

## Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2014

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Tallahassee, 9:00 AM EST – 11:30 AM EST.

### Task Force Members Present:

Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman  
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, AUS (ret.)  
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
Dana Young, State Representative

### Task Force Members Present by Telephone:

Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin

### Task Force Members Absent:

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)

### Speakers Present:

Andy Harold, Florida 8a Alliance  
MG Mike Jones, The Principi Group, LLC (TPG)  
Secretary Anthony Principi, TPG

### Others Present:

Cpt Adam Bailey, Florida National Guard (FNG)  
Lynn Bannister, Office of Senator Bill Nelson  
Jim Breitenfeld, Okaloosa Defense Support Initiative  
Doug Callaway, State of Florida Washington Office  
Craig Deatherage, Office of Congressman Steve Southerland  
Lt Col Brian Fallon, FNG  
Capt Ryan Hagemeyer, FNG  
Brian Mimbs, Office of Senator Marco Rubio  
Lt Col Steve Murray, USAF (ret.), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs  
Lt Col Glenn Sutphin, USA (ret.), Florida Department of Military Affairs  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington 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: See Page 2

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Doubletree Inn  
101 South Adams St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

## Agenda -- Meeting #22 (As of: January 6, 2014)

**Thursday - January 16, 2014**

**9:00 AM -1:00 PM**

0900 – 0915 Welcome/Introductions /Pledge of Allegiance Chairman

0915 -0930 Old Business  
- Approval of November and December minutes Chairman  
- FY 2014 budget /contract update Bruce Grant/Camila Hornung  
- Florida 8a Alliance Andy Harold

0930 -1100 New Business  
- TF member reports TF Members  
- Update from The Principi Group TBD  
- Legislative Update Rocky McPherson  
- TF Minutes Review Bruce Grant  
TF Annual Report Bruce Grant  
TF Annual Meeting Schedule Proposal Bruce Grant

1100 -1130 Public Comment Chairman

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1130 -1300 CLOSED SESSION/Member Lunch (Strategy session, discussion of advocacy)

Next Meetings: Thursday, February 20, 2014 -Tallahassee (Committee Week)  
Thursday, March 20, 2014 -Tallahassee (Legislature in session)  
Thursday, April 17, 2014 -Tallahassee (Legislature in session)  
Thursday, May 15, 2014 - Pensacola/Corry Station (T)  
Adjourn

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*Dr. David Goetsch, FDSTF Co-Chairman, began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.*

**I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions**

**Chairman Goetsch** introduced special guests, asked RADM Delaney to lead 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 November 21, December 10 and December 27 open and closed meeting minutes.***

**FY 2014 Budget/Contract Update**

**Staff** provided an update on the Task Force budget, which includes FY2013 grant contracts. **Staff** provided an update on the status of the new (FY2014) Task Force grants.

**Florida 8a Alliance.** Mr. Andy Harold and Ms. Stephanie Marquardt presented a follow-up briefing on their 2013 grant and 2014 grant proposal, as requested by the Task Force.

***A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to increase the 2014 grant funding for Florida 8a Alliance from \$100,000 to \$150,000.***

**III. Agenda Item III: New Business**

**Task Force Member Reports**

**Judge Patt Maney** stated that the following Saturday, the annual Fallen Heroes ceremony will take place at Eglin AFB. Photos of each Florida resident killed during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in the last year will be unveiled.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported that the first group of F-22s has arrived at Tyndall AFB. The state and community effort over the last 4 1/2 years has resulted in over 1,100 jobs coming to Florida. **Mr. Neubauer** personally thanked EFI staff for their work on grant implementation that enabled replacing the 915 jobs lost when the F-15 left Tyndall.

**Maj Gen Emmett Titshaw** briefed new Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James on the Air Force Program Objective Memorandum (POM) perspective from the Air National Guard point of view and the Total Force Task Force, and the testimony to the Commission on the Structure of the Air Force. **Maj Gen Titshaw** mentioned the recent F-35 basing decision, and the next round of selection process, and commented on the most recent and upcoming Base Commanders meetings. **Maj Gen Titshaw** reported on battalion and detachment activities related to Operation Enduring Freedom. Positive impacts for FNG have emerged from the federal omnibus bill related to the counter-drug, Star Base and youth Challenge programs.

**Representative Dana Young** provided an update on the state omnibus package (the Florida GI Bill) that is working through the committees. The members are excited and enthusiastic about this bill.

