in the meeting.

III. Agenda Item III: Old Business

*Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer asked if any corrections be made to the November 15, 2018 minutes. Colonel Jim Heald provided a change to the Closed Session Minutes, adding him as present. A motion was made by Ms. Amy Gowder, seconded by Colonel Jim Heald, all are in favor and the November 15, 2018 meeting minutes are approved as amended.*

*Task Force Budget, Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on the budget, noting that currently there is \$355,825 (including the \$11,025 reverted back from the Clay County Development Authority grant) unencumbered for program expenses and \$35,000 unencumbered in administrative expenses. These surpluses will be explained further in the contracts report. DTF Grant #16-154, Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce – Naval Air Station Pensacola Directional Signage. This contract amendment is pending. The new contract end date is June 30, 2019.

DTF Grant #19-100, Clay County Development Authority – Camp Blanding Joint Training Center – Installation Encroachment Acquisition, is closed pending final payment. They have forfeited \$11,025 back to the TF. All of the Clay County grants have been completed and the land acquisitions are now closed.

DTF Grant #19-101 – Polk County – Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range. This contract is pending execution as they have requested some contract changes and they are currently under legal review. The County Commission requested changes which are atypical for EFI contracts. Staff will notify the TF once the decision is made by the EFI legal team. If the contract language is not approved, the \$500,000 from this grant may be available to award again before the end of this fiscal year.

DTF Grant #19-102 – Highlands County Board of County Commissioners – Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape Priority Action Plan, this contract has been executed and is working and she is currently waiting on their quarterly report.

DTF Grant #19-103 – Gulf Coast State College – Environmental Impact Study Scoping/Strategy for Tyndall Air Force Base/MQ-9 Mission, she's received their quarterly report and this project is moving forward.

DTF Grant #19-104 – Bay County Board of County Commissioners – Expeditionary Innovation Center (EXWORX), we expect a letter from them to cancel this contract. Received an app for new project. She will brief the TF on this new application once staff has reviewed.

She reminded the TF that the current schedule for grants calls for possibly opening the grant process for new and emerging projects in February. Staff suggests the TF **NOT** reopen the grant process in February. If funds are available from this fiscal year, staff will place one of the grants heard in May on contract prior to June 30, 2019, the end of this fiscal year.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to follow the suggestion of the Staff and not open the grant window in February. A motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: New Business

##### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** reported that the Avon Park Air Force Range was extremely busy in December. They hosted the 163rd Fighter Squadron at the Deployed Unit Complex (DUC) at MacDill and A-10s out of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. In addition to their unit training activities, the Fighter Squadron combined with the 38th Rescue Squadron from Patrick AFB and the 41st Rescue Squadron for a Combat Search and Rescue exercise.

Also in December, the 6th Security Forces Squadron from MacDill AFB conducted pre-deployment, small arms training at the Range.

Currently the Range is hosting the 107th Fighter Squadron at the DUC and A-10s out of Selfridge, Michigan. The 107th Fighter Squadron is one of the units participating in Exercise Emerald Warrior, a Close Air Support/Full Mission Profile Exercise. Also participating is the Army's 10th Mountain Division, F-16s from Homestead, AC-130 gunships from Hurlburt; an E-8 Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System from Tinker AFB and 8 Apache and 4 Blackhawk helicopters operating from the Range's airfield.

After Emerald Warrior, the Range will host a Navy Composite Training Unit Exercise. This exercise consists of a Carrier Strike Group operating in the Atlantic sending its aircraft to conduct training. It also includes Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACs) from the 17th Special Tactics Squadron out of Ft. Benning. Following this exercise, the Range will host Jaded Thunder for 2 weeks in February.

With regard to encroachment protection, in December the Range, in partnership with the Florida Forestry Service, closed on a 4480-acre conservation easement on a ranch located on the Range's south fence line, adjacent to the South Weapons Impact Area. \$4.1 million in REPI funding was matched by approximately the same amount of Rural and Family Lands Protection money.

And rounding out the year, on December 31st, in partnership with Polk County, the Range closed on a 300-acre conservation easement.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed that the winter carrier training cycle continues for the east coast carrier battle groups as the Jacksonville area is the host for the additional aircraft which comes with this seasonal training. He currently traveled to San Diego and met with the Chief of Naval Air Forces and discussed the repair of the depots, on which he agrees.

He discussed a recent article in the Orlando newspaper focusing on the success the Navy has had recruiting IT professionals from Orlando area high schools. In February he will be attending a retired 4-Star conference in Washington, DC and is looking forward to attending the ADC Conference in March to highlight he onongings at Cecil Field.

**Senator Doug Broxson** reported on continuing hurricane efforts in the Panhandle. The top-priority legislative agenda for Okaloosa County deals with the traffic issues in Crestview. The main gate at NAS Pensacola continues to be an issue as guests enter to visit the Naval Aviation Museum. The aviation park in Milton is receiving many inquiries from companies who want to refurbish the aging equipment at Whiting Field. This work will hopefully be finished off base, in the next few years.

**Major General Richard Haddad** discussed some unfortunate news from AFSOC as another Special Tactics Airman and an important part of this community was lost. Staff Sergeant Jorge Hernandez was a combat controller with the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron at Hurlburt Field. He died in an off-duty incident in Nashville, Tennessee on January 1st. Off-duty, he spent his time in the local community coaching young children and

adults in the fundamentals of wrestling. He was previously awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal because of his dedication to his community and his volunteer service.

AFSOC lost another Special Tactics Airman, Staff Sergeant Andrew Elchin, before the holidays. He was a combat controller killed in Action in Afghanistan on November 27th. General and Mrs. Webb will be attending his interment in Arlington on January 24th. Staff Sergeant Elchin was a Special Tactics combat controller with the 26th Special Tactics Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. He was embedded with a U.S. Army Special Operations Force Operational Detachment-Alpha team when their vehicle hit an improvised explosive device in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan. His role was to advise the Ground Force Commander, direct close air support aircraft, and deliver destructive ordnance on enemy targets in support of offensive combat operations. The 26th is part of the 720th Special Tactics Group, 24th Special Operations Wing. He was 25 years old.

This week AFSOC is hosting Mr Donald Plater, a member of the Senior Executive Service, and the new AFSOC Executive Director. He is currently the Executive Director for Resources, Support and Integration for the Joint Special Operations Command at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. Mr. Stephen Herrera, our former executive director, moved to Washington, DC several months ago and is now serving as the Deputy Director of Staff for HQ Air Force.

AFSOC celebrates a great community partnership program on Friday, January 11th, with the grand opening of the Special Warfare Technology Integration and Support Center. This facility is located on Anchors Street in Ft. Walton Beach and is both contractor-owned and operated. It will be used to support multiple AFSOC innovation efforts and contracts and will house several AFSOC and SOCOM offices.

AFSOC is hosting the 12th annual Emerald Warrior exercise January 14<sup>th</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>. This joint exercise provides pre-deployment training for special operations forces, conventional, interagency and partner nation forces in combat scenarios. It is a DoD exercise that focuses on irregular warfare and hones special operations forces air and ground combat skills. This year's exercise will take place on ranges at Hurlburt Field, Florida; Cannon AFB, New Mexico; Navy North Island, California; Homestead ARB, Florida and associated joint operating areas primarily in the Southeastern United States. Community members may see an increase in military activity in the area including a higher than usual number of military vehicles and aircraft noise during the nighttime hours. You may also hear simulated munitions fire.

From SOCOM: Last month's Commander's Conference worked on senior officer positions and are still working on command and control especially with the POTUS' announcement about Syria and Afghanistan. They are preparing for LTG Richard Clark to take command of SOCOM at the end of March. He is completing his tour on the joint staff.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** discussed the upcoming change of command for General Votel this spring at CENTCOM. He noted that Tampa is very focused on the Florida Rock issue, even with no new proposals, the Tampa area continues to be very focused on this issue. He thanked the TF for continuing to prioritize this issue. He credited the FDA and the TF for their focus on energy resiliency as MacDill AFB is one of seven pilot bases designated by Rob Hughes of the Office of Energy Assurance to develop an installation energy plan. He discussed the MILCON currently happening at MacDill AFB and would like to discuss MILCON in the future as some has been pushed back to 2020 to assist with the F-22 lie and the Tyndall AFB rebuild. He mentioned the \$53 million Army helo project to move the Army UH-60s reserve command to MacDill AFB which is due to be completed by the end of this year.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that leadership at Eglin AFB's primary concerns for the state are the transportation issue around Crestview and to ensure that the incoming Governor will continue to have the Base Commanders Meetings.

Eglin AFB is working on implementing their plan for the next generation which includes a large joint-use facility called the WTIC (the Weapons Technology Integration Center). The NW Florida Defense Coalition is preparing to travel to Washington, DC in March and they plan to talk about the space deficit and MILCON issues. They are in need of space for classified offices as the number of new classified weapons programs coming into Eglin AFB increases.

The Tri-County Partnership Initiative, which is a partnership between Eglin AFB, Hurlburt Field and the community, has been exploring a public-private partnership using land at the airport which is currently under a 50-year enhanced use lease. They have about 6-acres available so they've contacted Space Florida and are working with them to devise a way to alleviate the on-base space issue by having a commercial property that is on the airport land. They have already engaged with the Air Force Civil Engineering Center to explore the legalities.

Eglin AFB has released a special Environment Assessment (EA) Request to beddown the F-22 Flying Training Unit temporarily as Tyndall AFB continues to rebuild and the pilots need a place to train. The F-22 started limited training at Eglin AFB on December 6<sup>th</sup> and the special EA has been publicly announced. It should be completely written by February 28<sup>th</sup> then opened up for public comment so Eglin AFB can beddown the F-22 permanently for the interim, until Tyndall AFB is rebuilt.

**Representative Holly Raschein** congratulated Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull and his wife on the recent birth of their son. They Key West community is taking care of the Coast Guard servicemembers as they are being offered temporary employment by local companies and financial institutions are offering no-interest loans to assist them during the Government shutdown. They have three MILCON projects on track: (1) the new hangar at Boca Chica Field; (2) the 400-room visitor quarters at Trumbo Point; and (3) the fire station at 6B park annex.

Last week Rear Admiral Pat DiQuattro, director of the Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATFS), briefed the Key West Military Affairs Committee on the ongoing study SOUTHCOM is doing for possible relocation of JIATF South from Key West. The study is ongoing with no recommendations as of yet.

They Key West MAC recently hosted South Florida Defense Alliance director Will Leahey who toured different military properties on the big island and took an in-depth tour of the Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School. The school is currently training Marine and Air Force personnel who would otherwise be attending the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center in Panama City, which is under repair from damages incurred from Hurricane Michael.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported on the Space Coast the DoD operations at Cape Canaveral and Patrick AFB have not been impacted but NASA operations at Kennedy Space Center are shut down due to the Government shutdown. 2018 was a successful year as the Space Coast saw much expansion. There were 20 rocket launches and they are on track to the same level of activity in 2019. Senator Marco Rubio has called for the headquarters of the future U.S. Space Command to be located in Florida and asked the TF if there is anything they can do to further that intent as it continues to gain traction.

The I/ITSEC Conference was held in Orlando in December and had about 16,500 total attendees. Congressional leadership held a caucus event during that week to promote the training, simulation and modeling businesses there. The Space Coast and Central Florida are focusing on developing the pipeline of technically skilled professionals and growing needs and opportunities.

Lockheed Martin held a Lockheed Martin 2023 Orlando Day where they committed to 1,000 jobs now available in Central Florida and have also committed to donating and furthering the community, making Orlando one of the most innovative technology cities in the county. They awarded a \$1.5 million grant to UCF for the addition of cyber labs as cyber is a growing skillset and need particularly for the Central Florida area as they strive to lead the nation in cyber training.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** announced the arrival of **Chair, Representative Jay Trumbull**, noting he'd been in Panama City the previous day meeting with Governor DeSantis and representatives from FEMA. He reported that last week the 325<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander was the program for Chamber of Commerce First Friday Club in Bay County. He referred to the recovery effort at Tyndall AFB as simply amazing as First Air Force Headquarters is open and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Weapons Evaluation Group is up and running. The 823<sup>rd</sup> Red Horse Engineering Squadron has done an amazing job of rebuilding the base. The 337<sup>th</sup> Air Control Squadron that produces air battle managers is up and running and expects to be at full capacity by summer. About 48 separate repair projects are on-going currently at the base which is affecting 144 different facilities. So far



about \$175 million has been contracted in the recovery process. The underlying message echoed from every senior leader in the Air Force, which began with the Wing Commander and his staff at Tyndall AFB, is that their goal is to build a 21<sup>st</sup> century Air Force base. A facility to be useful and strong for the next 60-70 years.

Tyndall AFB remains the preferred location for the MQ-9 Base Y project. They expect an EIS in parallel with the F-35 EIS and they expect to receive about 2,000 people with F-35 beddown and 1600 jobs would come with the reaper project and the time table may be shifted a bit, but they still see it moving forward.

NSA Panama City has every organization on the base stood up. People worked remotely for several months and the base has quietly come back very strong.

Bay County, Florida was recently named one of the Great American Defense Communities by the Association of Defense Communities and they will be celebrating that designation all year.

Coming up on January 28<sup>th</sup> is the first Industry Day in Bay County, which is hosted by Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy, John Henderson. This day will also host contractors from all over who are interested in supporting the growth and rebuilding of Tyndall AFB. It will be held at the FSU Panama City campus.

**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** reported that he met with Governor DeSantis yesterday and noted that he has been in Bay County twice in his first week in office. They spent a significant amount of time at Tyndall AFB and received a full tour of the base. He stated that the recovery over the last three months has been nothing short of amazing. One thing needing attention in the very near future is base housing. This is a huge issue as not a single home on the base is habitable and they are all privately owned. He ended saying that he and the Governor had a wonderful meeting and it is very exciting to see how fast the base is rebuilding.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** thanked **John Patrick Walsh**, who has recently resigned his position with the Florida Washington, DC Office. He thanked him for his monthly reports to the TF and wished him well in his future endeavors.

#### *2018 FDSTF Annual Report Approval*

**Terry McCaffrey** discussed that the Report was sent out to TF members for review a few months ago. He received many comments which were implemented and the Annual Report is due to the Governor and Legislature by February 1<sup>st</sup> by Florida Statute. This is your opportunity for any final adjustments to implement with approval of the Report.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to approve the 2018 Annual Report and 2019 Work Plan as presented with the inclusion of any minor changes. A motion was made by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, seconded by **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald**. All are in favor and Annual Report is approved.*

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed that in the absence of a SOUTHCOM representative, Terry McCaffrey will give a short brief on the meetings which took place yesterday at SOUTHCOM.

EFI has a new President and CEO. Jamal Sowell comes to us from the Port of Tampa. He is a former Marine, so he has military experience and has hit the ground running. He will attend the March TF meeting and is looking forward to working with us. At DEO, Ken Lawson, also a former Marine, is the new Executive Director, who comes from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, then to Visit Florida and now heads up DEO.

Staff has not yet had a chance to brief Governor DeSantis but is looking forward to doing so in the near future. Staff is looking to have him continue the Governor's Base Commanders meetings and hopes his office will schedule the next one in the very near future.

The Association of Defense Communities will be holding their winter conference in Miami, March 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>, which will attract about 600-700 attendees from counties representing defense communities from all over the country. ADC has allowed Florida to have a separate panel to highlight our successes, so we have put together a panel to highlight issues such as how we do business in Florida; Kellie Jo Kilberg from the FDA will discuss encroachment protection; Jim Heald will discuss the Gulf Range and the importance of maintaining the Military Mission Line; Buck MacLaughlin will talk about Sentinel Landscapes; Will Leahey will discuss how to stand up a defense alliance; and **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** will discuss ways to increase and improve the defense industry in Florida.

The Florida Defense Exchange is a business development project. It's an interactive portal where small businesses can compete for federal defense contracts. Through DEO, we were successful in applying and receiving a grant from DoD. We've hired a vendor and met with them and are looking forward to getting started sometime before the end of this year.

The Florida Defense Contractors Association will meet in Orlando on February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. **Secretary Principi** will be the headline speaker from the National level and **Bruce Grant** will lead discussions on the State level.

Staff has been afforded the opportunity to visit the carrier, the USS Abraham Lincoln, off the coast of Jacksonville on January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. If any TF members would like to go, please let Bruce know. Terry McCaffrey will be going.

The Northwest Florida Fly-In is scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of March up in Washington, DC. This yearly event gives representatives from five Northwest Florida Counties a chance to talk to folks at the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill.

The Legislative Session in Florida begins on March 5<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The next TF meeting in Tallahassee so Legislators can attend in between sessions.

Staff and TPG have been helpful in working with the new Florida Congressional Delegation with changes in the House and the Senate. Senator Scott has been assigned to the Senate Armed Services Committee so staff has reached out to his office to offer assistance. Staff has also reached out to Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz as she has been named the Chair of the VA MILCON Committee and she is very interested in helping Florida's installations.

**Terry McCaffrey** provided a brief update based on staff's visit to SOUTHCOM the day prior. Staff visited SOUTHCOM with The Principi Group and met with Deputy Commander, Lieutenant General Michael Plehn to discuss issues on the Command.

The three main issues are:

1. Housing for the servicemembers of SOUTHCOM. Most live far away as the Doral area is very expensive as far as rent and real estate. They are considering building housing for members of the command and buildings on property near SOUTHCOM. This project has been in the works for a while and they looking for ways to make it happen.
2. The toll relief issue. Governor Scott supported a solution for this issue and FDOT was working on a solution for about a year. They have had many issues trying to work this and it will be necessary for the Legislature to fund if FDOT requests.
3. Three months' rent requirement. The requirement of three months' rent, up front, before signing a lease in South Florida. This issue has been working for some time through different channels and they are hoping for a change through the Legislature this session.



They also met with new Combatant Commander, Admiral Craig Faller who voiced some of his concerns. He's very energetic and excited to be here assist the State of Florida and the Command.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed a possible \$60/month stipend for tolls, as is done in Washington, DC. Staff discussed this possible solution and asked if they have asked DoD for relief, which they have not. They would have pursued this option sooner if the State hadn't been working on a solution, which has taken longer than anticipated and may not come to fruition. This gives them a new opportunity to talk to DoD about this issue.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** suggested the command use some of the acreage in Homestead for building housing for the members of the Command. Staff noted that after Hurricane Andrew wiped out all of the housing at HARB, the land was cleared and reverted back to the City, who has not redeveloped. The Command is looking at taking the land back from the city for possible housing.

**Representative Holly Raschein** stated that the Legislators on the TF are prepared to work these issues during the upcoming Session.

**Senator Doug Broxson** stated that he will take this package to Senator Wright, Chair of the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, and request that he take part of it. The housing issue needs to be adequately explained to members and make it a part of package which can be approved by the end of the session.

#### V. Agenda Item V: Public Comment

No guests wished to make a public comment.

#### VI. Advocacy Proposal Presentations

At this time the TF heard presentations by the following firms:

- Ballard Partners
- DLA-Baker-Mabus Team
- Squire Patton Boggs and Cardenas
- The Principi Group
- Van Scoyoc Associates

*The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM EST*

At 2:13 PM the meeting reconvened.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** announced that the decision will be made public next week, no later than next Friday, January 25, 2019, once Staff has consulted with Chairman, Representative and EFI legal counsel. Staff will contact each firm individually before making public announcement.

*The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM EST*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #71 on Thursday, February 21, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting via Conference Call at 09:00 AM EST – 10:26 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret.)  
ADM Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret.)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
Representative Holly Raschein  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Representative Jay Trumbull, Chairman  
Senator Doug Broxson  
MG Mike Calhoun, USA, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

#### **Speakers Present:**

LTG David Huntoon, The Principi Group (TPG)  
Katie Hogan, Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI)

#### **Others Present:**

LTC Jason Hunt, USA, FLNG  
Greg Kiley, TPG  
Jim Breitenfeld, TPG  
Craig Deatherage, Congressman Neal Dunn's Office  
Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)  
Larry Ventura, Homestead Air Reserve Base  
Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Jana Wibberley, Deloitte/Bay County  
Gaye Sharpe, Polk County Board of County Commissioners

#### **Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Terry McCaffrey, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)  
Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force -- Meeting #71  
Conference Call / WebEX  
AGENDA for February 21, 2019 (As of: Feb 14, 2019)**

**CALL-IN NUMBER: 800.501.8979**  
**ACCESS CODE: 1869945**

**KEY:**  
*(I) = Information*  
*(D) = Discussion*  
*(A) = Action*

- 0900 – 0905 Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0915 – 0925 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
  - Budget update / Year End Plan Marcy Sanders **(D) / (A)**
- 0925 – 1015 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Secretary Tony Principi **(I)**
  - Update from The Principi Group Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Paul Mitchell **(I)**
  - EFI Defense Industry Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
  - Florida Ethics Review Terry McCaffrey **(I) / (D)**
  - Strategic Plan Implementation Concept Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1015 – 1045 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates:	March 28, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	April 18, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	May 16, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	June 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>
	July 18, 2019	Milton, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>

**Terry McCaffrey**, FDSTF Executive Director, *began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

**Terry McCaffrey** welcomed attendees and guests, proceeded with roll call, asked guests to introduce themselves and turned the meeting over to **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer**. **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** introduced **Representative Thad Altman** as the newest Task Force (TF) Member and reminded the TF the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of the Minutes*

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked of any corrections be made to the January 17, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all are in favor and the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants & Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on the status of current TF grants.

DTF #16-136, Highlands County Board of County Commissioners – Encroachment Prevention and Sustainability of Avon Park Air Force Base in Highlands County, has requested an extension to June 30, 2019.

DTF #19-101, Polk County – Encroachment Prevention and Sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range, has been executed as of last week.

*Budget Update/Year End Plan*

Marcy Sanders advised that the unencumbered amount under the Local Grant Program line item should be \$439,799.96. Currently the TF has \$474,999.96 to encumber by the end of the year.

She discussed the grant application received from Gulf Coast State College for \$144,000 for Tyndall Air Force Base Resiliency, Mission Return, Base of the Future. This grant will advocate for funding for the rebuild of Tyndall Air Force Base by The Roosevelt Group. She asked if the TF would like to hear a presentation from Gulf Coast State College in March, to consider funding this year, or if they would like approve it immediately.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to be made to hear a presentation from Gulf Coast State College at the March TF meeting to possibly fund their recently submitted grant application in the amount of \$144,000. A motion was made by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, seconded by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, all are in favor and motion is approved.*

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

*Task Force Member Reports*

**Representative Thad Altman** discussed that there will be about 20 commercial launches on the Space Coast this year. He discussed the commitment the Air Force made to support the space wing's return to launch program and is working with the private sector to support the launch programs.

**LTC Jason Hunt** reported on behalf of Major General Calhoun that on this past Saturday, February 16th, the FLNG held a deployment ceremony at Camp Blanding for the 927th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. 35 personnel from the battalion headquarters are deploying to Afghanistan for approximately 12 months in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel. On April 6, 2019, Major General Calhoun will retire after 36 years of service to both state and nation. The retirement and change of command ceremonies will be held at Camp Blanding on the Parade Field at 10:00 am. The Incoming Adjutant General has not been announced at this

time; they will update the Task Force as soon as the selection is made. This month, the FLNG has approximately 230 personnel currently mobilized supporting federal operations overseas.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** discussed the changes of command at SOCOM and CENTCOM at the end of March. He discussed the mold and housing issues at MacDill and asks Staff to keep the TF involved on the housing issues at the state bases. He asked to stay vigilant on MILCON as MacDill has some significant projects such as adding a \$3.1 million simulator to their facility.

**Lieutenant Colonel Bill Dudley** reported that he recently briefed Senator Rubio on the status of the St. Johns County VA Community Base Outpatient Clinic. They are working with Governor DeSantis and Congressman Michael Waltz to get this project off the ground as it's been in the works for the past 9 years.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed that he is currently in Washington, DC and is meeting tomorrow with all of the senior Navy representatives to discuss Florida projects. The Navy and DoD are concerned about wind turbine farms, specifically regarding radar cancelling and general aviation issues. There is no action right now, however Congress may be looking at some language in the future that empowers the State and the DoD to challenge these wind farms.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported at Team Orlando the headquarters for the U.S. Army Division will be moving to the Orlando area and into the Partnership 4 building for the Synthetic Training Environment Team supporting a new way of high-tech training for the army in the future. The Melbourne Air Show will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and will feature the F-35 Lightning II Demo Team performing a full-capability demonstration for the first time in the U.S.

Lockheed Martin recently opened the first Cyber Innovation Lab with a \$1.5 million grant they awarded to UCF. This Lab will create a pipeline for cyber professionals and draw on UCF's strong cyber curriculum for careers across the state.

On the Space Coast, the TF should be tracking the decertification of the Indian River Bridge, which carries space payloads across the river to the launch sites. It will be decertified due its 50-year old infrastructure in 2021. The TF should be tracking this to make sure funding from State and National levels is received in place in order for the bridge to be replaced. Also, Governor DeSantis is formally requesting the new Space Force Command be headquartered at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral.

**Bruce Grant** added that Staff met recently with representatives from Space Florida who are aggressively involved with USDOT and FDOT for a \$165 million federal grant to build a new bridge. **Representative Thad Altman** also added they are optimistic they will move forward and meet the grant deadline.

**Major General Richard Haddad** thanked **Commissioner Barbara Stewart** for connecting him with Buck MacLaughlin at the Avon Park Air Force Range. His tentative plan is to work with Major General Jake Polumbo and Major General Rob Polumbo and invite some civic leaders to tour the Range. The Change of Command at SOCOM will take place on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM as General Tony Thomas will relinquish command to Lieutenant General Richard Clarke. The CENTCOM Change of Command will take place on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM as General Joseph Votel will relinquish command to Lieutenant General Kenneth McKenzie.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that the Commander of the 96th Test Wing, General Dertien is currently attending his Capstone Course and during his absence Brigadier General Chris Azzano has visited and received updates from the base. Eglin AFB has recently had visits from the Military Legislative Assistants from Senator Scott's and Senator Rubio's offices who also received base updates. The Defense Support Initiatives Committee and the Northwest Florida Defense Coalition are busy preparing for the Fly-In to Washington, DC in early March. In preparation they have a MILCON request highlighted to include funding for the WTIC (Weapons Technology Integration Center). Due to the pace deficit the Air Force is purchasing additional trailers and placing classified programs in those trailers. They are concerned about the MILCON legislation due to the wall issues in DC as it seems a number of projects may get delayed due to the desire to move money around to help the wall cause. They plan on requesting the Legislators revisit Section 219 Authority allowing program funding which can be used to complete minor projects. They are requesting to raise this Authority to \$10 million while the MILCON issue takes shape in respect to the wall.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** reported that the Avon Park Air Force Range just finished the Jaded Thunder large force/live fire exercise involving A-10's from Indiana, MQ-9 Reaper UAVs from New Mexico, and AC-130 gunships from the Panhandle as well as personnel from across the U.S. and Great Britain. The majority of the aircraft operated out of MacDill. The feedback to the Range is that the exercise went extremely well.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed that Tyndall AFB held its Industry Day on January 31<sup>st</sup>, which was very successful. Speakers included SAF/IE John Henderson, Colonel Matthews who heads the Program Management Office for the Air Force Installation Mission Support Center and Terry Edwards, the Director of AFCEC. This event was attended by about 400 people committed to the rebuilding of the base.

The Environmental Impact Statement for the beddown of three F-35 squadrons is underway. It's running parallel to the RPA MQ-9 beddown and could take year to complete.

Two important milestones which are needed as Tyndall rebuilds are: (1) securing a disaster supplemental to include the first tranche of O&M and MILCON funding; (2) overcoming lack of suitable housing across the community as there is a shortfall due to damage done to one-third of the units and all of Tyndall's housing is still offline. They are working hard with Balfour Beatty and the Air Force to bring back at least 500 of those housing units which can be restored.

A strategic basing process will soon start for the beddown of the F-22 formal training unit. Thirty jets are now at Eglin AFB and one of the proposed alternates includes Langley AFB. They are unsure about a third alternative.

Tyndall AFB is re-opening it's LO facilities very soon. Students are still training in simulators and doing their academics at Tyndall, but then traveling to Eglin to fly the jets, which is not an ideal situation.

NSA Panama City is already executing contracts for repairs. \$12 million has been received recently to restore many of the buildings.

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, NSA Panama City Commander Jay Seggo will attend his last bi-annual Bridge Breakfast with the Commander for Naval Installations Command in Washington, DC. Commander Seggo will be replaced by Commander Kevin Christiansen on March 19, 2019.

The community leaders in Bay County and the leadership at NSA Panama City and Tyndall AFB recently revealed the newly painted water tower with the Great American Defense Community logo. They'll be celebrating this designation throughout the year as one of the five communities selected.

Last week Bay County was visited by Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz, who chairs the MILCON subcommittee. They met with Congressman Neal Dunn and community leaders and visited both Tyndall AFB and NSA Panama City. They have devised a plan to work closely together to have the supplementals delivered quickly.

Tyndall Elementary School has re-opened. It had 580 students before the storm and now has 186, but will grow as people return to the base. The school had much help from the State to ensure that it didn't close.

The Northwest Florida Defense Coalition Fly-In will be on March 11-13 in Washington, DC. The Association of Defense Communities 2019 Installation Innovation Forum is March 4-6 in Miami. Panama City City Manager Army Retired Major General Mark McQueen and Colonel Brian Laidlaw will participate on panels on talking about how to restore communities and bases after a major storm.

**Representative Holly Raschein** discussed that SOCSOUTH no longer wishes to take easement over some acreage to the north of the Homestead Air Reserve Base. This is the area next the perimeter road and the aircraft parking ramp. They are now beginning discussions with Miami-Dade County and will hopefully be able to obtain those easements.

Next Wednesday she will tour the Special Forces Underwater Operations School. They've been training Marines and Air Force personnel who would otherwise be attending the diving center in Panama City, which is currently under repairs from damage done by Hurricane Michael.



