

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at DoubleTree by Hilton in Tallahassee, 9:00 AM EST – 4:00 PM EST.

Task Force Members Present:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
RAdm. Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & Brigadier General, AUS (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

Task Force Members Absent:

Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
MGen. Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Speakers Present:

Craig Dalton, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Ted Spangenburg, Bay Defense Alliance
Col. Pete Gandy, USAF (ret.), Santa Rosa County
Alex Lincoln, Andrews Institute
John Schueler, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance
Dr. Elaine Liftin, Council for Educational Change
Andy Harold, Florida 8 (a) Alliance
Lt. Gen. Thomas Baptiste, USAF (ret.), National Center for Simulation
Phil Huber, Marstel-Day, LLC
Rae Pike, Florida Military Family Community Covenant
RAdm. Victor Guillory, USN (ret.), City of Jacksonville
Buck MacLaughlin, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Bill Garrison, Clay County Chamber
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville

Others Present:

The Honorable Anthony Principi, The Principi Group, LLC
MGEN Mike Jones, USA (ret.), The Spectrum Group, LLC
Jim Breitenfeld, Okaloosa Defense Support Initiative

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

DoubleTree Hotel, 101 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Agenda -- Meeting #11

Thursday - January 17, 2013 **0900 - 1600**

0900 – 0905	Welcome/Introductions Welcome new Task Force member Pledge of Allegiance	Chairman
0905 - 0915	Old Business - Approval of November 14 minutes - Budget update	Bruce Grant
0915 – 1530	New Business - Lt. Gov. remarks - TF member reports - Annual Report - Funding applications	TF Members Bruce Grant Bruce Grant

(Note: Task Force will break for lunch at approximately 1200)

1530 - 1600	Public Comment	Chairman
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1600 Next Meetings:

Thursday, February 21, 2013 – Tallahassee
Thursday, March 21, 2013 – Tallahassee
Thursday, April 18, 2013 – Tallahassee
Adjourn

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A quorum being present, **Representative Jimmy Patronis**, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis introduced himself, and asked the Task Force members and Secretary Anthony Principi to introduce themselves. He recognized Dr. David Goetsch for his work as a past Chairmen of the Task Force. He led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Patronis reminded the Task Force members that under the Sunshine Law, they are prohibited from discussing Task Force business outside the meeting.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the October 24 meeting minutes.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget.

**III. Agenda Item III: New Business
Task Force Member Reports**

Dr. David Goetsch commented Okaloosa County is focused on what will happen next with Congress. The problem of sequestration is of great concern.

RAdm. Kevin Delany, Representative Matt Gaetz and Barbara Stewart expressed the same concerns for their areas.

Mr. J.R. McDonald reported the F-35 at Eglin AFB passed recent evaluations, and has been declared ready for training. The first classes have started which include students who are international pilots. Also, Okaloosa County will be hosting the 71st reunion of the Doolittle Raiders in Ft. Walton Beach in April 2013.

BGen. Chip Diehl stated the DOD budget pressures are of concern in Tampa. Questions are being asked concerning MacDill AFB not being selected as an initial host for KC-46 aerial refueling tankers. The focus has moved to stressing the nation's need for the tankers in the midst of budget pressures. BGen. Diehl and John Schueler traveled to Jordan on behalf of Tampa's Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation. The trip resulted in a group of Jordanians planning to visit the facility in Tampa. Lastly, General Austin, USA, will be coming into USCENTCOM in March to take command from General Mattis, as he retires.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported Tyndall will receive the squadron of F-22 aircraft from Holloman AFB, but the move has been delayed for one year. NSA Panama City won the Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) 2013 Installation Excellence Award.

Judge Patt Maney commented The Wall of Fallen Heroes will be dedicated on Saturday, January 19, 2013 in Ft. Walton Beach. The wall honors members of the military from Florida who have died in the Afghanistan and Iraq wars in the last year. Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll will be attending.

Staff called attention to the Annual Report contained in the meeting notebook.

Staff welcomed the members' comments, suggestions and edits. The report is due to the Governor, Senate President and House Speaker on February 1.

Staff distributed and explained the guidance and scoring sheets for evaluating the Task

Force funding presentations. Discussion was scheduled to take place during the closed session.

Chairman Patronis commended the leadership of Senate President Gaetz in creating the Task Force and Governor Scott for creating the budget allocations to strengthen Florida's military installations.

Applicants for funding made oral presentations on sixteen projects. Task Force members scored each presentation, and staff calculated the scores.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM EST and reconvened at 3:45 PM EST. The balance of the meeting was closed to the public. Meeting minutes for the closed session are separate.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at DoubleTree by Hilton in Tallahassee, 10:00 AM EST – 2:00 PM EST.

Task Force Members Present:

Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll
Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & Brigadier General, AUS (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

RAdm. Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Matt Gaetz, State Representative
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)
MGen. Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Speakers Present:

Jim Kuzma, Space Florida
Rocky McPherson, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Rod Lewis, University of West Florida
Deb Keller, The Nature Conservancy
Joe Marino, Florida League of Defense Contractors

Others Present:

Charlie Battaglia, The Principi Group, LLC
MGen. Mike Jones, USA (ret.), The Spectrum Group, LLC
Jim Breitenfeld, Okaloosa Defense Support Initiative
John Patrick Walsh, EOG, Washington, D.C.

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

DoubleTree by Hilton, 101 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Agenda -- Meeting #12

Thursday - February 21, 2013

1000 - 1400

1000 – 1005	Welcome/Introductions Pledge of Allegiance	Chairman
1005 - 1015	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approval of January 17 minutes- FY 2013 budget update- Disposition of FY 2013 grants	Bruce Grant Bruce Grant
1015 – 1200	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lt. Gov. remarks- TF member reports- Update from The Principi Group- UAV Update- Budget recommendation for FY 2014- Legislative update- Florida Defense Factbook- The Nature Conservancy /Base Buffering Funding- Florida League of Defense Contractors	TF Members Charlie Battaglia Jim Kuzma Bruce Grant Rocky McPherson Rod Lewis Deb Keller Joe Marino
1200 - 1230	Public Comment	Chairman
1230 – 1400	Working Lunch: Discussion of advocacy strategy (CLOSED SESSION)	
1400	Next Meetings: Thursday, March 21, 2013 – Tallahassee Thursday, April 18, 2013 – Tallahassee Thursday, May 16, 2013 -- TBD Adjourn	

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A quorum being present, **Representative Jimmy Patronis**, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 10:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Patronis reminded the Task Force members that under the Sunshine Law, they are prohibited from discussing Task Force business outside the meeting.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve as amended the January 17 meeting minutes.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget.

Staff provided an update on the disposition of the FY 2013 grants.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

BGen. Chip Diehl stated that USCENTCOM's change of command will take place on March 21, 2013. General Austin, USA, will take command from General Mattis, as he retires. Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll will visit Tampa Bay. The impact of sequestration on the Tampa Bay region is being considered.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that the Northwest Florida Defense Coalition will make its annual visit to Washington D.C. on March 12 and 13, 2013. The Coalition hopes to engage the Principi Group during the visit.

Judge Patt Maney commented on the dedication of the Purple Heart Wall to remember those who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. Chairman Patronis and Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll came to Ft. Walton Beach for the dedication. In the previous TF meeting, Judge Maney had commented on active duty personnel returning from deployment and not being allowed to register to vote. House Bill 7021, which addresses this issue, recently passed out of the Veteran & Military Affairs Subcommittee.

Chairman Patronis added that the second recipient of a Florida license plate recognizing Viet Nam veterans will be honored in Panama City on February 22, 2013. The Chairman read the Governor's letter of recognition.

Dr. David Goetsch commented on a new book titled Driving Mr. Yogi. BGen. Chip Diehl is mentioned in the book, as a golf partner of Yogi Berra.

Ms. Barbara Stewart stated that Air Combat Command has agreed to allow C-130s based at Moody AFB to use the Avon Park Range runway. It is a significant step toward certification.

Ms. Stewart thanked everyone who worked on this. If the Range can demonstrate safe and efficient use of the runway, lessons learned from the Moody aircraft may be applied to the use of aircraft from other bases.

MGen. Joseph Taluto did not offer a report.

RAdm. Kevin Delaney commented that civilian employees in his area will be furloughed one day per week if sequestration goes into effect.

Update from the Principi Group (TPG)

Mr. Charlie Battaglia commented that sequestration will likely go into effect on March 1. Sequestration is likely to be softened, with DOD cuts spread over a period of years, at the

discretion of the Secretary of Defense. A BRAC will be in the President's budget for 2015. Apparently the Senate will consider it, but it will be dead on arrival in the House. TPG is very committed to enhancing Florida's installations, as the Task Force has charged us to do. If there is a BRAC, the value of Florida's installations will be recognized by a BRAC Commission. If you come to Washington, be in touch. We are here to help.

MGen. Mike Jones discussed impacts of the projected budget cuts in Florida, provided by the military services. This information will be included in TPG's monthly report.

Army

Estimated 3,299 jobs will be affected. The estimated losses are as follows:

424 private sector jobs for reduced investments
50 jobs for decreased construction
114 base operations contractor jobs
\$7M in reduced base operations
\$145M in reduced acquisitions & industrial based reductions
\$10M in construction, sustainment and restoration activities

Reduction in Available Funds:

Florida Army National Guard	\$16.87M
US Army Reserve	\$ 9M
Camp Blanding	\$ 9.6M

Air Force

\$94.5M in lost pay
\$22.6M in reduced infrastructure, maintenance & repair
\$14.8M in reduced military construction

Navy

\$4M in cancelling 3rd & 4th quarter ship availabilities in Mayport
\$135M in delaying 3rd & 4th quarter aircraft maintenance in Jacksonville
\$30M in cutting approximately 1,120 temporary workers in 3rd & 4th quarters
\$70M resulting from civilian hiring freeze (vacant positions not filled)
\$59M in reduced infrastructure repair & maintenance (50% reduction for installations)
\$75M in base operations (10% reduction), including flying hour program and ship operations
\$4M in cancelling demolition projects (four in Pensacola and one in Key West)

Deferring MILCON project in Jacksonville and deferring new start aircraft procurements
\$263M in deferring research and development projects
Significant economic loss in cancelling the Blue Angels shows in Pensacola, Tampa and Jacksonville
Furlough of most civilian workers for 22 work days during the balance of the fiscal year
Cancelling of fleet participation in Fleet Week in Tampa Bay and Fort Lauderdale

The cumulative impact on Florida, given our military presence, is very very severe.

MGen. Mike Jones presented a summary of the efforts made by TPG over the past month. TPG met with senior Air Force officials to discuss the importance of Avon Park's land and ranges. These officials were very complimentary of Florida's efforts to protect the ranges.

A request was made to gather more information. The big question on every decision is, "Are there increased costs associated with this decision?" TPG made the point that this is not an expensive certification at Avon Park Air Force Range. TPG also stressed the importance of training our troops on these airfields which are very similar to those they will be working in when deployed. This was well received.