**Dr. Ed Naggiar** did not offer a report.

**RADM Kevin Delaney** reported on the purchase of littoral combat ships (LCS), life extension of other ships at Mayport, a report card on Florida's military and the ad valorem tax issue.

**Ms. Barbara Stewart** demonstrated use of the Polk County Property Appraiser's website to find real estate disclosures related to the Avon Park AF Range. This can be used as a model for other counties around the state. The communications plan for the range is nearly completed.

Consultants from Marstel-Day recently visited the range to assess possible encroachment activities. The Range received \$800,000 in Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funds to support efforts to prevent encroachment. This award was one of only three given out in the US.

**Mr. J.R. McDonald** did not offer a report.

**Brig Gen Chip Diehl** reported on the on-going discussion regarding the possibility of a charter school on MacDill AFB.

**Update from the State of Florida Washington Office**

**Mr. Doug Callaway** provided an update on the federal two-year omnibus appropriation bill; the passing of this bill will avoid another government shutdown. There were more votes in the Florida delegation than previously. The omnibus bill and the Ryan-Murray bill that follows replace the sequester.

**Update from The Principi Group (TPG)**

**Secretary Anthony Principi** reminded the Task Force the TPG statement of work has been revised to reflect the current climate in Washington regarding BRAC. Secretary Principi, Mr. Doug Callaway and Mr. John Patrick Walsh are working very closely together in Washington on behalf of Florida. The focus will always be kept on BRAC. The DOD funding requested to start planning for a 2014 BRAC has been removed from the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The door has been left open for a future BRAC; As a precondition, DOD must submit a formal review to the Congress on overseas military installations. The DOD budget of \$572B is slightly less than in 2013, but is better than was anticipated. There will be changes in Congress, and it is hoped that two Florida members will be assigned to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense. There will be a great deal of activity in 2014 and TPG will keep an eye on it. There are a number of reports with independent assessment requirements due Congress by the end of February. Installation Complex Encroachment Action Plan (ICEMAP) is an important initiative, and hopefully will bring positive results.

**RADM Kevin Delaney** recommended that Florida position itself to absorb personnel, capacities and missions that will be moved as a result of DOD's formal review of overseas installations.

**MG Mike Jones** added that the budget offers relief from sequestration for the next two years, after which sequestration will again take effect.

The authorization bill looks at combatant commands, to ensure functional combatant commands have appropriate levels of personnel and resources to effectively meet mission requirements. CENTCOM and SOUTHCOM are geographic combatant commands, and SOCOM is a functional combatant command. The language expresses concern that the geographical combatant commands have grown considerably over the last decade, and the functional combatant commands may need size and structural changes to meet mission requirements. A DOD Inspector General (IG) study has been directed to look at the trends, resources and challenges for DOD in appropriately sizing those functional combatant commands. Given the directive to reduce combatant commands 20% in terms of staff structure, SOCOM may not be taking all of that reduction, due to SOCOM's continued functional global responsibilities.

Considerable across the board budget pressure continues; one area is the modeling simulation training community, with savings through consolidations and efficiencies. TPG will continue working closely with Team Orlando to sustain their presence in Orlando.

The spending package rejected the Navy's plan to retire nine ships, including two stationed at NS Mayport. This measure extends the life of the ships at Mayport.

**MGEN Jones** also commented on the following:

Florida not being chosen as an FAA/UAV test site

X37B Space Plane moving to Kennedy Space Center

Arrival of USS New York at NS Mayport

F-22s' arrival at Tyndall AFB

CENTCOM's invitation to current/additional coalition countries to sustain their presence at

MacDill AFB

Air Force Total Task Force and National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force

Timeline for release of the President's 2015 budget

In response to a question by **RADM Delaney**, **Staff** stated that Space Florida requested a debrief on the UAV test site proposal. This will be provided to the Task Force.

### **Legislative Update**

**Staff** provided a summary on bills that are evolving in the Legislature. The state omnibus package (the Florida GI bill) is working through the House committees; a separate similar bill is moving through the Senate. The state has grown its support for defense by funding the Task Force, and maintaining funding for the Defense Reinvestment Grant (DRG) and Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG) programs. Florida statute now contains the mechanism to fund non-conservation buffering; the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) budget contains a submission to the Governor for \$8.8M to handle the Tier I properties that the Task Force supported.