## *Update from the Principi Group*

**LTG David Huntoon** reported on the first of two top stories is the President's declaration of an emergency to build a Border Wall. Relevance to Florida is that the President has stated the Administration plans to use existing Military Construction accounts to help pay for the Wall. While the State is still awaiting Emergency relief funding from the devastating Hurricane Michael, this call to use Military Construction funds is definitely of concern.

President Donald Trump will pay for his much coveted wall at the southern border in part by taking \$3.6 billion from military projects across the country and the world. The decision means Florida bases could lose up to \$177 million for planned construction, more than all but eight other states, according to a list of eligible projects compiled by the House Appropriations Committee. Among the projects in jeopardy are \$3.1 million to relocate KC-135 Stratotanker pilot flight simulators to MacDill Air Force Base. The KC-135 are refueling planes "critical to the joint warfighter and our allies." Other projects that could lose funding include: \$83 million for Littoral Combat Ship support facility and \$29 million for Littoral Combat Ship operational training facility at Mayport Naval Base in Jacksonville, and \$35 million for a F-35A training center and \$28 million for a F-35A student dormitory at Eglin Air Force Base in Okaloosa County.

Second top news is the last minute agreement to keep Federal Government running as the February 15 deadline neared. Here's what was in the deal:

- \$1.375 billion for border barriers – reportedly that is enough to support 55 miles of coverage (9 miles less than the President's Budget Request). Some have said the 55 miles where the barriers can be sited have already been identified, others indicate that the money can be used wherever the administration chooses);
- Agreement includes funding for future disasters (FEMA funding in the Homeland bill) but doesn't include emergency disaster relief funding for last year's hurricanes, wildfires, and earthquakes;
- Deal covers all 7 remaining FY 2019 appropriations bills being included in the package (Recall, Defense Appropriations had passed already).
- Agreement appears to be a modest deal with funding for border security below what many expected and what the WH wanted but without significant new legislative restrictions on DHS activities. There are arguments to be made for and against the agreement on both sides.

The entire FY 2020 authorizations and appropriations process has been delayed. The Administration has indicated it will now deliver its FY 2020 federal budget March 12, 2019. With the change of control in the House, the House schedule is uncertain and will likely be driven by negotiations on the Budget Control Act (BCA) spending levels for FY 2020 and FY 2021. The Senate is likely to mark bills up in committee on a bipartisan basis at FY 2019 levels (which are higher than BCA levels) and be poised to move bills on the Senate floor once the House starts passing its bills. If a BCA agreement is reached between the House, Senate and the Administration, the House and Senate process should move relatively expeditiously on FY 2020 appropriations bills, perhaps even reaching completion before the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 2019. However, if BCA discussions drag on or fail, the appropriations process will likely become hostage to those deliberations.

When the Trump Administration submits its FY 2020 budget request, Congress will get an official position from the White House on whether it supports modifications to current BCA levels. Congress and the Administration need to reach a budget agreement for FY 2020 (and FY 2021) to facilitate this year's appropriations process and to provide federal spending certainty during the lead up to the 2020 elections. Under the Budget Control Act levels set for FY 2020 and FY 2021, federal defense and non-defense spending would have to drop by \$226 billion from currently-anticipated FY 2019 spending levels. Congressional Democrats are likely to seek significant increases in the domestic discretionary caps, defense hawks will seek increases in the defense caps, fiscal hawks will seek adherence to existing Budget Control Act levels for either or both caps for FY 2020 and FY 2021, and the White House has sent mixed messages on its wishes for federal spending in the next two years. The President has **variously** called for: a 5 percent cut in domestic and defense spending, a freeze on defense spending, and (most recently) a significant increase in defense spending.

This week, President Trump signed a scaled-down Space Force proclamation. President Donald Trump signed a directive Tuesday to create Space Force. The administration's budget, expected to be delivered to Congress mid-March, will include language setting up Space Force and requesting seed money of less than \$100,000. The Space Force would be housed within the Air Force – similar to how the Marine Corps operates under the Navy – and eventually become the fourth military service, according to the President's plan. He initially wanted to stand Space Force up as its own service but met resistance.

As previously mentioned, the disaster relief funding is still an outstanding issue that congressional delegation needs to be asked about. Also not to be missed is the damage done at NSWC Panama City, and the fact it has NOT been included in previous DRAFTS of emergency disaster relief funding bills. Rep Debbie Wasserman Shultz toured the damage areas just this week. This is a significant positive note because even until two weeks ago, some Hill congressional delegation staff remained unaware of the damage done at NSWC Panama City.

The Air Force has made public statements saying they are backing away from the congressionally-supported light attack aircraft program. Several of the Florida Delegation have responded by letter to Air Force leadership. Press: Questions on Light Attack: Lawmakers from both parties are questioning an Air Force decision to defer the service's light attack program, and on Friday asked Shanahan to explain the service's reasons. Twelve lawmakers signed the letter : Eight from Florida (the A-29 Super Tucano is made in Jacksonville) and four from Kansas and Nebraska (the AT-6 is manufactured in Wichita).

Mayport - Amid emergency declaration, lawmakers split on safety of big Mayport projects

Homestead/SOUTHCOM - More reason to sustain and enhance Homestead and link it to SOUTHCOM; US military planes from Florida land near Venezuela border with aid

MacDill - Over Half Of Military Families Dissatisfied With Privatized Housing. Multiple issues of substandard housing found across the country

Eglin AFB - Eglin Noise Committee hears request to reroute jets as F-22s relocate from Tyndall

Several congressional staff have signaled to TPG that they finally understand the fiscal / revenue nature of the previous legislation prohibiting drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. They say they now have DRAFT legislation with offsets needed to extend the Moratorium past the current expiration date of June 2022. TPG suggests the TF ask congressional delegation staff for specific details.

ADC's Installation Innovation Forum in Miami, March 4-6, 2019. TPG's Greg Kiley will be attending.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed the recent FDA conference call meeting which was held on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Also, two additional conference call meetings have been scheduled: the Family Support Working Group conference call is on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM and the Mission Sustainment Working Group conference call is on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon.

DEO has recently posted the announcement for DIG and DRG grants. The recipient announcement is around the first of May.

The next FDA meeting is on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, the day before the TF meeting.

Kelli Jo Kilberg will also be participating on panels at the ADC Conference in Miami next month.

#### *EFI Defense Industry Update*

**Katie Hogan** discussed that the Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) Business Development team is working hard to bring defense industry companies to Florida and to maintain the relationships they've developed

with those defense contractors over the years. They expect many new companies to relocate to Florida over the next year bringing many jobs.

#### *Strategic Plan Implementation Concept*

**Terry McCaffrey** discussed that Staff intends to update the TF's Strategic Plan this year but will be delayed until sometime this summer. The focus will not change but were hoping to provide some metrics on how to get items from the plan to the correct people to implement.

#### *Florida Ethics Review*

**Terry McCaffrey** briefly discussed the Florida Sunshine Law, public records and ethics laws as they pertain to the TF. He discussed public records, public records exemptions and tips. He reminded the TF the Sunshine Law statute, its requirements and exemptions. He also discussed ethics and transparency including voting conflicts. The entire presentation can be found at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2019.pdf>.

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed some of the military friendly legislative bills which have recently been filed. Staff attended the Florida Defense Contractors Association Conference in Orlando earlier this month. Secretary Tony Principi was a speaker and was also attended by U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman-Schultz and U.S. Representative Mario Diaz-Balart. The Florida Defense Exchange is moving forward as the first working group conference call will be held this afternoon. Staff is hoping to get this up and running sometime this year. In the last few weeks, Staff has briefed both the House and the Senate on the FDSTF, FDA and Florida's support of defense and military in the state. Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez is interested in issues at SOUTHCOM. Bruce Grant is scheduled to brief her on March 7<sup>th</sup>, specifically on housing issues, and she will visit SOUTHCOM on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Staff is scheduled to brief one of Governor DeSantis' Deputy Chiefs of Staff this afternoon in the Governor's office. **TF Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** has recently signed two letters which were sent to Governor DeSantis. The first invites Governor DeSantis to the March TF meeting. The second suggests and recommends that the Governor staff his Washington, DC office with a Military Legislative Assistant or someone with a military background who can handle the portfolio for military and defense.

**Terry McCaffrey** added that the March meeting will be during the Legislative Session, which starts on March 5<sup>th</sup>, and this meeting will partner with veterans and military affairs groups. There will be a mixer in Tallahassee the evening before the meeting to get together with representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Military Affairs, the Florida Veterans Foundation and Veterans Florida. The meeting will also include updates from these representatives, as well.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

**Craig Deatherage, Congressman Neal Dunn's Office**, commented on the Congressional visits to NSA Panama City and Tyndall AFB earlier this week. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz met with Congressman Neal Dunn at NSA Panama City and was joined by Congressman Al Lawson on Wednesday at Tyndall AFB, emphasizing the bipartisan nature of the support. There's a strong understanding with Congresswoman Wasserman-Shultz as she will be pushing for absolutely essential support for the supplemental.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM EST*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #72 on Thursday, March 28, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Marriott Tallahassee Downtown at 09:00 AM EDT – 11:29 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Governor, Ron DeSantis  
Representative Jay Trumbull, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
Senator Doug Broxson  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
ADM Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
Representative Holly Raschein

#### **Task Force Members on the Phone:**

Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

MG Mike Calhoun, USA, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Speakers Present:**

Glen McDonald, Gulf Coast State College  
Kathleen Ferguson, The Roosevelt Group  
Katherine Anne Russo, Florida Washington, DC Office (Phone)  
COL Tad Warfel, Florida National Guard, Department of Military Affairs  
Danny Burgess, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs  
Joe Marino, Veterans Florida  
Buck MacLaughlin, Avon Park Air Force Range (Phone)  
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance

#### **Others Present:**

Jamal Sowell, President & CEO, EFI  
Ken Lawson, Executive Director, DEO  
Jim Sampey, Veterans Florida  
Liz Miller, DEO  
Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group  
Jim Kuzma, Space Florida  
Mark Oglesby, Department of Military Affairs  
Alex Kerr, Department of Military Affairs  
Chuck Perdue, Bay County tax Collector  
Lindsay Pierce, Space Florida  
Chris Goode, The Roosevelt Group  
Kathleen Keenan, Communications Director, EFI  
Josh Gable, Office of Senator Marco Rubio

Kevin Brown, Office of Senator Doug Broxson

**Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI

Terry McCaffrey, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)

Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF

Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #72**  
**Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown**  
**316 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 33201**  
**AGENDA for March 28, 2019 (As of: Mar 20 2019)**

<b>CALL-IN</b>	
<b>NUMBER:</b>	<b>800.501.8979</b>
<b>ACCESS CODE:</b>	<b>1869945</b>

<b>KEY:</b> <i>(I) = Information</i> <i>(D) = Discussion</i> <i>(A) = Action</i>
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- 0900 – 0905 Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0905 – 0925 Remarks from Governor Ron DeSantis
- 0925 – 1000 Old Business.....Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Out of Cycle Grant Request – Tyndall Rebuild Glen McDonald **(I) / (D) / (A)**
- 1000 – 1130 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Florida Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update COL Tad Warfel **(I)**
  - FDMA Update Danny Burgess **(I)**
  - FDVA Update Joe Marino **(I)**
  - Veterans Florida Update Dennis Baker **(I)**
  - Florida Veterans Foundation Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Legislative Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1130 – 1145 Old Business .....Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
- 1145 – 1200 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 1200 – 1330 Working Lunch / CLOSED SESSION..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates:	April 18, 2019	Conf Call/Webex		
	May 16, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	June 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>
	July 18, 2019	Milton, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>



**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** welcomed attendees and guests. He asked the TF and guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves and led the Task Force and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Agenda Item II: Remarks from Governor Ron DeSantis

**Governor Ron DeSantis** provided his guidance for the TF. The Governor noted his top three priorities for military and defense are 1) to remain the most military and veteran friendly state in the country by concentrating on being the best on quality of services for our service members and veterans, 2) protect our active duty component and installations because it is good for Florida and more importantly, for national security, and 3) increase defense industry in the state including creating a workforce that is ready to fill jobs that support our installations and military missions / equipment our force need. The Governor also noted that he is very committed to rebuilding Tyndall AFB, protecting the Gulf range from oil drilling and getting the US Space Force to Florida. Finally, the Governor thanked the TF and the Florida Defense Alliance for their work and asked that they continue their momentum.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

*Task Force Member Reports*

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** thanked the Governor for visiting Tyndall AFB and provided an update on the rebuild. Currently their efforts are focused in securing supplemental funding as both House and Senate leaders have been working hard in securing an appropriation for emergency supplemental funding. A bill has been introduced this week and they hope to have a vote this week or early next week.

Regarding missions, AFNORTH First Air Force was reopened by the first of January, as well as the 601<sup>st</sup> Air and Space Operations Center. AFCEC East has reopened and they play an important role in the rebuild as the Air Force Installation Management Support Center has had someone on the ground there every day and their lead engineer working with AFCEC in redesigning the base.

The 24 operational F-22s have been scattered throughout the US. It was announced recently that Langley AFB was chosen as the recommended alternative for the beddown of the F-22 Formal Training Unit. Until then, the jets are currently at Eglin AFB as students are completing their training 50% at Tyndall on simulators and academics, then travelling to Eglin AFB for flight time. They hope that as Tyndall's tarmacs become readily available, they will see those jets move back to Tyndall AFB.

The Air Force has spent about \$400 million and will have spent \$700 million by end of this fiscal year in the Tyndall AFB rebuild in anticipation that there will be an emergency supplemental. This is the first time that there has not been a supplemental following a major catastrophe. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy, John Henderson, is orchestrating the entire rebuild. The estimated rebuild cost is between \$4.5 billion and \$5.1 billion. They have also worked closely with Mr. John Roth, the Air Force Comptroller, who is very concerned about the money being spent as its affecting operations all over the world such as readiness, number of flight hours and training and projects on bases all over the country. They have also met with the Director for the Air Force Civil Engineers, Brigadier General John Allen, who has placed outstanding engineers on Tyndall AFB to redesign the base. He anticipated having a design plan for the tarmacs by mid-April. They have also met with General John Basham, the Air Force Legislative Liaison, who continues to watch the progress on the supplemental.

The commitment by General Goldfein and Secretary Wilson to rebuild Tyndall AFB has been solid, but they have been taken by surprise by failure of Congress to pass the emergency supplemental. The Secretary announced yesterday that if the supplemental is not on the table, all of the new efforts to build Tyndall AFB will cease on May 1<sup>st</sup> as other projects will take priority.

He requested that the Governor send a letter to the President reminding him of the importance of the Tyndall AFB rebuild as it makes up 31% of the economy in Bay County and is the driver for residents as to whether or not they rebuild their homes and businesses in Bay County.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed the land swap/encroachment issue in Pensacola on which the City and County Commissioners came together and proposed through Legislative relief in the Defense Authorization Act a land swap. Santa Rosa County received a piece of land which is closer to Whiting Field for shorted flights; the County Commissioners bought the land for \$5.5 million to develop; the Navy received a new outlying field; the County received a parcel of land valued at \$22 million; and Navy Federal has expanded their campus. This project was a win-win for all involved. The outlying field was opened last month and the Navy is happy they have a new field for helicopter training and the county is happy as they have prime real estate on which to develop resources and increase workforce in Pensacola.

He discussed the \$40 million purchase of the office buildings in Orlando. Business development had been scaled down due to BRAC, but with the help of General Tom Baptiste and the National Center for Simulation, Orlando is now the center for commercial simulation and modeling and industry has flocked to this area. Team Orlando has built a consortium of industry and has been able to keep PEO STRI, has attracted DoD and Homeland Defense and has now become a \$6 billion business for the State and continues to grow.

The largest industry in NE Florida is the Navy Depot/the Fleet Readiness Center which is composed of four WWII hangars that have badly decomposing wooden roofs and are in much need of repair. There is no space to expand at NAS JAX so two hangars were leased at Cecil Field, nine miles from NAS JAX. Those leases run out in 2022 and the airport authority was not going to renew them. A committee consisting of the Jacksonville Mayor, the City Council President, the Jacksonville Airport Authority, Representative Rutherford, Admiral Fitzgerald and others have been working for two years to get the Navy to commit to build a brand new facility which would be given to them and would lease from them as a public/private venture. They are currently halfway through this project now as they need hangar which will house 42 hornets or a large bodied aircraft and will give the region the opportunity to demolish the old hangars at NAS JAX and expand their workforce.

Regarding workforce development, there is a pilot project in Jacksonville as the Navy is teaming with St. Johns River Community College to develop 97 apprenticeships and St. Johns River Community College is the facilitator. Students will go through a one-year apprenticeship and are guaranteed jobs interning at the Depot. They have just graduation their first class and currently have 600 applications for 97 spaces.

**Representative Holly Raschein** reported that she recently toured the Army Special Forces Dive School and highly recommends touring that facility in Key West. Also she noted that this weekend is the Southern Most Spectacular Air Show featuring the Blue Angels. The theme this year is honoring women in aviation and their special guest will be Captain Lynn Hutton, the first female commanding officer of a Naval Air Station (NAS Key West) and had the most flight hours and carrier landings of any female in the US Navy at the time.

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that there is an air show this weekend on the Space Coast featuring F-35s, partnered by Northrop Grumman. He is pleased with the progress of Northrop Grumman, SpaceX, Blue Origin, etc. as an emerging business cluster group. US News and World Report has recently listed the Space Coast as the number one place to live near the beach. Challenges they are currently facing is the declassification of the Indian River Bridge as they are working on a Federal Grant, and are hoping for a State match. They also working on the Space Florida budget which is based on partnerships and programs moving to the Space Coast.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** discussed that the Secretary of the Air Force recently travelled to MacDill AFB to deal with the mold issue in military housing. She offered her support for the situation and it's been reported that this issue has been handled. Projects at MacDill AFB are being impacted by MILCON funds regarding the rebuild of Tyndall AFB and the building of President Trump's border wall. They continue to work with allies such as Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz who remains an important champion for Florida's issues. The helicopter beddown coming to MacDill AFB as 23 helicopters with the Army Reserve Unit will arrive by December. The Forward March event will be held at USF tomorrow and he noted the importance of continued support of veterans, active duty military and their families.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported that the Melbourne Air Show will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and will feature the F-35 Lightning II Demo Team performing a full-capability demonstration for the first time in the U.S.

The Partnership 4 ribbon cutting ceremony was held in January for the Army's Future Command for the Headquarters for Synthetic Training. This is a very important mission to have in Central Florida. General Tom Baptiste is retiring next week from the National Center for Simulation and George Cheros, their current CFO will be the interim CEO until the selection process is complete. Mr. Cheros recently represented Team Orlando at a modeling and simulation summit in Virginia and discussed the advances being made in the four-year high school curriculum and the modeling and simulation certificate program for Florida which is key to our workforce development efforts.

She strongly believes that Central Florida is well-placed for the training mission for the US Space Force as they possess many key attributes, such as being located only an hour away from the Space Coast. The National Center for Simulation Board is teaming up with key industry and Team Orlando to support that mission.

**Senator Doug Broxson** discussed that it was great to have the Governor attend this TF meeting as to help him understand the focus of the TF. He encouraged the TF members to send him a personal note thanking him for attending and reminding him that they are volunteer group doing their best to protect the mission in Florida as they continue to make Florida the most military-friendly and support the second largest economic driver. He also noted that the Panhandle should now be referred to as the Military Coast and thanked Staff for arranging for the Governor to attend this meeting.

**Major General Richard Haddad** discussed that MARSOC recently celebrated its 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by naming the organization the Marine Raiders in honor of the WWII Marine Raiders. The organization is nearly 3,000 strong.

AFSOC is working closely with the USAF and SOCOM, as they navigate the Light Attack aircraft development.

Additionally, SOCOM is working hard on developing Space Capabilities, and AFSOC is the lead component (particularly interesting since we live so close to the Space Coast). SOCOM's Change of Command is on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> with General Richard Clark taking command from General Thomas

CENTCOM Change of Command took place yesterday with General McKenzie taking command from General Votel.

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> was a big day for AFSOC as they welcomed home their Special Tactics ruck marchers. For anyone who may have missed the social media coverage, General Webb and Chief Smith traveled out to Lackland to kick off the Special Tactics ruck on march on February 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of Special Tactics combat controller SSgt Dillon Elchin, killed in Afghanistan on November 27<sup>th</sup>. This 830-mile march began in 2009 in memory of combat controller SSgt Tim Davis who was killed during Operation Enduring Freedom. The last march was held in September 2015 when Captain Matthew Roland and SSgt Forrest Sibley were lost. SSgt Elchin was the 20<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Airman lost since 9/11. The team completed the last 6 miles of the ruck with Air Force Chief of Staff, General Goldfein, General Webb, General Tudor and CMSgt Smith.

Col Brenda Cartier, AFSOC Director of Operations and Assessments, recently travelled to New York City to film a TED Talks that focuses on women in combat.

The Air Force recently announced their finalists for the 2019 Spark Tank competition, a platform for airmen to showcase their innovative ideas to the service's leadership. AFSOC had one of the six finalists out of 320 submissions. Three AFSOC airmen proposed an emulator that mounts all of the minimal essential parts of an MQ-9 into a tactical case, lightening the cargo load for expeditionary missions. Instead of having to tow around an aircraft, they now just get this little box. These finalists presented their ideas at the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando on February 28<sup>th</sup>. It was the Air Force version of Shark Tank with guest judges Mark Cuban and George Steinbrenner.

It was recently announced that Chief Smith is scheduled to leave AFSOC this summer and head to USAFE. CMSgt Corey Olson will be the next AFSOC Command Chief

General Thomas, SOCOM Commanding General, visited Hurlburt Field on Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> to thank Air Commandos for their amazing work. He also spoke about his top priority which is to provide the world's greatest Special Operations Forces.

**Buck MacLaughlin for Commissioner Barbara Stewart** reported that the Avon Park Air Force Range runway will be closed for over a year as they have received \$10 million in funding to renovate, repair and improve the state of their airfield, which is a critical and unique component to the Range. He thanked The Principi/Spectrum team for their help in securing this funding.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that this summer there will be a change of leadership as General Dertien is moving on. It has not been announced where he's going but he will still be engaged at Eglin AFB in his new position. Brigadier General Select J. Daniel Caine is the inbound new commander for the 96<sup>th</sup> Test Wing.

Five counties participated in the Northwest Florida Defense Coalition Fly-In to Washington, DC in March. They all had very good meetings with Congressional and Pentagon leaders. One issue discussed is the lack of classified work space at Eglin AFB as there has been and increasing number of weapons programs which has brought in billions of dollars in new work and many new people to work in the program offices but there is not efficient work space. The proposal to use \$80 million in project funds to buy temporary classified trailers has been put on hold so it's become very important to advocate for MILCON for a permanent solution. The Weapons Technology Integration Center is #44 on the Air Force's MILCON list for FY21 and they have been working with Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz's office to move at the least the engineering portion forward to FY20.

Regarding the Gulf Range Enhancement, they are under contract placing fiber from Cape San Blas and have reconnected Cape San Blas with Eglin AFB after Hurricane Michael. They are currently placing fiber from Cape San Blas to Anclote Point. They are looking for partnerships with the State or a combination of County, State and Federal funds to run fiber through different county emergency management sites from Cape San Blas through Tallahassee down to Anclote Point, then down through Tampa to Venice, then from Venice to Saddlebunch Key.

Regarding the Military Mission Line, Representative Francis Rooney has put together a permanent solution that is reported to have a hearing in front of the Natural Resources Committee this Tuesday.

Regarding workforce development and education, the Home Depot Foundation is looking at the Eglin AFB/Fort Walton Beach area because of the number of transitioning military. They have several centers of excellence for training transitioning military into the construction industry. They're bringing about \$1 million and are looking at Northwest Florida State College as a focal point for that particular area of training and workforce development.

**Lieutenant Colonel William Dudley** discussed that this Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> the POW/MIA Memorial Committee in Northeast Florida will dedicate the Chapel of the High Speed Pass at Cecil Field. This historic landmark has a lot of history as it was a venue that welcomed home John McCain after his release as a POW in Vietnam in 1973. The chapel has been completely renovated with a new roof, windows, doors, carpeting and pews. The pews were purchased by various veterans and civic organizations at a price of \$1,650 per pew. The chapel will be used for special ceremonies such as military weddings, funerals and other special occasions. It will be the centerpiece of the POW/MIA memorial which is being established at Cecil Field.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: Old Business

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer reminded the TF the meeting is governed by Sunshine Law.

#### *Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer asked if any corrections are needed for the February 21, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, seconded by Brigadier General Chip Diehl, all are in favor and the February 21, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

### *Task Force Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on several of the TF grants:

DTF Grant #14-05, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County – LambdaRail Expansion Project. This contract has been amended and has been executed to extend the contract to June 30, 2019.

DTF Grant #19-101 – Polk County – Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range. This contract has been executed. The end date for this grant is January 31, 2021.

DTF Grant #19-104 – Bay County Board of County Commissioners – Expeditionary Innovation Center (EXWORX). This contract has been cancelled at the Grantee's request as they are unable to execute the scope of work at this time.

### *Out of Cycle Grant Request – Tyndall Rebuild*

**Mr. Glen McDonald, Gulf Coast State College**, presented to the TF the urgent need for a grant to assist in the rebuild of Tyndall AFB. This grant is requesting \$144,000 to hire The Roosevelt Group to advocate for Tyndall AFB's rebuild and bed-down of future missions stays on-track and receives all funding and approvals necessary.

**Kathy Ferguson, The Roosevelt Group**, discussed their on-going and future team efforts include:

- Significant outreach to senior Air Force leaders to obtain commitments and funding to keep Tyndall open
- Supported Tyndall Industry Day
- Campaigned to make Tyndall “Base of the Future”
- Significant interface and communications with the Florida Congressional Delegation
- Implementing strategy to:
  - Preclude any loss of mission – still a threat
  - Ensure MQ-9 mission comes to Tyndall
  - Ensure F-35 mission comes to Tyndall
- Continue to identify and leverage community partnership opportunities

*A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr Tom Neubauer asked for a motion to approve the out of cycle grant request for \$144,000 by Gulf Coast State College to assist with the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB. A motion was made by Ms. Amy Gowder, seconded by Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, all are in favor and the grant is approved.*

**Ms. Amy Gowder** suggested that the TF send a letter of support for the passing of the supplemental funds.

V: Agenda Item III: New Business (Continued)

### *Florida Washington Office Update*

**Katherine Anne Russo** thanked the TF for the opportunity to connect and noted that the Washington Office is still getting settled in DC. She views this is an opportunity to improve coordination between the State and DC. Her top priorities are to build relationships with key defense players on the Hill as she's been in touch with the offices of Congressman Crist's and Congresswoman Wasserman-Schultz. She advised that there is room to improve upon these relationships and her goal is to keep conversations going and help the TF improve conversations between the State and Federal players. Moving forward, she will coordinate input from both the House and Senate offices for future meetings to provide a Congressional update.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** noted that the Northeast Florida delegation will be travelling to Washington, DC on June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>. This visit is being coordinated by Congressman Rutherford's office.



**Katherine Anne Russo** added they are very focused on the supplemental for Tyndall. Lt. Governor Nuñez was in Washington, DC yesterday meeting with both Senator Scott and Rubio and the supplemental was top priority. If she can be of any assistance to anyone, please contact **Bruce Grant** for her contact information.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair**, discussed recent conference calls for the Family Support and the Mission Sustainment Working Groups. Family Support is focusing on behavioral health and substance misuse, also spousal employment certification and licensure. They also discussed disaster preparedness planning and recovery with better coordination and communication needed between communities and installations, especially for families who live off base. Mission Sustainment is focusing on encroachment issues and programs on how to ensure that we're helping communities and installations protect against encroachment. Other important issues arising from this call are the spectrum sell-off, Gulf Range and Military Mission Line and wind turbine siting issue.

Need to increase PR and marketing to promote Florida's story and assets for the National Defense Strategy and it's important that there is an in-depth discussion on how Florida's story is told, its consistency and how assets are sold the people who make decisions.

Stop using the term BRAC. We need to be innovative and enhance our programs; engage communities to partner with our military installations to address challenges, opportunities to leverage and maximize resources as well as reduce costs. Without a BRAC it's more important to have eyes, ears and a leading voice in DC for elected officials and their staff, also in DoD and the Pentagon. We need to be proactive and prepared for those opportunities and threats coming from strategic basing and show how Florida's military installations and ranges are key to the national defense strategy. Other states are increasing their programs so are we providing enough resources to advance collaborations to prepare installations to become resilient? FDA will continue to integrate community and military partners to adapt to new technology and the importance of quality of life requirements.

#### *FDMA Update*

**COL Tad Warfel, Florida National Guard/Department of Military Affairs**, discussed the mission of the Florida National Guard (FLNG) which is to provide highly trained units and personnel to support national security objectives, respond to emergencies and disasters and to support programs with add value to our state and nation. The FLNG has 128 military units in 55 communities; approximately 12,000 guard members and 82,000 acres and 900+ buildings in the State. Currently there are 283 FLNG members mobilized and there have been over 20,729 guard members mobilized since 9/11. From 1992 to 2018 in response to state emergencies (hurricanes, storms, floods, wildfires, tornadoes, and mass evacuations) they have had 86 activations and over 900,000 work days.

#### *FDVA Update*

**Captain Danny Burgess, Executive Director of the FDVA**, discussed the role of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. He noted that Florida has the nation's third largest veteran population with over 1.5 million total veterans, which represent all generations. The mission of the FDVA is to advocate with purpose and passion for Florida veterans and link them to superior services, benefits and support. Their vision is that they are the premier point of entry for Florida veterans to access earned services, benefits and support.

They serve veterans dating back to just prior to World War II to the present day. Florida's veterans are a major fiscal force accounting for \$18.4 billion that flow into Florida's economy annually. They operate and maintain six (6) nursing facilities and one assisted living facility throughout the state.