A challenge at MacDill is communicating to senior Air Force leadership the capability of the installation. Because of the joint nature of much of the base, there is not a lot of senior Air Force traffic. Lt. General McDew, 18th AF Commander, did a base visit, which was very very enlightening. TPG commends BGen. Chip Diehl, the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance and the support of the Task Force in uniting the community to communicate the capability of MacDill.

TPG has had dialogue with the Blount Island leadership regarding the gantry crane, and raising it to the Marine Corps leadership. The goal is to ensure it is happening on all sides -- uniform, community and state.

NAVAIR provided a very positive formal response on the Fleet Air Readiness Center capacity. Admiral Dunaway asked TPG to arrange a meeting with other officials to examine the concerns on utilizing and sustaining the capacity of the Center.

TPG corresponded with the Coast Guard regarding the availability of berths at Mayport, and the value of the maintenance and repair capability in supporting the Guard.

Significant progress is being made regarding Team Orlando. TPG acknowledges the Task Force in getting their community effort to progress. TPG attended the Congressional Mini-Caucus on Modeling and Simulation. Host Representative Randy Forbes stressed there must be a united message regarding the value of modeling and simulation and the synergy of Team Orlando. In a strategy session with Lt.Gen Baptiste, the clear lines of coordination with his efforts and the Task Force were discussed. Considerable progress is being made in achieving this single message. TPG will continue to work with Team Orlando, as directed by the Task Force.

TPG met with Pentagon officials regarding Florida's actions on airspace management. They complimented Florida and the GRASI initiative, and view it as a model. Good progress is being made on informing Pentagon officials on the actions Florida is taking. They have much better situational awareness of information they were previously unaware of. As TPG engages with senior leaders, the more they learn of Florida's and the communities' actions in support of the installations, the more pleased they are.

UAV Update

Mr. Jim Kuzma recognized team members from around the state for their contributions to the efforts of becoming one of six UAV test sites in the nation. There are projections of tremendous growth in the civilian and military markets in the next decade, with 62% in the US. A requirement is to submit the local and corporate economic impact, which will be delivered May 6 (the last item to be submitted). The award date is December 31, 2013. There are over 35 states competing for this opportunity. Influencing the decision makers in Washington D.C. is key. Support from the Principi Group has been offered, and Senator Rubio and Senator Nelson are sponsoring a delegation letter. Any help the Task Force can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll asked Mr. Kuzma to address the issue of privacy. Mr. Kuzma responded that in November, the Florida-US partnership adopted a code of conduct modeled after the industry code of conduct. It is founded on safety, professionalism and respect from a civil liberties and privacy perspective. There is an outstanding action item for a penalty system and fine schedule for violaters.

BGen. Chip Diehl asked how the Task Force can assist. **Lt. Governor Carroll** suggested the possibility of forming a special committee to make marketing recommendations.

Presentation Attached

Budget Recommendation for FY 2014

Staff presented the Task Force budget recommendation for 2014. The Governor has

recommended a \$2M budget for 2014. **BGen. Chip Diehl** suggested the budget is too low, and should include unfunded requirements of installations. He urged the Task Force to keep the proactive momentum going, especially in light of a potential 2015 BRAC. **Mr. Tom Neubauer** concurred on the urgency of being proactive rather than reactive, should a BRAC take place in 2015. **Ms. Barbara Stewart** commented that the advocacy work of TPG has been extremely valuable, and stressed the importance of funding TPG at the level of maximum effectiveness. **Ms. Stewart** cautioned against moving funding for base protection into the general fund, and suggested funds be made available for UAV marketing.

RAdm. Kevin Delaney asked if there is funding in the state budget for Camp Blanding. If not, has the Task Force considered adding it into the TF grant budget? **Chairman Patronis** responded that the Legislative budget will be finalized the first week in May. What cannot be done legislatively will be revisited by the Task Force while the resources are available.

Legislative Update

Staff provided a summary of 17 military or veteran related bills that have moved through Florida legislative committees. **BGen. Chip Diehl** commented on the marketing value of an updated summary of bills benefitting veterans. **Staff** mentioned the Department of Veterans Affairs annually publishes a booklet listing both federal and state benefits. Copies will be distributed to all Task Force members. In addition, the Task Force tasked staff to develop a similar guide for active duty, guard and reserve benefits separate from veterans benefits. The guide will be available in the next month or two.

BGen. Chip Diehl reminded the Task Force of previous discussions on tax benefits for cyber and UAV technologies, in addition to modeling and simulation. Such a bill could pay large dividends for Florida's high tech corridor.

Florida Defense Factbook

Dr. Rod Lewis presented the Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis for January 2013. Dr. Lewis pointed out that, unlike in previous years, the numbers include the National Guard and the Coast Guard. This is at the request of the Task Force. The job forecast is expected to decline by 2015, and that will not include a sequester. There are very few places in Florida where a large share of the economy is not reliant on the military. Northwest Florida has the biggest impact, with well over 30%. **Dr. David Goetsch** commended Dr. Lewis for an outstanding job.

Presentation Attached

The Nature Conservancy/Base Buffering Funding

Ms. Deb Keller commended the Task Force, Senator Gaetz and Governor Scott for their significant contributions to Florida's military sustainability. The military base buffering program has become well recognized among the base communities and the members of the Florida Legislature. The Governor has put \$25 million into the budget for the Florida Forever land acquisition program for military base buffering and water and springs protection. This money has been coupled with the Defense Infrastructure Grants (DIG) from the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) and Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI), and other state programs that match federal dollars. Florida has received 11% of all the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) dollars ever expended. This is because Florida has been able to match the dollars. Eglin AFB and Avon Park AF Range are currently involved in a REPI challenge competition for \$5M. The state will match the \$5M if Florida wins. Florida, under the leadership of Governor Jeb Bush, was very influential in the development of the REPI program. Several federal programs buffer our military air space areas. Moving forward with the Farm Bill will continue those funding sources.

Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll commended Ms. Keller for her work on behalf of Florida's military installations, as well as for Space Florida. Governor Carroll recently had a conversation with USAF Assistant Secretary Yonkers. Although Florida has attracted federal

dollars, the state is not capturing the dollars that are still left in Washington.

Ms. Barbara Stewart mentioned a discussion in last month's meeting on bringing REPI money to Florida that is left over from 2013. **Ms. Keller** responded that under the federal continuing resolution budget, no new projects can be started. Lawyers are trying to assess how they can spend those dollars. There is a strong reading that REPI wants to ensure any funds not committed will be given to the programs that have increased their match. Ms. Keller thanked the Task Force for the \$500,000 committed to Avon Park that could be instrumental in obtaining leftover funds.

Ms. Barbara Stewart asked if future BP money will be available for conservation easements in the Panhandle. **Lt. Governor Carroll** responded that the state has been able to, through settlement, along with the BP claims, capture those dollars for purchasing base buffering land at Eglin AFB. However, it is not known if BP funds will be available for such purchases in the future. **Ms. Keller** added that the conservation community, the Navy and the Air Force greatly appreciate Lt. Governor Carroll's work in directing BP money to two base buffering programs in the Panhandle. One of the projects is Escribano Point, which has been worked on for over a decade by conservation communities. The money will also work to protect the shoreline, the Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

Florida League of Defense Contractors

Mr. Joe Marino presented the legislative priorities for the Florida League of Defense Contractors.

Presentation Attached

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Mr. Francis Clifford from Brevard County offered his services to the Task Force. He is an attorney who has worked in the Air Force General Counsel's Office at the Pentagon,

Mr. Bruce McCormack with the Gulf Unmanned Systems Center in Carabelle addressed the Task Force. The Center has been working with Space Florida, Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field. A goal of the Center is to be recognized as the national center for air surface, subsurface and land unmanned vehicle operations, providing unparalleled opportunities for DOD and industry. Mr. McCormack described the geographical benefits of operating in Franklin County. The goal is to launch the center in the Fall of 2013, hiring 10 full-time employees with benefits, and adding 10 more employees in 2014. Mr. McCormack requested support of the Center from the Task Force.

Presentation Attached

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM EST and reconvened at 12:45 PM EST. The balance of the meeting was closed to the public. Meeting minutes for the closed session are separate.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at DoubleTree by Hilton in Tallahassee, 8:00 AM EST – 10:00 AM EST.

Task Force Members Present:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & Brigadier General, AUS (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
MGen. Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida
Dana Young, State Representative

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

RAdm. Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)

Speakers Present:

Susan Grandin, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Mike McDaniel, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Mike Prendergast, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)
Honorable Anthony Principi, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)

Others Present:

Lynn Bannister, U.S. Senator Bill Nelson's Office
Jim Breitenfeld, Okaloosa Defense Support Initiative
Brian Mimbs, U.S. Senator Marco Rubio's Office

Others Present by Telephone

Craig Deathridge, Congressman Steve Southerland's Office

Staff Present:

Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

Doubletree Inn
101 S. Adams St.
Tallahassee, FL

Agenda -- Meeting #14

Thursday - April 18, 2013

0800 – 1000 AM

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|-------------|---|---|
| 0800 – 0805 | Welcome/Introductions
Introduction of New Member – Rep. Dana Young
Pledge of Allegiance | Chairman |
| 0805 - 0815 | Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approval of March 21 minutes- FY 2013 budget update- Update of FY 2013 Grant Awards | Bruce Grant
Bruce Grant |
| 0815 – 0930 | New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TF member reports- Update from The Principi Group- State Legislative Update- State Veterans Affairs Legislative update- Base Buffering -- Dept. of Environmental Protection- Base Buffering – Dept. of Economic Opportunity | TF Members
Hon. Tony Principi
Rocky McPherson
Mike Prendergast
Susan Grandin
Mike McDaniel |
| 0930 - 1000 | Public Comment | Chairman |
| 1000 | Next Meetings:

Thursday, May 16, 2013 – Panama City
Thursday, June 20, 2013 – Tampa

Adjourn | |

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Representative Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 8:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Jimmy Patronis led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Patronis recognized the newest member of the Task Force, Representative Dana Young, appointed by the Governor, and recognized Task Force members attending by telephone.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the March 21 meeting minutes.

Chairman Patronis recognized special guests, and reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget and the FY 2013 grant awards. All ten of the contracts being let by the grant process have been sent to the awardees, for a total of \$2.665M. The contract funding for the National Center for Simulation is reflected in the current budget. The balance of the contract funding should be reflected in next month's budget. There is currently \$608,382 available in the budget.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

MGen. Emmett Titshaw presented an update of the report on sequestration given at the previous meeting. The biggest win in the current week was the saving of the 48th Wing Civil Support Team, based in Pinellas Park. This was supported by the Task Force, the Governor's office and the Congressional delegation. Many of the sequestration impacts briefed at the March meeting have been alleviated or delayed. The 21-day furlough for technicians has been reduced to 14 days, to start in June. Some training funds have been released, as well as federal military tuition assistance funds.

BGen. Chip Diehl welcomed Representative Young to the Task Force, and thanked the Principi Group (TPG) for their continuing work in Washington on behalf of the Task Force. Approval by the Secretary of the Air Force of moving the helicopters from St. Petersburg to MacDill AFB is expected the end of April. This will bring a \$50M MILCON project to MacDill. This will most likely generate an Environmental Impact Statement. The Tampa Bay Defense Alliance is doing another survey on sequestration impact. The National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) did the initial survey in the Tampa Bay area. The measures already taken, such as cutting forces, salaries and contracts, may take months or years to turn around. The Task Force must keep an eye on these issues.