### **Task Force Minutes Review**

Per a recommendation by Representative Gaetz, **Staff** reviewed the Task Force minutes to date for possible legislative issues that may have been overlooked. None were found, but a list of completed, ongoing and follow-up actions has been compiled and was provided to the Task Force. **Judge Maney** commented that the passage of the Veterans Treatment Court bill in 2012 is not on the list as a completed action. This will be added.

### **Task Force Annual Report**

**Staff** summarized the FDSTF 2013 Annual Report and 2014 Work Plan, required for submission to the Governor, Senate President and Speaker of the House by February 1.

***A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve, with General Titshaw's changes, the 2013 FDSTF Annual Report and 2014 Work Plan.***

### **Task Force Annual Meeting Schedule Proposal**

**Staff** presented the proposed Task Force meeting schedule for 2014 for discussion.

### **Public Comment**

**Ms. Deborah Keller** with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) explained that REPI funding will increase by possibly \$4M in 2014. Matching state or local funding is required; The Florida Forever and Rural and Family Lands program will look at base buffering projects this year. **Ms. Keller** encouraged the Task Force to include these programs as priorities in advocacy work for additional funding.

National attention is coming to Florida, looking at protecting wildlife and water, and working in cooperation with military installations. In addition, a producer, who is developing a funded PBS documentary on military partnerships with conservation efforts, is working with TNC on research. Florida has been selected because of the state's military partnership with conservation efforts.

**Mr. Joe Marino** with the Florida Defense Contractors Association (FDCA) spoke on behalf of Florida's defense businesses and federal contractors. **Mr. Marino** made the Task Force aware of bills currently moving through the Florida Legislature providing unemployment compensation rate relief (HB519) and subcontracting incentives (HB155 and SB596) to these businesses.

***A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously for the Task Force to take action on recommending funding to the extent possible by the Florida Legislature of Florida Forever and the Rural and Family Lands Protection programs for environmental protection efforts in the vicinity of Florida's military establishments.***

*The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM EST.*

**Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2014**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton, Tallahassee, 9:00 AM EST -11:30 AM EST. *For Agenda: See Page 2*

**Task Force Members Present:**

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
MAJ GEN Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

**Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, AUS (ret.)

**Task Force Members Absent:**

Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)  
Dana Young, State Representative

**Speakers Present:**

Andy Harold, Florida 8a Alliance  
Secretary Anthony Principi, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)

**Others Present:**

Congressman Jeff Miller, 1<sup>st</sup>. Congressional District  
  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington Office  
Secretary Anthony Principi, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
MG Mike Jones, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
Lucian Niemeyer, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
Craig Deatherage, Office of Congressman Steve Southerland  
Lt Col Steve Murray, USAF (ret.), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs  
Lt Col Brian Fallon, FNG  
Col. Glenn Saunders, Legislative Liaison for the 81<sup>st</sup> Regional Support Command  
Ted S. Spangenberg, Jr., Consultant & Community Volunteer  
Mary Louise Hester, U.S. Senator Nelson's Office

**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.  
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, 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.

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Four Points by Sheraton  
316 West Tennessee Ave.  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

## Agenda -- Meeting #23 (As of: March 10, 2014)

**Tuesday - March 11, 2014**

**1:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

1330 – 1340	Welcome/Introductions /Pledge of Allegiance	Chairman
1340 – 1350	Remarks from Congressman Jeff Miller	
1350 – 1400	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Approval of January minutes</li><li>- FY 2014 budget /contract update</li></ul>	Chairman Bruce Grant/ Camila Hornung
1400 – 1530	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- TF member reports</li><li>- Update from the Florida Washington Office</li><li>- Update from The Principi Group</li><li>- Legislative Update</li><li>- Out-of-cycle grant application</li><li>- Space Florida Update</li><li>- DOD Issues Call – Federal Register</li></ul>	TF Members John Walsh Secretary Principi Rocky McPherson Larry Sassano Jim Kuzma Bruce Grant
1530 – 1600	Public Comment	Chairman

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1615 - 1645	CLOSED SESSION / Member Lunch (Strategy discussions) Next Meetings: Thursday, April 17, 2014 – Tallahassee (Legislature in session) Thursday, May 15, 2014 – Homestead Thursday, June 19, 2014 – Orlando Thursday, July 17, 2014 – Pensacola (with visit to Corry Station) August 2014 – No meeting Adjourn	
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*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 1:30 PM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and guests and asked Ted Spangenberg to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Congressman Jeff Miller gave greeting and remarks.

III. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the January 16, 2014 open and closed meeting minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff provided an update on the Task Force (TF) budget, which includes FY2013 grant contracts. Staff provided an update on the status of the new (FY2014) TF grants.