Their many notable achievements include Veterans Court, Florida Purple Heart Day, early course registration and college credit for military training, to name a few. Current initiatives are teaming with in-home health care to keep veterans at home, suicide prevention, crisis centers and mental health issues. Their newest statewide initiative is Forward March. The Governor's charge to adopt best practices for more effective delivery of earned benefits and to educate and connect Florida's veterans to available resources.



## *Veterans Florida Update*

**Joe Marino, Executive Director of Veterans Florida**, briefed about Veterans Florida. Their mission is to attract and retain veterans and their families by connecting them to employment, training and educational opportunities; strengthen Florida businesses by educating them on the value and skill sets veterans bring to the workforce and providing training resources for their veteran hires; and enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans.

Veterans Florida was established under s. 295.21, F.S., and the Florida GI Bill, Florida Is For Veterans, manages transition, workforce, and entrepreneurship programs. Administratively, they operate under the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs. They are managed by an independent board of nine, with the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker each appointing three members. They are staffed by twelve full time and four part time team members, two thirds of which are veterans, who run the daily operations and meet the mission of the organization and the legislative intent of the programs.

Since January 2016, they have had 510 new hires with 66 currently training. The average reimbursement to hiring companies is \$3,479 and average salary after training is \$35,919. The total salaries after training is over \$15 million. Over \$22 million of revenue has been generated through entrepreneurship serving 1,117 veterans, 121 businesses have been created and 171 veterans have been hired.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> Veterans Florida will hold their first Expo in Orlando which will also feature battle of the pitches from this year's entrepreneur classes, a Career and Benefits fair. All veterans are invited.

## *Legislative Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed SB 0212, Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, noting that it needs renewal by the Legislature on a periodic basis and is moving forward, so far.

HB 0217, Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel, is moving as well.

HB 0891 and SB 620, Military Affairs. These bills include a number of items that the TF support. On the House side, Representative Ponder, filed a bill which originally included everything staff had drafted, but somewhere in the Legislative process, some military-friendly provisions were removed. One, which has the hardest impact and affects South Florida, is the issue of landlords demanding three months advanced rent. Staff crafted legislation to have it reduced two months. Somewhere on the House side this provision was removed. Representative Raschein is working hard to get it placed back on the House side, but Senator Broxson is keeping it in on the Senate. Another item removed in Representative Ponder's bill is the ability for Defense Infrastructure Grant (DRG) funds to be used for on-base projects in rural areas in counties with a population of less than 300,000. This bill should be heard in the Senate next week as Senator Broxson's bill has all of our provisions, including items from the workshop consolidating military and defense functions and placing the Defense Reinvestment Grants (DRG) within one entity.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked if Staff could put together a matrix of military and defense initiatives from other states to compare them to what we're doing in Florida.

Bruce Grant responded that yes, we already have a good basis from the Best Practices Study which was released a few years ago, which included a snapshot of best practices from other states. Staff will be happy to update it.

## *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** briefed about Florida's military spouse licensure and reciprocity laws comparing them to what is currently being offered in Utah. Florida's laws are the best in the country and includes many professions that are regulated as well as many healthcare professions.

He travelled with Lt. Governor Nuñez to SOUTHCOM to discuss their housing issue. They met with representatives from SOUTHCOM who noted their three main issues: 1) housing, 2) rent, 3) tolls. Staff is

working on how to obtain that land from FAA and looking at a private developer to develop and build the needed housing.

Governor DeSantis has scheduled the next Base Commanders Meeting for June 12<sup>th</sup> at Camp Blanding. This meeting is invitation only and will be attended by Florida's Base Commanders, State Agency Head and Staff will attend, as well.

The next ADC conference is scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. At this conference Bay County will be recognized as a Great American Defense Community.

Staff is working on the Florida Defense Exchange which is an interactive portal to help both small and large businesses have visibility and work together on Federal Defense contracts intending to expand the defense industry in Florida. We hope to have this portal up and running by the end of this year.

VI. Agenda Item VI: Public Comment

**Joe Marino, Veterans Florida**, discussed that his team at Veterans Florida can assist on the marketing of the Florida Military Friendly Guide as its part of their mission to assist with military and veteran friendly issues across the State. He is happy to work with **Bruce Grant** and **Terry McCaffrey** on this campaign.

**Jim Kuzma, Space Florida**, provided an update of the INFRA grant submission for the Indian River Bridge replacement and widening of Space Commerce Way. On March 9<sup>th</sup>, Space Florida submitted as the lead applicant responsible for the non-federal match. They expect a decision from UDSDOT in the second or third quarter of 2019.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:29 AM EDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #73 on Thursday, April 18, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting via Conference Call at 09:00 AM EDT – 10:01 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)  
ADM Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret.)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Representative Jay Trumbull, Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
Senator Doug Broxson  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret.)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)  
Representative Holly Raschein

#### **Speakers Present:**

Joe Mayer (for Ms. Amy Gowder), Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Katherine Anne Russo, Washington, DC Florida Office  
Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairman

#### **Others Present:**

Mr. Dobby, USA, FLNG  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group  
Craig Deatherage, Congressman Neal Dunn's Office  
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville Military Affairs  
Brian Ayers, Marine Corps Installations East  
Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

#### **Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Terry McCaffrey, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)  
Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force -- Meeting #73  
Conference Call / WebEX  
AGENDA for April 18, 2019 (As of: Apr 9, 2019)**

**CALL-IN NUMBER: 800.501.8979**  
**ACCESS CODE: 1869945**

**KEY:**  
*(I) = Information*  
*(D) = Discussion*  
*(A) = Action*

- 0900 – 0910 Rollcall, Welcome, Guest Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0925 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
  - Budget update Marcy Sanders **(I)**
- 0925 – 1045 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Washing D.C. Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Terry McCaffrey **(I) / (D)**
  - FY20 Grant Process Overview Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Legislation / Session Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1045 – 1100 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates:	May 16, 2019	Tallahassee, FL	June 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>
	July 18, 2019	Milton, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
	November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>

**Terry McCaffrey**, FDSTF Executive Director, *began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

**Terry McCaffrey** welcomed attendees and guests, proceeded with roll call, asked guests to introduce themselves and turned the meeting over to **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer**. **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** thanked everyone for joining the meeting and reminded the TF the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of the Minutes*

A quorum was not present at this meeting. **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** announced that the minutes from the March 28, 2019 TF meeting will be approved at the next TF meeting on May 16, 2016.

*Task Force Grants & Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on the status of current TF grants.

DTF #16-136, Highlands County Board of County Commissioners – Encroachment Prevention and Sustainability of Avon Park Air Force Base in Highlands County, has requested an extension to June 30, 2020 as they've run into some issues with the land acquisition.

DTF #14-05, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County (BayEDA) – LambdaRail Expansion Project, has had their contract amendment executed to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2019 as they are still waiting on matching funding.

DTF #16-154, Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce – Naval Air Station Pensacola Directional Signage, the signage has been installed and they are waiting on inspection and approval from FDOT. We expect to close this grant soon with some funding returned to the TF.

DTF #19-101, Polk County – Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range, has submitted a report which will be in your books for next month's meeting.

The contract for Gulf Coast State College is currently with EFI contracting to be executed.

*Budget Update*

**Marcy Sanders** advised that the TF has \$296,292.10 to encumber before year-end. Also, about \$28,000 will be available under ADMIN, as well. The TF has a little over \$300,000 in this year's budget which will need to be encumbered by June 30, 2019, some of which will be used toward the new advocacy contract, if approved.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

*Task Force Member Reports*

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** discussed that MacDill is preparing for their annual meeting of all the Air Force's Four-Star Generals which will be held the first week of June. Also, Special Ops week will be the week of May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed the lobbying campaign over the F-15EX in Jacksonville. The Northeast Florida delegation will be travelling to Washington, DC on June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>. NS Mayport would like to ensure they receive the right number of ships to level load their maintenance. The Depot replacement at Cecil Field is going well. Bill Moran was nominated by the President as the new Chief of Navy Operations and will be

taking over on July 31<sup>st</sup> if he's confirmed by the Senate. He recognized **Terry McCaffrey** and thanked him for all he's done for the TF over the last few years.

**Mr. Joe Mayer for Ms. Amy Gowder** reported on the continued efforts by Space Florida relative to basing the US Space Command in Florida. Governor DeSantis continues to push for Florida and the Space Coast to be a basing option for that Command.

SpaceX recently had a successful launch as with the Falcon Heavy and the return and recovery of the three boosters. These launches are a major advance for SpaceX, with plans to support a full range of commercial government payloads.

Vice President Pence and the National Space Council have directed NASA to launch moon Exploratory Mission 1 in 2020; Exploratory Mission 2, the first manned vehicle in 2022 and boots the ground on the moon in 2024.

Regarding the Indian River Bridge, Space Florida has submitted a grant to the US Department of Transportation seeking up to 60% funding to replace the bridge. This is critical as payloads travel from the Titusville area over to the Cape and to Kennedy Space Center for launch.

Their local Economic Development Commission has recently sent letters to Senators Rubio and Scott in support of the supplemental funding for the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** updated that earlier this month Lieutenant Colonel Stark and Buck MacLaughlin hosted a visit at the Range for local community and business leaders, including several local mayors. The visit was organized with the help of retired Major Generals Palumbo and Haddad. Attendees were able to observe a training mission involving the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron from Crystal City, New Jersey. The 119<sup>th</sup> is currently deployed to Homestead ARB.

Today the range is hosting personnel from AIRMEN Magazine who are visiting Air Force ranges across the nation as they are doing a story on ranges and the importance of the conservation partnership that can sustain the mission by ensuring compatible land use outside of the installation. The Range will be discussing the importance of the partnerships with agencies such as the Florida Forest Service, the Florida Department of Environment Protection, the Nature Conservancy and the grants received from the TF and the FDA.

She also thanked **Terry McCaffrey** noting that he's been a tremendous asset to the TF and she wishes him well.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed that on Tuesday the Florida Chamber of Commerce led a group to Tyndall FB and visited sites in Calhoun, Jackson and Gulf counties, talking particularly about hurricane damage and the Gulf Range Complex.

Tyndall AFB is hosting its second Industry Day on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the FDS Panama City campus. Currently over 400 attendees are registered for this day as contractors are coming in to learn how to rebuild Tyndall.

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson will leave the Air Force and be recognized for her service in a ceremony at Andrews AFB on May 21<sup>st</sup>. It's expected that Under Secretary Matt Donovan will assume those duties.

In March the Bay Defense Alliance hosted their semi-annual Bridge Breakfast with leadership from NSA Panama City and the Naval Dive and Salvage Training Center and the Experimental Dive Unit. There was much discussion about storm damage and they welcomed the incoming Commander Kevin Christiansen.

#### *Washington, DC Update*

**Katherine Anne Russo** updated on last week's the Senate hearing on the Space Force, on which there is still much skepticism as concerns remain as to if it would create a new bureaucracy and pull resources from existing forces. The Space Force basing is a top priority of the Governor. The Air Force has stated that no



candidate basing has been sent to the Secretary of the Air Force for consideration, but it is believed that a decision will be made within the next four weeks.

She has been in touch with Senator Rubio's office regarding the NDAA which appears to be on track for this year. The Senate full committee mark-up is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup> with strong focus on implementing the National Defense Strategy. The House full committee NDAA mark-up is scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> and the sub-committee mark-up will be June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Top priority is the supplemental funding to rebuild Tyndall AFB. Senator Scott was at the White House last week speaking to the President to get something moving and it will be top priority when the CODEL returns from recess.

Offshore drilling is also a top priority as the Senate recently confirmed David Bernhardt as the Secretary of the Interior. Governor DeSantis has been in touch with Secretary Bernhardt and is having ongoing conversations to ensure that offshore drilling is not on the table for Florida.

**Craig Deatherage** echoed that the supplemental funding is critical and remains Congressman Dunn's top priority.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg** discussed that the FDA is preparing for their upcoming in-person meeting in Tallahassee on May 15<sup>th</sup>. She is working on the agenda which should be completed by next week. This session will include a panel on all the different components for family support and how we can do a better job of promoting these components to spouses and families throughout the state.

They will also focus on the Florida Range Network and Gulf Range. They are working on clearer and better talking points for those individuals who are not engaged with the FDA but are working on this issue.

**Terry McCaffrey** added that at the recent Florida Chamber visit to Tyndall AFB, the wing commander provided a briefing on missions and gave an insightful presentation as to why the location of Tyndall to the Gulf Range is crucial to keeping it open. Many in the group told Bruce Grant and him after the presentation they had no idea and now understood why the base and location and the Gulf Range is important.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked if the slides from the wing commander's presentation could be posted to the TF website to which Staff agreed.

#### *FY20 Grant Process Overview*

**Terry McCaffrey** discussed what to expect from next month's TF meeting and the annual grant process flow.

At the May meeting the TF will hear five (5) presentations from the grant applications selected last month for consideration. The total funding requested is \$1,480,700.00. The maximum recommended to award is \$1,000,000.00 (assumes advocacy contract is awarded for next FY). Each presentation will last up to 15 minutes and TF members will have 5 minutes to ask questions. They will debate selection and funding level during "Closed Session" then reconvene "Open Session" to vote on awards

The annual grant process flow is as follows:

- May - TF Meeting: TF hears selected proposals and votes on grant awards for winning projects
- June - TF announces winning grant recipients
- July - Execute contracts for current Fiscal Year announced in June
- August - Application window open for next Fiscal Year funding
  - Staff review and develop recommendations

- September - TF Meeting: TF reviews potential projects (no decision)
  - Review used to estimate grant funding levels and develop budget request for next Fiscal Year
- October - TF Meeting: TF votes on its projected budget to inform budget cycle
- February - **Optional** application window opens (emerging applicants)
- March - TF Meeting: TF votes on proposals selected to provide in-person project presentations

### *Legislation/Session Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed the military-friendly bills which are currently making their way through the Legislature. He discussed that both in the House and the Senate \$2 million appropriated to the Task Force. There is funding for both DIG and DRG grants (run through DEO) remains at \$2.6 million and MBP funding remains at \$150,000 which can be used to fund the Economic Impact Analysis and provide some funding for FDA.

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children was up for renewal and has already been signed into law by the Governor.

Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel is moving in both Houses and is on its second reading in the House and Senate. It should go into a third reading and be passed with no problems.

Military Affairs bill by Senator Broxson, is moving well, but there is not an identical bill in the House as the provision was stripped out which would reduce the advanced rent required of military members from three months down to two months. Staff continues to meet with Legislators to educate them on the importance of this provision.

Military Veterans and Servicemembers Court Programs bill requires no funding and is still moving but won't make it if it doesn't continue to move over the next few days.

Also, there are two resolutions on the Gulf of Mexico Range Complex bill, passed by the House and Senate which supported the moratorium that would keep in place the Military Mission Line and prohibit oil drilling and exploration in the eastern Gulf.

**Steve Murray** added that the FDVA has been watching House Bill 501 which provides veterans alternative treatment therapies. This bill was championed by former State Representative Danny Burgess (now the Executive Director of FDVA) and was passed by the House. They are currently watching as it moves through the Senate.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked if the Military Friendly Guide will be updated this year? Staff said that it would and would most-likely be published sometime in early September, after Session has ended.

### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed the US Space Command and Space Florida's task to bring the Space Command to Florida. Staff will be meeting with Space Florida in Orlando next week on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a statewide summit on May 9<sup>th</sup> in Orlando, hosted by Space Florida that will bring other stakeholders together to strategize the basing of the Space Command.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce's visit to Tyndall AFB earlier this week was a big success and thanks to Glen McDonald from Gulf Coast State College for his excellent presentation.

Governor DeSantis is at Eglin AFB today to announce his new initiative LAW (Lawyers Assisting Warriors), a plan to provide pro-bono legal assistance for military servicemembers. This will be unveiled today and will be hosted on the FDA website.

The Northeast Florida Fly-In to Washington, DC will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The ADC National Summit will be held in Washington, DC on June 10<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup> and the Governor's Base Commanders Meeting will be on June 12<sup>th</sup> at Camp Blanding.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce will host a Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunity Summit in the upcoming months.

Florida has a new commander of the Florida National Guard, Major General James Eifert. **Terry McCaffrey** is working to get him appointed to the TF and we hope to have that accomplished in the next few weeks.

Staff is scheduled to brief the Admiral Gary Mayes, the new Admiral at Naval Region Southeast, at the end of this month, to understand the mission of the TF and the FDA.

Staff has posted the RFP for the Economic Impact Analysis, which is done every two (2) years. Bids are due by the end of this month, should be on contract in May and be completed before the end of this year in preparation for next year's session.

**Terry McCaffrey** is working on reappointments to the TF as many term off in July.

Staff will miss **Terry McCaffrey** as he moves to a new position in the State at Volunteer Florida. He's been superb in his job and we'll miss him greatly.

**Terry McCaffrey** added that he is working on reappointments to the TF through the Governor's office, the House and the Senate and has given them information on appointments. He is hoping to have the appointments completed by May.

Also, in July the TF will be visiting NAS Whiting Field and will be a different format as the tour will be on Wednesday, with a 12-noon arrival, and an earlier departure on Thursday after the meeting. We are also staying at lodging on the base. More details will follow as time nears.

He thanked everyone for the kind words and has enjoyed working at the Military & Defense team and TF members and will still be in Tallahassee and encourages everyone to reach out to him if he can ever be of any help to anyone. He will be at the meeting in May, as well.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

**Craig Deatherage, Congressman Neal Dunn's Office**, commented that Honor Flight will be departing from Tallahassee on May 18<sup>th</sup> and encourages everyone in town that day to see them off in the morning and welcome them home in the evening when they return.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:01 AM EDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #74 on Thursday, May 16, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown at 09:00 AM EDT – 11:29 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Representative Jay Trumbull, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
ADM Mark Fitzgerald, USN, (Ret)  
Col Jim Heald, USAF (ret), InDyne, Inc.  
Representative Holly Raschein  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Task Force Members on the Phone:**

Representative Thad Altman  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Senator Doug Broxson

#### **Speakers Present:**

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance  
Nancy Model, Santa Rosa County  
Dan Schebler, Santa Rosa County  
Josh Cockrell, Clay County Development Authority  
Paul Catlett, Camp Blanding JTC  
Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast (Phone)  
Annette Farmer, Military Child Education Coalition (Phone)

#### **Others Present:**

MG James Eifert, USA, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida  
Joe Mayer (for Ms. Amy Gowder), Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Liz Miller, DEO  
Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group  
Mark Oglesby, Department of Military Affairs  
Lindsay Pierce, Space Florida  
Sharon Spratt, Space Florida  
Craig Deatherage, Congressman Neal Dunn's Office  
Kay Rasmussen, Okaloosa County EDC/DSI  
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber  
Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Buck MacLaughlin, Avon Park Air Force Range  
Ryan Long, Ecology & Environment, Inc.  
Mike Jones, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance/The Principi Group  
Jana Wibberley, Deloitte (Phone)  
LTC Jason Hunt, USA, Florida National Guard (Phone)

**Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI

Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF

Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #74**  
**Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown**  
**316 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 32201**  
**AGENDA for May 16, 2019 (As of: Apr 30, 2019)**

	<b>CALL-IN</b>
<b>NUMBER:</b>	<b>800.501.8979</b>
<b>ACCESS CODE:</b>	<b>1869945</b>

<b>KEY:</b>
<i>(I) = Information</i>
<i>(D) = Discussion</i>
<i>(A) = Action</i>

- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0925 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contract Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
  - Budget Update / FY 20 Budget Approval Marcy Sanders **(I) / (D) / (A)**
- 0925– 1015 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Florida Washington Office Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Florida Legislative Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1015 – 1030 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 1030 – 1215 FY 2019-2020 Grant Application Presentations ..... Chairman **(I) / (D)**
  - 1030 – 1045 Santa Rosa County EDC
  - 1050 – 1105 Clay County
  - 1110 – 1125 Space Coast EDC
  - 1130 – 1145 Military Child Education Coalition
- 1200 – 1315 LUNCH / CLOSED SESSION..... Chairman
- 1330 – 1345 OPEN SESSION – Voting on grant proposals.....Chairman **(A)**

Reminder – Meeting Dates:

June 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>		
July 18, 2019	Milton, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>



**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** welcomed attendees and guests. He asked the TF and guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves and led the Task Force and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF the meeting is governed by Sunshine Law. He thanked **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** for his service to the TF and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation as this is his last meeting as a TF member.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** then presented **Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** with a Certificate of Appreciation and thanked him for his dedication to the TF as this is his last meeting as the Chair and as a TF member.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** asked if any corrections are needed for the March 28, 2019 or April 18, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion to accept these minutes was made by **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald**, seconded by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, all are in favor and the March 28, 2019 and April 18, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on several of the TF grants:

DTF Grant #14-05, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County – LambdaRail Expansion Project. The Bay EDA is working on a Public-Private partnership to ensure the long-term viability of the Bay Technology Initiative to be identified in an application to the US Treasury for RESTORE funding. Staff is recommending extending this contract to December 31, 2019 to provide sufficient time to work out a partnership arrangement.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** asked for a motion to extend DTF Grant #14-05 to December 31, 2019. A motion was made by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, seconded by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, all are in favor and contract is extended.*

DTF Grant #16-136 – Highlands County Board of County Commissioners – Encroachment Prevention and Sustainability of Avon Park Air Force Range in Highlands County– Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range. Work continues Activity 1: Pre-Acquisition Services. Approximately 10 percent of the work has been completed on this activity as property owner coordination and due diligence for the purchase of Rafter T Phase IV conservation easement continues. Work on Activities 2 and 3 is upcoming. The HCBCC's contract amendment #2 has been requested to extend the term of the contract to June 30, 2020.

DTF Grant #19-101 – (FY 18-19) Polk County – Encroachment prevention and sustainability of the Avon Park Air Force Range. This contract execution was completed on March 14, 2019. No report is due at this time.

*Budget Update / FY 20 Budget Approval*

**Marcy Sanders** discussed the FY 2019-2020 budget proposal specifically noting that the total for program expenses is \$1,750,000.00.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** asked for a motion to approve the FY 20 Budget. A motion was made by **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald**, seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the budget is approved.*

### III. Agenda Item III: New Business

#### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that around Eglin AFB there have been many fifth-generation scoping meetings to move airplanes and have combined several different efforts into one set. The preferred alternative is to move the F-22 Formal Training Unit which was at Tyndall AFB, to Langley AFB in Virginia. It was recently announced that a second squadron of F-35s coming to Eglin AFB as well as the second squadron of newer F-35As.

Also announced was that about 50 people will be moving from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Wing at Eglin AFB to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Wing at the Utah Test and Training Range. They should return to Eglin AFB TDY to complete their Combat Hammer training on marine targets.

General Brad Webb will be leaving this summer as AFSOC Commander and was recently announced that he has been nominated to take over the Air Education and Training Command. Also, this summer the 96<sup>th</sup> Test Wing is losing General Evan Dertien and it's not yet been announced where he will be going.

The FY17 TF grant for \$235,000 to complete a systems engineering management plan to enhance the Gulf Range is currently laying fiber from Cape San Blas to Anclote Point and is working on the underwater fiber. The marine surveys are ongoing to lay additional fiber out in the gulf to allow enhanced instrumentation through the Eastern Gulf. This grant has resulted in over \$70 million in federal funds to help the Gulf Range Enhancement.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> Eglin AFB held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Intrepid Spirit site, which is a treatment center for invisible wounds and is the first to be located on an Air Force Base. Chairman Fisher from the Fisher House Foundation took part in this ceremony as the Fisher House Foundation is funding most of this effort.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed the strategic basing public hearings and scoping sessions occurring in Northwest Florida. The first one is coming up and will address the F-22 FTU currently split between Eglin AFB where jets are and Tyndall AFB where the academics and simulation training is done. Tyndall AFB is one of the three bases in the strategic basing process as the no-action alternatives as three different processes will be occurring: the F-22 basing, which the Secretary of the Air Force has named Langley AFB as the preferred location; process for the F-35 to Tyndall AFB in parallel to the MQ-9 Base Y project. Those two EIS projects will run parallel, but all three projects will be ongoing over the next year.

The Tyndall Industry Day held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> was a great success. It was held on the Panama City FSU campus with about 460 attendees. John Henderson, the Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy kicked things off and the Air Force sent many of its best community planners, engineers, program managers and subject matter experts to meet with people in the audience who are very interested in the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB.

Visitors to Tyndall AFB are pleased to see the many accomplishments made over a short amount of time including President Trump, who visited last week. There is significant mission activity on the ramp and the Weapons Evaluation Group is holding exercises including the most recent Checkered Flag which brought in aircraft from the UK, Japan and Langley AFB.

He played a short video, which was also shown at the Industry Day, to give an update on the projects going on at Tyndall AFB.

**Representative Holly Raschein** reported that at Homestead ARB, the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners approved the sale of land for the steel mill development last week. The developer had an 18-month due diligence period where they are required to submit information to Homestead ARB so that a mission impact analysis can be completed.

NAS Key West is working on some post-Hurricane Irma projects:

- the placement of the Trumbo Fire Station is out to bid, a \$.5 million project

- the Navy Gateway Inn and Suites project is currently in the design phase and this contract should be awarded in September and is a \$62.8 million project
- replacement of an aircraft maintenance hangar, a \$52 million project which will also go out to bid in September.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** reported that with the assistance of Major General (Ret) Jake Polumbo, Avon Park Air Force Range staff hosted a second range tour for local community and business leaders. Attendees observed F-15E Strike Eagles and A-10 Warthogs flying training missions on the Range's North Tactical Range. The goal of the tour was to help local leaders understand the mission of the Range and the role it plays in national security.

The ongoing project to resurface the Range's runway and relocate the aircraft arresting cables is progressing on schedule. The runway will be closed for another nine (9) months however training operations will continue. Aircraft operating on the Range are keeping extra fuel in reserve to divert to another airfield in case of emergency.

The Range was awarded \$2 million in Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program funding for their FY 2019 application. Execution of the proposed project may be delayed however due to the lack of funding in this year's state budget for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program (RFLPP). This was brought up with the Mission Sustainment Working Group at the FDA meeting and efforts are planned to ensure that the importance and return on investment of programs like RFLPP and Florida Forever are better communicated in the future.

The Range staff was invited to attend the last Tampa Bay Defense Alliance meeting in an effort to better inform the TBDA members of Range capabilities and the role the Range can play in supporting MacDill AFB's mission.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** discussed that last week was the Annual Aviation Flag Officer meeting in Pensacola which was attended by 75 active-duty and 50 retired Flag Officers. Access into NAS Pensacola was an issue which came up during that meeting as the front gate continues to be an issue and will need about \$4 million. Efforts are underway to obtain the funding and get the gate issue fixed as visitation is down about 20% at the museum, cemetery and state park. It may be possible to use some of the funds from the new Blue Angels license plate to address the gate issues.

The Cecil Field depot hangar project continues to move forward. This project will allow the depot to expand operations.

The Navy has contracted Adversary Air for its fleet operations on the east and west coast and has an interest in basing their planes at Cecil Field.

The Northeast Florida/Jacksonville delegation fly-in to Washington, DC is on June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. They plan on discussing such issues as ship loading at NS Mayport, which has been an ongoing challenge.

There has been much contention over the F-15EX versus the F-35 for the future for the Air Force Reserve and National Guard. NAS Jacksonville has an interest in relocating their F-15s and will soon be meeting with Air Force leadership to discuss this issue.

He recently, along with Bruce Grant and Terry McCaffrey, met with the new Navy Region Southeast Commander Admiral Mayes who he believes will be a supporter for upcoming projects and he is looking forward to working with him.

**MG James Eifert** introduced himself as the new Adjutant General of the Florida National Guard as he recently took over from MG Mike Calhoun. He's not yet been appointed but has enjoyed observing the TF meeting today. He hopes the Governor will have appointed him to the TF prior to the July meeting.

The FLNG currently has about 153 people deployed to several different theaters including SOUTHCOM and CENTCOM. They have a big deployment scheduled as over 1,500 are deploying in the next 6 months. The Air

Defense Artillery Battalion is going to the National Capital Region to take over the Avenger Mission protecting the White House and other centers of government. They also have an Air Defense Artillery Unit deploying to Poland for 8 months in the European Defense Initiative and the F-15s from Jacksonville will be travelling to Eastern Europe.

He asked the TF to please keep the airmen and soldiers in their thoughts and prayers.

**Major General Richard Haddad** discussed changes of command as General Richard Clark recently took command of SOCOM and General Kenneth McKenzie recently took command of CENTCOM.

Lieutenant General James C. Slife has been nominated to return to AFSOC and replace Lieutenant General Brad Webb as the new AFSOC Commander. General Webb was just nominated to be the next commander for Air Education and Training Command. They are waiting for Senate confirmation before they can firm up a date for the change of command.

Chief Smith will be leaving AFSOC this summer. He was originally scheduled to be the next command chief at USAFE, however, he has been selected to replace Command Sergeant Major Patrick L. McCauley as the command senior enlisted leader for SOCOM at MacDill AFB. Chief Master Sergeant Corey Olson will be the next AFSOC Command Chief.

AFSOC is currently working with NATGEO and Netflix on a possible documentary and movie based on the Air Commandos who helped with the Thai cave rescue back in June of last year.

In early April, Special Tactics operator Technical Sergeant Cam Kelsch was awarded a Silver Star Medal and a Bronze Star Medal with valor during a ceremony in Savannah, Georgia. While deployed to Afghanistan as a JTAC qualified TACP with the 75th Ranger Regiment, Kelsch exposed himself to danger and secured the safety of his joint and partner force members by controlling precision strike air power from multiple aircraft as close as 35 meters of his team's position, all while saving the life of an American teammate.

AFSOC recently hosted the annual Warrior C.A.R.E. Summit from April 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This annual caregiver and resilience education summit focuses on the caregivers and family members of wounded, injured or ill active-duty service members. This summit provides education and resources while expanding the caregiver network throughout AFSOC. It also strengthens relationships between Airmen and their caregivers. Coverage of this event can be found on the AFSOC Facebook page.

AFSOC hosted our new SOCOM commander, Army General Richard D. Clarke. He met with the Air Commandos to learn about the mission.