Representative Dana Young did not offer a report, and commented on being happy to be a member of the Task Force. **Chairman Patronis** added that Representative Young is a leader in the House Chamber (Majority Leader), with team management responsibilities as the Legislative process moves forward.

Judge Patt Maney commented that General Mark Welch, Air Force Chief of Staff, and his wife are scheduled to be at Eglin AFB the following day. Judge Maney has been invited to meet with them, and will provide a report at the next Task Force meeting.

Chairman Patronis discussed ad valorem tax legislation being coordinated with Senator John Thrasher. HB531 has drawn the attention of the Congressional delegation, The offices of Senator Nelson and Congressman Miller have been engaged, and Chairman Patronis briefed Congressman Southerland the previous evening. Public-private partnerships have been established in Florida to allow renovation of base housing. The improvements to government property have been done by the private sector. Property appraisers interpreted

Florida statutes as treating those improvements as taxable assets. There is currently a lawsuit pending in Monroe County. The proposed legislation takes the Uniform Housing Code from the federal level and adds it into Florida state statutes. The Senate bill must be amended to match the House bill. Focus on the big picture must be maintained – sending the right message to DC to strengthen the case for the existence of Florida’s military installations and missions.

Dr. David Goetsch commented that the defense coalition comprised of Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Bay Counties recently had a very successful trip to Washington. Dr. Goetsch commented on Representative Young’s popularity in Okaloosa County as a supporter of the Air Force.

Representative Matt Gaetz commented on conversations with contract partners in the Task Force grants program. Many of them have already been able to leverage those funds with matching private, local or federal dollars. The Legislative members of the Task Force eagerly await the outcome of the budget conference process, regarding future funding of the Task Force. Representative Gaetz committed to working to ensure the Task Force has the needed resources to continue the work.

Chairman Patronis commented on the importance of the Eagle Fund to Representative Gaetz’ district. As they have success, it will be great to recognize the Task Force for their efforts in improving those lives. (The Andrews Research and Education Institute in Gulf Breeze is a Task Force grant awardee. The Eagle Fund was created to provide military athletes access to the pro sports model - The Andrews Continuum of Care. The Fund’s goal is to return wounded service members to the fight and back into life).

Ms. Barbara Stewart presented news on the Avon Park base encroachment effort. The conservation easement on the first parcel of property has been signed. The Air Force is expected to sign on the second parcel, which is much larger, within the next two weeks. Also, planned improvements for the runway are moving ahead. The drainage and overrun projects are moving forward. Secretary Principi was notified today of a delay in certification of the runway, and he and MGen. Jones will continue working on this. The Air Force is proceeding with the risk assessment on receiving aircraft from Moody AFB. Some of the aircraft can be received without the full certification.

Mr. J.R. McDonald commented that the current week celebrates the 71st anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders’ raid on Tokyo. Significant celebration activities are taking place in Okaloosa County, with three of the remaining Raiders present at the celebration. Hearing the history directly from the Raiders was amazing. General Welch, Air Force Chief of Staff, will be the guest speaker at the final banquet on Saturday evening.

General Titshaw discussed the ongoing effects of sequestration. Unfortunately, on the defense contractor side, there is no flexibility to roll back furloughs. Layoffs and furloughs are taking place locally and across the state. The EDC and Workforce Development Board are offering opportunities for highly talented displaced workers to stay in Florida. This is going very well.

Kathleen Ferguson, Secretary of the Airforce for Installations, is increasing efforts to expand the use of community services by military installations (Public Private Partnership Program or P4 Initiative). This is a way to save money. Perhaps TPG can highlight the places where installations are closely tied to the communities, to show during the BRAC process how much these communities are supporting this P4 Initiative.

The defense industry applauds the state’s efforts on the tax incentives and tax refund programs as a way to entice high-tech businesses into Florida. Recently, changes were made to the Qualified Tax Industry (QTI) refund bill. Some of the language inserted between

the House and Senate bills contains restrictions that large companies are unable to comply with. The bill needs language that allows the use of these incentives by major companies that could bring a great deal of tax revenue to the state.

MGen. Joseph Taluto did not offer a report.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported the Air Combat Command (ACC) Commander, General Mike Hostage, is spending the day at Tyndall AFB, and will be at Eglin AFB the following day. One area of discussion will be how ACC is dealing with the budget issues, including the stand down of active combat units around the country.

RAdm. Kevin Delaney reported that another guided missile frigate (FFG) was decommissioned over the last month at Mayport. That will bring three for this year. On paper, it shows Mayport will get four ships total, but three of them are small patrol craft, which shows the danger of counting numbers. For the littoral combat ships (LCSs), Mayport goes down to 12 ships for 2014 and 2015. As short a time ago as 2011, there were 19 ships at Mayport. They are backfilling with these LCSs, and half of those are presently at risk. Obviously, numbers do not mean that much, and even without a BRAC, the deterioration of shipboard manning at Mayport is a big issue.

Senate bills 466 and 1784 are both under consideration and are of concern for northeast Florida installations for providing better military buffers against encroachment.

Mayport is down to 8,819 tenants, as of today, and that is a remarkable downsizing. LCSs that are coming in bring a total of 300 people for two LCSs. One FFG is over 200. Two destroyers (DDGs) would be 760. The bottom line is that the shell game with the hulls is not doing Mayport or northeast Florida any good. This is being watched continuously, and Charlie Battaglia and Secretary Principi are looking at it on the Washington level to ensure that message is being sent. Obviously, the possible developments at JAXPORT are of interest, both for the Marine Corps facility at Blount Island and for Mayport.

Update from The Principi Group (TPG)

Secretary Anthony Principi began by commenting on Chairman Patronis' legislation dealing with the tax issue on military housing. There are eight criteria in the law by which the BRAC Commission has to decide whether to close or realign a military base. The first four, and most important, are military value. While Secretary Principi was Chairman of the 2005 BRAC round, there were four other considerations. One of those was the ability of current installations, current communities or potentially receiving communities to support military manpower and their dependants. Certainly, housing is one of those at the top of the list. Tax treatment of military housing or other public-private partnerships on military installations impacts support of military manpower and dependents. Depending on the degree of the impact, this could have an adverse effect when the BRAC Commission looks at military installations in Florida. Secretary Principi believes it is important legislation, that will hopefully be resolved this year, in the event there is another BRAC.

It is common knowledge that the President's budget calls for BRACs in 2015 and 2017. It appears DOD is pleading for a BRAC, because they now have nearly 30% excess infrastructure, according to their statistics. The Air Force is at the top of the list. They came out of the 2005 BRAC with approximately 20% excess infrastructure. Now, with 500 fewer aircraft, manpower declines because of the Budget Control Act and sequestration, the Air Force is anxious to get a BRAC in 2015. DOD Secretary Chuck Hagel recently commented in testimony that this will be more of a classic realignment and closure round than it was in 2005. BRAC 2005 was Secretary Rumsfeld's one opportunity to transform the US military in the post-911 world. It was more about transformation than it was about cost savings. Secretary Hagel has also offered overseas bases. A BRAC is not needed for overseas bases; the Secretary has complete discretion on what to do overseas. This is certainly being

considered.

The Undersecretary of Defense (Comptroller), Robert Hale, testified that DOD would expect to save up to \$2B annually in another BRAC. There is a great deal of Congressional skepticism. The Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee are opposed. The Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee is opposed. However, Adam Smith, Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee, who opposed a BRAC, is now saying he is a strong supporter. A couple of Congressmen are saying we need a BRAC. Secretary Principi met with the Staff Director and Chief Counsel and the General Counsel of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who believe a 2015 BRAC is unlikely. They would not rule out a BRAC in 2017. The question is, "Will there be a BRAC above the radar screen, with the Commission that gives communities an opportunity to weigh in?"; or, "Will there be a BRAC below the radar screen, where they piecemeal a base to death by reducing civilian and military personnel, leaving many buildings that do not serve a community very well?"

The \$526B Defense budget was submitted last week. Congress is unhappy, because it ignores sequestration of \$45B for FY2014. It looks like the furloughs are being played down, from 22 days down to seven. The Navy says they do not want to furlough anyone.

The Northwest Florida Defense Coalition came to Washington, and it was a great fly-in. An excellent line-up of DOD officials came and briefed the Alliance. Secretary Principi had the opportunity and privilege to address them, as well. Following that meeting, time was spent at the Pentagon in the office of the Secretary of the Air Force, regarding the K-46s to MacDill. This looks good for a future basing round. The Air Force will not cancel that program, as cancellation costs would be approximately \$800B. As General Diehl said, a decision on the helos was also discussed. That decision will be made on April 29 on whether to move the 23 159th helos over to MacDill. The state of Florida was discussed in a meeting with Nancy Natoli, DOD Program Director of the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI). Eleven percent of REPI grants and funding goes to Florida. This is quite an accomplishment for the state.

Secretary Principi, together with Brian McManus and John Walsh, have been making rounds on Capitol Hill, talking with members of Florida's Congressional delegation. This is to ensure the delegates understand the SWOT analysis done of all Florida military installations, and identify new and changing issues that need attention. One of Senator Bill Nelson's concerns is the President's budget, and the Navy's decision to cut back on drug interdiction patrols in the Caribbean. MGen. Mike Jones (TPG) met with the Assistant Adjutant General in St. Augustine the previous week, to discuss Guard issues. General Newton (TPG) has met with senior military officers, including the Air Force Material Commander. There will be a follow-up meeting with the Commander in the very near future to review several high-priority issues for Florida.

Preparations are being made for the first community re-visits, to get updates around the state. This will ensure TPG has current information and updates, based on the SWOT analysis and Strategic Plan developed by the Task Force. There will be continual meetings with Florida's Congressional delegation (members and staff). An April 22 meeting is scheduled with Naval Air Systems Command. The purpose is to discuss with Naval aviation leadership the importance of the efficiencies of the Fleet Readiness Center in Jacksonville.

There have been rumors about closing Naval hospitals and clinics in Florida, particularly the Naval hospital in Pensacola. Staffing can be reduced, but a Naval hospital cannot be closed without a BRAC. TPG will stay on top of that to find out what is going on at the Pensacola hospital.

Mr. Jim Breitenfeld explained that community and installation visits will be planned to coincide with Task Force meetings. Planning will begin 60 to 90 days ahead. The communities and installations will be asked if the installation assessments done last year appear to be accurate, and if new issues have emerged. Is TPG still on target as to what is relevant to that community and installation? The teams visiting will be smaller than on the initial visits, consisting of approximately three people -- two flag officers and Jim Breitenfeld.

BGen. Chip Diehl commented on developments relating to sequestration, four Air Force structure committees and Secretary Hagel's evaluation of DOD in total. Florida's positive momentum must continue. **BGen. Diehl** asked TPG, on behalf of the Task Force, "In light of all this, what should the Task Force strategy be for the next six months?" TPG and the Task Force plan to be at MacDill on June 19 and 20. **BGen. Diehl** suggested visiting CENTCOM, SOCOM and the 6th Air Mobility Wing on June 19, and holding the Task Force meeting the following day. Arrangements can be made for leadership to address the group.