BGen Diehl asked if now was a good time to discuss what was going on in session regarding funding and wanted to know if there was anything the TF could do to assist. Rep. Patronis said allocations have not gone to the house but he was hopeful to maintain current funding levels and anticipates a \$4 million allocation to the TF.

IV. Agenda Item IV:  
New Business Task Force Member Reports

**J. R. McDonald** thanked Congressman Miller for attending today's TF meeting and his support of his district. Mr. McDonald reported Eglin AFB has the world's largest fleet of F-35's. The fleet has grown to 42 aircraft with all components represented by F-35 models A's, B's, and C's. Eglin is now training the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps; the British and Dutch pilots are also in training, citing the international component is growing.

**BGen Diehl** thanked Congressman Miller for his support. He reported there will be the MacDill Air show in two weeks on the March 21 – 22. The Air Force Thunderbirds will perform. He invited his colleagues at other bases to watch what MacDill does and how they do it because there is a huge community involvement in it. He invited other military base counterparts to come and talk to MacDill. The new guidance from the Air Force is that any aircraft that comes in for the air show, most of the gas has to be paid for with donations with funds raised from the community. SOF Week is coming up the third week of May. The second week in April is the GEOINT Conference with 250 companies, about 4000 people. These are top tier companies in the business of Geospatial Intelligence with high end jobs. He requested continue support from Representatives Gaetz and Young on the encroachment issue for MacDill to continue to work on funding to purchase the Florida Rock Property.

**MAJ GEN Titshaw** thanked Congressman Miller for his support on Capitol hill for the Florida National Guard. He and J.R. McDonald spent several days in Orlando with senior leadership of the Air Force Association Warfare Symposium. He stated "it is safe to say we [Air Force] have a remarkable team of leadership with Secretary James and GEN Welch at the helm." Cuts to the Army and Air National Guard were announced this week as part of the President's budget; cuts approximately 106 personnel in Florida and three F-15's from the Jacksonville 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing (75 personnel cuts are represented here). Thirty-one personnel will be cut from the 601<sup>st</sup> Air Support Command (ASC) at Tyndall AFB including part-time and full time positions. The 114<sup>th</sup> Range Operations Squadron at Patrick AFB will lose four full-time personnel this fiscal year. Other cuts will come in fiscal year 2016. On the Army side of the house the proposed reduction in the Guard to 335,000 translates to 300 Florida National Guard soldiers being decremented. The Guard is working through the process of what units the losses will impact. If the total force reduction number is cut to the Budget Control Act

(BCA) number of 315,000 that would represent a cut of 1,000 of the 10,000 Guardsman for Florida, a 10% cut. Florida currently ranks 53 of 54 States and territories in Guardsman to population ratio ahead of only California. US HB 3930, supported by Congressman Miller and 9 other Florida Legislators, the most of any State supporting this bill, calls for a timeout on the drawdown to allow time for a National commission on the structure of the Army similar to the one conducted by the Air Force two years ago. The bill would effectively freeze current Guard end strength at 350,000 until the commission study could be completed. Separate from the force reduction issue there has been a move toward removing combat aviation out of the Army National Guard that would fundamentally change the role of the Army NG from a combat maneuver arm of the US Army to something different. If the combat aircraft are taken out of the Army NG, Florida's tax will be two to three Blackhawks, and one of four Lakota aircraft. We will have to see how sequestration plays out, but some potentially significant cuts may occur due to the President's budget.

**Representative Jimmy Patronis** gave a recap of the new Florida GI Bill passed by both the state House and Senate. A separate omnibus bill identified 18 to 19 medical professional licenses that exist under Florida law that require military members to sit for certification exams. The bill would eliminate the testing requirement, extending reciprocity to military members that meet notification and other requirements under the proposed law.