On May 6<sup>th</sup> the 492<sup>nd</sup> Special Operations Wing held a change of command ceremony where Colonel Todd Fogle relinquished command to Colonel Andrew Jett.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** welcomed MG Eifert and thanked Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull and Admiral Mark Fitzgerald for their support of the TF. He discussed the new Mayor of Tampa, Jane Castor, who is military-friendly, and he is looking forward to her support on future issues. He mentioned the recent USSPACECOM Summit held by Space Florida, noting it was well attended and much was accomplished. The CORONA will be held first week of June at MacDill AFB and will be attended by the acting Secretary of the Air Force and many four-star Generals. Lastly, the C-37s are leaving MacDill AB this summer and they are closely watching that they aren't redesignated from an air mobility wing to an air refueling wing.

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that Space Florida has agreed to match the federal grant that the Space Coast is seeking for the bridge on the 405 which is about to be decertified. This bridge is on the main road leading into Kennedy Space Center and is necessary for carrying large payloads. Last week at the National Space Coast Club event, Frank DiBello from Space Florida spoke and updated the attendees on all of the exciting events happening in the area. Next month they'll hear from a representative from Blue Origin. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo landing and NASA is planning a week-long series of events to celebrate.

**Lieutenant Colonel William Dudley** discussed that this past Wednesday there was a change of command for the US Coast Guard sector in Jacksonville as Captain Todd Wiemers was replaced by Captain Mark Vlaun from the SOUTHCOM area. Captain Wiemers will be returning to Washington, DC as he is an Admiral Select and will soon be a new Flag Officer.

Jacksonville will be holding their Memorial Day Service at the Jacksonville National Cemetery on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. The keynote speaker will be Cheryl Mason, the Chairperson for the Board of Veterans' Appeals and the second speaker will be Brigadier General (Ret) Mike Fleming. St. Augustine will hold their Memorial Day service on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at the St. Augustine National Cemetery and their key note speaker will be Brigadier General (Ret) Valeria Gonzales-Kerr from the Florida National Guard.

**Mr. Joe Mayer for Ms. Amy Gowder** reported on the recent media reports of the Air Force focusing on existing bases in Colorado, California and Alabama for the basing of the future USSPACECOM. Space Florida, along with The Principi Group, are working on behalf of the Governor on Florida's next steps and follow-up to the successful Summit held last week in Orlando.

In modeling and simulation, the leadership from the National Center for Simulation has been active as they participated in the USSPACECOM Summit and they also were represented at an Army Futures briefing for the Under Secretary of the Army. They recently hosted Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings who is interested in co-hosting the Florida Simulation Summit which will be held in September. Finally, they participated in an editorial round table event with **Florida Trend** magazine.

Tonight, SpaceX will attempt to launch their Starlink Test Satellite, used for commercial communications. Since our last meeting they had a successful cargo resupply mission to the International Space Station.

At the national level impacting the Space Coast, the administration has come forward with an additional \$1.6 billion that they will provide for NASA for funding to support lunar exploration (Artemis).

In the commercial arena, the leadership of Blue Origin has proposed a Blue Moon to provide a privately funded lunar lander.

Locally in Orlando, the Florida Chamber is hosting a Learners to Earners Workforce Summit on June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair**, discussed the FDA meeting held the day prior. They started out with a presentation on spectrum frequencies, which is one of the original five (5) encroachment issues dating back to the 1990s. It's now coming to the forefront as the Department of Commerce looks at selling off more spectrum. It's important for defense industry as weapons and equipment all run by spectrum. The military is looking at ways to share the spectrum bands.

Family Support held a panel that looked at spousal employment, licensure and the K-12 schools and challenges which still exist.

Tom Neubauer updated on the Tyndall AFB rebuild and their partnerships and the way which all communities should look at the opportunities for partnerships and communication strategies to prepare for the next disaster.

The Family Support Working Group met and discussed Senate Bill 620 and its different components, specifically the issue of the ability of a military child to enroll in school as soon as orders are received. The FDA is getting the word out that Florida's virtual schools are still a school district and that children can enroll in virtual school as soon as orders are received. They continue to focus on spousal employment and are looking at how Florida can expand into other cross state compacts as they only participate in one (1), the Enhanced Nurse Compact. Also, the lack of childcare in military communities continues to be a huge issue.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group continues to look at the Gulf Range Complex and what needs to be done to enhance and protect the Gulf Range. How can we create those partnerships across the state and nation with other stakeholders, with the professional military and congressional staffs and create talking points? They are looking at how to use the White Papers and turn them into user-friendly, civilian language to educate on the importance of the Gulf Range. They need to focus on selling the Florida Range Network and its importance to national security and the asset it is to the National Defense Strategy.

The FDA plans on working with and educating Florida's legislators during next year's Session and explaining all the programs used in military communities and how the funding is leveraged against the local, state and federal dollars. They are making a commitment to come to Tallahassee to partner and educate the Legislators and Executive Offices on how those funds are leveraged and the benefit brought back. The Mission Sustainment Working Group will have a call the week of July 8<sup>th</sup> to look at those programs and funding, so they can work with the Legislators earlier in the Session.

Also, regarding the Gulf Range, they will be looking at proposed language in the House Appropriations Committee as current legislation does not address the legislation needed to ban drilling in the Gulf east of the Military Mission Line. It's important for us to have a national advocate in Washington, DC to keep us informed and proactive in addressing opportunities and challenges.

Yesterday in Tallahassee, Bruce Grant represented the FDA and presented at the Florida Military Employment Advocates event, which is part of CareerSource who has seven (7) centers across the state who work with military spouses on career paths. They also work with families ensuring they receive the resources they need in each community.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** asked about using some of the TF funding to create a marketing campaign on the importance of the Gulf Range.

**Kellie Jo Kilberg** added that the oil industry who spends a huge amount of money marketing proposing drilling in the Gulf. A marketing effort (social media or other) should be created to campaign on leveraging resources to tell the story and its importance.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** asked for Staff to start putting together some ideas for marketing materials.

**Bruce Grant** responded that Staff would work with Kellie gather some proposals to present to the TF at the July meeting. He noted that some of the \$150,000 MPB funds can also be used to finance this effort.

**Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** added that Legislators from this year's and last year's Legislative Session passed a memorial to Congress against off-shore drilling.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** suggested a focus on direct public campaigns.

**Admiral Mark Fitzgerald** stated that the center of gravity for this issue in Washington, DC and with limited funds, that is the best place to start with a marketing effort.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed the recent tour of Hurricane Michael damaged communities hosted by the Florida Chamber, which showed a presentation on the importance of the Gulf Range and Gulf Range Enhancement and feels that a partnership with the Florida Chamber on a marketing effort might be beneficial.

#### *Florida Legislative Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed legislation which was passed during the recent Legislation Session:

SB 212 – Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children: The bill reenacts provisions of law establishing and implementing the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Compact) and provides for future legislative review and repeal of the Compact on July 1, 2022. Effective Date: Upon Governor's Signature April 8, 2019



He discussed legislation which was passed by the Legislature, but not yet signed by the Governor:

SB 620 – Military Friendly Initiatives: The bill makes changes relating to military base buffering, conservation easements, and education pertaining to military personnel. Specifically, the bill adds two military installations to a list of installations that may exchange certain information with local governments regarding compatibility of land development (US Southern Command and NSA Orlando); provides that conservation easements, created for the purpose of preventing encroachment to military installations, survive property tax deed sales; requires a school district to consider a child a resident when his or her parent provides official military orders to the school district in advance of the family's relocation; and allows active duty members, their spouses and their dependent children residing in Florida at the time of acceptance to a Florida College System institution to receive in-state tuition rates. This bill also includes the special Blue Angels license plate. Effective Date: July 1, 2019

SB 292 – Education: This bill protects the ability of a public-school student to wear a military uniform to his or her graduation ceremony. Specifically, the bill prohibits a district school board from barring a student from lawfully wearing a military uniform to his or her graduation ceremony. Effective Date: Upon Becoming Law

A bill which was adopted by the Legislature:

HB 1379 and SB 1820 – Gulf of Mexico Range Complex Resolutions 2019: These resolutions that assert the State of Florida maintain a united front in supporting an extension of the current moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line. They support an indefinite extension of the restriction, on oil and gas leasing in all areas east of the Military Mission Line.

A bill which was adopted by the Florida House of Representatives:

HB 1281 -- United States Space Command and United States Space Force – 2019: A memorial to the Congress of the United States urging Congress to support the creation of the United States Space Force and the establishment of the Space Force and the United States Space Command in Florida.

He discussed the Defense Grants Budget for FY 2019-2020 passed by the Legislature:

Florida Defense Support Task Force --- \$2 million

Military Base Protection -- \$150,000

Defense Infrastructure -- \$1,600,000

Defense Reinvestment --- \$850,000

Florida Forever --- reduced down to \$33 million

He reminded the TF that the Legislative Session starts in January 2020 and Staff is working with Senator Broxson on a Task Force oriented bill renaming the TF the Florida Defense Commission, extending the term of the chairman from one (1) to two (2) years and adding the FDA Chair an ex-officio member of the TF. Senator Broxson intends to file this bill early as committee weeks begin in September 2019.

He also discussed a few veterans bill passed by the Legislature:

SB 1518/HB 0501 - Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans

Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans: Authorizes DVA to contract with state university or Florida College System institution to furnish specified alternative treatment options for veterans who have been diagnosed by a health care practitioner with service-connected posttraumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury under certain conditions. Effective Date: July 1, 2019

HB 427/SB 0718 - Honor and Remember Flag

This bill creates s. 256.16, F.S., and designates the Honor and Remember Flag as the state's emblem of the service and sacrifice of the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty. The bill authorizes the flag to be displayed at state-owned buildings at which the United States flag is displayed, state-owned military memorials, and other state-owned locations deemed appropriate; and also at any local government building at which the United States flag is displayed or any other local

government location deemed appropriate on the following days: • Veterans' Day, November 11; • Gold Star Mother's Day, the last Sunday in September; and • A day on which a member of the U.S. Armed Forces who is a resident of the state loses his or her life in the line of duty. The flag may be displayed in a manner designed to ensure visibility to the public with no more than two additional flags when displayed together on a flagpole. Additionally, a flag displayed pursuant to these provisions of the bill must be manufactured in the United States. Effective Date: 1/1/2020

#### SB 0910 - Court-ordered Treatment Programs

Court-ordered Treatment Programs; Providing that veterans who were discharged or released under any condition, individuals who are current or former United States Department of Defense contractors, and individuals who are current or former military members of a foreign allied country are eligible in a certain Military Veterans and Servicemembers Court Program, etc. Effective Date: 10/1/2020

**Representative Thad Altman** added that the opposition arguments to fully funding Florida Forever were due to the cost of the management of those lands. In the case of the military buffer zones, the TF should prepare and formulate a response to that criticism that the military buffer zones do not have the same management expenses of the other properties and have it ready prior to the next Legislative Session.

**Bruce Grant** replied that when easements or lands are acquired the State (not the military) does manage those lands through the Division of State Lands.

**Representative Thad Altman** asked if the military takes any responsibility for the security on those lands.

**Bruce Grant** replied that, no, the State also is responsible for the security on those lands.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** added that in her area under the Rural and Family Lands program, the owner continues to own the property and is responsible for following all guidelines. The State makes sure the owner is following those guidelines correctly.

**Buck MacLaughlin** replied that for the easements around Avon Park Air Force Range, the State's responsibility is to monitor and enforce to ensure that the land owner is meeting their obligations. In terms of the Air Force protecting their investment, typically when working with another state organization the Air Force has accepted third-party enforcement rights. In a situation where a land owner does not meet their responsibilities under the deed of easement and the State was not able to enforce and follow through on those terms, the Federal Government can demand the title be transferred and this is spelled out in the final deeded easements. When working with non-state agencies or non-governmental organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, the process for funding and monitoring the enforcement of the easements is to set up an endowment at the time of the closing that provides the long-term funding for the monitoring and enforcement of that easement. This method could be looked at by the State as the initial investment would defray those costs.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** added that in the case of Camp Blanding those lands are acquired and then fall back to one of the state agencies for payment, as they buy those lands outright so the State or an entity of the State owns the land.

**Bruce Grant** advised that he invite representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection to attend future meetings as they are better to answer those types of questions.

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** briefed about Terry McCaffrey's departure to be the head of Emergency Management at Volunteer Florida noting that he wanted to attend this meeting but instead is in Miami at the Governor's Hurricane Conference.

The GI LAW (Lawyers Assisting Warriors) program provides pro bono legal services that are not covered by the military JAGs to military members and active-duty and reserve members of the National Guard. It is housed on the FDA website and is currently live. Five (5) law firms from around the State have already signed up and it will be officially rolled out at the Base Commanders Meeting in June.

The Florida Economic Impact Analysis is due to be updated this year. Staff is in the process of contracting with the Matrix Design Group, who also did the last one, as well. The FactBook should be ready for the TF's approval sometime in October or November and will be published in December in time for the 2020 Legislative Session.

Staff is feverishly working on TF appointments and reappointments and have placed recommendations into the Speaker of the House, the Senate President and the Governor's office. We hope to have announcements in the next few weeks.

The Florida Chamber is hosting a Military Defense and Veterans Opportunity Summit on August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville. Staff will be taking part on the planning committee and will keep the TF posted on the agenda.

The next ADC conference is scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. Many FDA members will attend. If any TF members would like to attend, please contact the Staff for registry information. At this conference Bay County will be recognized as a Great American Defense Community.

Governor DeSantis has scheduled the next Base Commanders Meeting for June 12<sup>th</sup> at Camp Blanding. This meeting is invitation only and will be attended by Florida's Base Commanders and State Agency Heads. Staff will attend, as well.

Staff will be updating the Strategic Plan later this summer which will either be completed by The Principi Group, based on the signing of the new contract, or by Staff.

Staff is working with SOUTHCOM on the housing issue and attempting to work to acquire the land across from the SOUTHCOM headquarters.

Eglin AFB has updated and produced a new brochure on the Eglin AFB Gulf Testing Range Complex to include overlays and maps. This brochure was updated as of April 2019 and will be handed out at the Base Commanders Meeting in June.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

There were no public comments made at this meeting.

#### V. Agenda Item V: FY 2019-2020 Grant Application Presentations

The TF heard presentations from the following:

- Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners
- Clay County Development Authority
- Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast
- Military Child Education Coalition

*The meeting adjourned at 11:29 AM EDT*

*The meeting reconvened at 12:53 PM EDT*

#### VI. Agenda Item VI: Voting on Grant Proposals

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Representative Jay Trumbull** asked for a motion to approve the funding of the grants listed below. A motion was made by **Admiral Mark Fitzgerald**, seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the funding is approved.*

*The TF voted to award the following grant requests:*

- Santa Rosa County for \$93,200
- Clay County for \$500,000

- *Economic Commission of the Space Coast for \$125,000*
- **Total Grant Money Awarded is \$718,200**

*The TF would like some additional information (listed below) from the Military Child Education Coalition and would like to invite them to present again at the July 18, 2019 TF meeting in Milton, Florida.*

1. *Do you have a relationship with the Military Education Liaison at the installations you serve in Florida? If so, what is that relationship?*
2. *Have you engaged with the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and/or the local school districts of the installations you serve regarding funding for this program?*
3. *Which of the programs you have submitted for funding is the most effective?*
4. *What is your specific plan for sustainability?*
5. *Please provide letters of engagement from the school districts of the installations you serve.*

*The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM EDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #75 on Thursday, July 18, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Santa Rosa County Administration Building at 09:00 AM CDT – 11:08 AM CDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Senator Doug Broxson, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)  
Representative Mel Ponder  
Commissioner Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

#### **Task Force Members on the Phone:**

Representative Holly Raschein  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.

#### **Speakers Present:**

Commissioner Don Salter, Santa Rosa County  
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance  
Jack Ballantyne, Military Child Education Coalition (Phone)  
Katherine Anne Russo, Florida Washington Office (Phone)

#### **Others Present:**

Adam Griffin, Office of Congressman Matt Gaetz  
Commissioner Dave Pete, Santa Rosa County  
Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group  
Ryan Fierst, DEO  
Randy Roy, NAS Whiting Field  
Pete Gandy, Santa Rosa County  
Van Goodloe, former Commodore Air Wing 5  
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce  
RAMD Don Quinn (Ret.), Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce  
Kay Rasmussen, EDC Okaloosa County/Defense Support Initiatives  
Timothy Spayd, 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion  
Karen Hayworth, Santa Rosa County Veterans Services Officer  
Angela Campbell, Navarre Area Board of Realtors  
Mike Sandler, Navarre Chamber of Commerce  
Chanda Ryan, Navarre Chamber of Commerce  
Sabrina Granese, Sacred Heart Health System  
Steve Opalenik, NAS Pensacola  
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting  
Sabrina Granese, Sacred Heart Health System  
Michelle Horton, Complete Florida Military

Danita Andrews, Florida West EDA  
Kevin Brown, Office of Senator Doug Broxson  
Steve Rhodes, Gulf Power Company  
Sharon Pitts, Board Chairman for Santa Rosa County  
Victor Hall, Baptist Healthcare/WFDA  
Andrew Romer, UWF  
Jared Lowe, Santa Rosa County Grants Department  
Sheila Fitzgerald, Santa Rosa County Grants Department  
Kara Cardona, Senior Vice President of Navy Federal Credit Union  
Carolyn Freeze, Doolittle Institute  
Dan Schebler, Santa Rosa County Administrator  
Commissioner Dan Parker, Santa Rosa County, Chairman of the Board  
Ned Cromley, U.S. Navy Retired, local developer  
Shannon Ogletree, Santa Rosa County Economic Development  
Craig Deatherage, Office of Congressman Neal Dunn (Phone)  
Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance (Phone)

**Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Ray Collins, Deputy Executive Director, FDSTF  
Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager FDSTF (Phone)  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI





**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #75**  
**Santa Rosa County Administration Building, 6495 Caroline Street, Milton FL 32570**  
**AGENDA for Jul 18, 2019 (As of: July 9, 2019)**

**CALL-IN NUMBER: 888.585.9008**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM: 262-492-927**

**KEY:**  
*(I) = Information*  
*(D) = Discussion*  
*(A) = Action*

- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0920 Welcome from Local Defense Community..... Commissioner Don Salter **(I)**
- 0920 – 0945 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I) / (A)**
  - Grant Presentation from Military Child Education Coalition Annette Farmer **(I)/(D)/(A)**
  - Protection of the Gulf Range Bruce Grant **(I) / (D)**
- 0945 – 1130 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Callie DeHaven **(I)**
  - DEP State Lands Update Marcy Sanders **(D) / (A)**
  - FY 20-21 Grant Application Approval Bruce Grant **(D) / (A)**
  - 2019 Economic Impact Analysis Study Ray Collins **(I)**
  - 2019 Military Friendly Guide Update Ray Collins **(D) / (A)**
  - Draft 2020 Meeting Schedule Proposal Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1130 – 1145 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 1145 – 1245 Lunch

Reminder – Meeting Dates:

September 19, 2019	Fleming Island, FL	August 15, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
November 21, 2019	Tampa, FL	October 17, 2019	Conf Call/Webex
		December 2019	<b>NO MEETING</b>

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** began the meeting at 09:00 AM CDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** welcomed attendees and guests. He thanked the Captains from NAS Whiting Field, Randy Roy and Pete Gandy for their hospitality during the lunch, tour and dinner the previous day. He welcomed **Representative Mel Ponder** as the newest member of the TF and **Tom Neubauer** who was recently reappointed to a new term on the TF. He asked the TF members and guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves and led the Task Force and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF the meeting is governed by Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Welcome from the Local Defense Community

**Commissioner Don Salter** welcomed the TF to Santa Rosa County and briefed some interested points about NAS Whiting Field such as it is home to Training Air Wing Five; it contains two primary fields and twelve Naval Outlying Fields (NOLFs); it was the Installation Excellence Award Winner in 2015, 2016 and 2018; and it averages over 1 million flight operations per year, which makes it busier than Hartsfield-Jackson in Atlanta. He discussed the partnership between Santa Rosa County and the U.S. Navy and is referred to at the highest levels of the Navy as "The Santa Rosa Model." NAS Whiting Field trains 100% of all helicopter training for the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard; 60% of all fixed wing primary for the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard; and produces over 700 pilots per year. He discussed the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) which was completed in 2003, how Santa Rosa County/Navy partnership has buffered more than 10,000 acres over the last 10 plus years and the Limited Access Use Agreement that created the 269 acre Whiting Aviation Park which allows through-the-fence-access to civilian tenants to the 6,000 linear foot runway and control tower.

III. Agenda Item III: Old Business

*Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked if any corrections are needed for the May 16, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion to accept these minutes was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the May 16, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on several of this year's recently approved TF grants who are awaiting execution of their contracts.

Clay County Development Authority is currently undergoing an administrative contract change. They met last week to vote on that decision but did not have a quorum.

The Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast is waiting on a letter of support from NASA which they expect to be forthcoming.

Santa Rosa County has requested, due to the fact that the Navy will not accept a no-cost easement as a gift, two options with their grant: 1 – Award them the grant and they will only extend the delta between the appraisal cost and the cost to clean the land; 2 – Hold the contract until such time that they have a better idea of how much the ask is for that piece of land. Staff recommends option #2.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** reminded the TF members that legislators on the TF cannot vote. *A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to hold the Santa Rosa County grant contract until such time that they have a better idea of how much the ask is for that piece of land. A motion was made by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, seconded by **Representative Thad Altman**, all are in favor and contract is extended.*

**Marcy Sanders** reminded the TF that the Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast's grant is for a study to assess critical bridge infrastructure supporting Cape Canaveral Air Force Station space operations.

**Representative Thad Altman** added that with so much aging infrastructure and a renaissance in space flight, this is a huge need as this bridge needs significant improvement, especially with the commercial and civilian uses of the space station. He added that Jeff Bezos of Amazon and who also owns Blue Origin, is building a rocket manufacturing plant at the space center, not inside the gate, but is on NASA property at the industrial park, run by NASA in conjunction with Space Florida. Mr. Bezos is committed to move humans into space, not just for exploration but to live and work.

#### *Grant Presentation from Military Child Education Coalition*

**Jack Ballantyne, Military Child Education Coalition** re-presented their grant application in order to answer the several questions that TF members had during the May meeting.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to approve funding to the Military Child Education Coalition in the amount of \$100,000. A motion was made by **Commissioner Barbara Stewart** with the understanding that MCEC look for a continuing source of funding elsewhere. This was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the grant funding to MCEC is approved.*

**Bruce Grant** added that Staff has contacted the Department of Education and asked them how much funding is provided to military children's programs throughout the state. Staff is planning to ask a representative from the Department of Education to attend a future TF meeting and present on that topic so TF members will be informed when approached with this type of grant application.

#### *Protection of the Gulf Range*

**Bruce Grant** discussed his brief on the protection of the Gulf Range. At the May meeting TF members asked that Staff create a marketing effort to educate and influence decisionmakers on protecting the Gulf Range. He contacted several TF members to assist with this and they provided great information which resulted in the creation of this brief. He asks the TF members to read the brief and get back to him with changes or edits. He plans on meeting with the Governor to ask for his support so he can provide the brief to Congressional members in order to publicize the importance of the Gulf Range. He is hoping to meet with the Governor next week and will report back to the TF.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: New Business

##### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Major General Richard Haddad** discussed a delegation from the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA) consisting of Major General Michael Jones, USA (Ret.), Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.) and Major General Lawrence Martin, (USAF (Ret.) attended the Association of Defense Communities National Summit from June 9<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019. They subsequently met with Congressman Charlie Christ in his Washington, DC Office on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June to discuss MacDill AFB and associated Florida military issues and conducted meetings with key Air Force leaders in the Pentagon on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. Oil drilling in the Gulf was a main topic of discussion, as well. According to Congressman Christ, Florida legislators agree that drilling should not be allowed in the Gulf. However, meetings with key Air Force leaders painted a different picture regarding oil drilling and that a level of cooperation and coordination with oil companies may be necessary in the future.

SOCOM Commanding General recently spoke to the acting SECDEF and relayed that SOCOM had a change in leadership but not a change in mission. The Command will stay in line with National Defense Strategy three lines of effort: build a more lethal force; strengthen the alliance and attract partners; and reform the department for greater performance

AFSOC change of command took place on June 28th. Lieutenant General James Slife took command after serving as the SOCOM Vice Commander in Arlington, Virginia. He was the 1 SOW Commander from 2011-2013. Lieutenant General Brad Webb relinquished command of AFSOC and took command of Air Education and Training Command in San Antonio, Texas.

Chief Master Sergeant Greg Smith, AFSOC's Command Chief, recently assumed the duties of Command Senior Enlisted leader for SOCOM. Chief Master Sergeant Corey Olson assumed the duties of AFSOC Command Chief.

The DOD Warrior Games hosted by SOCOM and emceed by comedian Jon Stewart took place in Tampa last month and were a huge success. The Games will be hosted by San Antonio, Texas and the Marine Corp next year.

**Representative Mel Ponder** reported that he's honored to have been appointed to the TF to help further Florida's reputation as the most military-friendly state in the nation. He spoke briefly about the recent changes of command at Hurlburt Field and Eglin AFB. He discussed some of the policies he worked on during the last Session such as expanding the options of who can receive benefits from the Veterans Treatment Court, education benefits and working with new director of Veterans Affairs to expand treatment options for veterans.

**Representative Thad Altman** discussed continuing job growth as it relates to NOTU. Lockheed Martin has announced that they will be expanding further on the Space Coast as they have a contract with the Naval Ordnance Test Unit. The big event that happened recently on the Space Coast was the testing of the abort system for the new Orion capsule. It was a success and continues to pave the way toward the Orion capsule launch. They are continuing work on the infrastructure issues, including the two bridges. The first leads directly to the Cape Canaveral AFS from the south through Port Canaveral and the second is the 405 bridge which leads to the Space Center from the mainland. The Space Coast had a wonderful week of celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the lunar landing. July 18<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the launch, July 20<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the landing and July 24<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the splash down.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** thanked NAS Whiting Field for their hospitality and Commissioner Don Salter for his presentation and their commitment to the Santa Rosa model. He plans on presenting this model to MacDill AFB in order to help their situation with Florida Rock. A major development out of MacDill AFB is that NOAA and the C-37s and their crews have departed. MacDill AFB is now an air refueling wing, not an air mobility wing.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported that NSA Panama City has finally replaced most of their tarp roofs and they are now starting to work on the interior of buildings. It was estimated that there was about \$150 million of damage which was taken out of Navy funding through Navy Region Southeast without a supplemental. Rebuilding is moving along and missions are continuing.

Tyndall AFB is getting better every day. The tent city is gone and airmen are living in permanent quarters. He thanked everyone who worked so hard to help get the supplemental funding. They have spent about \$400 million so far of the \$1.6 billion supplemental and the FSR (Force Sustainment Repair and Maintenance) has been allocated and encumbered. The base looks completely different, much better than it did ten months ago. They need help with 2020 defense budget to make sure that the \$2.2 billion continues to pass and in 2021 they receive the remaining \$1.4 billion to complete the \$4.1 billion rebuild of the base.

Tyndall AFB is producing an appropriate number of Air Battle Managers and is doing very well. The Weapons Evaluation Group continues to operate in support of exercises such as Checkered Flag. The community is hearing jet noises again. The F-22 Formal Training Unit continues to operate with its jets located at Eglin AFB and the classroom and simulator part of the syllabus located at Tyndall AFB, and the students are going back and forth between the flying and academics part of their training. This is not best situation but could continue for several years as it could take that long for the Formal Training Unit to relocate to Langley AFB, VA, now undergoing an EIS process.

AFCEC is very engaged and is focused on the rebuild. It's helpful that they employ many engineers and others who are working on projects at Tyndall AFB and the T-38 Adversary Air is flying out of Eglin AFB supporting the ongoing missions.

A few weeks ago, a group of about 50 people from Tyndall AFB gathered in the Nevada desert at an AFWERX sponsored workshop on how to build the base of the future. It was a worthwhile program as the management office for the base spent two days talking about what that base would look like and how to spend \$4.1 billion to build a base that remains relevant in 70 years. They also discussed how to accommodate future aircraft.

Last week the base had a meeting with the mayors, county commission chairs, chambers of commerce of all seven cities plus the Bay Defense Alliance and signed a new community partnership document on how they can partner with the base to create the community of the future to accommodate the base of the future. This document gives a chance for all of the communities to meet and talk about how they can partner with the base on many opportunities.

He discussed some command changes as First Air Force AFNORTH Continental NORAD Region. General Scott Williams retired recently and was replaced by General Marc Sasseville. A change of command took place with both NORAD NORTHCOM Commander General Terrence O'Shaughnessy and the Air Combat Commander General Mike Holmes as AFNORTH supports both of those domains.

**Senator Doug Broxson** reported that the front gate at NAS Pensacola continues to have issues and has had a detrimental effect on the museum's attendance, which is down about a quarter. To raise funding for the gate they introduced the Blue Angel license plate bill during the last Session. The good news is that Enterprise Rental Car is planning to put these plates on all their rental cars across the state.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** reported that Avon Park Air Force Range recently welcomed Colonel Daniel P. Walls, the new Commander of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Wing, Moody Air Force Base. Avon Park AFR falls underneath Moody AFB. Colonel Walls is a command pilot with over 3,000 flying hours, including 566 combat hours.

Range staff is continually working with the Florida Defense Alliance to help highlight how much federal funding had been brought into Florida as matching funds for state programs such as Florida Forever, Rural and Family Lands Protection Program, the Enterprise Florida Defense Infrastructure grants (DIG) and Defense Reinvestment grants (DRG) and Task Force grants. The goal is to showcase the return on investment.