Secretary Principi responded that he could not agree more. Task Force strategy for the next six months will certainly be discussed at the next meeting. This is a moving target; there is a great deal of uncertainty as to the end result. **Secretary Principi** commended the Governor and the Task Force for getting out in front on the issues. Florida cannot wait until a BRAC list comes out to start doing the work the Task Force is doing. There is an 86% chance that whoever is on the closure list will stay on the list. The strategy going forward certainly needs to be refined, and that will be done. TPG will keep pushing as hard as possible with the military, the Pentagon, and the Task Force to improve the military value of Florida's installations.

MGen. Emmett Titshaw stated that the exposure of the Air Force in Florida cannot be overstated. The Airforce has loudly and clearly stated they have 30% excess infrastructure. Is there a way to look back at the 2005 BRAC and establish a baseline on risk to Florida's installations, for going forward? There needs to be a focus on particular installations that are known to have exposure --- at least the Air Force and probably the Navy.

Secretary Principi agreed it is clear the Air Force is most at risk. Air Force Secretary Mike Donley is begging for a BRAC. TPG can identify those installations that are most at risk, using the data and scores from 2005. Identifying those most at risk was done as part of the SWOT analysis, but TPG certainly can be more specific. Nothing can be assumed. Even if the military pours hundreds of millions of dollars into a base, it could be on the list. This took place in 2005. Preparations must be made for any contingency.

Chairman Patronis turned the meeting over to **Vice Chairman Dr. David Goetsch**, to take care of a committee requirement with the Florida House of Representatives.

State Legislative Update

Staff presented an update on the state bills being tracked most closely. All four bills are moving along well in the Legislature. The non-conservation base buffering bill allows for adding a program to purchase non-conservation lands. The ad valorem tax bill is moving along. The bill on the interstate compact allows for the compact to continue, and for the dues to be paid by the Department of Education. The late voter registration bill, brought to the Task Force's attention by Judge Maney, has been amended and added to a couple of different bills.

BGen. Chip Diehl mentioned a bill for in-state residency for veterans coming from outside the state. **BGen. Diehl** suggested that bills important to the Task Force, and not passed in the current Session, be reconsidered in a better form next Session.

Mr. J.R. McDonald asked for tracking of the Qualified Tax Industry (QTI) and Qualified Defense & Space Contractor (QDSC) bill, SB236. Staff confirmed the bill will be tracked

and added to next month's update.

Vice Chairman Dr. David Goetsch introduced Jonathan Hayes, from the office of Congressman Steve Southerland, and thanked the Congressman for his work on behalf of Florida's military.

State Veterans Affairs Legislative Update

Executive Director Mike Prendergast provided an update of current legislative issues impacting veterans in Florida. Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) has a great partnership with the Florida Legislature, the Governor and the Cabinet. The state's veterans nursing homes currently remain occupied at a rate of 99%. This is unprecedented in the nursing home industry. There has been a 7% increase over the previous year in the number of veterans served by FDVA claims examiners across the state. **Director Prendergast** introduced Lt. Colonel USAF (ret.) Steve Murray, Communications & External Affairs Director. Col. Murray also serves as the State Emergency Operations Center representative for FDVA. Fortunately, the nursing homes have been spared from any hurricane damage. There is currently a \$650M+ project underway to construct a flagship, state-of-the-art VA medical center in Orlando. Opening is expected by early 2014.

FDVA is currently tracking 39 bills, and will provide a full report after Session ends. The veterans community is well-represented in putting issues before the members of the Florida Legislature; the Legislature is doing a great job of taking care of Florida's veterans and their family members.

Over the weekend of April 5-7, the Florida Veterans Foundation, along with approximately 850 volunteers, held a Homeless Veterans Standown at Tallahassee's North Florida Fairgrounds. It was a phenomenal success. Approximately 282 veterans received services. Provided services included assistance finding jobs and housing, legal services, haircuts, VA healthcare system enrollment and medical and dental care. Legal services were provided to 225 veterans in a Second District Court process; all 225 cases were adjudicated, saving the taxpayers over \$200,000.

Also, with great support from the 24 regional WorkForce boards, WorkForce Florida, DEO, employer support for the Guard and Reserve, and Judge Holder's hard work, thousands of veterans have received jobs in Florida over the past four months. There will be a major thrust of veteran hiring initiatives throughout the state. "Veterans for Paychecks" job fairs in 10 cities will begin in May. Partners in the private sector are recognizing the value of veterans, and what they contribute to their bottom lines.

Finally, FDVA has a great website that is growing. The re-branding and media campaign are up for an award by a very prestigious media group in Florida. FDVA is leveraging every bit of social media possible to communicate with Florida's veterans and their family members. The goal is to ensure they are availing themselves of all the services and benefits they have earned through their faithful service.

BGen. Chip Diehl asked how the Task Force can help FDVA. **Director Prendergast** responded that, most importantly, FDVA must continue participating in the FDSTF meetings. Veterans bring approximately \$14B annually to Florida. There is a great sense of community among the veterans here. Florida will continue to be the third largest population of veterans in the nation.

Base Buffering – Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Ms. Susan Grandin, Director of the Division of State Lands, explained that the Division serves as the real estate arm for acquiring lands for the state. The Division handles 12M acres. Lands are being acquired, surplussed, leased and exchanged on behalf of the state. The staff provides the entire real estate acquisition services, and goes through all the due

diligence to ensure the citizens have the best deal possible. This is done both for conservation and non-conservation land. Since the inception, approximately \$512M has been spent on 233,000 acres for military base buffering. Recently, property was purchased to help buffer Camp Blanding. Until now, all those lands have been purchased with conservation funding.

The Governor and the Florida Legislature recognize the importance of buffering our military installations from encroachment by incompatible land use. This is reflected in the budget. If HB7101 and SB1784 are funded, the Division of State Lands will work with DEO to help acquire those lands. Having this non-conservation funding would be the last piece in the puzzle to make it all work. DEP would work with DEO and the installations to try to acquire federal Readiness and Environment Protection Initiative (REPI) funding. The state of Florida has been a good funding partner with the REPI program, providing approximately \$70M to date. Florida has submitted two grants for the REPI Challenge, and has been short listed. The submissions are for Avon Park and Eglin AFB. The DOD is scheduled to make the decisions by May 31.

Base Buffering – Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

Mr. Mike McDaniel briefed the Task Force primarily on the non-conservation property being considered for purchase to buffer MacDill AFB, and briefly mentioned the parcel at NSA Panama City. Mr. McDonald also discussed how growth management interacts with military installations, and the non-encroachment policies that local governments are required to adopt. Presentation Attached.

Secretary Anthony Principi commented that there are few more important issues for the state Legislature and the Governor to address than encroachment around military, and certainly Air Force bases. In 2005, the BRAC Commission decided to put Oceana NAS, the Navy's master jet base, on the list for closure because of encroachment. The Commission had found, without question, that the ability to train at Oceana was severely impacted by the encroachment in Zone 1. The Commission recommended that if the state and local community of Virginia Beach Chesapeake did not address the encroachment issue, Cecil Field in Jacksonville would become the Navy's master jet base. For several reasons, that did not occur, and Oceana stayed open. Since then, as the Task Force may know, an F-18 Super Hornet crashed into an apartment complex. Had it happened in the evening or on a weekend, there would have been significant fatalities. General Titshaw spoke earlier of consolidation – When a BRAC comes, there will be consolidation, without question. You do not want MacDill to be on the list because of encroachment. Secretary Principi strongly urged the Task Force and the state to deal with the encroachment issue in a sensible manner that will keep MacDill and the other bases off the closure list.

Ms. Barbara Stewart expressed concerns about how to avoid increasing encroachment conflicts. Do these new regulations carry more weight than they have in the past? To a large extent, they did not carry any weight. If not, what can the Task Force do to educate our local officials who make these decisions?

Mr. McDaniel responded the requirement is that local governments work with the military installations to adopt policies that would preclude encroachment. The policies' strengths depend on how strongly the Base Commander influences local government to adopt them, the department's review, and the follow-up implementation. The policies are stronger than they were, but could be stronger. There are policies designed to preclude encroachment, and there is also the process of amending the Plan itself. The Base Commander has an important role to play. When DEO receives a proposed amendment that is concerning in an area proximate to an installation, a phone call is made to the Base Commander. The Base Commander's comments go directly to the local government, and should clearly express the concerns, and what the local government needs to do to address those concerns. DEO is a back-up, and is watching and will take appropriate action, depending on the circumstances.

Ms. Barbara Stewart suggested the Task Force put together a presentation on what constitutes encroachment, and its vital importance; the Task Force can work with the local entities where there are problems.

Vice Chairman Dr. Goetsch suggested the Task Force look into the obvious weaknesses, and see what can be recommended.

Staff suggested this be a topic at the next Base Commanders meeting in June.

MGen. Emmett Titshaw commented that an administrative law judge's order recommending an amendment be in compliance is based on current law. Does this not indicate there may not be adequate legislation to address that issue?

Vice Chairman Dr. Goetsch agreed.

MGen. Emmett Titshaw commented from the perspective of an operator. The Strategic Basing Executive Steering Group in the Pentagon will look at where the KC-46 will be placed. The Clear Zone has been established at MacDill. This is a very critical issue, because the current tanker aircraft, with an engine loss, has a 25% reduction of thrust. The new tanker would have a 50% loss of thrust, and that Clear Zone is more of an impact. MGen. Titshaw suggested the Clear Zone be expanded with consideration of the KC-46. The action the Task Force can take now is critically important.

Ms. Barbara Stewart confirmed that MacDill is being addressed in this year's legislative budget.

BGen. Chip Diehl added comments on MacDill about perceptions with regard to BRAC. The perception is that MacDill AFB has always had encroachment problems. In discussion with the Wing Commander, it was learned there were zero points out of two on the KC-46 scoring. However, the Pentagon did not come to MacDill. The decision was based on the data they have, and the perceptions they have. Secondly, part of the responsibility is incumbent upon us, called Tampa. Can the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA) be factored into this process in any way, even for information only? Many times, Wing Commanders only have so much room to work in discussing encroachment within their realm of responsibility. The TBDA and the Task Force can talk about encroachment in many ways. BGen. Diehl commented that during his time as MacDill's Wing Commander, runway takeoffs were mostly over the water, because of the houses. This was done out of respect for MacDill's good environment.

In October 2011, a group including Mayor Buckhorn went to talk with General Johns at Air Mobility Command. The mayor had a slide titled "Encroachment." Mayor Buckhorn stated there is no encroachment at MacDill. The community has taken on this issue, and the process in Tampa now is that any home being built above three stories must go through a process. If the Wing Commander raises his hand, the mayor gets involved, and personally approves that process. The perception of the base is, "You have a problem." The other problem is that we in the community don't tell people how we have this under control. It needs to be marketed. Can you imagine what they will say when noisy helicopters are on MacDill AFB? We will have helicopters and the KC-46 wanting to come there. Let us preempt the perceptions, stay aggressive, and MacDill will be fine. Our family, the community, has to take care of it first, with the support of the state and the Guard. TBDA takes on issues like this, and is happy to help the Wing Commander.