**Dr. David Goetsch** reported on the concerns over the budget in Okaloosa County. He paraphrased a quote by the district Representative as saying, "It is not as bad as it could have been under sequestration and not as good as it needs to be for National Defense." He discussed Okaloosa having Eglin AFB, Hurlburt and Duke Fields, and the 7th Special Forces Group. He further noted that Eglin and Special Operations are fine in the budget.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported the next seven of the F-22's of twenty-four had arrived at Tyndall AFB from Holloman AFB. Tyndall will host the largest Fleet of F-22's in the country, and he thanked Congressman Miller for his part in making Northwest Florida the 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Fighter Center of Excellence. Around June the 95<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron and the 45<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group will stand up operations at Tyndall, representing a big turning point for the community. The Northwest Florida Five County Defense Coalition will travel to Washington, D.C. from the 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March. The 50 – 55 person group traditionally uses this trip as their annual meeting and visits locations in and around the beltway. The group will also visit Quantico, which is a major customer for our Navy base. Northwest Florida has pulled together and is held together by the importance of the Gulf Range Complex. He recognized Col. Glenn Sanders, Legislative Liaison for the Army Reserve, representing approximately 10,000 reserves, and 302 civilians, and a \$218 million payroll, noting this was his first time attending the TF meeting and thanked him for being in attendance.

**Ms. Barbara Stewart** reported via phone. She related the major issue with Highland County and Avon Park Air Force Range is preventing encroachment issues adjacent to the range. The range has used several sources of funding to assist in addressing the encroachment issue.

**RAdm Kevin Delaney** reported that Mayport will lose three frigates this year, and "C" Carrier pier will receive \$27 million for rehabilitation infrastructure road work. FY 2014 Defense spending bill does some good things for Northeast Florida, specifically three of our Mayport based cruisers will be modernized, which mean we keep 975 Sailors and their families in Jacksonville. Some of the future funding in the bill includes sixteen P-8 Poseidon aircraft to be stationed at NAS Jacksonville; five E-2D's advanced Hawkeyes built at Northrup Grumman at St. Augustine; and nineteen MH-60R's helicopters that will be at both NS Mayport and NAS Jacksonville; four Littoral Combat ships that will be stationed at NS Mayport; there is an additional \$780 million for the development of the Ohio class replacement submarine, which surely will have economic impact in Northeast Florida. USS New York arrived in Mayport last December with its 360 Sailors; the other two ship in the Amphibious Readiness Group; the USS Iwo Jima and the USS Fort McHenry will arrive later this year bringing the total ARG growth compliment of 2,000 Sailors to the Jacksonville area. NSA Panama City is submitting for Barefoot Palms for non-conservation lands funding. NAS Whiting Field is submitting for multiple normal REPI parcels and also a large scale project under the sentinel landscape program for 5,000

acres north of the field in Wolf Creek in the Milton area. NAS Pensacola (Escambia County) plans on submitting a joint land use refresh proposal for their existing 2003 Joint Land use study. In the DIG/DRG grant arena multiple grants have been awarded to City of Jacksonville, Santa Rosa County, Escambia County, Orange County, the Bay Defense Alliance (Panama City), NAS Whiting Field site 8 alternative OLF has the potential to turn the OLF field swap by the county in return for existing site 8. The timeline on that is anticipated to be December 2014. Mayport Village, Mile Point may involve a swap to protect that base.

**Dr. Ed Naggiar** No report.

**Judge Patt Maney** No report.

*David Goetsch FDSTF Chairman, at 1:55 PM EST*

**John Patrick Walsh** reported on the fly-in of the (Veteran of Foreign Wars) VFW to Washington, DC with a strong delegation from Florida. Thanks to EFI for putting our office and the group together. He thanked Congressman Miller for helping facilitate the roundtable for the group and for his time with the VFW delegation.

- VFW Members were able to speak to a couple of members of the legislative affairs staff throughout the week and found a lot of similarities between HB-7015 and SB-860 a lot of their National priorities which highlights Florida is on the cutting edge of what is going on right now.
- Mike Jones helped put together a delegation briefing for TF military updates throughout the State. One thing they took away from that meeting with staff is that they would like to meet more frequently to ensure we are on the same page.
- The Guard is responding now that the budget has been released and will be working with Governor Scott regarding FNG budget issues.

**Update from [The Principi Group (TPG)] Secretary Anthony Principi** New team member Lucian Niemeyer who served eleven years on the Senate Armed Services Committee was introduced. He has a great depth of knowledge on the committee and will be a great asset to Florida.

- Officials in Virginia believe their State should embrace BRAC, because they are well prepared and believe they are ready to protect and expand their interest.
- In the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) submitted with the budget, there are three overriding themes. The first is to update the strategy to put forth a vision for what our strategy should be in regard to the new threat assessment; second, is to rebalance the force to adjust to the new strategy and the fiscal environment; third is the rebalance DOD internally and to get more bang for the buck to include \$94 billion in efficiencies, e.g. combining joint commands.
- He offered additional analysis of the Defense budget. Of concern to Florida is the reduction of the LCS procurement, which is reduced under the current budget, and eleven cruisers are being placed on limited operational status for modernization an unspecified period of time.