The most important issue I'd like to discuss is that in early June, the Polk County Planning Board approved a future land use amendment to their comprehensive plan which would have significant adverse impacts on the Avon Park AFR. The property is underneath the military training routes in restricted airspace and the floor in that area is down to ground surface. The change would allow four dwelling units per acre and a variety of other uses from bars to childcare centers. Buck was unaware of the request until after it was approved by the Planning Board. As soon as Buck found out he contacted General Polumbo and with the assistance of Major General Haddad and former County Commissioner Todd Dantzler, they were able to talk to county staff, the county manager and some of the commissioners and as a result, the applicant did withdraw the application. But she believes they intend to come back with a revised amendment.

She suggested that once another application has been submitted, the Staff work with Buck MacLaughlin and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council and write a letter from the TF to the Polk County Commissioners and the Polk County Manager stating that they are opposed to this, stressing the severity of the impacts it will have on Avon Park AFR.

*A quorum being present, **Commissioner Barbara Stewart** made a motion for the Staff to draft a letter from the TF to the Polk County Commissioners and County Manager in opposition of a future land use amendment. This was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

**Ms. Amy Gowder** discussed that regarding Training, Modeling and Simulation, on July 10th, the National Center for Simulation, the Metro Orlando Defense Task Force, UCF and key industry leaders hosted James Kuzma and Dale Ketcham of Space Florida to begin the process of making the case to transfer key elements of US Space Command to Florida. The MS&T component is a very logical candidate for relocation to the Central Florida Research Park. The collaborative opportunities, synergies and cost efficiencies with the Army, Navy,

Marines, Air Force and nine other federal agencies are invaluable. All parties pledged their support to quickly advance this campaign.

The Modeling and Simulation Caucus hosted a panel discussion on June 27th to educate the new Members and staff of the Caucus on the importance of Modeling and Simulation to the warfighter and gave an overview of the new developments including the Army Futures Command Synthetic Training Environment (STE), NASA and Medical Simulation. Reps. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL-7) and Bobby Scott (D-VA-3) provided remarks to Congressional staff and visitors that echoed the importance of Modeling and Simulation. NCS President George Cheros participated and emphasized the important contributions of the State of Florida and the Florida Defense Support Task Force regarding the Partnership IV and V buildings. The addition of these facilities enabled the addition of the 2-Star command of the Army Futures CFT Headquarters of STE, the Persistent Cyber Training Environment (PCTE) in a new SCIF, and 2 new Air Force Network Operations facilities. The panel was moderated by USN Adm. (Ret) James Robb, President of the National Training and Simulation Association.

Lockheed Martin Corporation hosted a "Workforce Summit" on July 15 bringing together representatives of all Lockheed Martin businesses in FL with CareerSource FL and its regional offices to brainstorm and strategize on best leveraging existing resources to meet pressing workforce hiring and training requirements.

Harris and L3 have completed their merger (first announced in October 2018) and will be known as L3Harris Technologies, Inc. and will be headquartered in Melbourne, FL, with approximately 8,400 employees.

Boeing has announced that it will move the Headquarters of its Space and Launch business from the Washington, DC/Northern Virginia area to Titusville. The move is expected to involve a Vice President and a small cadre of staff.

**Representative Holly Raschein** discussed that the Joint Interagency Task Force South, regarding their relocation study, still has not made any decisions and SOUTHCOM is still analyzing the study results.

NAS Key West MILCON projects:

The US Marine Corp Forces Special Operations Command's new training facility is under construction. This project totals \$5.9 million

The following three projects still tracking, and they are hoping for contract awards by the end of September:

- The Navy Gateway Inns and Suites is a \$68.2 million facility, and will be constructed on the Trumbo Point Annex
- Replacing the aircraft main hangar is a \$52 million project and will be constructed on Boca Chica to replace the hangar damaged in Hurricane Irma
- The Trumbo Point Annex Fire Station is an \$8.5 million project, will be constructed on Dredgers Key and will replace the Trumbo Point Fire Station damaged in Hurricane Irma

#### *Washington Office Update*

**Katherine Anne Russo** reported that Congress will soon have their August recess as the House leaves on July 26<sup>th</sup> and the Senate on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Both chambers will be in recess until September 9<sup>th</sup>. The Senate Armed Services Committee met this morning and are expected to approved Army Secretary Mark Esper as next Secretary of Defense as he has bipartisan backing and the Senate will likely confirm him within the next few days. The Senate Armed Services Committee is also expected to approve the Amy Chief of Staff General Mark Milley to be the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the House passed their version of the National Defense Authorization Act. Every Republican and eight Democrats voted against the measure. This bill would authorize \$733 billion in spending which is \$17 billion less than the President's request. On July 9<sup>th</sup> President Trump announced that he would veto the current version of the House measure.



Congressman Matt Gaetz offered an amendment to remove the date of expiration for the drilling moratorium on in the Gulf Test Range, but the amendment was not made an order, so it was not voted on and was not added to the language.

The Senate passed their version of the NDAA back on May 27<sup>th</sup>, which had strong bipartisan support. The bill was for about \$746.4 billion, a 4.2% growth for the budget which is in line with the National Defense Strategy. Also noted that is that this version of the bill includes \$1.4 billion for the Tyndall AFB rebuild. The bill will now head to conference so differences can be resolved, and Congress can come tougher to get this passed.

As of this morning, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin said an agreement has been reached on spending levels for FY 2020 and FY 2011, a 2-year agreement. It is unclear whether this will move before the August recess but hopefully will move next week.

Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez is travelling up to Washington, DC next week for a state focused trip. Katherine Anne is working with Space Florida to schedule meetings for her with DoD. She is also meeting with Commerce and Transportation and is hosting a round table with the congressional delegation. Space Florida's Frank DiBello will also be in attendance.

**Representative Mel Ponder** asked Katherine Anne Russo to explain what she meant by reporting that the portion on the Gulf Range did not make it in on time to be included.

**Katherine Anne Russo** explained that the amendment, offered by Congressman Matt Gaetz, was offered on time but was not made an order. There were almost 600 amendments offered and out of those only half were made an order. This means that they're coming to the floor for a House vote. It is up to Congressional Leadership and they did not include this amendment. The inclusion of the amendments tends to be political instead of policy based.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair**, discussed that last week, the Mission Sustainment Working Group held their conference call. There was a lively discussion on Federal Funds opportunities to leverage with state and local funds. The outcome of the discussion was to create a report to show the return-on-investment of how we maximize state investments to protect and grow Florida's installations and missions. Another issue that came up was the state match amount was reduced during the Scott Administration to 80%. This is a concern for some communities as we are losing federal dollars. They will be reviewing this topic for the 2020 legislative session.

Today, the Department of Interior announced Region-wide oil and gas lease sales for the Gulf of Mexico. 77.8 million acres are scheduled for sale on August 21<sup>st</sup>. She read a portion: "Two Gulf-wide lease sales are scheduled to be held each year and includes all available blocks in the combined Western, Central and Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning areas."

Currently, the moratorium established by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 excludes their area east of the military mission line until June 2022. It is important that they do not sit back regarding protecting the Gulf Range.

She does not like using the phrase BRAC as we do not know if or when there will be another BRAC. This does not mean we sit back. It means we need to be more engaged, proactive and forward thinking. BRAC is looking in the rear-view mirror when we need to be looking forward.

So, she has a new phase... **Strategic Installations Resiliency & Realignment or SIR<sup>2</sup>**. This will drive us to be strategic, innovative, forward thinking and solution seekers through partnerships and collaboration to leverage and maximize resources as well as reduce costs.

It is important to show how the FLORIDA MILITARY COMPLEX of installations, ranges and missions are key assets in the National Defense Strategy. This means we **MUST** not should have eyes, ears and a voice at the Pentagon. Missions will be realigned and moved without hearings for how they fit in the National Defense

Strategy. This requires us to have a proactive approach on telling and showing how the FLORIDA COMPLEX fits. What is our compelling story?

The Guidebook and Fact Book are great, but they **DO NOT** showcase our **FLORIDA MILITARY COMPLEX** assets and why missions and programs are located here nor why other missions should realign here to Florida. Other states are upping their investments in local military programs and engagement in Washington, DC to be proactive and ready to act on a moments-notice if challenges or opportunities arise.

She asks, "what is your vision as the Florida Defense Support Task Force to keep Florida agile and moving forward?"

Remember this phrase, "**Strategic Installations Resiliency & Realignment or SIR<sup>2</sup>** as we move forward to be strategic in our messaging to the right influencers and platforms.

#### *FY 20-21 Grant Application Approval*

**Marcy Sanders** presented a draft of the FY 20-21 TF Grant Application and discussed that it is the same as last year's application. Applications will be accepted starting August 1, 2019 and will be online again this year. TF members will receive the submitted grant applications on September 12<sup>th</sup> for your review, prior to the September meeting.

#### *2019 Economic Impact Analysis Study*

**Bruce Grant** discussed that the economic impact analysis study is done every two years to collect information to build the FactBook. Staff is in the process of working towards a new FactBook and has come to the TF to request the funding. We had another funding source, but it has fallen through. The cost is \$150,000 and Staff's proposal to the TF is to use the reverted grant funds totaling about \$300,000 so the funding is currently available and will not impact anything on which you are currently working.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** suggested that the FactBook incorporate some of **Kellie Jo Kilberg's** remarks/thoughts whether it be on page on its own or incorporated in smaller paragraphs throughout the book.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** asked to add the percentages of the GRP in the upper right-hand corner of the FactBook.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to approve funding for the 2019 Economic Impact Study in the amount of \$150,000. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the grant funding for the study is approved.*

#### *2019 Military Friendly Guide*

**Ray Collins** updated that the 2019 Military Friendly Guide is currently on track to be published in September as its currently in the final stages of edit. Some changes this year are the inclusion of the new provisions in Senate Bill 620 including the protections for military spouses, reservists being activated and all the licensing requirements. Another change is the addition of the GI LAW Governor's initiative on legal assistance to warriors which was just implemented. The first of those cases has been completed and taken on by one of the participating law firms within the last month.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** would like to add Kellie Jo Kilberg's remarks/thoughts into the Military Friendly Guide, as well.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** suggested that addition of Florida's position on licensing as the forward in the Military Friendly Guide.

#### *Draft 2020 Meeting Schedule Proposal*

**Ray Collins** discussed the meeting schedule for 2020 which is similar to past years' schedules with meetings in Tallahassee during the 2020 Legislative Session and conference calls every other month. In March the TF will visit Blount Island for the first time and in November the TF will visit the National Center for Simulation in Orlando.

**Bruce Grant** added that if TF members have any input regarding the schedule, please provide it to **Ray Collins** as Staff has been diligent in trying to move around the state and visit different places each year.

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** briefed that the Florida Chamber is hosting a Military Defense and Veterans Opportunity Summit on August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville. Staff will be participating on the planning committee and will keep the TF posted on the agenda. Staff provided the Chamber with the three most important military issues: 1 – the rebuilding of Tyndall AFB; 2 – Florida obtaining the headquarters for the Space Command/Space Force; and 3 – the protection of the Gulf Range. All three of these topics will be covered during the Summit. If any TF members are available and would like to attend, please contact Staff as he is working with the Chamber to create panels and he would be happy to have you if you're available and would like to participate.

The GI LAW (Lawyers Assisting Warriors) program is the Governor's initiative which provides pro bono legal services that are not covered by the military JAGs to military members and active-duty and reserve members of the National Guard. It is currently working in every base around the state. The Governor is planning to begin with military members and eventually expand to include veterans. There are five law firms from around the state currently participating and is hosted on the FDA website.

Staff is feverishly working on TF appointments and reappointments and have placed recommendations into the Speaker of the House and the Governor's office. They have included a handout Bio on Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, Retired, who would replace Admiral Mark Fitzgerald.

Staff will be updating the Strategic Plan over the next few weeks. They will submit it to TF members for your review in August for discussion at the September meeting.

Staff attended the Governors Base Commanders Meeting at Camp Blanding last month. It was a great meeting as the Governor is very supportive of the TF and Staff is looking forward to future Base Commanders Meetings with the Governor.

This time each year DEO sends out a letter to all the Base Commanders in the state asking them to identify their non-conservation lands. Those are semi-developed or developed lands that are potential encroachment threats so that the state can identify those and provide funding to acquire the lands or easements to those lands. This program has been ongoing for several years but unfortunately there has not been any funding allocated to this program. The Base Commanders have been very diligent in identifying those lands, so the list continues to grow. This needs to be addressed during the next Session.

For the September TF meeting at Camp Blanding we will have the same format as this meeting with a tour of Camp Blanding on Wednesday and TF meeting on Thursday. Camp Blanding has promised a great tour with possible helicopter ride with an aerial view of the entire base.

Staff is involved with Space Florida and the Governor's office as they are working on bringing the Space Command to the state of Florida. They are not only looking at the Space Command Headquarters, but other areas of the Space Force which would certainly be well-suited for Florida. This effort is ongoing as Staff continues working with Space Florida and The Principi Group who is advocating on behalf of the state.

#### V. Agenda Item V: Public Comment

**Michelle Horton** from Complete Florida discussed that they are a state-sponsored initiative supporting Florida's military, veterans and their families with earning degrees or certificates. The TF was influential in helping them launch their military-focused programs.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM CDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #76 on Thursday, August 15, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting via Conference Call at 09:00 AM EDT – 10:22 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Senator Doug Broxson, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
RADM Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret.)  
MG James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
CAPT Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)  
Representative Mel Ponder  
Representative Holly Raschein

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

None

#### **Speakers Present:**

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chairman, Florida Defense Alliance

#### **Others Present:**

Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group  
Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)  
Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Jana Wibberley, Deloitte/Bay County  
Kay Rasmussen, EDC Okaloosa County/Defense Support Initiatives  
Carolyn Freeze, Doolittle Institute  
Kevin Brown, Office of Senator Doug Broxson  
John Conkas, AECON Tallahassee

#### **Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Ray Collins, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)  
Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force -- Meeting #76  
 Conference Call / WebEX  
 AGENDA for August 15, 2019 (As of: Aug 6, 2019)**

<b>CALL-IN NUMBER:</b>	<b>888.585.9008</b>
<b>CONFERENCE ROOM:</b>	<b>262-492-927</b>

<b>KEY:</b> <i>(I) = Information</i> <i>(D) = Discussion</i> <i>(A) = Action</i>
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- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0930 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of July Meeting Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
  - FY18-19 Budget Closeout / FY19-20 Budget Update Marcy Sanders **(I)**
- 0930 – 1030 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Ray Collins **(I)**
  - Strategic Plan Chairman **(I) / (D)**
  - Advocacy Way Ahead Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - PFOAs / PFOS Bruce Grant **(I) / (D)**
  - 2020 Legislative Preview Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update Bruce Grant **(I)**
- 1030 – 1045 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates: September 19, 2019 Orange Park, FL      October 17, 2019 Conf Call/Webex  
 November 21, 2019 Tampa, FL      December 2019 **NO MEETING**

**Ray Collins**, FDSTF Deputy Executive Director, *began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

**Ray Collins** welcomed attendees and guests, proceeded with roll call, asked all guests to introduce themselves and then turned the meeting over to **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson**. **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** welcomed **RADM Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)**, **MG James Eifert, USAF**, **The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida** and **CAPT Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)** as the newest Task Force (TF) Members. He thanked **Commissioner Barbara Stewart** for all her support and efforts on the TF as she terms out and reminded the TF the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of the Minutes*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked of any corrections be made to the July 18, 2019 minutes. **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** noted that he had sent Staff some minor changes to his Member Report from the July meeting. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl** to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by **Vice Chair, Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the July 18, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants & Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on the status of current TF grants.

All fourth quarter reports from last year have been received.

She is waiting on the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce to send their final paperwork on DTF Grant #16-154, which has been completed and signage has been installed.

FY 2019-2020 TF Grants:

- The Clay County Development Authority contract has been executed.
- The contract for Military Child Education Coalition is in the EFI contracts department awaiting execution.
- Staff is waiting on some final administrative paperwork from the Space Coast EDC and will execute that contract once it has been received.

*FY18-19 Budget Closeout/FY19-20 Budget Update*

**Marcy Sanders** advised that the TF encumbered all of their \$2 million appropriation for FY 2018-2019. There was an overage of \$221,803.77 as those additional funds came from the \$546,085.00 left over from past grants who reverted their awarded funds back to the TF. Currently the TF still has \$324,281.29 left in reverted funds to use in the future.

The TF received a \$2 million appropriation from the Legislature for FY 2019-2020. The Local Grant Program shows \$1,570,000 to be encumbered this year which includes the \$725,000 already awarded in contacts. The TF has \$820,000 to encumber this fiscal year before June 30, 2020 those funds will not be drawn down.

**Bruce Grant** added that the TF will have additional funds remaining this year which need to be appropriated. Staff will present ideas for the September meeting and they are open to suggestions from the TF as to what they would like to do with those remaining funds. Staff does suggest using \$30,000 of those funds for the Florida Defense Alliance, which is unfunded, so they can conduct their bi-annual meetings.



### *Letter Supporting the Avon Park Air Force Range Effort to Prevent Encroachment*

**Ray Collins** informed the TF that the Central Florida Regional Planning Council and Buck MacLaughlin at Avon Park Air Force Range have been working on a letter for the TF, as per guidance from **Commissioner Barbara Stewart**, supporting the Avon Park Air Force Range's effort to prevent encroachment. Staff should receive a draft of that letter by the end of this week, which will then be distributed to TF members for their comments. Once final it will be sent out to the County Commission.

### III. Agenda Item III: New Business

#### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed that the Community Partnership Steering Group met at Tyndall AFB on Monday, August 12th and was chaired by the community partnership co-chair Glen McDonald. Participants included leaders from the military, local businesses and representatives from the community. This is in parallel to the Enhanced Use Lease Program currently being worked on and the EIS for both the F-35 and the MQ-9 beddown. One topic discussed is the need to beddown 3,000 workers for the next three years as the base is being rebuilt. Other major topics included Contractor Campground, F35/MQ-9 Bed down, Enhanced Use Lease, Housing Schools, Energy Resilience, Medical and Annexation.

Bay County kicked off the JLUS (Joint Land Use Study) now referred to as the Compatible Use Program, on Tuesday, August 13, 2019. Financial support by the Office of Economic Development was requested more than 10 years ago, resulting in the update of Tyndall's AICUZ (Air Installation Compatibility Use Zone) study and ICEMAP Installation Complex Encroachment Management Action Plan. The successful bidder to facilitate the study is Stantec. Bay County will serve as the local principal planner of the JLUS with the support of *Ian Crelling* the Director of Community Development. The Tyndall JLUS project includes a policy committee and technical committee and is also support by consultants, community planners and Air Force and Community Leaders. The OEA-JLUS process will provide an opportunity for continued community development and economic growth while maintaining the military's ability to test and train. Open communication, comprehensive community planning, and collaboration will help both parties meet their goals.

For many years Bay County has engaged local academic support in developing a Community Capacity Analysis, which was just updated by the Florida State University Panama City Campus. This study is done to provide past BRAC staffers with evidence that the community has surge capacity if the base surges with new missions. This study was led by grad students at FSU, with assistance from the Management and Marketing Professors. This study was started prior to Hurricane Michael so the study shows the before and after effects of almost every component of the community including housing, medical, education/schools and transportation. This study will be very beneficial to the installations as they recover from the hurricane.

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that the Space Coast has been busy recently with launch activity with two launches within a 36-hour period. This increases Florida's ability to turn around launches immediately and is a major achievement. Florida now has the capability to launch many more rockets and is a major accomplishment by the Air Force.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Lockheed Martin celebrated the move of the Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM) Headquarters from Sunnyvale, California to Florida's Space Coast during an official flag-raising event. Establishing this new site is one milestone in the larger move of more than 300 jobs to the Space Coast area, expanding Lockheed Martin's already significant presence. Titusville was selected as the FBM Headquarters to house this critical mission. It allows for continued partnership with the Navy and a solid foundation for the next chapters of the program.

**RADM Stan Bozin** announced that he's happy to have been appointed to the TF and looks forward to learning the ropes. He noted that he retired from the Navy about 10 years ago, then worked for Lockheed Martin. He's currently officially retired and is living in Jacksonville. He reported that the Navy has indicated to NAS Jacksonville the lease interest for Cecil Field. This will allow NAS Jacksonville to start developing hangars that the Navy will be able to lease to move the facilities from NAS Jacksonville over to Cecil Field allowing the

facilities to be updated the facilities in Jacksonville. This is a good first step and he will keep the TF posted as events transpire.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** discussed a program called Public Schools on Military Installations which just released a new list of schools across the country ranked from 1 to 160 that are looking to fund from a DoD program run by OEA. Four schools from Florida are included on this list: MacDill AFB, Eglin AFB, NAS Key West and Tyndall AFB.

Florida Rock is now the Wing Commander's number one issue for resolution. He would like to solve this issue on his watch and not pass it down to his next successors.

He reminded the TF that C-37s or G-5s have left MacDill AFB and are back at Andrews AFB, but this winter MacDill will have the Army Reserve Helicopters and their unit moving into the base.

**Lieutenant Colonel Bill Dudley** reported that on September 21<sup>st</sup> will be the Second Annual Gathering of the Pines at Cecil Field. This is an event to support our Cecil POW/MIA Memorial and Museum. The program will be from 10 AM to 3 PM and is open to the public.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> after ten years they will have the groundbreaking for the Community Base Outpatient Clinic in St. Augustine. This clinic will provide a permanent home for veterans in this area for healthcare needs. The facility should be completed in the fall of 2020.

**MG James Eifert**, in his first meeting after receiving appointment to the TF by Governor Ron DeSantis as his designated representative, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve in the organization and looked forward to working with TF members.

He reported on current mobilization and training activities that include: 788 Soldiers and Airman who are mobilized throughout all six Combatant Command Theaters of Operation supporting a multitude of operational activities as directed by the National Defense Strategy, and over 3,000 Soldiers who are at Camp Shelby, Mississippi participating in a three-week "Exportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC)" exercise designed to certify platoon-level proficiencies for our 53<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He highlighted that 11 Airmen from our 114<sup>th</sup> Space Control Squadron recently returned home from a historical and successful Central Command Area of Operations deployment and that 34 Soldiers from our 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 20<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group recently deployed to the European and Africa Commands Theaters of Operation.

He attended a meeting with U.S. Air Force, Air Combat Command, concerning replacement/upgrade of the aging F-15 inventory. Current plan is to "Sunset" current inventory within the next five to ten years, replacing it with hopefully the F-35 or possibly the F-15EX.

He will meet with the Governor's Office of Personnel and Budget to discuss Fiscal Year 20-21 state budget initiatives, emphasizing renovation and modernization of our 60-plus Armories and Readiness Centers throughout the state, many of having an average age of over 50-years.

At the end of the meeting he added that the FLNG is looking forward to hosting the TF at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported from USSPACECOM, the Spacecom Mission to Florida discussion continues. NCS/Team Orlando capabilities brief provided to Space Florida for support. This was a major discussion point during the Florida Chamber Summit and NCS President and CEO George Cheros met with Frank DiBello (President and CEO Space Florida), Jim Kuzma (COO Space Florida) and Capt. (Ret) USN Bill "Roto" Reuter to offer the full support of the National Center for Simulation and Metro Orlando Defense Task Force.

Lockheed Martin held a successful Flag Raising Ceremony on July 30th for its new Fleet Ballistic Missile Programs Headquarters in Titusville. The Headquarters move from Sunnyvale, California and results in an increase of 300 high tech jobs and supports the opportunity for additional business expansion in the future.

The Florida Defense Contractors Association Board will host a Congressional Roundtable discussion with Rep. Stephanie Murphy in Orlando on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The National Center for Simulation (NCS) inducted three prestigious individuals into the NCS Modeling and Simulation Hall of Fame with an inspiring ceremony at the Orange County Convention Center. The inductees are University of Central Florida's Dr. Peter Adrian Hancock, researcher and professor; Dr. Randall Paul Shumaker, director of the UCF School of Modeling, Simulation and Training and the Institute for Simulation and Training; and Michael Alan Tschanz, Walt Disney World's Director of Technology and Analysis.

Orlando Sanford International Airport will host the first ever Central Florida Air & Space Show in November 2020, with Lockheed Martin serving as the Title Sponsor.

**Representative Holly Raschein** discussed that Key West is excited as they recently received news that the Joint Inter-Agency Task Force South is going to be staying at NAS Key West.

**Major General Richard Haddad** reported that in light of recent questionable USSOCOM Operations, the USSOCOM Commander has asked for an ethics review.

**Air Force Times** recently recognized their Airman of the Year in a ceremony in DC and Tech Sergeant Cody Smith from the 26th Special Tactics Squadron was selected as their choice for Airman of the Year. Sergeant Smith is a combat controller who was recognized for his bravery during a fierce battle with Taliban forces in Afghanistan in 2018 where he played a critical role in fighting off a massive enemy force after being wounded and repeatedly struck by enemy fire. You can read Sergeant Smith's story and see a short video clip in **Air Force Times**.

At the Avon Park Air Force Range, most of the training scheduled for August and September is for their typical users: the Makos from Homestead ARB; the 75 Fighter Squadron and 41st Rescue Squadron from Moody AFB; and the 301st Rescue Squadron from Patrick AFB.

The Range is currently hosting HMLA-167, a Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron out of Marine Corps Air Station in New River, NC. They brought 4 – AH-1W, and 3 UH-1Y helos for a two-week training deployment.

Additionally, the Range has several runway repair projects underway which have the runway closed unit at least summer of next year. They are working with MacDill AFB to host several Moody A-10 FARP exercises at various dates in September and November. They greatly appreciate MacDill AFB's willingness to look at these training request while their runway is down.

Lastly, toward the end of September, the Range is scheduled to host another Navy C2 Exercise with F-18s coming off a carrier in the Atlantic.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that on September 5<sup>th</sup> Representative Matt Gaetz will be meeting with the AFSOC Commander and the 96<sup>th</sup> Test Wing Commander. Representative Gaetz has asked some of his local military advisory team to accompany him so Colonel Heald will be joining him to meet with Brigadier General Cain to discuss issues.

Eglin AFB is concerned about increasing MILCON costs due to Hurricane Michael as several have been impacted by those increasing costs. They are working out how to fit all their projects into the available funding or if they need to request additional funding to make sure that projects are completed.

The Weapons Evaluation Group flies E-9s which are at the last leg of their service ability as it's difficult to acquire spare parts to keep them flying. The current proposed plan has not yet been approved but they plan to piggy-back on the Navy's design work with Gulfstream 550s and order more of those to be used as data relay aircraft.

On July 30<sup>th</sup> they had a meeting at Eglin AFB with the OSD REPI office, AFCEC and some of their partners on the Sentinel Landscape proposal application. The pre-proposal request will be submitted in November for final review and selection should be early summer of 2020. They've partnered with Defenders of Wildlife and have

created a plan to discuss these issues with other partners such as DEO, Conservation Florida, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Fish & Wildlife, the USDA, etc. This designation placed lands higher on the priority list to receive REPI and state funding. He asks that the TF support this effort and hopes to engage with the Governor and his staff to ask for his support, as well.

Part of the Florida Greenway, the way that you protect the ingress and egress routes into the land ranges, there lies a property to the east called the Knight Properties. They are in the process of acquiring some easements on it to prevent non-compatible development in that area. It has been put forward as a 2019 REPI challenge and was selected to move forward with formal proposal but did not get selected in the final rounds. It has been recommended by REPI to re-input that request for 2020 and submit to Florida Forever and the Florida Acquisition and Restoration Council in order to place an easement on the Knight Properties.

**CAPT Keith Hoskins** reported on the West Florida Defense Alliance, an organization which is community led that will enhance, support, preserve and protect the missions at NAS Pensacola and support NAS Whiting Field in Santa Rosa County. Over the last few years they have been working with Matrix Design Group and have created strategies, working groups and a way ahead to be engaged with the military to support their efforts and be plugged in with these groups moving forward.

The four main areas they are looking at are:

Workforce – how to better understand military spouse and veteran employment services and connect the region’s military spouses and veterans with employment opportunities.

Public/Public and Public/Private Partnerships – how to improve military connected emergency management and pre-hurricane season resiliency; how to implement and understand best practices following Hurricane Michael; and develop agreements with key organizations to codify partnerships.

Technology – how to understand the region’s technological landscape; identify information technology gaps and shortfalls within the region; and act as a liaison with the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies.

Military Family Readiness – how do we address local K-12 educational needs for military connected families; how can they partner locally to enhance educational opportunities to ensure that military families moving to the area are viable for future growth and development; and work with state and local government to ensure reciprocity of licenses for healthcare providers.

The working groups are now in the process of requesting private funding.

**Representative Mel Ponder** reported that thanks to a Defense Reinvestment Grant (DRG), site engineering work has begun on the Futures Park Initiative outside of Eglin AFB as this will help alleviate some of Eglin’s space deficiency challenge. The Futures Park is a research and development campus designed to serve the military mission and defense industry. It will be an over 200,000 square foot multi-level facility to help in areas of innovation, job creation and enhancement, diverse technology and business, support the mission growth of Eglin AFB, accelerate the regional economy and workforce development, also attract high-value talent and will house the computer which will connect into their university and college systems to facilitate academic programs. It will house Northwest Florida State College’s STEM facility and up to 5,000 students and will involve multiple partnerships across industry, government and academics.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** briefly discussed the July TF meeting held in Milton/NAS Whiting Field and Commissioner Don Salter’s presentation on encroachment and how to properly protect bases. He thanked the TF members who participated in the Florida Chambers Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit this past week and noted the importance of the TF supporting these events.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg** discussed the recent Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit from the last two days and she believes more people now understand the Florida military complex. She thinks it opened the attendee’s eyes in understanding how all of Florida’s installations are connected and tied to the Gulf and

Atlantic ranges, the land/air/surface ranges and now space. She plans on working with the Florida Chamber to publicize the FDA and TF meeting dates for those who'd like to become more involved.

FDA is working on creating a Facebook page to have a consistent medium to tell our story. She is also working with **Bruce Grant** to make it an engaging page.