Mr. J.R. McDonald added that future basing of F-35s is in the balance, and could make a significant impact in the state of Florida. These lessons need to be taken around the state, and not just to Tampa.

Staff discussed money for the non-conservation lands, mentioned by Ms. Stewart. The bill is moving forward, but only authorizes the program. The Legislature must then put money against it. The decision will be made before the end of Session.

Representative Matt Gaetz added that a direct appropriation from the Legislature is not the only vehicle for attacking this challenge. If the Task Force receives another \$5M, the Bay County model could be used. Some of those resources are combined with local and private resources to deal with buffering issues. It is good for the Task Force to directly reach out and tell our story to members of the Legislature. Engaging recipients who benefitted from Task Force grant funding to reach out to their members would greatly increase the chances for success.

Vice Chairman Dr. Goetsch thanked Representative Patronis, Representative Gaetz and Representative Young for the work they are doing in the Legislature on behalf of the Task Force.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to have Staff, on behalf of the Task Force, look into ways to strengthen the issue of addressing encroachment around Florida's military installations.

Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Next Meetings

The next Task Force meeting will take place on May 16 in Panama City Beach. The June meeting will take place in Tampa.

BGen. Chip Diehl anticipates having many good things to talk about that will benefit the military in Florida out of the 2013 Legislative Session. How can the positive story of Florida's 2013 Legislative Session's results for Florida's military be told throughout the state and the nation?

Representative Matt Gaetz reminded the TaskForce of BGen. Diehl's recommendation in the first Task Force meeting to develop an elevator speech. Representative Gaetz suggested the Staff work with the Chairman to create a one-page highlight talking point sheet for the May meeting. The sheet will highlight the things that occurred during this Session to enhance Florida's position as the most military-friendly state in the nation. One of our obligations as Task Force members is to not only reach out to our defense alliances and chambers of commerce, but to the media.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously for Staff to work with the Chairman to create a one-page talking point sheet for the May meeting on what occurred during the 2013 Florida Legislative Session to enhance Florida's position as the most military-friendly state in the nation.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM EST.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at La Quinta Inns & Suites in Panama City Beach, 9:00 AM CST – 11:00 AM CST.

Task Force Members Present:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & Brigadier General, AUS (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Dana Young, State Representative

Task Force Members Absent:

RAdm. Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Dr. Ed Naggjar, USN (ret.)
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
MGen. Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Speakers Present:

Jim Breitenfeld, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
RAdm.(ret.) James Hinkle, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
MG (ret.) Mike Jones, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
Lt. Col. (ret.) Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Maj. Gen. (ret.) Keye Sabol, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)

Others Present:

Bob Black, Office of Congressman Jeff Miller
James Waterstadt, Office of Congressman Steve Southerland
Lt. Col. (ret) Glenn Sutphin, Florida Department of Military Affairs

Others Present by Telephone

Lt. Col. Brian Fallon, Florida Department of Military Affairs
David De La Paz, Florida House of Representatives

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

La Quinta Inn, 7115 Coastal Palms Blvd., Panama City Beach, FL 32408

Agenda -- Meeting #15

Thursday - May 16, 2013

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 0900 – 0905 | Welcome/Introductions
Pledge of Allegiance | Chairman |
| 0905 - 0915 | Old Business
- Approval of April 18th minutes
- FY 2013 budget update | Bruce Grant |
| 0915 – 1030 | New Business
- Bay Defense Alliance Remarks
- TF member reports
- Update from The Principi Group
- Legislative update /session results
- State Veterans Affairs Legislative update | Tom Neubauer
TF Members
MG (ret.) Mike Jones
Rocky McPherson
Steve Murray |
| 1030 - 1100 | Public Comment

----- BREAK ----- | Chairman |
| 1115 – 1300 | CLOSED SESSION / WORKING LUNCH

(Strategy session, feedback from TPG visit, discuss 2014 funding) | |
| 1300 | Next Meetings:

Thursday, June 20, 2013 – Tampa
Thursday, July 18, 2013 -- St. Augustine
August – NO MEETING
Adjourn | |
| 1300 -1500 | Visit to NSA Panama City hosted by the Bay Defense Alliance | |

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Representative Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM CST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Jimmy Patronis welcomed everyone to the Task Force meeting, and to Florida House District Six in Bay County. **Chairman Patronis** introduced special guests, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the April 18 meeting minutes.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget and the FY 2013 grant awards. Five of the ten contracts have been executed. There is currently a little over \$580,000 available in the budget. This does not include the new appropriation for FY 2013/2014 of \$4M that is part of the State General Appropriations Act. This is not reflected, as it is subject to approval by the Governor.

Chairman Patronis asked who is managing the checklist on releasing the unobligated funds. **Staff** responded the he (Bruce Grant) is doing the managing. Once each contract is signed and executed, the funds are moved to obligated funds. **Staff** assured the Chairman there are no concerns of unseen changes on the part of any of the grantees. The contracts are being worked at the local level before returning to staff for signing.

Mr. J.R. McDonald asked if there is a time limit on the money. Is the funding for one or two years? **Staff** responded there is no time limit; however, awardees were notified they have one year in which to expend their funds. Based on the Governor approving the budget, discussions will take place in the next one or two Task Force meetings on allocating the funds for next year. This will include another round of these types of grants.

**III. Agenda Item III: New Business
Bay Defense Alliance Remarks**

Mr. Tom Neubauer began by commenting there was a great meeting the previous day with representatives of the TPG. They were briefed on any changes that have occurred since their installation report was completed in June 2012. This was followed by visits to Tyndall AFB and NSA Panama City. The Commander at NSA Panama City, and the Wing Commander at Tyndall AFB briefed members on what is happening at the bases, what they anticipate happening with sequestration and other budget issues. Defense-friendly states are comprised of defense-friendly communities, and Bay County is a very defense-friendly community. The County appreciates the men and women in uniform, the civil servants who serve at the bases, and the families and veterans who have done so much for us. The Bay Defense Alliance (BDA) is comprised of the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Alliance, and there is participation by the county on all levels. Their work is greatly appreciated. The BDA has a 32-member volunteer board, with 12,000 volunteer hours. The Florida Defense Grants are very important to the organization. Over the years, the Florida Defense Reinvestment Grants (DIGs) have sustained the organization – helped it grow and remain strong and supportive of bases. Over the last 10 years, the BDA has also applied for and been awarded over \$5M in Defense Infrastructure Grants (DIGs). These worthwhile projects have benefitted both the bases and the communities. The Legislature has renewed another category, the Base Protection Grants. One of those grants was utilized when a mission at Tyndall AFB, 48 aircraft and 1,000 jobs, was lost. The grant was used to secure the talent needed to come up with a Plan B. As a result, by early next year an F-22 operational squadron will move here, bringing 1,000 new jobs, replacing what was lost. **Mr. Neubauer** expressed great appreciation for Mr. Rocky McPherson, and for Mr. McPherson

hiring Mr. Bruce Grant. These career military individuals, produced by our nation's military academies, work extremely well with the Task Force and the entire defense organization in Florida.

Mr. Neubauer stressed the importance of the Task Force visiting bases to learn about the installations. In the interest of time, **Mr. Neubauer** provided brochures and a briefing on the core missions of Tyndall AFB. The primary mission is the 325th Fighter Wing, where all F-22 fifth-generation pilots are trained in air dominance (65 pilots in 2012). This is done nowhere else in the world. Another major tenant is 1st Air Force. The 1st Air Force and the 601st Operations Center defend the air sovereignty for the entire nation, Tyndall's core mission. This is done 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Their other missions are direct involvement in air support for natural disasters around the world. They supported clean-up operations for the Gulf Oil Spill. Also, Tyndall AFB trains air battle managers, international weapons controllers, air dominance specialists and intelligence officers. Tyndall AFB is home of the Air Force Civil Engineering Center that trains all US and allied engineers to support the war fighter. The 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group conducts the Air Force Air-to-Air Weapons System Evaluation Program and the Air-to-Ground Weapons Evaluation Program. They also support the instructor course for all the Air Force aerial targets. There will be 48 new QF-16 full-scale drones to replace the F-4s.

NSA Panama City provides 5,600 jobs on 657 acres. The economic impact rivals that of Tyndall AFB, because of the high concentration of scientists and engineers. The US Coast Guard Panama City is also on the base.

The Bay Defense Alliance will continue utilizing the results of The Spectrum Group Report and continue meetings with TPG. **Mr. Neubauer** appreciates TPG's advocacy work in Washington, D.C., the partnership with Florida and its defense communities, and the support from EFL's Military & Defense Office. **Mr. Neubauer** expressed great pride in the military members, their families, and the veterans who live and serve in Bay County.

Task Force Member Reports

Mr. J.R. McDonald commented that Okaloosa County is very happy to see the F-35 fleet continue growing. The 33rd Fighter Wing now has 34 F-35s, and is on track to make that 43 by the end of the year. The Navy's F-35 Carrier Variant (F-35C) aircraft is scheduled to arrive the end of May. The Marines and Air Force have been flying for just over a year, with the Marines exceeding 1,000 hours. The Air Force is just over 850 hours. There was some concern in the communities about the noise of the F-35s as it came to Eglin AFB. The Air Force offered regularly scheduled noise committee meetings, to address concerns and change procedures, if required. The meetings have disbanded, as there was no need for them.

Judge Patt Maney did not offer a report. **Judge Maney** thanked Task Force members, members of the Principi Group, staff and other guests for sharing a dinner the previous night. Judge and Mrs. Maney celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary with the group .

Chairman Jimmy Patronis discussed a bill worked with Senator John Thrasher regarding an ad valorem tax on improvements to property on government lands. The bill was passed unanimously by both houses, and awaits the Governor's signature. The legislation has cleared most of the major concerns. There are concerns that the litigation in Monroe County will still proceed. Florida is adopting the Federal Uniform Housing Code into Florida statute. Base Commanders will have a great deal of discretion over the inhabitants of base housing. The legislation had a great deal of Congressional concern and support, especially from . Congressman Miller and Congressman Southerland.

The Legislative session was very successful and uneventful. One of the Governor's initiatives was to create a sales tax exemption on manufacturing equipment; a number of

other states have this advantage. The initiative will take effect in April 2014, and will hopefully benefit local defense contractors.

The Legislature appropriated \$4M for the Task Force (double the Governor's request), and the budget awaits the Governor's signature.

Dr. David Goetsch did not offer a report.

Representative Dana Young did not offer a report, and looks forward to hosting the Task Force in Tampa in June.

BGen. Chip Diehl thanked Mr. Tom Neubauer for his mentorship over the years, and for guidance in the establishment of the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance. **BGen. Diehl** congratulated Representative Patronis, Representative Gaetz and Representative Young on a successful Legislative session, in which Florida progressed as a military-friendly state. The Tampa Bay Defense Alliance looks forward to hosting the next Task Force meeting and events on June 26 and 27.

Update from The Principi Group (TPG)

MGEN Mike Jones commented on the effect of furloughs on the civilian workforce at the nation's military installations. There will be 11 days of furlough time between now and the end of the year, with very few exceptions. There may be some relief over the summer, based on other costs that are variables inside the DOD budget.

The following week, markup of the 2014 budget (HR 1960 - National Defense Authorization Act) will take place in the House Subcommittee on Readiness (Committee on Armed Services). The marked-up budget will go to the full committee the following week, and to the House floor on June 10. On the Senate side, the subcommittee markup is June 11; full committee (Committee on Armed Services) on June 12. When it will go to the Senate floor is yet to be determined. The President's budget being over \$50B more than the sequestration law allows is a big issue. The results of that are being seen on our military installations. This includes reductions of workforce task orders on contract, maintenance work, flying hours and a host of other things that are very concerning. All installations continue to be affected by the furloughs and the civilian hiring freeze.

RAdm. James Hinkle reported on TPG's visit the previous day to NSA Panama City. The meeting took place with the Commanding Officer and his Deputy Director. Issues that are bothering them, impacts of sequestration, future roles and missions and future workload were discussed. An issue that continues to stand out is an eight acre tract west of the base that was sold to a developer. After the developer destroyed the buffer between the land and the base, the county bought the land back. Because there is no funding for the base to buy the land back, the Task Force gave the installation \$500,000 this year to start the proceedings. This is a demonstrable security issue that must be resolved as soon as possible; a variety of solutions are being considered.

The second issue is a back entrance to the base. A way to get in and out of Hwy. 98 is needed, due to heavy congestion on Thomas Drive, especially during the summer tourist season. A Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG) was awarded to the base to provide a back gate. The funds have been appropriated through the DIG, the plan is 90% complete, and ground will be broken shortly.

In the past, the installation had a submerged diving vessel (SDV), for training Navy SEALs on how to use it in shallow water. SOCOM spent \$5M to ship the training to Hawaii. They are in the same building with the operational SEALs. When the operational SEALs need the SDV, they take it from the training unit, and disrupt their schedule. The training unit wants to return to NSA Panama City. TPG has been asked to investigate the issue and return to the

Task Force with appropriate initiatives for resolving the issue.

General Keye Sabol commended the Bay Defense Alliance on their strength and unity. Speaking with one voice has a huge impact when talking with folks in Washington. Tom Neubauer has done a phenomenal job. The previous day's meeting at Tyndall AFB indicated most of the things discussed during last year's visit have been accomplished. Bringing the squadron of F-22s and some T-38s from Holloman is a good news story. This brings a mixture of active duty and air reserve folks, adding about 1,000 people. The main effort of the base and Wing Commander is providing world-class F-22 pilots with a seamless transition, to ensure the aircraft's reliability is increasing. As the base grows, taking caring of the airmen and their families is a priority; the community can help with easing the transition.

The base and community are working hard to resolve encroachment issues. Base leadership greatly appreciates the meetings with commanders at the Base Commanders meetings, and quarterly meetings with the Bay Defense Alliance. They will continue focusing on the impact of sequestration. Tyndall AFB has concerns with the high civilian population of the 7th Engineers' possible inability to complete contract work by year end. All training will stay on track.

TPG and the Task Force should be able to continue assisting with the large tenant units. These include the 1st Air Force, Air Space Operations Center, Weapons Evaluation Group and Civil Engineer Center East.

Mr. Jim Breitenfeld commented on the special effort by the Bay Defense Alliance and the community in hosting TPG. Both the military and the community have been a model for TPG to use in addressing the Strategic Plan; they have taken recommendations from the Task Force and the Task Force Strategic Plan to heart. In review, they went point by point on what actions have been taken, what issues have disappeared, what issues have grown and what issues are emerging.

MGEN Mike Jones commented on the important work the community can do in welcoming the folks who will be relocating to Tyndall AFB. Florida leads the country in taking care of families that are integrating into communities. **MGEN Jones** thanked Brian McManus in the Governor's Washington office, along with Pete Giambastiani (TPG) for several discussions with the Congressional delegation staff. The discussions served to ensure TPG understands their comments, priorities, and other input to make sure there is a united effort in DC. Mr. Charles Battaglia, Brian and Pete met with the Jacksonville delegation during the week, led by their Chamber of Commerce chief of military issues. Mr. Battaglia is also working with Deborah Keller from The Nature Conservancy on the \$5M REPI Challenge Award for two Florida installations. Mr. Battaglia is also in discussion with DOD officials about the REPI award, to include all the work Florida has already done in that regard.

Legislative Update/Session Result

Staff summarized military-related legislation passed during the recent state Legislative session. Interstate Compact for Military Children - Florida remains part of the contract, and the annual dues will be paid by the Department of Education; Non-conservation Buffering Bill - Authorizes the Department of Economic Opportunity to submit a list annually of non-conservation lands to be acquired for buffering military installations from encroachment. Funding has not been secured, but the budget contains a funding line; Late Voter Registration for Military Members – Late voter registration includes members of the military who have been deployed; Deleting Caps on Tax Refunds for Qualified Defense Contractors; Ad Valorem Tax; Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices – Provides protection for military members and their families. Budget - The budget includes \$4M for the Task Force, \$10M for acquiring conservation lands for base buffering, and the Defense Infrastructure and Reinvestment Grant funding.

State Veterans Affairs Legislative Update

Steve Murray with the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) presented a legislative update on veteran-related legislation passed during the recent state Legislative session. Funerals & Burials – Engaging in protest activities within 500 feet of a property line one hour before, during or after a burial or funeral is a misdemeanor; Extension of Department of Business & Professional Regulation’s bill passed last year - Waiving licensure fees within 24 months for honorably discharged military members for 30 fields and professions monitored by the Department of Health; Welcome Home VietNam Veterans Day - will be recognized annually on March 30; Two bills recognizing Florida as a Purple Heart state; Disposition of Human Remains – Assistance from veterans groups to provide a proper burial for homeless or indigent veterans whose families do not claim their remains; Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission – Reducing licensing fees to help veterans become commercial fishermen; waiving fees for active or veteran military engaging in hunting and/or fishing in a rehabilitation setting; Veterans Organizations – Strengthens laws protecting veterans and other groups from non-veterans dishonestly claiming to solicit funds for veterans, and for misrepresenting themselves as veterans agencies;

Bills that did not pass: Resident Status for Tuition Purposes; Three Percent Holdback for Veteran-Related Businesses; Road Designations Honoring Fallen Heroes. These three bills are expected to be back in the next Legislative session. Budget: There are currently six state veteran nursing homes and one assisted living facility. Approval in budget to conduct comprehensive study for first time in nearly 10 years for the need for additional veteran nursing homes in Florida. Funds for four additional vehicles to transport disabled veterans to medical and social appointments; Additional Veterans Claims Examiners – United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) has been struggling with adjudicating claims for veterans, especially from the VietNam war and returnees from Iraq and Afghanistan. There are funds for 13 additional veterans claims examiners from FDVA to assist the USDVA in adjudicating these claims.

Dr. David Goetsch thanked Chairman Jimmy Patronis for his work on military-related legislation during the recent Legislative session.

Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Deborah Keller with The Nature Conservancy added that the Florida Forever program was funded at a level of \$10M during the most recent Legislative session. An additional \$10M from the Internal Improvement Trust Fund has been designated for military base buffering. There is also up to \$50M for surplus unnecessary lands, designated for base buffering. In addition, the Florida Forest Service will receive approximately \$11M to purchase conservation easements on working lands that can be used for base buffering. Florida has almost \$1.6M Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program dollars coming to the state for base buffering, designated to Avon Park AF Range, Eglin AFB and Camp Blanding. Those monies will be leveraged with the monies from Florida Forever and the Florida Forestry Service. The announcement of the REPI challenge is anxiously awaited – Avon Park and Eglin are both contestants in the \$5M competition. Florida’s bases and the need for base buffering have been elevated in the minds of the office of the Secretary of Defense, and the entire REPI program. Nancy Natoli with the office of the Secretary will be visiting Eglin on May 29. The purpose of these visits is to look at innovative ways to bring all of these pools of money together, because \$10M is not enough to buffer our bases.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM CST.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at Embassy Suites Tampa – Downtown Convention Center, 9:00 AM EST – 1:00 PM EST.

Task Force Members Present:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & Brigadier General, AUS (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
Dana Young, State Representative

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

RAdm. Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative

Task Force Members Absent:

Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)
MGen. Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Speakers Present:

Charles Battaglia, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
BGen. Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.), Tampa Bay Defense Alliance,
LtGen. Gordon Fornell, USAF (ret.)
Lt. Col. Paul Neidhardt, Avon Park Air Force Range
Gen. Lloyd “Fig” Newton, USAF (ret.), TPG
MGen. Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.), Veterans Pathway to Business Success

Others Present:

Diga Alvarez, Office of Senator Bill Nelson
Bob Black, Office of Congressman Jeff Miller
Craig Deathridge, Office of Congressman Steve Southerland
Ryan Patmintra, Office of Senator Marco Rubio
Col. Mike Prendergast, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
Lt. Col. Glenn Sutphin, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Military Affairs
John Patrick Walsh, Governor’s Washington, D.C. Office

Others Present by Telephone:

Diana Gonzalez, Beacon Council

Staff Present:

Al Latimer, SVP, Strategic Partnerships, Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

Embassy Suites Tampa – Downtown Convention Center
513 South Florida Ave., Tampa FL 33602

Agenda -- Meeting #16

Thursday - June 27, 2013

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 0900 – 0905 | Welcome/Introductions
Pledge of Allegiance | Chairman |
| 0905 - 0915 | Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approval of May 16th minutes- FY 2013 budget /contract update | Chairman
Bruce Grant |
| 0915 – 1030 | New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tampa Bay Defense Alliance Remarks- TF member reports- Update from The Principi Group- Public Private Partnerships- Veterans Pathway to Business Success- Avon Park Air Force Range | BG Chip Diehl
TF Members
MG (ret) Mike Jones
LTG (ret) Gordon Fornell
MG (ret) Joseph Taluto
LTC Neidhardt |
| 1030 - 1100 | Public Comment | Chairman |
| | ----- BREAK ----- | |
| 1115 – 1300 | CLOSED SESSION / WORKING LUNCH
(Strategy session, feedback from TPG visit, FY 2014 funding) | |
| 1300 | Next Meetings:
Thursday, July 18, 2013 -- St. Augustine
August – NO MEETING
Thursday, September 19, 2013 – Tallahassee
Thursday, October 17, 2013 – Homestead
Thursday, November 21, 2013 – Jacksonville
December – NO MEETING
Adjourn | |
| 1300 - 1600 | Visit to MacDill AFB hosted by the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance | |

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Representative Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis introduced special guests, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law. **Representative Dana Young** welcomed the Task Force and audience to Tampa.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the May 16 meeting minutes.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget and contracts. The new appropriation for the upcoming fiscal year was not included. There is currently a little over \$500,000 available in the budget. **Staff** distributed the "Florida's Military-Friendly Guide: A Summary of Sunshine State Laws, Programs and Benefits for Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Service Members and Families" booklet.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Tampa Bay Defense Alliance (TBDA) Remarks

BGen. Chip Diehl welcomed attendees to MacDill AFB, and introduced John Scheuler, President, and Rich McClain, Executive Director, of the TBDA. **BGen. Chip Diehl** provided a brief on the history, local economic impact and vision of MacDill AFB.