The Family Support Working Group held their conference call on July 25<sup>th</sup> and was focused on issues such as spousal employment, childcare and K-12 education. At the November meeting they will have a more enhanced pre-session for the Family Support Working Group to bring together groups from across the state as we need to work together to address these issues.

#### *Strategic Plan Update*

**Ray Collins** discussed that he and **Bruce Grant** have been working to update the Strategic Plan and have implemented some recommended changes from the state and from some bases where we've noticed that things have changed (particularly Tyndall AFB) and have included anything in relation to Space Command or Space Force.

Each TF member please review and send him any changes/additions/deletions and please coordinate with representatives from your local defense alliances to submit to Staff by August 30<sup>th</sup>. Staff will send out a final copy to TF members to vote on at the September meeting.

#### *Advocacy Way Ahead*

**Bruce Grant** reported that Staff has discussed with each TF member individually and all are aware that we are not moving forward with an advocacy contract. Without advocates on contract, the TF needs to decide how they should move forward with advocacy. Staff is working on some options and which will be presented at the September meeting for discussion during the Closed Session.

He asked the TF to please send Staff any input as to what they see as the best path forward in order to receive accurate intelligence, updates and understand what decision makers are doing in the Pentagon to be prepared and anticipate issues, as in the past.

#### *PFOAs/PFOSs*

**Bruce Grant** briefly discussed the information from Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and from the Florida State Department of Environment Protection on the issue of PFOAs and PFOSs. Staff is planning to have a representative from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to speak at the September TF meeting. These chemicals are present in firefighting foam used at military bases for aviation. Civilians also use this foam at the firefighting college in Ocala, which is ground zero for these chemicals that seep through the ground and into the water. At the national level, the EPA has not yet decided at what level these chemicals are dangerous, so each state is dealing with this issue individually.

#### *2020 Legislative Preview*

**Bruce Grant** reported that based on the suggestions made at the Strategic Planning Workshop a year ago Staff is working with **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** and **Representative Mel Ponder** on legislation that will consolidate military and defense activities and grant programs and renaming the FDSTF to the Florida Defense Commission. Staff will be working with other agencies involved prior to filing this legislation and once it's been approved Staff will present for filing.

Last year's SB620 sponsored by Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson was a wonderful piece of legislation that passed but Jacksonville is still having some issues pertaining to school children and school registration, so some language in that bill may need to be amended.

In regard to the Military Base Protection Program, state statute protects Florida's military bases from incompatible development, but not all bases are listed. Last year USSOUTHCOM and NSA Orlando were

added and once reviewed further it was discovered that it would be advantageous to add the airfields run by the National Guard as well as the Coast Guard installations from around the state. Staff is working on this and will have it ready to discuss at the September meeting.

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** added:

- September 4<sup>th</sup> Senator Rick Scott will be hosting a meeting with Base Commanders asking them for their challenges and accomplishments at Tyndall AFB.
- Thank you to Navy Federal Credit Union for sponsoring the Coffee Stations at the TF meetings, once again, in FY 2019-2020.
- The 2019 Military Friendly Guide has been completed and is currently available on the TF and FDA websites. It is currently at the printer and should be ready and sent out in the next few weeks.
- The TF has completed its work on the grants and have submitted a press release to the Governor's office to be released in the next few weeks.
- At the last Base Commanders Meeting **MG James Eifert** initiated an Action Item Tracker program to track all the state agencies who are responsible for following up on issues with the Governor and **MG James Eifert** the next Base Commanders Meeting. This tracker includes two or three items for the TF that Staff is working on now. Staff will send out this Tracking List with the next Update for review.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

No public comments were made.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:22 AM EDT*



# Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

## Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #77 on Thursday, September 19, 2019

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hampton Inn & Suites Jacksonville-Orange Park at 09:00 AM EDT – 12:05 PM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

### Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
RADM Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)  
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.

### Task Force Members on the Phone:

Representative Holly Raschein

### Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Doug Broxson, Chairman  
CAPT Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)  
Representative Mel Ponder

### Speakers Present:

Katherine Anne Russo, Florida Washington Office (Phone)  
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance  
Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville  
Van Ayres, Hillsborough County Public Schools  
Shannon Lesperance, Hillsborough County Public Schools  
Kim Sukach, Hillsborough County Public Schools  
John Truitt, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

### Others Present:

Tim Jones, FDA/TBDA  
Roger Williams, Florida National Guard  
CAPT Justin Phillips, Florida National Guard  
LTC Jason Hunt, Florida National Guard  
Jessie Pacetti, Florida National Guard  
Liz Miller, DEO  
Matt Schellhorn, NAS Jacksonville  
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast  
Steve Kaufman, Jax Chamber Military Issues Committee  
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber  
Deborah Keller, The Nature Conservancy  
Jim Breitenfeld, Florida Defense Alliance (Phone)  
Kay Rasmussen, EDC Okaloosa County/Defense Support Initiatives (Phone)  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (Phone)  
Sheri Kotzum, Office of Representative Mel Ponder (Phone)  
Craig Deatherage, Office of Congressman Neal Dunn (Phone)

### Staff Present:



Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Ray Collins, Deputy Executive Director, FDSTF  
Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager FDSTF (Phone)  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #77**  
**Hampton Inn & Suites Jacksonville-Orange Park, 141 Park Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32570**  
**AGENDA for September 19, 2019 (As of: Sept 10, 2019)**

<b>CALL-IN NUMBER:</b>	<b>888.585.9008</b>
<b>CONFERENCE ROOM:</b>	<b>262-492-927</b>

<b>KEY:</b>
<i>(I) = Information</i>
<i>(D) = Discussion</i>
<i>(A) = Action</i>

- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0930 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of August Meeting Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
  - 2019-2020 Budget/Expenditures Adjustment Marcy Sanders **(A) / (I)**
- 0930 – 1130 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Teri Wanamaker **(I)**
  - USN Programs Supporting Military Families Van Ayres **(I)**
  - USAF Programs Supporting Military Families John Truitt **(I)**
  - DEP PFOA / PFOS Primer Briefing Ray Collins **(I)**
  - Presentation of 2019 Military Friendly Guide Bruce Grant **(I) / (D)**
  - 2020 Legislative Slate Bruce Grant **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1130 – 1145 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 1200 – 1315 CLOSED SESSION / Working Lunch..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates: October 17, 2019 Conf Call/Webex  
 November 21, 2019 Tampa, FL December 2019 **NO MEETING**

January 16, 2020 Tallahassee (*session*) February 20, 2020 Conf Call/Webex  
 March 26, 2020 Jax / Blount Island April 16, 2020 Conf Call/Webex  
 May 21, 2020 Tallahassee June 2020 **NO MEETING**

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer welcomed** attendees and guests. He welcomed new TF member RADM Stan Bozin to his first in-person meeting. He asked the TF members and guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves, then thanked **MG Jim Eifert, LTC Jason Hunt** and **Roger Williams** of the Florida National Guard, for hosting the TF for the tour of Camp Blanding the day prior. He asked **LTC Jason Hunt** to lead the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the TF the meeting is governed by Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer asked if any corrections are needed for the August 15, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion to accept these minutes was made by Ms. Amy Gowder, seconded by Major General Richard Haddad, all are in favor and the August 15, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported that DTF Grant #14-05, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County, has their contract amendment pending execution and the new term is December 31, 2019.

DTF Grant #16-154, Greater Pensacola Chamber, has completed this project as of June 30, 2019 and \$197,264.99 has been reverted to the TF.

Contracts have been executed for all grants except for the EDC Space Coast as they are working with Space Florida to ensure the best utilization of their grant award.

The TF received six (6) grant applications for the 2020-2021 grant cycle for a total amount of \$1,741,780.00. In March 2020 the TF will decide which applicants they would like to present at the May 2020 meeting.

*2019-2020 Budget/Expenditures Adjustment*

**Bruce Grant** discussed the spending options for the \$850,000 program expenses unencumbered this FY, due to the lack of an advocacy contract. These funds need to be encumbered by June 30, 2020. He offered four (4) proposals for the TF to consider utilizing that funding. These proposals include possible funding for the Florida Defense Alliance, marketing for protection of the Gulf Range, out-of-cycle grants, a local base promotion grant program or grants to assist Tyndall AFB with them rebuild.

**Colonel Jim Heald** asked Bruce Grant how the number of \$100,00 was decided for the Gulf Range Protection. **Bruce Grant** replied that amount is only a guesstimate. **Colonel Jim Heald** then asked if the TF will have an opportunity in the future to move these funds around to address future grant applicants? **Bruce Grant** replied that yes, program expenses can be moved around.

These funds must be encumbered by June 30, 2020 so the TF can discuss and vote on the allotment in open session.

**Representative Thad Altman** asked if they could request matching funds to assist with the local base promotion programs or Tyndall AFB rebuild? **Bruce Grant** replied that yes, the TF could request matching funds and that the Staff is prepared to execute any details decided on by the TF.

**Representative Thad Altman** then asked about possibly adding financial support on the Space Command issue. **Bruce Grant** replied that Space Florida is currently leading that effort, but the TF can discuss to see if they would consider funding.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** noted that since advocacy is still important to gain new missions, the TF establish requirements for local grant promotions to fund communities who develop a plan for grass-roots advocacy. She added that Tyndall AFB should be a top priority and funding should be provided to them as well.

**Major General Richard Haddad** asked if there is funding for TF members to provide advocacy in Washington, DC? **Bruce Grant** replied that it could be included as part of the local defense alliance, but the TF does have administrative funding for members to travel to meetings, conferences and can also be used for individual members to advocate in Washington, DC. **Major General Richard Haddad** suggested that the TF travel to Washington, DC as a group to mirror past actions of The Principi Group.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** suggested that the TF make a list of top priorities to consider funding and focus the additional funds on those particular issues.

**Representative Thad Altman** asked if the TF plans on seeking the same amount or asking for more funding during the 2021 Legislative Session? **Bruce Grant** replied that Staff has set up the TF grant cycle to accommodate the session, so if the TF receives an excess of \$3 million in grant applications and they consider those to be valid and important, Staff can meet with the TF's Legislative members to ask for funding over the \$2 million base budget.

No vote is needed today as Staff will place on the agenda for the October meeting with the additions suggested by TF members. The TF can vote at the October meeting, in open session.

**Colonel Jim Heald** discussed that the options be as flexible as possible while also aligning with the priorities stated in the Strategic Plan, the rebuild of Tyndall AFB, the outreach in Washington, DC and the local defense communities.

**Major General Jim Eifert** suggested that the TF apply those funds to align with the priorities stated in the updated Strategic Plan.

### III. Agenda Item III: New Business

#### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Representative Holly Raschein** reported that the Homestead Air Reserve Base currently has citizens, airmen, civilians and contractors supporting US Northern Command, federal agencies and other non-governmental organizations providing assistance to relief efforts in the Bahamas due to the damage caused by Hurricane Dorian.

**Lieutenant Colonel Bill Dudley** reported that last month he discussed the ground-breaking ceremony to be held in St. Augustine for their Veterans Community-Based Outreach Clinic. They have invited Governor DeSantis, Senator Rubio, Senator Scott, Congressman Rutherford and Congressman Waltz and have had confirmation that all will attend this ceremony on October 3, 2019.

**Brigadier General Chip Diehl** thanked the Florida National Guard for the tour of Camp Blanding the day prior. He also thanked DEO who continues to support and assist the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance, allowing them to strengthen their organization and to Tim Jones, President of the TBDA, for his leadership. Great events upcoming during the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> are the Medal of Honor National Convention and the Airlift Tanker Association Convention in Orlando during which the Tampa Bay Trophy is awarded to a long-standing emeritus-type civilian community leader from around the country.

**Major General Richard Haddad** reported that SOCOM continues with its comprehensive review on the culture in ethics. The Secretary of Defense is running a defense-wide review with DoD calling it Night Court. SOCOM will be in court on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The Secretary of Defense is looking at program-wide spending and SOCOM could receive deeper cuts in the future.

From AFSOC, Lieutenant General Slife recently met with Congressman Gaetz and his staffers on September 5th. Lieutenant General Slife presented the Silver Star Medal to Staff Sergeant Peter Dinich, a para-rescue man with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Squadron on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Lt. General Slife recently attended AFA with his Command Chief and helped present the 2019 Stewart Reichert Award to recognize the most outstanding achievement in the field of law to Rebecca Vernon. He also presented the 2019 Varn Orr Award to the 1st Special Operations Group for the most outstanding utilization of human resources.

Lt. General Slife discussed the future of AFSOC and his vision moving forward as adaptive basing and expeditionary warfare are the core of the 2018 National Defense Strategy and he envisions more flexible, responsive operations in areas without a built-up military presence. AFSOC aims to build force wide expeditionary warfare skills and Lt. General Slife says that his niche organization will get closer to other parts of the service so the Air Force can wage war from austere locations across the globe; a traditionally special operations skill that the Pentagon wants to adopt more broadly. AFSOC is looking to help the rest of the Air Force learn some of the things that AFSOC has learned over the years.

**Major General Jim Eifert** began his remarks sharing his regret for not attending the Camp Blanding tour on Wednesday afternoon due to his responsibility to brief their Department of Military Affairs state legislative budget request to the sub-committee for appropriations. He stated the day was productive in that he was able to discuss in detail their state budget requirements with several state legislators, emphasizing their most challenging issue of facility maintenance and renovation for their 63 aging facilities (averaging 50 plus years) to ensure they provide adequate work environments for their Servicemembers and civilian employees.

He announced Florida Air National Guard senior leadership changes, which include:

- Brigadier General Brian Simpler transitioning from Assistant Adjutant General-Air and Commander of the Florida Air National Guard at Saint Augustine, to Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander of First Air Force at Tyndall Air Force Base, with promotion to Major General.
- Colonel Michael Valle transitioning from Commander 601<sup>st</sup> Air Operations Center at Tyndall Air Force Base, to Assistant Adjutant General-Air and Commander Florida Air National Guard at Saint Augustine, with promotion to Brigadier General. He also mentioned that Colonel Valle recently returned from the Bahamas where he supported establishing a Joint Air Component Coordination Element to facilitate relief efforts in that region.

He reported that the Florida National Guard's 53<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team participated in the eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC) exercise at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The exercise involved more than 3,500 Soldiers who participated throughout the entire month of August. XCTC along with next year's Joint Readiness Training Center rotation serve to validate organizational readiness for overseas deployment.

He reported that the Florida National Guard activated more than 4,500 Servicemembers in support of potential Hurricane Dorian response and recovery activities, as required. With the storm presenting negligible impact to the state, minimal operational support was required from the Florida National Guard.

He announced that the Florida National Guard had close to 800 Soldiers and Airmen deployed throughout the globe supporting each of the Combatant Command regions, with the majority located in CENTCOM and EUCOM. He advised that following the FDSTF meeting he would be welcoming home approximately two-dozen Special Forces operators from a four-month deployment to SOUTHCOM where they were working to develop partner nation capabilities.

As information, he advised that the Florida National Guard was in discussion with Miami-Dade County and Homestead Air Reserve Base concerning potential land acquisition and development of approximately 50-acres. The additional acreage would allow the Florida National Guard to expand our current footprint on the installation to meet existing requirements and optimize the potential for organizational growth in the South Florida region.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Major General Eifert presented **Bruce Grant** with a framed Saint Francis Barracks Print, in recognition for his many years of outstanding service to the State of Florida and support for the Florida National Guard.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported that at the end of August it was announced that the Army's Persistent Cyber Training Environment's home will be in Central Florida. Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy attended the dedication at the Partnership 5 building. It was also announced that the Army Futures Command for the Synthetic Training Environment is also located in Central Florida. They held their Activation of Charter Ceremony and installed Lt. Colonel Charles C. Berry as the product manager.

The Navy has announced the creation of NavalX or the Naval Expeditional Agility Office to seek better processes, sharing of information, improving innovation and has identified Orlando as one of their five (5) tech bridge locations.

Next week the National Center for Simulation is holding their Fifth Annual Simulation Summit cohosted with the Mayor of Orange County. The theme this year is XReality with an emphasis on virtual and augmented reality technologies and how that is creating a multi-billion industry.

The Metro Orlando Defense Force and local industry continues to support Space Florida with white papers and advocacy in modeling and simulation for the future new Space Command.

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that the Space Coast dodged a bullet with Hurricane Dorian as the length of the storm caused the Space Center to shut down for several days. Florida needs to think about worst case scenarios in terms of disaster preparedness and helping partners in the military be prepared to weather large storms.

They are still dealing with issues concerning the 405 bridge and the bridge that leads through the port to the 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing from the south. The 405 bridge received an infrastructure grant of \$90 million, but Space Florida is working now to find the \$22 million match required by the Federal government.

A bill he's working on for this upcoming Legislative Session starting in January has a significant impact on the space operations is both military and civilian access to port dockage. He is working with port to assure the launch providers that they will have a port to return their boosters after they launch.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that Eglin AFB's Annual POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony is happening now at the Air Armament Museum.

The Sentinel Landscape preliminary proposal is on track to be submitted in November. Eglin is working with REPI Challenge at the federal level and the Florida Restoration Council at the state level on the Knight property (easement) acquisition to protect development from adversely impacting low level Military Training Routes and military airspace. It would also protect the approaches to the Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport. There are also multiple environmental reasons to protect that land from development.

Hurricane Michael impacted some capabilities at Eglin AFB as Test Sight D3 located at Cape San Blas has buildings with leaky roofs and the Frequency Control and Analysis building also took a major hit. These capabilities are up and running with temporary patches but will need to be permanently fixed in the near future.

Congressman Gaetz recently met with AFSOC leadership in the morning of September 5th and the 96<sup>th</sup> Test Wing Commander, Brigadier General Scott Cain (call sign Nova) in the afternoon. The TW Commander talked about his priorities including his concerns regarding the infrastructure at Eglin AFB and the need to upgrade the "bones of the base" as much of the infrastructure is from the WWII/ 1950s time period. His second priority is improving hiring authorities. Due in large part to the low unemployment rate across the country, it is difficult to bring in the talent needed at Eglin AFB in a timely manner. The transportation issue he is focused on is the bypass around Crestview to help ease congestion on the north/south route through the range to get the troops in and out of Eglin AFB easier. The project has received funding from DOT, Okaloosa County and the City of Crestview. They also received a \$64 million grant from Triumph Gulf Coast.



An update on the Eglin Test and Training Range: The original \$235,000 grant given by the TF has grown with the addition of Federal funds to over \$100 million but will need another \$200 million to complete. They have expanded and rebranded the project as the EGTRR Max which includes all of the Gulf Range Enhancement, added electronic warfare assets into the Gulf area to make the range a fifth and sixth generation test and training environment for contested airspace, added scoring for hypersonic activities, and added surveillance recapitalization. The E-9 surveillance and data relay aircraft currently are old and difficult to maintain so they are looking to replace them with Gulfstream 550s and are working with Air Combat Command and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Wing on how to make that happen.

Colonel Haase, Director of the Air Force Research Laboratory Weapons Directorate (AFRL/RW), discussed the WTIC and the cost growth due to events like Hurricane Michael which has brought the cost of that facility to \$403 million in MILCON. Touting the effort as a “repair by replacement” in addition to adding new capabilities, AFRL/RW can replace 80% of their current facilities which are in very poor shape.

In the next five to ten years most of the legacy fourth generation airplanes will be going out of Air Force inventory and currently these are the only test planes at Eglin AFB. There’s been an effort for years to bring the F-35 in to do developmental and operational tests on advanced weapon systems. An agreement was in place between Air Force Material Command and the Air Combat Command to bring in nine (9) airplanes: four (4) for developmental testing and five (5) for operational testing. Recently, Air Combat Command made a decision to consolidate all of their test planes out at Nellis AFB, so Eglin will not be receiving any operational test F-35s. This severely restricts the ability to test new fifth and sixth generation weapons systems on those fifth-generation aircraft. This needs to be closely watched as test airplanes are needed at Eglin or those missions will dramatically change. The four (4) F-35 developmental test planes are scheduled to arrive at Eglin in 2024.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Power Up Energy Expo will be held in Panama City Beach on November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The theme is Resilient Bases and Smart Communities.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked if Nellis AFB will plus up their OT or will they leave it as is?

**Colonel Jim Heald** replied that they are swapping out newer versions of the F-35s with their older ones, which will most likely be put into an aggressor squadron. The previous F-15 aggressor squadron was decommissioned and will be re-established with the older F-35s.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked about funding for the GRE.

**Colonel Jim Heald** replied that they received \$30 million in 2018 and close to \$34 million in 2019. The conference committee is scheduled to meet Thursday at which time they’ll find out the increment for 2020.

They are currently running in-ground fiber to Anclote Point and completed all of the environmental impact studies to be able to complete that section and are working heavily on placing the ground infrastructure in place. They’ve already purchased a portion of the instrumentation. At this point, the Carrabelle site is in question as there was some local community push-back on placing instrumentation site at that location.

**Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** reported that many were on call for the duration of Hurricane Dorian and reported that county, city, state and federal governments worked well together to prepare for the storm. At NAS Jacksonville, the VUP19, the Trident Command Center, is now on operation. By 2024 NS Mayport will have acquired 14 freedom class LCS, adding 2,000 people to the area and are building over 350 square feet of new construction. The Tridents will be home ported at NS Mayport with the IOC about 22 which will add 220 people. They recently closed the DIG grant for the easement at the Morningstar Marina and helps to bring in more Navy opportunities to NS Mayport. With the arrival of new people, the Navy’s looking hard at PPV and ensuring better customer service.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported that Tyndall AFB held their third industry day last week and was attended by about 400 people. The Air Force sent their best engineers, subject matter experts and planners to get the rebuild on track. This is a \$4.25 billion project and they’ve spent about \$700 million to date. They’re authorized to start spending MILCON after the EIS have been completed for the MQ-9 and the F-35s. MILCON can be spent to replace facilities for existing missions. The biggest challenge is finding a place for 3,000 workers and how to try and keep them on base.



December 10<sup>th</sup> will be the first scoping session for the EIS kickoff, and they anticipate the completion of both EISs by December of 2020.

NSA Panama City is looking to expand its missions and an important issue is the ability to accommodate larger ships. The TF grant from few years ago funded a study for dredging the turn basin and that information has been useful for possible expansion.

At Bay County's upcoming First Friday they will focus on spousal employment. Many will attend as a job fair will follow.

#### *Washington Office Update*

**Katherine Anne Russo** reported that on Tuesday the House voted to start the conference process. The House also voted against a Republican motion to instruct negotiators to support back billing that \$3.6 billion in MILCON funds. On Tuesday the House leaders also named their conferees but did not include any Florida members from the House. As of last night, Senator Scott's office was not included on the Senate conferee list.

The conference process is to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill. Earlier this week Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman James Inhofe said he is confident the committee leaders will produce a conference report by October.

Government funding expires on October 1<sup>st</sup>, which leaves Congress with less than two weeks to avoid a second shutdown. Yesterday the Senate voted against the motion to proceed to support Senate Appropriations Committee funding bills which would have included the Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee funding bill. That bill would have included \$693 billion in defense spending for FY 2020. The conflict stems from the \$3.6 billion for the 127 MILCON programs. This could indicate another border wall shutdown later this year. The House convenes today to consider a soft-gap funding measure, bill is HR4378. This bill would extend current funding levels until November 21<sup>st</sup> which would give lawmakers an additional seven weeks to pass the appropriations bill. At this point the bill is anticipated to pass in both the House and Senate and be signed by the President to avoid another shutdown.

Last week Congressman Rooney's offshore drilling bill (HR205) moved through the House. This bill places a permanent moratorium on drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, east of the MML. They are in close contact with the Senate and House on this issue but remain focused on the action of the Senate as this issue is a top priority for the TF and to those in Washington, DC. They spoke to Senator Rubio this morning and they are realistically facing obstacles but continue to push everywhere possible. DEP Secretary Valenstein was in Washington, DC last week to discuss this issue with members of the delegation.

Wednesday, the Senate Armed Services Committee agreed by voice vote to report favorably for the nominations of Barbara Barrett for Secretary of the Air Force and Ryan McCarthy for Secretary of the Army. They will likely be confirmed by the Senate.

They continue to work closely with Space Florida on Space Command. Space Florida is planning additional stakeholder meetings throughout the state. More details to follow.

Major General Richard Haddad asked about the obstacles the oil drilling moratorium bill faces in the Senate?

Katherine Anne Russo replied that right now, most bills that pass in the House are stalling in the Senate. This issue is very complicated as the White House released a statement against it. This is an added pressure in the opposite direction, but they continue to work with Senator Rubio and Senator Scott's office, who are very tuned in to this issue and they continue to talk to the entire delegation.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair**, discussed that the FDA held a conference call last week with a presentation from Space Florida. The FDA is working with them in supporting and coordinating the round table discussions to be held around the state to help them learn more about the missions and assets in the state that will help support the growing space program.

The team at Eglin AFB will be hosting a partner meeting at the Public Land Acquisition Management Conference on September 30th in St. Augustine. This is a great opportunity to engage all of the state agencies in this process and leverage all of the environmental funds from the Department of the Interior, Florida Fish & Wildlife and DoD for projects to assist with encroachment issues around our bases.

In August the FDA participated in a panel on Florida's Military Complex at the Florida Chamber Foundation's Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunities Summit. This panel was the first time many people saw the graphs on the Gulf Range and how all of our installations are interconnected by land, sea, subsurface, air, space and virtual. Many asked what are we doing to protect the Gulf? Many did not know that the FDA has been working for years on this issue and asked how they can be involved. The passing in the House of Congressman Rooney's bill HR205 is good news, but we know that it probably won't pass the Senate. Senator Rubio has submitted a bill to extend the ban on drilling by ten (10) years. A permanent ban will not happen before 2022 and a ten (10) year extension is a win. How can we support Senator Rubio on that win if it passes in the Senate? Can it pass the House?

The American Petroleum Institute and Florida Petroleum Council wants the ban to expire. Once it expires in June 2022, the first lease will be sold and drilling will commence in the Gulf.

Through the Sentinel Landscape planning, Kent Wimmer from Defenders of Wildlife, has brought Oceana to the table. Kay Rasmussen and Debi Graham have been working with them and they've developed an informational sheet that's informative and easy to follow. Oceana will be attending the FDA meeting in November in Tampa to share what they're doing and to discuss how grow that partnership.

The FDA is creating a Facebook and LinkedIn page. They are working with communities to come up with 10-15 points of "Did You Know?", format them consistently and back-fill them with state points, current news and activities as needed. These are being created to publicize a consistent message more frequently and to a larger audience.

FDA will be walking the halls in Tallahassee this fall during committee weeks. This needs to be done more often for our elected officials to help them understand why they're asking for funding, how they leverage those state dollars with local and federal dollars and what that return on investment looks like. Also, they want to help them understand Florida's role as a state in the National Defense Strategy.

The importance of the advocacy plan is vital in moving forward. Right now, as a state, Florida doesn't have a presence in the Pentagon. Florida needs to send a consistent message and have the ability to act at a moment's notice to address upcoming challenges and opportunities.

### *USN Programs Supporting Military Families*

**Teri Wanamaker, School Liaison Officer (SLO) at NAS Jacksonville**, presented on her role as a U.S. Navy School Liaison Officer in Northeast Florida. She discussed the military presence in her area which includes NS Mayport, NAS Jacksonville, USMC Blount Island, 125<sup>th</sup> Florida Air National Guard and the US Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville, to name a few. In Clay and Duval counties there are 12,482 (as of 2011 census data) military children/students.

In the U.S., there are 1.9 million military connected children of which 1.2 million are school age and thus the need for School Liaison Officers, a role created in 2007. A SLO is the communications and support link between the base commander, military families and the local education agency. They deal with educational transition issues such as state-to-state inconsistencies, school calendars, graduation requirements, transfer of records and credit transfers, etc. SLO responses to these issues include youth sponsorship programs (buddy and mentor programs), Anchored 4 Life, student-to-student training for peers to help military children transition into new schools, transition centers and Military Family Life Counselors.

Deployment and transition support includes ensuring local school districts are prepared to support Navy families during deployments; connecting installation deployment support to schools; developing school-based deployment support programs; and connecting transitioning your to youth sponsorship programs within schools and youth activity centers.

Special needs navigation recognizes and supports parents as the primary advocate for military children with special needs. They are knowledgeable of special education regulations (state and federal) and the rights and responsibilities. They make referrals to support and service providers and provide procedural information about special education as within the local education agency.

Postsecondary education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is no longer a choice between work-readiness and college-readiness as students must be ready for life beyond high school and ready for jobs that don't even exist today. They must be ready to be flexible to respond to changing knowledge and skill requirements of existing jobs.

#### *USAF Programs Supporting Military Families*

**Van Ayres, Shannon Lesperance and Kim Sukach, Hillsborough County Schools**, presented on the partnership between Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) and MacDill AFB. Hillsborough County is home to 229,899 public school students to which is the third largest school district in the state. Approximately 4,500 of those students are dependents of active duty servicemembers.

The core of their partnership with MacDill AFB is the MacDill Council for Educational Excellence (MCEE) created to enhance the educational experience of military-connected students enrolled in HCPS. Meetings are held four times per year and are chaired by the Vice-Wing Commander from MacDill AFB. The Vice Chair is the Deputy Superintendent of HCPS.

Education strategy key points for the MCEE are to establish collaborative efforts between base officials and the HCPS Superintendent. It creates opportunities for excellence in military students' education and establishes a partnership between base and local school officials which will determine the success of desired outcome. It assists parents in navigating through their school system and enables both on and off base partners to work in unison to support military families.

The MCEE assists families with school choice and enrollment. Families who transition during the school year can apply for Magnet and school choice upon arrival. They've created an online application system which allows active-duty transitioning families to apply without a local address. They have access to Florida physical and immunization forms. It allows 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students of transitioning active-duty service members to apply for International Baccalaureate and allows families to start the year at attendance area schools during the home-buying or rental process. To assist students with graduation, the MCEE assists with weighted grade point averages. They assist in the training of High School counselors on Military Children's Compact (MIC3).

HCPS works with the MCEE on Exceptional Student Education (ESE) as it established a point of contact in the Exceptional Office for military families. It allows families to send Individual Education Plans (IEPs) prior to arrival for review. There is collaboration between SLO, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and the school district to meet the needs of exceptional families. They provide information to stakeholders through collaborative trainings and town-hall meetings.

Other collaborations between the HCPS and the MCEE:

- Adding programs to schools that serve the installation
- Utilization of Military Child Education Coalition programs
- Partnering with MAFB on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) Day allowing students to experience STEAM related Air Force careers
- Yearly recognition of Month of the Military Child during April through a School Board Proclamation
- Conversion of an on base school from an elementary to a K-8

#### *DEP PFOA/PFOS Primer Briefing*

**John Truitt, Deputy Secretary of Regulatory Programs, Florida Department of Environmental Protection**, presented on PFOA and PFOS which have been around since the 1940s. They are generic, man-made chemicals which don't occur naturally. They repel water, oil, fat and grease and are commonly found in fire-fighting foams. They resist temperature extremes, reduce friction and are seen across the spectrum of products such as Scotch guard, non-stick coatings and solvents.

PFOA and PFOS are the most researched. They were phased out of production between 2000-2002 and phased out globally by eight (8) major companies in 2006 but can still be found at fire colleges.

They are highly persistent and environmentally stable because they repel water and because they don't break-down over time, and it takes a very high temperature to incinerate them which means they stay around forever. They get in the soil and don't bind to anything, so they just sit there and enter the ground water and spread very rapidly. They have high toxicity and potential carcinogenic features.

Currently activated carbon filters are being used to filter out these chemicals, but the problem is that the activated carbon filters cannot catch the shorter chain version of the PFAS family. The technology of the impact to humans is not up to speed with the technology of the development of the chemicals.

Remediation is complicated and expensive. The knowledge base is growing but there is not a standard method across the country to test for PFOA/PFOS. There is a technique that is generally accepted, but due to the interim scope of this family and the large numbers, trying to capture the total world of PFAS chemicals in a sample has not been yet standardized. The EPA and CDC are working on this problem. As the family grows and the technology develops it's difficult to embrace the whole process.

PFAS can be found in sunscreen, fabric softener, aluminum foil, felt-tip pens, insect repellent and post-it notes. It takes much specialized training and attention to detail to ensure samples are valid. The concentrations they work with are 70 parts per trillion is the health advisory level for PFAS or one drop on 500,000 barrels of water.

The EPA does not have an established drinking water maximum contaminant level. States are looking at the health advisory level (HAL) or negotiating a standard. In Florida the statutory requirement target levels of PFAS must be one times ten to the minus six cancer risk or 1 in a million-cancer risk. PFAS can be found in so many places in the environment, it bioaccumulates in humans because it doesn't move through the air easily.

The clean-up target level in Florida is using mathematical formulas and inputs to develop for these situations where the science isn't clear to determine a one times ten to the minus six for sure rule-making, but we can get something on the books that is enforceable which is how they came up with the 70 parts per trillion. They've also come up with provisional clean-up target levels for ground water and soil and done the math to come up with a provisional level for residential, commercial and industrial.

In Florida, the DEP has sent out site investigation teams to the 25 state fire colleges with suspected use of PFOS sometime in their history for sampling. The college in Ocala is looking to place an activated carbon filter on site to help limit contamination. They also looked at 15 dry cleaning sites from around the state, out of which 9 had samples above the health advisory levels. They looked at 23 clean-up sites out of which 9 were above the health advisory level. The EPA has recently spent about \$500,000 to upgrade their lab to handle PFOS sampling as few labs are able to test to that level of specificity.

Currently, nine (9) Air Force installations have PFAS at levels above the HAL onsite, off base sampling is ongoing. Six (6) Navy facilities and two (2) former facilities have potential areas of concern as HALs exceedances onsite, off base sampling is ongoing. NASA confirmed PFAS at their facility. The Florida National Guard does not have any facilities which have HAL exceedances in the state of Florida. *(Staff Note: this information was correct as of the pre-station date however soon after, the U.S. Army released their first study of National Guard base PFOA/PFOS contamination and three FLNG facilities, including Camp Blanding, are on the new report.)*

DoD has created very recently a PFAS Task Force. Prior to that the six (6) regulatory districts each had a director who are familiar with the installations in their districts. They are working directly with them and their site investigation teams to work on delineating the plume. He needs to know the result and the geographic location of that result so that his people can spend resources to find the edge of the plume faster, and because of the Sunshine Law, the installations want to respect the privacy of their residents and don't want that information publicly available. With the creation of the Task Force, the installations now speak directly to them and not the DEP. A lack of efficient flow of information prevents quickly addressing the issue.

### *Presentation of the 2019 Military Friendly Guide*

**Ray Collins** briefed that printing and distribution of the 2019 Military Friendly Guide has been completed. The electronic version is on the website at: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Military-Friendly-Guide.pdf>. Please check with your local defense community for additional Guides.

Changes this made this year are highlighted in yellow and on the back cover Florida's spousal licensure reciprocity is highlighted along with Governor DeSantis' GI LAW Initiative.

The TF will be sending a letter to Polk County on behalf of the Avon Park Air Force Range and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council emphasizing the importance of resisting any efforts to create encroachment to the APAFR.

### *2020 Legislative Slate*

**Bruce Grant** discussed creation of the Florida Defense Act which is the consolidation of Military and Defense Programs and will be sponsored by Senator Broxson and Representative Ponder.

Other military-friendly legislative proposals with no fiscal impact are:

- The protection of installations from development on rural and agricultural lands which are incompatible with the military mission of the adjacent installation.
- The modification of HB620 – allows military children to be enrolled in Florida Schools based on military orders.
- Adds the U.S. Coast Guard and certain Florida National Guard installations for Military Base Protection planning.

Other initiatives to be considered:

- Provides transportation relief for service members in South Florida.
- Protects installations from encroachment by allowing unexpended funds previously provided to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
- Provides recurring funding for Military base protection Program in order to acquire military buffering land easements on non-conservation lands.

### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** briefed that Liz Miller from DEO is working on the Florida Defense Exchange which will help to bring more defense business to Florida.

DEO recently sent out letters to all Base Commanders asking them to identify their non-conservation encroachment threats. There isn't any funding at the state level to acquire those lands at this point.

The 2019 Florida Defense Factbook is in the works. This will be briefed at the November meeting in Tampa. The revised numbers will first be given to the Governor to announce.

TF **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** sent a letter supporting the Coast Guard's protection against encroachment in Miami at their district headquarters.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** presented **Bruce Grant** a certificate from **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** and the TF for his tireless efforts on behalf of military and military communities across the state of Florida.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

No public comments were made.

*The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM EDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #78 on Thursday, October 17, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting via Conference Call at 09:00 AM EDT – 10:29 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
RADM Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Maj Gen Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)  
Col Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
CAPT Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)  
Representative Mel Ponder  
Representative Holly Raschein

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Senator Doug Broxson, Chairman  
Lt Col William Dudley, USAF, (Ret.)  
MG James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

#### **Speakers Present:**

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Chairman, Florida Defense Alliance  
Callie DeHaven, Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife

#### **Others Present:**

Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Deborah Keller, The Nature Conservancy  
Tom Tolbert, Eglin AFB  
Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast  
Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance  
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber  
LTC Jason Hunt, FLNG

#### **Staff Present:**

Bruce Grant, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Ray Collins, Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)  
Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Grants Manager, FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Administrative Assistant, EFI





**Florida Defense Support Task Force -- Meeting #78  
Conference Call / WebEX  
AGENDA for October 17, 2019**

<b>CALL-IN NUMBER:</b>	<b>888.585.9008</b>
<b>CONFERENCE ROOM:</b>	<b>262-492-927</b>

<b>KEY:</b> (I) = Information (D) = Discussion (A) = Action
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- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions..... Chairman (I)
- 0910 – 0930 Old Business..... Chairman (A) / (I)
  - Approval of September Meeting Minutes Chairman (A)
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders (I)
  - End of 1Q FY 19-20 Budget Execution Report Marcy Sanders (I)
  - FY19-20 Budget Adjustment Ray Collins (A)
- 0930 – 1030 New Business..... Chairman (I)
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo (I)
  - Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg (I)
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Callie DeHaven (I)
  - State Lands Update Kent Wimmer (I)
  - NW Florida Sentinel Landscape Project Update Ray Collins (I)
  - 2020 Legislation Update Bruce Grant (I)
  - Mil & Def Update
- 1030 – 1045 Public Comment..... Chairman
- 1045 Adjournment..... Chairman (I)

Reminder – Meeting Dates: November 21, 2019 Tampa, FL (FDA)      December 2019 **NO MEETING**

January 16, 2020	Tallahassee ( <i>session</i> )	February 20, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
March 19, 2020	Jax / Blount Island	April 16, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
May 21, 2020	Tallahassee (FDA)	June 2020	<b>NO MEETING</b>
July 16, 2020	Melbourne / NOTU	August 20, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
September 17, 2020	Key West / Army Dive School	October 15, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
November 19, 2020	Orlando / PEOSTRI (FDA)	December 2020	<b>NO MEETING</b>



**Ray Collins**, FDSTF Deputy Executive Director, *began the meeting at 09:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

**Ray Collins** welcomed attendees and guests, proceeded with roll call then turned the meeting over to **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer**. **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked all guests to introduce themselves and reminded the TF the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*Approval of the Minutes*

*A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer asked if corrections are needed to the September 19, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by Ms. Amy Gowder to approve the minutes, seconded by Colonel Jim Heald, all are in favor and the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants & Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported on the status of current TF grants.

At next month's TF meeting she will provide information from the incoming quarterly reports.

TF Grant #20-102, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast – Assessment of critical infrastructure supporting Eastern Range space operations: This contract is pending execution as of November 1, 2019 and will run through October 31, 2020.

TF Grant #16-154, Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce: This grant is now officially closed and has reverted \$197,264.99 back to the TF.

*End of 1Q FY19-20 Budget Execution Report*

**Marcy Sanders** advised that as a result of the changes made due to the lack of an advocacy contract, \$818,200 is available for the TF Grant Program (this includes \$93,200 for Santa Rosa County) and leaves \$726,800 unencumbered at this time for this fiscal year. Staff anticipates approximately \$25,000 may be unencumbered for administrative expenses at year end which leaves a total of \$751,800 unencumbered for this year, at this time.

Additionally, with the forfeiture of the funds from the Pensacola grant and the funds that were not utilized last year, the TF has an additional \$521,866 in forfeited grant funds for use.

*FY 19-20 Budget Adjustment*

**Ray Collins** discussed the designation of funds to be used by the TF for this fiscal year. This proposal funds the top three Governor military priorities for Florida. It also funds the Florida Defense Alliance for its meetings as well as providing funds for local defense communities to promote their installations to decision makers in Washington. The details for providing this funding to the entities listed above will be developed by Staff in time for presentation at the November 21<sup>st</sup> TF meeting in Tampa.

Florida Defense Alliance Funding (Recurring)	\$30,000
Gulf Range Protection Education/Marketing	\$100,000
Space Florida to assist in Space Command efforts *	\$100,000
Funding to Local Community for Tyndall AFB Rebuild *	\$420,000
Local Base Promotion Program	\$200,000
(Funds to local defense communities to assist in gaining military missions)	
<hr/>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$850,000</b>

\* Denotes out of cycle grants

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to approve the above proposal for use of FY19-20 unencumbered funds. A motion was made by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all are in favor and the proposal is approved.*

**Ray Collins** informed the TF that Staff has less than 400 Military Friendly Guides remaining on-hand and asked for approval to print an additional 1,000 copies at a cost of \$2150.00

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to approve printing an additional 1,000 Military Friendly Guides. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Captain Keith Hoskins**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

*Task Force Member Reports*

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that there will be a Causeway Project Development and Environment Open House regarding the 405 Bridge project and will also address environmental issues.

Several Lockheed Martin employees in Melbourne will be laid off in the coming months after the Army opted not to renew the Persistent Surveillance Systems-Tethered contract. Leadership notified 79 employees on Wednesday that they will receive layoff notifications sometime after mid-December.

**RADM Stan Bozin** announced that he's recently met with Navy Region Southeast, the new Commander at NAS Jacksonville and the Commander at NS Mayport discussing the TF and keeping the lines of communication open with those installations.

**Ray Collins** asked if he's noticed any reaction locally regarding the upcoming Sea and Air Show in Jacksonville and interest and support for the F-35,

**RADM Stan Bozin** was unsure but will ask his local contacts and report back to the TF.

**Major General Richard Haddad** reported that SOCOM is fully supporting the movement of personnel in the Syria AOR. SOCOM continues to be involved in Night Court, or more formally, the Defense Wide Review. SECDEF is trying to recover \$8B for the Fourth Estate.

AFSOC lost a pararescueman last week as TSGT Peter Kraines was assigned to the 24SOW and died from injuries sustained in a training incident while performing mountain rescue techniques in Boise, Idaho.

Nov 15 AFSOC will be conducting a Silver Star ceremony honoring CMSgt Christopher Grove. CMSgt Grove is a combat controller assigned to the 720<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Group. His Bronze star that he received during OEF in 2007 was reevaluated and upgraded to the Silver Star

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the local Military Affairs Committee will be touring Hurlburt field.

The staff at Avon Park Air Force Range appreciates the letter from the FDSTF supporting the concerns of the proposed development on the Triple Canopy Ranch which would allow a 55 and older RV/Mobile Home park to be developed underneath restricted airspace. As a result of the FDSTF letter, in addition to support from the Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, proved successful in getting this proposed park disapproved by the Polk County Planning Commission and hopefully the Board of County Commissioners will also disapprove this land use during their meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

October has been very busy for the Range. The Deployed Unit Complex (DUC) at MacDill has been hosting VFA 106 Navy F-18s out of Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia. Their last day is today and the complex will

welcome HMLA 269 AH-1J Cobra Helicopters out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina. They will be operating on the range until October 31<sup>st</sup> when the 820<sup>th</sup> Base Defense Group out of Moody AFB, Georgia arrives. The 820<sup>th</sup> will be conducting Global Eagle, a base defense exercise including coalition partners.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported that the Florida Simulation Summit was recently held with much discussion on to bridge the gap between mainstream gaming technology and defense technology. IITSEC, the world's largest modeling, simulation and training event, is coming up on December 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> in Orlando.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) of FL's Space Coast has kicked off a "Space Coast Salutes Our Military" public outreach campaign noting the significant economic impact of DoD's presence on the Space Coast. The initial phase of the campaign has involved the passage of City Council resolutions of support and commendation for the campaign throughout Brevard County.

She participated in a Workforce Development Summit with Lt. Governor Nuñez and was supported by many aerospace and defense industries. Much discussion was held regarding the need for technical training in the vocational, hands-on technician artisan realm, engineering workforce and keeping focused on the changing technologies.

A spacewalk to replace an electrical component on International Space Station, set for Thursday or Friday (October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>), will be the first EVA by two women in the 54 years since the late Soviet cosmonaut Alexey Leonov carried out history's first spacewalk in 1965.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that Eglin AFB is struggling to operate under the current Continuing Resolution until Congress passes a complete budget.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Space Control Squadron reported protentional for a new command and control unit mission which is currently in Alabama. The Air Force wants to consolidate so there's potential for that unit to move down to Test Site C6.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> the Emerald Coast MAC held their Annual Gala featuring guest speaker General Arnold Bunch, Commander of Air Force Materiel Command, who discussed the different missions and noting that current missions will remain at Eglin AFB.

On November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> is the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Air Armament Symposium which brings in industry and the military to discuss the future of air armament, it's direction and the upcoming new weapons systems. Registration is ongoing.

The Tri-County Partnership Initiative between Hurlburt Field, Eglin AFB and the local communities has a standing meeting which will be held next Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**CAPT Keith Hoskins** reported that the Greater Pensacola Chamber, along with the West Florida Defense Alliance, hosted The State of the Military event last week. This was a series of lectures from local community leaders. Captain Tim Kinsella from NAS Pensacola provided a preview of the current missions and opportunities NAS Pensacola. Retired Captain Chris Middleton provided an update to the community on the West Florida Defense Alliance activities as they relate to enhancing, protecting and supporting the missions at NAS Pensacola. Captain Tim Kinsella preliminarily suggested a Navy Week in Pensacola to celebrate their long history in Pensacola.

Captain Kinsella and NAS Pensacola recently hosted a 10-year old boy from Milton with a rare form of cancer as Colton James had a wish to be on board NAS Pensacola for a day and be hosted by the Commanding Officer. Captain Kinsella hosted this young man, his friends and family for the day, gifted him a flight suit, wings and spent the day with him watching aviation movies.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** discussed that the Military Friendly Guide has been delivered to many offices in Washington, DC, including Senators Scott and Rubio.

In January there will be a program hosted by both Chambers of Commerce in Bay County, in conjunction with CareerSource, to highlight spouse employment opportunities in the area.

The 601<sup>st</sup> Air and Space Operations Center recently had a change of command on September 26<sup>th</sup> and welcomed Colonel Greg Krane as former Commander Brigadier General Select Michael Valle moves into his role of Assistant Adjutant General the Florida National Guard.

#### *Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update*

**Kellie Jo Kilberg** reported that the FDA is busy planning their upcoming in-person meeting in Tampa next month on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

A change in the Executive Committee as Mike Jones resigned as the Chair of the Mission Sustainment Working Group and was replaced by Rick Miller from the South Florida Defense Alliance.

#### *State Lands Update*

**Callie DeHaven, Director of the Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection**, provided a brief overview of the military base buffering program. Florida Forever is the state's premier conservation recreation land acquisition program and they use the Florida Forever umbrella to partner with the REPI program. They've worked with the Navy at Whiting Field, NAS Jacksonville, Eglin and Tyndall AFBs, Avon Park and the Army National Guard at Camp Blanding. Since 2004 they've closed on over 61,000 acres which totals about \$59 million of which DoD, through the REPI program has contributed \$11.4 million.

DSL is currently in negotiations and working on about 6,300 acres that will total approximately \$12.5 million of which DoD anticipates contributing about \$2.7 million, which would be in the Whiting Field, Tyndall AFB and Camp Blanding area.

The Acquisition Restoration Council approved adding the Bugg Springs site to the Florida First Magnitude Springs Project and will be approved by the Board of Trustees when they review and approve the Florida Forever list early next year. DSL will be working with the Navy to secure REPI partnership funds through Team Orlando.

The Non-Conservation Military Base Buffering Program was a 2015 appropriation of about \$7.4 million from the general revenue fund to the trustees to the internal improvement trust fund to work on acquisitions of non-conservation lands at NSA Panama City, NS Mayport and MacDill AFB to secure and protect those installations against encroachment. About \$3.6 million was spent at those locations which leaves a remaining balance of \$3.7 million in that fund.

#### *NW Florida Sentinel Landscape Project Update*

**Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife**, reported that Eglin Air Force Base, as the designated anchor military installation in northwestern Florida, will nominate the Florida panhandle for federal designation as the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape in the fall of 2019.

The goal of this proposal is to create an innovative partnership for collaboration and coordination among private landowners, conservationists, military installations, government agencies and others. This landscape-scale partnership could help ensure sustainability of agriculture and forestry, maintain our national defense capabilities and conserve Northwest Florida's natural resources.

A Sentinel Landscape designation would provide its partners with greater access to funding and assistance from federal, state and local government and private sector programs to better address the complex and often conflicting demands of population growth, economic development, rural vitality, military readiness, and natural resource protection in Northwest Florida.

Northwest Florida has a long legacy of supporting the military and is home to several of the nation's most important installations and ranges including: Eglin Air Force Base (AFB), Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, Tyndall AFB, USAF's Hurlburt Field, NAS Saufley Field, USN's Corry Station, and Naval Support Activity (NSA) Panama City.

**Eglin AFB** supports development, acquisition, testing, procurement, and deployment of all air-delivered weapons in the USAF's arsenal plus provides the largest land-based testing range east of the Rocky Mountains. Additional users of the Eglin Test and Training Complex are the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), the 6th Ranger Training Battalion at Camp Rudder and the Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field which supports global special operations missions.

**Tyndall AFB** provides advanced training for pilots, air traffic and weapon controllers.

**NAS Pensacola** provides aviation flight and maintenance training for Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. Saufley Field supports naval education, and Corry Station supports cyber warfare and intelligence training

**NAS Whiting Field** serves multiple services as the primary fixed wing training and advanced helicopter pilot training base.

**NSA Panama City** provides research, development, testing and engineering for amphibious warfare, diving, maritime special operations, mine warfare, and other Naval missions in coastal areas. Especially critical to the missions of the Northwest Florida installations is maintaining flight paths between Tyndall and Eglin Air Force bases and access to the military testing and training ranges in the eastern Gulf of Mexico which are the Department of Defense's largest over-water test and training area in the continental United States.

The military sector provides the second largest economic impact in Florida trailing only tourism generating over \$40 billion in direct expenditures with \$85 billion total impact and supports over 800,000 jobs. In 2016, the economic contribution of the military represented 32% of the total economy of Northwest Florida. 67.4% of Okaloosa County's gross domestic product (GDP) is attributable to National Defense, as is 43.2% of Escambia County's GDP, 26.3% of Santa Rosa County's GDP, 25.2% of Bay County's GDP and 10% of Walton County's GDP.

This collaborative effort seeks to sustain working farms and forests and conserve habitat through providing incentives to landowners to voluntarily promote land uses that help ensure Department of Defense (DoD) installations and ranges in Northwest Florida can continue to host a diverse and growing set of military missions compatible with the region's military missions. To keep these private lands working, the Air Force and Navy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service are working with local, state, and private conservation partners to create a network of priority lands that will conserve watersheds, wildlife habitat, agricultural lands, community recreation opportunities, and the missions of Northwest Florida's military installations.

Timber and agricultural lands are essential connectors between public and private conservation lands, military installations and ranges and our communities in Northwest Florida. Key to maintaining these landscape connections are promoting the stewardship of renewable pine forests and enhancing the vitality of agriculture which support rural jobs and the local economies throughout the region. Rapid population growth and tourist-oriented development along the Gulf of Mexico coast have led to unprecedented landscape conversion that threatens the missions of our region's military installations and the long-term sustainability of nearby forestry and agricultural operations.

To help ensure forests and agriculture continue to remain vibrant and support rural economies, the partnership for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape is bringing together conservation groups, agencies, and willing landowners to leverage the conservation funding programs of federal and state agencies and private organizations. Through voluntary programs and incentives, eligible landowners and communities who want to continue to be stewards of their working lands may receive financial assistance to do so while also protecting

the mission of our military installations. These programs include Forest Legacy Program, Healthy Forest Reserve Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, Regional Conservation Partnership Program, the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program and Florida's Rural and Family Lands Program. In turn, these partnerships will help buffer our Air Force and Navy bases from development and land use changes, protect flight paths and maintain the viability of agricultural and forestry production in the region.

For example, through FY2018 the REPI Program reported to Congress that DoD and partners with other federal agencies and the State of Florida have invested \$156.7 million to protect and conserve compatible land uses on 130 parcels and 62,407 acres near military installations throughout the state, including \$48.3 million to conserve 66 parcels and 30,218 acres in Northwest Florida. The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape will build on these past accomplishments and help to ensure the long-term sustainability of Northwest Florida's military installations by leveraging partner priorities and funding with DoD and State of Florida initiatives to promote compatible land use.

In state and regional transportation plans call for many highways to be widened and new highways to be constructed. These improved highways are shown on this map.

Northwest Florida is one of the most biologically diverse areas in the United States. The region is home to many threatened, endangered, and at-risk species including: red-cockaded woodpecker, grey bat, Eastern indigo snake, Panama City crayfish, flatwoods and reticulated salamanders, mussels, Okaloosa darter, Gulf sturgeon, beach mice, snowy plover, and loggerhead and green sea turtles. These species can benefit from innovative stewardship practices on the private lands surrounding and connecting our military installations.

The region's 2.6 million acres of public and private conservation lands provide important habitat for these protected species and many others. These areas include: Eglin AFB and NAS Whiting Field, Blackwater, Pine Log and Tate's Hell state forests, Nokuse Plantation, Econfina Water Management Area, Apalachicola National Forest, and the protected corridors of the Perdido, Escambia, Blackwater, Yellow, Choctawhatchee, Econfina Creek and Chipola and Apalachicola Rivers. The Apalachicola River with its floodplain and adjacent ravines is one of North America's most biologically diverse areas and are home to more than 30 federally threatened or endangered animal species. It has the highest species diversity of reptiles (over 80 species) and amphibians (over 40 species) found north of Mexico. It also provides habitat for more than 280 species of birds, over 130 species of fish, over 52 species of mammals, more than 1,300 plant species including over 70 different species of trees.

The region's longleaf pine forests and the riverine ecosystems provide important habitat for many sensitive species. Northwest Florida is home to some of the nation's largest remaining stands of longleaf pine with Eglin AFB having the largest contiguous old growth longleaf pine forest in existence plus the largest intact sandhill ecosystem in the Southeast. The region has extensive industrial pine forests many of which are being restored to longleaf pine as part of America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative.

Restoring habitats and maintaining connections between public and private conservation lands will help reduce the risk of species protections affecting military operations and using private lands elsewhere in the region. For example, successful stewardship of Eglin AFB, Apalachicola National Forest and the Red Hills ensures three of the largest remaining populations of the endangered-cockaded woodpecker thrive. Nokuse Plantation and Eglin AFB are working to restore gopher tortoise populations which could help preclude the listing of gopher tortoises and other species. The USAF has also partnered with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to restore habitat for the endangered Okaloosa darter whose 95% of its entire range is found on Eglin AFB. This partnership may allow the Okaloosa darter to be removed from the Endangered Species list.

A key strategy for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape is to conserve a connected network of wildlife habitats extending east and west across Northwest Florida. We also want to its dozen north and south river corridors connecting upland habitats to their Gulf of Mexico estuaries. The **Florida Ecological Greenway Network (FEGN)** identifies priority areas for conservation within the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape. FEGN Priority 1 areas, shown in dark green, are potentially important for closing gaps in critical linkages. Priority 2 areas, shown in light green, are other areas that are also potentially important for closing gaps and expanding landscape corridors beyond the priority 1 tracts. Areas proposed or under development within these priority areas are shown in red within Priority 1 Greenways and in pink within Priority 2 Greenways. Land shown



in yellow marks rural areas transitioning into more intense development. (The colored areas referred to are on slide/page #4 of this presentation).

They are asking their partners to help us demonstrate that the designation creates value added benefit through the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape partners committing to do more than just citing the ongoing delivery of existing programs and efforts (which of course are often more robust than available in other states).

They are encouraging their partners to write letters of support describing their commitments which we would submit with the proposal to the federal Sentinel Landscapes Partnership committee (DOD, USDA, USDI) this coming fall.

#### *2020 Legislative Update*

**Ray Collins** discussed several bills recently filed for the upcoming Legislative Session:

HB 0171 - Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

SB 0372 - Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

SB 0488 – Fees/Blue Angels License Plate

SB 0096 – Educational Opportunities for Veterans

SB 0098 – Medical Marijuana Identification Cards for Service-Disabled Veterans

SB 01041 – Services for Veterans and their Families

HB 0171 – Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

SB 0294 – Crimes Against Veterans

SB 0372 - Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Bruce Grant** discussed the remaining \$3.7 million in funding for non-conservation lands. Staff has engaged with the Legislature to allow those funds to be moved to acquire future non-conservation properties.

The TF each year must rank the priority of those non-conservation lands which should be acquired to protect Florida's bases. Staff is working on that list which will be ready for the November meeting for the TF to approve or modify.

The TF/DEO contract is currently under review.

Florida Defense FactBook 2019 is well underway and will be briefed at the November TF meeting. The numbers will be provided to the Governor to announce prior to the November meeting.

**Ray Collins** briefed the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and Space on TF's on goings and focus yesterday.

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

No public comments were made.