Task Force Member Reports

Mr. Tom Neubauer provided an update on aircraft and personnel moving from Holloman AFB to Tyndall AFB. Progress is being made on acquiring the eight acres adjacent to NSA Panama City, which encroach on this facility.

Chairman Jimmy Patronis gave an update on property tax on base housing legislation that was vetoed by the Governor. Hopefully, the legislation will be re-considered in the next session.

Judge Patt Maney thanked Task Force members who are members of the legislature for appropriating funds to assist veterans courts. Also, he related that the effects of sequestration are of great concern to the local communities in the Panhandle.

Ms. Barbara Stewart congratulated Eglin AFB on winning the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) Challenge, and emphasized the importance of leverage money on the local level. Ms. Stewart provided an update on the purchase of lands containing conservation easements adjacent to the Avon Park Range.

RAdm. Kevin Delaney encouraged the Task Force to write letters of support for acquisition of additional non-conservation lands.

MGen. Joseph Taluto, Representative Dana Young and Representative Matt Gaetz did not offer reports.

Update from The Principi Group (TPG)

Mr. Charles Battaglia gave an overview of the impact of the Budget Control Act. For the next ten years, \$50B will be cut from the defense budget through sequestration, if no relief is provided. Reductions in civil service personnel and military compensation are being considered. A BRAC may occur in 2017.

General Newton briefed the Task Force on results of the previous day's re-visit with MacDill AFB and the community. As recommended by The Spectrum Group (TSG), the community

has come together as an organized body to support the objectives of MacDill AFB. This will better position MacDill as it seeks basing of the new KC-46 tanker at MacDill. Ensuring correct data on MacDill will be a first big step. The new Commander of CENTCOM is very pleased with the progress the community has made in coming together as a body.

Public Private Partnerships

LTG Gordon Fornell briefed the Task Force on the Public Private Partnership successes at Eglin AFB, new initiatives and proposals for expanding the program statewide. Activities with public service/public use are preferred. Monies that go into escrow are used for in-kind operations and facilities. Section 331 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorizes community and military installations to partner to a greater extent than in the past. Only shared fire and police protection are prohibited. To date, over \$30M of consideration has been generated back to Eglin AFB. Efforts are underway to use the existing agreements. With Public Private Partnerships, the services have a new opportunity for success. Roads, utilities, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR), enhanced use leases and cooperative research and development are all possibilities.

MGen. Joseph Taluto briefed the Task Force on Veterans Pathway to Business Success. The organization provides grants to benefit Afghanistan and Iraq veterans who want to start businesses. Three grants, totalling \$85,000, have been awarded to date.

Lt. Col. Paul Neidhardt briefed the Task Force on the Avon Park Air Force Range.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM EST.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at St. Francis Barracks, St. Augustine, 9:00 AM EDT – 11:00 AM EDT.

Task Force Members Present:

Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
Dana Young, State Representative

Task Force Members Absent:

Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, AUS (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)

Speakers Present:

MG Mike Jones, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
LTG Steve Blum, TPG

Others Present:

Roy Alaimo, Office of Congressman Ron DeSantis
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
COL Mike Prendergast, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
Katie Ross, Office of Senator Bill Nelson
Matt Schellhorn, Navy Region Southeast
Jackie Smith, Office of Congressman Ander Crenshaw
LTC Glenn Sutphin, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Military Affairs
John Patrick Walsh, Governor's Washington, D.C. Office

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

Florida National Guard, St. Francis Barracks, the Cedar Room
82 Marine Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084

Agenda -- Meeting #17 (As of: July 11, 2013)

Thursday - July 18, 2013 **9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

0900 – 0905	Welcome/Introductions Pledge of Allegiance	Chairman
0905 - 0915	Old Business - Approval of June 27th minutes - FY 2013 budget /contract update	Chairman Bruce Grant
0915 – 1030	New Business - Florida National Guard Remarks - TF member reports - Update from The Principi Group - Analysis of Military Conferences and Associations - Space Florida - Discussion of FY 2014 Legislative Agenda - Review of Updated Strategic Plan	MG Titshaw TF Members MG (ret) Mike Jones MG (ret) Mike Jones Jim Kuzma Rocky McPherson Bruce Grant
1030 - 1100	Public Comment ----- BREAK -----	Chairman
1115 – 1300	CLOSED SESSION / WORKING LUNCH (Strategy session, feedback from TPG visit, discussion of advocacy)	
1300	Next Meetings: August – NO MEETING Thursday, September 19, 2013 – Tallahassee Thursday, October 17, 2013 – Homestead Thursday, November 21, 2013 – Jacksonville December – NO MEETING Thursday, January 16, 2014 – Tallahassee (Committee Week) Adjourn	
1300 - 1400	Tour of St. Francis Barracks hosted by the Florida National Guard	

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Dr. David Goetsch, FDSTF Vice Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Vice Chairman Goetsch introduced special guests, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the June 27 meeting minutes.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget and contracts. The new appropriation for the upcoming fiscal year is included. There is currently a little over \$4.5M available in the budget. There are currently 10 contracts, and with the exception of two, they are executed.

Vice Chairman Goetsch introduced Camila Hornung, new EFI staff member.

Agenda Item III: New Business

Florida National Guard (FNG) Remarks

Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw welcomed the Task Force and updated the group on FNG issues. Military technician furloughs are currently the most significant issue. FNG's budget is 4% state, and 96% federal, with a generous state budget of \$18.1M.

The Florida Armory Renovation Program, largely funded by the state, has resulted in Florida's armories being named the nation's best, from a physical plant perspective. This gives a significant advantage going into the next potential BRAC. Florida's armories are older than the national average, and the state has done everything possible to fund renovation programs. Florida is 1M square feet short of the required space for the state's force structure. MILCON budgets are now depleted. Resolving the space shortage is a top priority, with construction of the Flagler Readiness Center at the top of the list.

Also, Camp Blanding is becoming recognized regionally and nationally as a premier training facility.

The F-15 will be active for a number of years, and the long-term initiative is the beddown of the F-35 for Jacksonville.

FNG's missions are federal, state and local. There are currently 977 troops deployed worldwide. The state mission is reacting to emergencies. The loss of fixed wing aviation in Florida is a huge problem; relying on other systems or states does not help when speed means life. The potential mass migration issue is a significant mission that other states do not have.

Several programs that add value to the community are under considerable budgetary threat. Florida has been the most negatively impacted in the counter-drug program, with one third of the budget lost. The primary program is Youth Challenge, and for this year, it appears that budget is not threatened.

The FNG has been in existence for 448 years, and is still going strong.

Task Force Member Reports

Ms. Barbara Stewart reported that a draft of the noise study for Avon Park has been completed. Also, the Regional Planning Commission is developing alternative methods to inform the public and perspective land purchasers on range and training activity impacts. This is significant because the state does not have uniform real estate disclosure requirements for the presence of military installations.

RADM Kevin Delaney commented that the Secretary of Defense was in Northeast Florida the previous week. There are draconian civilian cuts on the horizon due to sequestration. Hopefully, the Task Force will bring before the 2014 Florida legislature the property issues of concern at NS Mayport, NSA Panama City and MacDill AFB.

Vice Chairman Goetsch mentioned the continuing F-35 debate with the city of Valparaiso. The F-35 continues to grow at a good clip at Eglin AFB.

Mr. Tom Neubauer explained that 15 local community leaders and experts will travel to Holloman AFB on July 26 on an outreach program. This effort to help families relocate to Tyndall AFB will become a national model to assist relocating unit personnel and families.

MG Joseph Taluto commented that a meeting is planned for August 14 at Homestead ARB, to discuss logistics of the October Task Force meeting and Homestead issues. A new Commander will be coming in the next few weeks.

Brig Gen Chip Diehl commented that the troops at MacDill AFB are covering each other to get missions done due to furloughs, but morale is low.

Representative Jimmy Patronis commented on help that will be provided to families relocating from Holloman AFB to Tyndall AFB. Also, a drone crashed at Tyndall AFB the previous day.

Representative Dana Young did not offer a report.

Update from the Principi Group (TPG)

MG Mike Jones provided an update on the advocacy efforts of TPG. A successful briefing took place in Washington on July 15, to update congressional staff on advocacy issues on Florida's behalf. This will be done periodically, in addition to meetings with the members. Congressman Mica's office requested a summary of activities between TPG and Team Orlando. TPG attended the Metro Orlando Defense Task Force (MODTF) meeting, and is reviewing their strategic plan.

A meeting took place with Congressman Posey's office to discuss BRAC mechanics available to DOD for transition of facilities and infrastructure to communities, and available community assistance. This relates to the drawdown of the shuttle program.

Fiscal year 2014 will most likely begin with a Continuing Resolution (CR), with sequestration still in place. The hope is that DOD will gain flexibility in distributing cuts.

DOD will have to make a better case for a 2017 BRAC, and finish the review of overseas basing. The more immediate issue is the non-BRAC changes that will occur. TPG will continue to highlight the value of Florida's installations.

LTG Steve Blum, with 20 years of BRAC experience, complimented the Task Force on the cooperation and collaboration among Florida's military, state government and civilian entities. This has great connectivity at the federal level. The preparation done by this Task Force will put Florida in a well-positioned place to react to a BRAC, and to lesser events. This is important work for our nation.

MG Mike Jones presented results and recommendations of analyzing military conferences and associations. Benefits are collecting information, and publicizing Florida's value to senior DOD leaders and industry. Considerations are event size, attendee level, conference nature and cost. Recommendations are to attend many events hosted in Florida, a few major domestic conferences, and major international conferences in conjunction with entities already attending (such as EFI at the Paris Air Show). Joining three organizations, great sources of

current information in the defense arena, was recommended. The organizations are Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association (AFCEA), National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) and American Defense Communities (ADC). (Note: EFI is an ADC member).

Discussion of FY 2014 Legislative Agenda

Staff described a list of potential military-related bills which might arise during the next session. The purpose of the discussion was to highlight opportunities the Task Force may want to support in the next session.

Review of Updated Strategic Plan

Staff presented Strategic Plan updates, based on the briefing from MGen. Mike Jones at the previous Task Force meeting, and recommendations by TPG and the Task Force. Possible further updates were requested of the Task Force. Non-conservation lands and FNG issues will be added to the Plan, which will be sent out to the Task Force for comment.

Public Comment

Ms. Deborah Keller with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) provided information on various state and federal environmental programs that benefit Florida's military installations. This included the Florida Forever Program, the new Rural and Family Lands Program, the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program and the recently created Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS).

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM EDT.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, September 19, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Residence Inn Tallahassee Universities at the Capitol from 9:00 AM EDT – 3:30 PM EDT.

Task Force Members Present:

Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, AUS (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
Dana Young, State Representative

Speakers Present:

Susan Grandin, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Colleen Krepstekies, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)
Secretary Anthony Principi, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)
Ana Richmond, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Lt. Gen. Thomas Baptiste, USAF (ret.), National Center for Simulation
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
John Schueler, Tampa Bay Defense Alliance
Bruce McCormack, Gulf Unmanned Systems Center
Bill Garrison, Clay County Development Authority
Diana Gonzalez, Miami Dade Defense Alliance
Jim Breitenfeld, EDC of Okaloosa County
Craig Dalton, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Ted Spangenburg, Economic Development Alliance of Bay County
Stephanie Marquardt, Florida 8 (a) Alliance

Others Present:

Lynn Bannister, Office of Senator Bill Nelson
Craig Deatherage, Office of Congressman Steve Southerland
LTC Glenn Sutphin, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Military Affairs
COL Mike Prendergast, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) (by Telephone)

Staff Present:

Al Latimer, SVP, Strategic Partnerships, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Donna Cucinella, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

The meeting was open to the public.

Agenda:

Florida Defense Support Task Force

Residence Inn, Tallahassee Universities at The Capitol
600 W. Gaines St., Tallahassee, FL 32304

Agenda -- Meeting #18 (As of: September 12, 2013)

Thursday - September 19, 2013

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0900 – 0905 | Welcome/Introductions
Pledge of Allegiance | Chairman |
| 0905 - 0915 | Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approval of July 18th minutes- In State Tuition Update- FY 2014 budget /contract update | Chairman
Bobby Carbonell -- FDVA
Bruce Grant/Camila Hornung |
| 0915 – 1000 | New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TF member reports- Update from The Principi Group- Legislative Issues- DEO Review of Non-Conservation Lands- DEP Progress on Conservation Lands- Funding applications for FY 2014 | TF Members
Secretary Principi
Rocky McPherson
Ana Richmond
Lynda Godfrey
Bruce Grant |
| 1000 – 1015 | Public Comment | Chairman |
| 1015 – 1500 | Review of FY 2014 Task Force Grant Funding Applications | |
| ----- (Note: Task Force will break for lunch at approximately 12 noon.) ----- | | |
| 1530 - 1700 | CLOSED SESSION / (Strategy session, discussion of advocacy) | |
| 1700 | Next Meetings:
Thursday, October 17, 2013 – Homestead
Thursday, November 21, 2013 – Jacksonville
December – NO MEETING
Thursday, January 16, 2014 – Tallahassee (Committee Week)
Adjourn | |

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Dr. David Goetsch, FDSTF Vice Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Vice Chairman Goetsch introduced special guests, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the July 18 meeting minutes.

In-State Tuition Update

Ms. Colleen Krepstekies provided nationwide and state updates on veterans in-state tuition. This will be FDVA's legislative priority this year. The bill is being favorably considered with bipartisan support, with an expected fiscal impact of \$21M in unrealized tuition.

Staff provided an update on the Task Force budget and contracts. The most recent appropriation for FY2014 is included. There is currently a little over \$4.4M available in the budget. Staff made site visits to two grantees to monitor compliance with grant requirements, and will continue the process through the end of the calendar year.

Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Dr. Ed Naggiar did not offer a report.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported on Bay County's trip to Holloman AFB to welcome families transitioning to Tyndall AFB. On August 21, DOD presented to NSA Panama City the Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence. The October 11 Base Commanders meeting will take place at Tyndall AFB.

BGen. Chip Diehl commented on a community leaders trip to Scott AFB, and a meeting with Secretary Anthony Principi. The Air Force Association convention took place the previous week in the Washington, D.C. area. The MacDill community rallied around the furlough program, and active duty, reserve and guard filled in for their furloughed coworkers.

Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw reported that the Guard is almost back to full readiness for the remainder of the hurricane season. The major impacts for FY 2014 appear to be in the counter-drug program, which has been reduced by 50%. The 114th Range Operations Squadron at Patrick AFB will be at risk until equipment funding is secured. The readiness accounts will continue to be depleted. On a positive note, Chairman C.W. Bill Young has won the Truman Award from the National Guard Association, the highest award given. It was a unanimous decision, for the first time in recorded history.

Dr. David Goetsch commented that Eglin AFB has been working with small surrounding cities to update their land use maps, to identify lands sensitive to Eglin AFB. This follows a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) conducted in Okaloosa County several years ago.

RAdm. Kevin Delaney reported that the Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) relocation to NS Mayport is on track for FY2014. P8 arrivals continue on track, with three monthly.

Judge Patt Maney commented on visits from USAF headquarters personnel, who have concerns about range crowding at Eglin AFB. Moving some of the training activities to adjacent off-base locations, such as state forests, is being considered. A recent fire at Eglin AFB hospital caused a shut-down of medical facilities. A suggestion was made one year ago to combine the medical hospital and adjacent VA clinic into one modern joint facility.

Representative Matt Gaetz met with the head of basing for the USAF, and learned more

about the relationship between the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS) and the military regarding range capacity issues. The requests discussed were that DOACS receive two or three personnel for logistical support. Another issue discussed was utilizing state lands and resources around the Gulf coast for a more dynamic range opportunity for the F-35.

Ms. Barbara Stewart explained that two additional parcels of land in encroachment-sensitive areas adjacent to Avon Park Range have been identified. Discussions between the acquisition team and land owners are underway. The range will host two large-force exercises in October. Because approval to use the Avon Park airfield was not forthcoming, aircraft will fly in from MacDill AFB. This will decrease the training effectiveness, and reinforces the importance of the airfield certification.

MG Joseph Taluto met the new commander of Homestead ARB, Colonel Chris Funk, at a recent visit to the base. They met with the base tenants, and discussed community outreach. Colonel Funk and his staff look forward to hosting the Task Force in October.

Representative Dana Young did not offer a report.

Chairman Jimmy Patronis provided an update on the land adjacent to NSA Panama City that is being considered for purchase. The 2013 \$.5M Task Force grant has been used to negotiate with the county, and efforts are underway to reach a solution with the county.

Update from The Principi Group (TPG)

Secretary Anthony Principi commented that it is prudent for the Task Force to continue preparing for a BRAC. However, the military services are taking more aggressive action below the BRAC threshold to deal with current budget cuts and sequestration. The DOD can, without congressional approval, close military installations with less than 300 civilian personnel; implement major realignments at installations involving 1,000 or less civilian employees; and make major force structure changes of actions and alignments of uniformed military personnel. With the Army in the lead, each of the services is beginning to deal with impending reductions. DOD Secretary Hagel plans to reduce headquarters staff by 20%, including direct reports to the Secretary at the Pentagon and all major commands.

Secretary Hagel presented his recently completed Strategic Choices and Management Review to Congress. The DOD asserts there are areas with excess capacity to meet current and anticipated needs. Under an anticipated Continuing Resolution (CR) in 2014, all government discretionary spending will be at 2013 levels, factoring in the impact of sequestration. Discretionary spending in all agencies of government will be limited to \$986B. Of that amount, \$518B is for the defense function, including DOD (\$496B) and other agencies supporting national security. There is a \$30B - \$35B shortfall in achieving the DOD budget cap to achieve sequestration. There are great challenges going forward, and the work of the Task Force to prepare for some of these actions is very important. TPG will continue to support the Task Force in every way possible.

Legislative Issues

Staff described a list of military-related bills which have been filed to date, and several that are in bill drafting. Additional bills will be added. Senate Bill 84 on in-state tuition for veterans will be heard in the Military Affairs Committee meeting on September 24. Task Force staff and Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) staff attend all committee meetings of the House and Senate military affairs committees.

Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Review of Non-Conservation Lands

Ms. Ana Richmond provided an update on the progress of implementation of the non-conservation encroachment buffering program. Ms. Richmond provided data collected from

the installations, and input on lands DEO is considering for acquisition. The purpose of the presentation was to receive Task Force input on the list of potential acquisition sites. The plan is to present recommendations to the board of trustees in October, and have the Task Force support legislation for funding this year. Acquisition for funded properties could begin in July. Florida Rock, Barefoot Palms and JAXPORT have been identified as priority properties.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to have Task Force staff assist Chairman Patronis in drafting a letter to the affected delegations and relevant committee chairmen for acquisition of non-conservation properties, according to tiered priorities on a year-to-year basis presented by DEO and agreed to by the Task Force.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Progress on Conservation Lands

Ms. Susan Grandin made a presentation on acquiring conservation properties buffering military installations. Should the legislature fund the purchase of non-conservation lands, DEP will be ready to work on them. DEP has been working with Florida Forever conservation dollars within specific project areas. This year, Florida was one of two Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Challenge winners. This is a nationally-awarded project. The state of Florida will hold a conservation easement for 20,800 acres just east of Eglin AFB. DEP is working with DEO, and will be learning of installation priorities through base visits. The current year budget contains \$10M for conservation buffering projects around military installations.

Space Florida Presentation

Mr. Jim Kuzma briefed the Task Force on an initiative to commercialize the Eastern Range, which has been considered since 2012. Forty companies were represented at a meeting held at Space Command in July. Commercialization is one of 15 options under consideration. The goal is to reduce range costs, while maintaining the support. The discussion was centered on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, which is part of the Patrick AFB complex. The 45th Space Wing at Patrick AFB has suffered significant reductions over the last eight months.

Regarding the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) work, the FAA will have completed their range selection process by December. A delegation letter from Senator Rubio and Senator Nelson has been written, and signed by 13 members of Congress.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Funding Applications for FY2014

Staff distributed and explained the guidance, scoring sheets and ranking sheets for evaluating the Task Force grant funding presentations. **Representative Matt Gaetz** suggested that presenters who received 2012 Task Force funding provide input on use of the 2012 funds. **Staff** explained that each proposal was ranked by TPG against the SWOT analysis, and distributed the report to Task Force members. **Secretary Anthony Principi** explained how the ranking was done. **BGen. Chip Diehl** added comments on the relationship of grant funding to a future BRAC, base vulnerability, flexibility, and Guard and Reserve. Discussion was scheduled to take place during the closed session. Applicants for funding made oral presentations on twelve projects.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to table the Okaloosa County grant funding proposal until the next Task Force meeting.

Task Force members scored each presentation, and staff calculated the scores.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM EDT.

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Friday, December 27, 2013

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a public teleconference call meeting 10:00 AM EST – 10:30 AM EST

Task Force Members Present:

Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)
Matt Gaetz, State Representative
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USAR (ret.)
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)
Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

Task Force Members Absent:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative
Dr. Ed Naggjar, USN (ret.)
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County
Dana Young, State Representative

Others Present:

Charles Battaglia, The Principi Group (TPG)
MG Mike Jones USA (ret.), The Principi Group
Tim Proctor, Florida House of Representatives Appropriations Committee

Staff Present:

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Dr. David Goetsch, *FDSTF Vice Chairman*, began the meeting at 10:12 AM EST. A motion was made in the December 10, 2013 FDSTF closed teleconference call to approve TPG contract in its revised form, as presented to the Task Force. The current meeting is to redo the motion for public purposes.

Representative Matt Gaetz asked if the members of the Task Force who will vote have received a copy of the actual contract. **Staff** responded that the amendment extending the contract for two years was sent to Task Force members via email the previous Monday.

Representative Matt Gaetz asked if there is currently sufficient funding to meet the two-year contract obligation. **Staff** responded that the Task Force has sufficient funds in the current year's appropriation to cover the two-year contract obligation.

A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve TPG contract extension for two years, including a revised scope of work, at a monthly cost of \$75,000 for a total of \$1.8M.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM EST.

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