**RADM Stan Bozin** updated that the Air Show is over Jacksonville Beach on October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and not at NAS Jacksonville. They will have F-35 demos along with the Blue Angels.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** added that a cockpit demonstrator will also be featured at the Air Show in Jacksonville.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM EDT*

## **Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force**

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #79 on Thursday, November 21, 2019**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Renaissance Tampa International Plaza at 09:00 AM EST – 10:58 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

#### **Task Force Members Present:**

Senator Doug Broxson, Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman  
Representative Thad Altman  
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)  
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)  
Amy Gowder, Vice President, Lockheed Martin Rotary and Missions Systems Company  
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)  
Representative Mel Ponder

#### **Task Force Members on the Phone:**

Colonel Jim Heald, InDyne, Inc.  
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)  
Representative Holly Raschein

#### **Task Force Members Absent:**

Lieutenant Colonel William Dudley, USAF, (Ret)  
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

#### **Speakers Present:**

Katherine Anne Russo, Florida Washington Office (Phone)  
Tim Jones, Florida Defense Alliance/Tampa Bay Defense Alliance  
Liz Miller, Department of Economic Opportunity  
Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group

#### **Others Present:**

Senator Janet Cruz  
Mike Aller, Florida Makes (Phone)  
Chad Allison, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Andre Anderson, Department of Economic Opportunity (Phone)  
Brian Ayers, Marine Corps Installation Camp Lejeune (Phone)  
Kevin Brown, Office of Senator Doug Broxson  
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast  
Callie DeHaven, Department of Environmental Protection  
Courtney Cannon, NASA  
Trey Carlson, NASA  
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
Kathleen Ferguson, The Roosevelt Group  
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber  
Mike Jones, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance  
Deborah Keller, The Nature Conservancy (Phone)  
Buck MacLaughlin, Avon Park Air Force Base  
Trudy McCarthy, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (Phone)

Chris Middleton, University of West Florida  
Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance  
Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (Phone)  
David Reyes, Bay Defense Alliance (Phone)  
Tony Rodriguez, MacDill AFB  
Tom Tolbert, Eglin AFB (Phone)  
Craig Williams, Office of Congressman Neal Dunn  
Kay Rasmussen, Economic Development Commission of Okaloosa County/Defense Support Initiatives  
(Phone)

**Staff Present:**

Beth Medina, Vice President, Military & Defense, EFI  
Ray Collins, Deputy Executive Director, FDSTF  
Marcy Sanders, Grants Manager FDSTF  
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant, Military & Defense, EFI



**Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #79**  
**Renaissance Tampa International Plaza, 4200 Jim Walter Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33607**  
**AGENDA for November 21, 2019**

<b>CALL-IN NUMBER:</b>	<b>888.585.9008</b>
<b>CONFERENCE ROOM:</b>	<b>262-492-927</b>

<b>KEY:</b> <i>(I) = Information</i> <i>(D) = Discussion</i> <i>(A) = Action</i>
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- 0800 – 0845 CLOSED SESSION / Working Breakfast..... Chairman
- 0900 – 0910 Welcome, Guest Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 0910 – 0920 Welcome from Local Defense Community..... Tim Jones
- 0910 – 0930 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
  - Approval of October Meeting Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Marcy Sanders **(I)**
- 0930 – 1100 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
  - TF Member Reports Katherine Anne Russo **(I)**
  - Washington Office Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
  - Florida Defense Alliance Update Liz Miller **(I) / (D)**
  - Aerospace and Defense Online Platform Ray Collins **(I) / (D) / (A)**
  - Military Base Protection Program Matt Schwalb **(I) / (D)**
  - 2019 Economic Impact Study In Progress Update Ray Collins **(I)**
  - 2020 Legislative Update Ray Collins **(I)**
  - Mil & Def Update Ray Collins **(I)**
- 1100 – 1115 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Meeting Dates: December 2019 **NO MEETING**

January 16, 2020	Tallahassee ( <i>session</i> )	February 20, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
March 19, 2020	Jax / Blount Island	April 16, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
May 21, 2020	Tallahassee	June 2020	<b>NO MEETING</b>
July 16, 2020	Melbourne / NOTU	August 20, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
September 17, 2020	Key West / Army Dive School	October 15, 2020	Conf Call/Webex
November 19, 2020	Orlando / PEOSTRI	December 2020	<b>NO MEETING</b>

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** welcomed attendees and guests. He welcomed new Vice President of Military and Defense Programs Beth Medina to her first meeting. He asked the TF members and guests both in-person and on the phone to introduce themselves, then asked **Representative Mel Ponder** to lead the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law. He thanked **Tim Jones** and the **Tampa Bay Defense Alliance** for their hospitality in hosting the dinner the night prior and for setting up the tour of MacDill AFB after the meeting.

II. Agenda Item II: Welcome from the Local Defense Community

**Tim Jones, President of the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA)**, welcomed the TF to Tampa on behalf of the TBDA. He reported that MacDill AFB continues to be a main cog in humanitarian relief and counter-narcotics efforts. The 6<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing has recently been renamed and redesignated the 6<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and the AMC is still taking air cargo missions, which is a great secondary mission. There are now officially 24 KC-135Rs at MacDill AFB. The Army Aviation Support Facility remains behind schedule and eventually twenty-three UH-60s will relocate to MacDill AFB. Once that happens the Clearwater Army Aviation Support Facility will move to a fixed wing mission, flying the UC-35 and the C-12 aircrafts.

The Warrior Games was recently held in Tampa to much success as well as the Medal of Honor Convention. The Medal of Honor winners visited local schools and the children were able to meet and talk with them. They told many wonderful military stories.

Some upcoming events are International Night on December 5<sup>th</sup> and the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance Golf Tournament on January 10<sup>th</sup>. International Night brings together coalition partners who cook food from their local nations in a hangar at MacDill. Over 50 countries are represented. The Golf tournament will benefit Tinker Elementary and Middle school.

III. Agenda Item III: Old Business

*Approval of Minutes*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked if any corrections are needed for the October 17, 2019 minutes. Noting none, a motion to accept these minutes was made by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, seconded by **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all are in favor and the October 17, 2019 meeting minutes are approved.*

*Task Force Grants and Contracts Status*

**Marcy Sanders** reported that DTF Grant #14-05, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County, currently has their contract amendment pending execution and is requesting an extension to June 30, 2020.

DTF Grant #16-136, Highlands County Board of County Commissioners, has submitted their paperwork and closed on a parcel of land for which they paid \$452,032.00, leaving them with almost \$48,000. They have requested to use those funds for due diligence and additional land acquisition and have requested to continue their grant through the remainder of their contract period of June 30, 2020.

Santa Rosa County has formally declined their grant award of \$93,200. This was contingent upon the sale of the easement to the Navy. The Navy has agreed to purchase that parcel and, as a result, they have sufficient funds to abate the remaining issues on that tract of land.

Staff requests that the TF use a portion of those funds for the engagement discussed in closed session.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to extend DTF Grant #14-05 to June 30, 2020 and to use a portion of the forfeited \$93,200 from Santa Rosa County for TF engagement. A motion to accept was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, all are in favor and the motions are approved.*

#### IV. Agenda Item IV: New Business

##### *Task Force Member Reports*

**Senator Janet Cruz** welcomed the TF to Tampa and discussed how MacDill AFB is a huge economic driver and a place of great pride and enthusiasm for the Tampa community. She discussed the 60-year old aircraft, the maintenance and tool shops which repair them and the mission of refueling the fighter planes. She discussed climate change and the way forward for MacDill AFB.

**Colonel Jim Heald** reported that the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Air Armament Symposium was held on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Brigadier General Scott Cain, the Commander of the 96<sup>th</sup> Test Wing, met with Senator Scott and all of the military leaders from Florida at Tyndall AFB. Senator Scott will be holding semi-annual leadership forums at different bases throughout the state. Senator Scott asked what the installation-level impacts were of the Continuing Resolution and specifically asked about any NDAA issues. There are some issues specifically with the RDT&E, MILCON and lab revitalization.

Brigadier General Cain noted that many bases are expressing issues with housing and locality pay. Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field are two bases which have applied for temporary basic allowance for housing adjustments, to try and offset the increased costs due to Hurricane Michael. Senator Scott is starting a Commanders Conference Call every two months and encouraged the legislative liaisons to join this call. Brigadier General Cain gave Senator Scott an update on the Gulf Range Enhancement (GRE) and Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR) max plans as well as the Military Mission Line. Senator Scott expects an extension to the MML, which will sunset on June 30, 2022, although he does not expect a permanent moratorium.

A Community Partnership Program meeting was held recently with representatives from Hurlburt Field, Eglin AFB and the Okaloosa County EDC. One of the main issues discussed was Sentinel Landscape as an RFP is expected in January. They ask the TF to be ready to send a letter of support when requested. Also discussed were the Knight Properties/Florida Forever project as on October 18<sup>th</sup> the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) members voted unanimously to place the forest and lake ecosystem Knight tract on the Florida Forever list. Priority is expected to be established in December. The Knight Property has recently sold, which was expected. Speculation is that the new owners are trying to flip it for a profit.

They are gearing up efforts for the 2020 REPI Challenge. Pre-proposals are due in January with full proposals due in April. Awards up to \$15 million will be announced in July 2020.

The Home Builders Institute recently held their first class. Eligible participants are military personnel, military veterans, military or veterans' spouses and military or veterans' dependents. This class is funded by the Home Depot and is a great program to learn a trade.

A new working group on housing has been established. Over 100 families are on a waiting list for on-base housing between Hurlburt Field and Eglin AFB as there is a huge housing deficit in the local community.

The Air Force Enlisted Village expansion has slowed down due to cost. Part of the approval in the 2019 NDAA was to make it a fair market requirement rather than a grant. They are currently working with Legislators on this issue.

Senator Rubio's State Director, Todd Reed, is expected to visit Eglin AFB today as he is taking visits across the state to learn more about the military bases.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Air Force Test Center Commander, Major General Chris Azzano, will arrive for a Senior Staff offsite and a Community Leaders Dinner.



On November 5<sup>th</sup> Staff Sergeant Cole Condiff fell from a C-130 on a training mission/training flight. He was the jump master for a static line jump but was not hooked up. His chute did open, and he was seen treading water, but he could not be found by the time the rescue helicopters and CV-22s arrived. He was not equipped with any survival gear. His loss is mourned by their community.

The DSI will be travelling up to Washington, DC in late January/early February to advocate and educate on the Military Mission Line, EGTTR Max and Next Gen Eglin.

**Major General Richard Haddad** reported that at SOCOM the defense base alignment review, referred to as Night Court by the Secretary of Defense, had their day in court on October 25<sup>th</sup> and are awaiting the ramifications of those cuts.

AFSOC just conducted “Spark Tank”, a parody of the “Shark Tank” television program, which was created by the Secretary of Defense. The Commander of AFSOC, Lt. Gen. Slife, reviewed five different innovation plans and chose two. The Air Force competition will be in February which will include the two that Lt. Gen. Slife nominated. The first deals with roof inspections using drones. This takes about 1,000 hours of labor to do by civil engineers. Using the drones will cut that time down from 5 hours per roof to 20 minutes. The second is a tool which helps to peel the rubber out from between the blocks on runways. Currently, workers must get down on their hands and knees to remove and replace the sealant, but this new, innovative process can remove and replace 10,000 linear feet per week whereas before they could only do 500 to 1,000 linear feet per week. This tool was created using \$200 worth of scrap metal.

At Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR), the Polk County Planning Commission recommended disapproval of the Triple Canopy Ranch property in Polk County. However, on November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Board of County Commissioners voted to approve by 3 to 2. This issue is now in the hands of DEO and they are hoping that DEO will submit a letter of disapproval for that encroachment issue. Buck MacLaughlin also attended Senator Scott’s meeting at Tyndall and reiterated this issue.

Operationally, the F-18AH1 and the 820<sup>th</sup> Base Defense Group deployments went very well, and the Range received extremely positive feedback from each of those deploying units. Currently, APAFR is hosting Moody AFB A-10 Agile Basing Exercise at the MacDill DUC including live load forward arming and refueling point operations. This exercise includes A-10s, MC-130s, H-860s and a total of 45 personnel. Upcoming exercises include the Naval Special Warfare Group 2 from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> will conduct close air support exercises involving multiple types of aircraft such as the A-10, AC-130, AV-8, F-35 and CH-47. The APAFR continues to do great work, is highly sought out and is extremely valuable to our Department of Defense.

**Ms. Amy Gowder** reported that in Central Florida Team Orlando is gearing up for the I/ITSEC Conference in late November. This is the world’s largest modeling, training and simulation conference. It’s hosted by the Air Force this year and will be attended by industry worldwide.

The Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast hosted a site tour for Florida State Representative Plasencia at the Professional Aircraft Accessories plant in Titusville and highlighted the graduates of the certified production technician program which will set Florida apart from a workforce development prospective that is crucial at installations and in industry.

**Representative Mel Ponder** reported that there is high demand for airframe and powerplant certified mechanics by local defense contractors supporting Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field. There is an MOU executed between Northwest Florida State College and the Dr. Hsu Education Foundation to support that program which will be housed at the Bob Sikes Runway at the north end of Okaloosa County.

Once completed, Eglin AFB will become the home to the eighth of ten Invisible Wound Centers in the nation. Dr. Thomas Piazza is the new medical director at the Eglin Invisible Wound Center which is the Air Force’s first multidisciplinary facility specializing in the treatment of traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress and pain. The center currently has thirty-seven physicians providing care. Overall the foundation provides a non-traditional, holistic approach and offers enhanced outpatient programs focused on mental, physical, spiritual and social healing. The return to duty rate is 92%.

On the Saturday prior to Veterans' Day, many veterans and first responders participated in the Third Annual Honor Games. This event brings out the entire community and is very military focused. Much appreciation to Shawn Lynch from the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department for organizing this wonderful event.

**Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported that in attendance is Craig Williams, retired Command Chief at Tyndall AFB, one of the 90 people who rode out the storm on base and is now the Director for Military and Veteran's Affairs for Congressman Neal Dunn.

As reported by the Air Combat Command A-4 General Tom Miller, the status of Tyndall AFB is that all the permanent missions prior to the storm are now at full operating capacity. The dorm capacity is at 86%, lodging is at 63% and 31 of 34 of the NWR activities on the base have been restored. The design firm has created twelve zones on base for reconstruction and contractors have been secured for all these zones and are currently in negotiations. 1391s for all these projects have been completed and sent to Congress. The first two MILCON projects are now in progress. Much preparation is needed prior of the arrival of the F-35s in 2023 and the Base Y MQ-9s in 2022. The EISs for those are in progress and they are hoping for a decision to be made in the next year.

Regarding family housing, the first group of houses will be delivered in spring 2020. There were about 780 units prior to the storm. They will not be rebuilding all of them. Only about 560 units will be completed. They hope to have many of those houses completed in 2020.

The Base of the Future concept continues to be the lead when talking about Tyndall AFB. The Air Force is taking a lot of pride in making sure the base is resilient. The construction standards are very high and the greatest risk for the time that it will take to rebuild is if there is a defense budget as they still need to find \$1.5 billion out of the \$4.2 billion needed to rebuild.

Tyndall AFB, along with their friends in the Panhandle and nearby bases are working hard to do a full-court-press release on the MML and the extension of the moratorium as it is getting closer. They are coordinating efforts with all the Northwest Florida communities to make sure that is in the forefront.

NSA Panama City is being considered for a new Navy mission of an unmanned underwater vehicles systems pursuit.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** reported that the Whiting Field *Through the Gate* commercial project is ongoing as they continue to upgrade their fleet. On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Senate President Galvano, Incoming Senate President Simpson and several other Senators will visit NAS Pensacola, the National Naval Aviation Museum and the National Flight Academy.

**Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** reported that the recent Jacksonville Air Show was a great success as the Blue Angels performed, as well as an F-35 flight demonstration team and the F-35 cockpit demonstrator. The next air show at NAS Jacksonville will be in April 2021, which is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Blue Angels who will be performing along with the Super Hornet.

The USS Detroit Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) left on its first deployment and is the first LCS deployment out of NS Mayport. The USS Indianapolis will ride there on November 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the seventh of the fourteen LCSs that will be homeported at NS Mayport.

Everything was well underway for the Trident operations to start around 2023 as the infrastructure will be in place however some issues with the actual unit have arisen so the date could be pushed back.

The Marine Corp Support Facility Blount Island (where the TF will visit in March 2020) has just started a \$32 million demolition project to remove a mass of concrete for the deepwater port.

**Representative Thad Altman** reported that this morning Boeing rolled out their new human-rated capsule starliner spaceship at the 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing at Cape Canaveral AFS. It will be placed on top of an Atlas 5 rocket

and will mission to the International Space Station to test its systems. They hope for humans to be on board for the next flight as humans have not flown from U.S. soil since 2011.

The SpaceX Dragon human-rated capsule tested its abort system as it had a failure/explosion on the pad during testing. They are closely watching those two capsules as one of them will be the next to launch a human back into space.

Shuttles are not being used to launch humans but are still flying. The X-37 is the Air Force's mini shuttle, is a highly classified aircraft, which landed last October at the shuttle landing facility after 780 days in space. No one knows what it does as its highly secretive.

A recent event was held at the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) as Northrop Grumman's Omega rocket, if selected by DoD for launches, will be processed and assembled right there at the VAB.

**Representative Holly Raschein** reported that she recently had the opportunity to take an incentive flight on an F-16 at Homestead ARB which was a wonderful experience. She did several hours of pre-flight training and enjoyed the experience immensely.

#### *Washington Office Update*

**Katherine Anne Russo** reported that DC is currently primarily focused on impeachment and appropriations. The short-term funding bill made it through the House earlier this week but stalled in the Senate yesterday. The Senate will vote on this measure, the continuing resolution, at 11:30 am on November 21st. That would extend funding at last year's level until December 20, 2019. This continuing resolution also adds several new provisions such as language allowing for a 3.1% pay raise for all members in uniformed services for next year. President Trump is predicted to sign the measure (unconfirmed). The larger appropriations battles include funding for the border wall and transfer authority which are stalling the advancement of the appropriations bills, as well as the NDAA. The NDAA has stalled in conference but earlier this week House Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith predicted that a compromise will be met by the end of the week. If an agreement is met, language might not come out by the end of the week. If a compromise is not made by the end of the week, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman James Inhofe introduced a skinny NDAA, back in October, just in case the more comprehensive NDAA failed to move. The skinny NDAA is intended to expire by the end of the year and does not include language for a Space Force or language that would address PFAS restrictions. There is building pressure to pass the NDAA, so movement is likely on the full comprehensive bill or the skinny bill in December.

Regarding PFAS, the focus continues outside of the NDAA, the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed the PFAS Action Act on November 20<sup>th</sup> out of committee, HR535. That bill requires that the EPA Administrator designate PFAS as hazardous substances within one year of an accident. Even if the NDAA does not include language the issue is not going away.

Regarding veterans' suicide, there is new veterans suicide prevention legislation which provides grants to communities to extend mental health care. The House Veterans Affairs Committee met on November 20<sup>th</sup> and examined two different versions of the bill. There is continued debate over whether they should create new mental healthcare options outside of the private sector network created under the Missions Act. The White House has a task force examining this idea as part of its broader review of suicide prevention efforts. They will, most likely, pass something out of committee in the coming weeks. If anyone feels strongly about any of these bills, now would be the time to act and she is happy to help facilitate connections with the House or Senate Veterans Affairs Committees.

Space Command is a priority for the Governor. The permanent headquarters has not yet been chosen and Florida is not a key contender at the moment, but they are continually working with Space Florida to spread the message of what Florida has to offer.

Offshore drilling remains a huge issue for the state of Florida and they continue to engage with House and Senate on the MML moratorium.

## *Florida Defense Alliance Update*

**Tim Jones, FDA Vice Chair**, discussed the FDA meeting held on November 20<sup>th</sup> noting speakers such as Mayor Jane Castor from Tampa who made the opening remarks discussing her focus on bringing more military business to Tampa and concerns such as reciprocity and education. The Water Street development efforts will be one of the first 100% green efforts. Other presentations were provided by Liz Miller who discussed DEO's Aerospace & Defense Online Portal. Kathleen Ferguson reported on strategic basing and is providing information on what issues communities should be focusing on for strategic basing. Representatives from Hillsborough County Schools presented to the FDA on how they integrate military families and children into their school system. George Howell and Cajun Comeau provided an update and overview from Mission United and Ray Collins provided an update from the TF. Chris Middleton from the University of West Florida presented on collaborations and how to understand the value of the DoD/University innovation relationship. The Family Support and Mission Sustainment working groups met after lunch and discussed several community issues such as a development in South Florida which, if approved, will very likely close the Coast Guard station.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** noted that Florida needs to do a better job of connecting universities and community colleges to military installations in proximity as the quality of education is second to none and the community colleges in Florida are ranked some of the highest in the country. This would give the men and women who work on the bases an opportunity to be involved in the community and he hopes that at some point the TF can lead that effort to encourage the bases to engage with the community colleges.

**Representative Mel Ponder** added that it's vitally important that Florida takes advantage and tap into a system recognized nationally as one of the best to provide servicemembers opportunities on and off base and to make them aware of the opportunities available.

## *Aerospace and Defense Online Platform*

**Liz Miller, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**, reported that Florida has received a grant from the Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment to develop an Aerospace and Defense Online Platform through the FL Department of Economic Opportunity. The Platform will serve as a resource for networking, education and research to promote growth in Florida's defense-related industries.

The Platform will be a free, web-based tool for Florida businesses interested in bidding on DoD contracts. They would like this Platform to be used as a tool where both prime and smaller contractors can utilize searchable resources and databases to find increased sub-contracting opportunities. The primary aim of the Platform will be to provide small- and medium-sized businesses the opportunity to partner on larger projects and to grow their customer bases as a result.

Specifically, the Platform will provide a business registration tool, search engine, database, DoD-compliant cybersecurity training, and real-time DoD data in the form of data visualizations. These tools will help provide opportunities to aerospace and defense-related businesses as well as other vendors interested in bidding on open DoD contracts. Businesses will register to use the site and then be granted access to browse prime contract opportunities and network with other contractors outside the Platform. The Platform will also recommend contracts based on the industry of the user.

Part of the grant funding for the Platform will be used to develop cybersecurity training opportunities for Florida businesses who currently bid, or will bid, on DoD contracts. As of 2017, DoD requires that all DoD contractors that process, store or transmit Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) must meet the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) minimum security standards or risk losing their contract(s). All defense contractors and subcontractors that process, store or transmit covered defense information must be compliant with DFARS clause 252.204-7012. Additionally, the DoD plans to roll out a new certification model next year called the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC), which will create a consistent framework for the cybersecurity compliance standards that contractors must meet before doing business with the DoD. They hope to utilize the Florida Defense Platform to provide a landing page and links to free web-based training on the platform to help businesses obtain the necessary CMMC training and to find information

on DoD cybersecurity certifications and requirements. The DoD has asked them to explore ways to use the Platform to assist businesses, particularly small and medium sized businesses, with education and training opportunities for this mission. The DoD grant will allow DEO to work with a partner, most likely a state college or university, with background in providing these types of training programs.

### *Military Base Protection Program*

**Ray Collins** presented on the Military Base Protection Program which was established under F.S. 288.980; includes the securing of non-conservation lands to serve as a buffer to protect military installations against encroachment. Task Force must review annually by December 1st the list submitted to DEO by military installations and provide its recommendations for ranking the lands back to DEO. Types of encroachment include development in clear zone, accident potential zones, or within 65dB and above noise contour line; sites exempted from local government AICUZ Ordinance (previously purchased); proximity to existing sonar testing facility; and proximity to existing and proposed ranges.

Prioritization criteria for each tier is as follows:

#### **Tier 1**

- High likelihood of development incompatible with Clear Zone or Accident Potential Zone 1.
- Approved/proposed development with potential to impact overall base mission.
- No existing restrictions on development to reduce encroachment/safety risk.

#### **Tier 2**

- High likelihood of development incompatible with Clear Zone or Accident Potential Zones 1 & 2.
- Proposed development with potential to impact overall base mission.
- Existing development within Clear Zone or Accident Potential Zones with low likelihood of redevelopment.

#### **Tier 3**

- High likelihood of development incompatible existing noise contours (high noise areas).
- Existing restrictive easements on properties.
- Currently compatible land use and zoning on property.
- Possible development with potential to impact overall base mission.

Staff ranking recommendations are as follows:

#### **Tier 1**

- **Florida Rock** – Previous Tier 1 – northern 14.7 acres in CZ
- **Pensacola Naval Air Station** – Cook Property (37.32 acres in APZ 1)
- **Key West Naval Air Station** – Alfred Sears Trust Property (124 acres in APZ 1)
- **Homestead ARB** – Homestead Park of Commerce – (105.5 acres in APZ 2)
- **Avon Park** – Triple Canopy Ranch (345 acres in MIPA 1)

#### **Tier 2**

- **Eglin AFB** – Valparaiso Lots (6 acres/18 homes in Clear Zone)
- **MacDill AFB** – ZONS Property (5.9 acres in Clear Zone)
- **Blount Island** – Parcel adjacent to main Entry Control Point (4.24 acres)
- **Key West NAS** – Enchanted Island (4 acres in APZ 1)
- **MacDill AFB** – 3C Self Storage – in Clear Zone (already developed-incompatible w/ CZ)

#### **Tier 3**

- **Key West NAS** – Gulf Seafood (8 acres in high noise area)
- **Camp Blanding** – Chemours Properties (6,000 + acres adjacent to ranges)



- **NS Mayport** – (1.28 acres adjacent to main gate; security issues)
- **MacDill AFB** – Sally Harris – already developed (in APZ 1)
- **MacDill AFB** – Caribbean-American Club - already developed (in APZ 1)
- **Tyndall AFB** – Long Point Condominiums (less than .5 mi from APZ 2 and within 70 dB contour)

Original state funding for three parcels (Florida Rock, Mayport Village and Barefoot Palms) was \$7.5 million. Approximately \$3.7 million remaining with DEP but designated for Florida Rock property only and needs to be reappropriated. No additional funding yet has been provided by the Florida Legislature.

**Buck MacLaughlin, Avon Park Air Force Range**, added that regarding the Triple Canopy Ranch property, the Board of County Commissioners voted to approve the transmittal of the project to the state, then it goes to DEO from the state perspective and back to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval, so it's not yet approved. APAFR asks that representatives from the local defense community (including TBDA) attend upcoming Commission meetings and draft a letter in support. They also ask the TF to re-engage and draft another strongly worded letter in support.

**Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council**, noted that the Polk County Board of County Commissioners will have an adoption hearing in early January, prior to the next TF meeting. She asked for the TF to send another letter in support, as well.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to send another letter from the TF to the Polk County Board of County Commissioners regarding the Triple Canopy Ranch property. A motion to accept was made by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** suggested that Staff attend the January Polk County Board of County Commissioners meeting, as well.

The TF discussed the Valparaiso Lots bordering Eglin AFB listed currently in Tier 2. Staff added that the six houses have been there for decades and the owners are not willing to sell.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to move the Valparaiso Lots from Tier 2 to Tier 1. A motion to approve was made by **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer**, seconded by **Ms. Amy Gowder**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

**Representative Thad Altman** asked if the Governor has made any requests to add property encroachment funding into his budget as this program is worthy of funding by the Legislature.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked if the TF has any available funds which can be used for these encroachment issues? Staff noted that the TF has provided funding to communities through the grant program and that the same could be used for these lands, as well. They would just need to submit a grant application.

**Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked Staff to research to identify if there's a need for additional funding.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Doug Broxson** asked for a motion to approve the Tiered lands priority with the approved amendment. A motion to approve was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Representative Thad Altman**, all are in favor and the motion is approved.*

#### *2019 Economic Impact Study In-Progress Update*

**Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group**, presented an update on the Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis giving an update on the direct spending coming into the state of Florida in FY 2018. National trends in defense spending shows that in 2011 defense spending declined due to sequestration, has since rebounded to just over \$700 Billion and is forecast to decline slightly over the next three or four years. These predictions are provided by the DoD. Defense spending is driven by threats, so these figures may change in the future.



Dating back to 1940, 90% of the federal budget was consumed by defense spending coming out of World War II, then moving forward in 1950 with the Korean War, in 1966-1968 and the Vietnam War were significant contributors and made up a significant portion of the federal budget, but it has declined significantly. Defense is now at about 15% of the federal budget and about 4% of the overall gross domestic product.

At the state level, Matrix Design Group analyzes direct spending from certain spending flows such as installation flow, procurement and transfer payments and breaks them out into components of the federal military, National Guard and Coast Guard. This study will be completed in the next month and at that point they will finalize the Factbook and the report.

Direct spending in the state of Florida in 2018 broken down into the three components shows that procurement spending increased 24%, salaries show an increase of 3.8% and transfer payments increased 4.4%. These increases are from the numbers in the 2016 study.

Good news is that from 2015 to 2018, defense contracts in the aerospace and engineering fields in Brevard and Orange Counties has nearly doubled. This makes up nearly 60% of all manufacturing contracts. If Okaloosa County is included, it increases the total to about 70% of all manufacturing contracts coming out of those three counties. These numbers are sectioned into manufacturing, professional scientific and technical service and construction. The highest numbers are associated with manufacturing and professional scientific and technical services which brings in higher value, higher paying jobs.

Regarding transfer payments and VA benefits, the Florida trend shows that the number of veterans in the state is declining and has done so at about 11% since 2009. Good news is that the national trend is about 15% over that same period, so Florida is doing better in retaining the veteran's population. The number is declining because the overall force structure has declined over time, and Florida is not pushing out the number of veterans relative to historic trends. Increasing amount of expenditures coming into the state are driven primarily by compensation and pensions along with medical (healthcare costs).

Key takeaways are:

- Direct spending up 11.4% over 2016 (nominally)
- Growth driven by 24.5% increase in defense contracts
- Since 2009:
  - Veterans population down 11% vs 15% nationally
  - Retiree population up 9% vs 7% nationally

### *2020 Legislative Update*

**Ray Collins** discussed that in September, the House voted to extend the moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico and that Senators Scott and Rubio were going to introduce a similar bill in the Senate that would extend the moratorium for ten years. We haven't heard anything more on the Senate version of that bill since Representative Rooney's was passed. The delay is due to Senator Rubio looking at the possible other bills to which he could attach this measure and realized that everything that was out there didn't have a chance of making it through both houses. He's currently looking for a bill with a likelihood of making it through both houses successfully and plans to attach this measure to such a bill.

At the state level, since the last meeting in October, several House and Senate bills have been introduced and are still working their way through committee and would have some benefits for veterans and active-duty military.

- House Bill 205 would expand the current restrictions on the unlawful use of uniforms and medals or insignia.
- Senate Bill 7010 would relieve servicemembers and veterans of certain documentary requirements they have when trying to protect certain personal information from public release.
- Senate Bill 136 and House Bill 61 would extend certain financial adoption benefits to military and veterans that currently apply to state employees and certain agencies funded by the state.

- House Measure 443 is a resolution encouraging the federal government to look favorably upon Florida as the permanent home for the headquarters of the U.S. Space Command/Space Force.

#### *Military & Defense Update*

**Beth Medina** briefed that her first focus is to establish the military & defense network and position it to take advantage of opportunities. She feels her job is to support the FDA and FDSTF teams, will make sure she's helping describe the network, will add some framework to the strategic plan and prepare things to look at as we move forward from here.

#### V. Agenda Item V: Public Comment

**Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs**, addressed the veteran population decline in the state of Florida. This number will continue to go down for the next thirty years. During WWII there were roughly 16 million men and women in uniform and those numbers today aren't even a quarter of that looking at active duty, reserves and the National Guard members. WWII and Korean War veterans are passing away due to age and the passage of time and while the number of veterans will continue to decline, since 9/11 our nation has been generating nothing but wartime veterans. As a result, the needs of these wartime veterans with multiple deployments is greater than the WWII, Korean War and many of the Vietnam era veterans. Therefore, the Federal VA and the state of Florida through their various agencies have been devoting so much time and effort to make sure these veterans and their families are connected with their benefits.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:58 AM EST*