**TF Staff** reported tracking a variety of state expenditures bills. The House and Senate passed the Florida GI Bill which included several key pieces of legislation to support Florida Veterans and their families and Veterans and their families relocating to Florida.

**Florida GI Bill - HB 7015 - Relating to Military and Veteran Support.**

- Provides over \$7 million in non-recurring funds to purchase lands preventing encroachment on select Florida military installations.
- Allows for military spouses/dependents to keep their state of residence driver licenses while stationed in Florida.
- Automatically extends military spouse/dependent driver licenses while stationed outside of Florida.
- Creates a non-profit Florida is for Veterans, Inc. to attract veterans to Florida, assist veterans

- with finding employment, and offer training grants to business who hire veterans.
- Expands Florida's veterans' preference in state employment to include all veterans.
- Grants out-of-state tuition waivers to student veterans.
- Allows military experience to count towards certain professional licenses.
- Removes one-year residency requirement for State Veteran Nursing Homes.
- Authorizes the Florida Veterans Walk of Honor and Memorial Gardens.
- Provides \$12.5 million for Florida National Guard Armory Renovations.
- Expands the Florida National Guard education programs.

Question: BGen Diehl, noted that it appears the TFis making a difference with this bill. He asked if this is this something we can track?

Answer: Staff commented, we do track the TFissues, but we also need to tell the story of successes. We will update the economic impact study University of West Florida does for the TF every two years. Staff will update summary of Florida Statues related to the military and military families to reflect actions by the 2014 legislature and Governor Scott.

**Larry Sassano**, President of Florida's Great Northwest made a presentation requesting \$50,000 for an out-of-cycle TFGrant sponsored by Representative Matt Gaetz. He thanked Congressman Miller for his support military of troop and Veterans. He thanked Representative Patronis for his support of his application and Representative Gaetz for sponsorship of the proposal. Florida's Great Northwest is a sixteen county economic development regional organization of which all sixteen counties EDO's are members. His organization has a plan to enhance marketing to encourage employers to hire Veterans in an effort to reduce the Veteran talent/brain drain to other States. They will develop special brochures focusing on the 6,000 men and women, and their families that transition out our bases every year; company recruiting to Northwest Florida that would be potential employers of Veterans. This offers a buffer for military downsizing, by putting military members to work in companies when they transition from the military. Florida's Great Northwest is working with the colleges and universities to develop fast track certifications for transitioning military members and Veterans. The out of cycle request is for \$50,000 with a \$100,000 match from Florida's Great Northwest to aggressively market Florida through the website, marketing materials, and events.

Question: BGen Diehl asked why are we seeing this grant now? He stated that we have a process and if we start letting organizations start applying out of cycle it could present a problem.

Answer: Larry Sassano stated he is in competition with the surrounding States. The timely funding will make us more competitive and enables the organization to have a presence at various recruiting events which are in the immediate future.

*A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Florida's Great Norwest request for out of cycle grant of \$50,000 for marketing in support of aviation aerospace growth and Veterans employment.*

**Jim Kuzma** reported on the Florida Space Update. He thanked the TF and Principi Group (MG Jones) for discussing excess property related to NASA, and asked them to take a look at the BRAC best practices and how to apply them to other agencies. One of the takeaways is "Busting Myths and Facts about the FAA and the Unmanned System Test Site." The test site was not the most important thing; the economic impact of Florida is based on the integration of the FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) technology into the National airspace is where the big push was. Florida was not selected. They selected New York, Nevada, Maryland (Virginia Tech), Texas A&M in Texas, North Dakota State, and the University of Fairbanks. Test sites in Northwest Florida at Carrabelle and Mayport resulted in no interruption of operation.

**Bruce Grant** gave a brief overview of DOD Family issues which included the key personnel and readiness issues supporting service members and their families. Of Florida's top ten issues and their ranking the only issue that there had been no movement on was in-state tuition for Veterans which was accomplished today with the passage of the Florida GI Bill. The DOD handout highlights Florida

is in very good shape. The Chair directed members to review and get back to Bruce with suggestions for new action items.

RAdm Delaney asked how does this bounce against the MOAA? Staff responded they generally have a different set of criteria than DOD. MOAA focuses primarily on things that families are interested in regarding where they are going to settle in retirement or new jobs. RAdm Delaney requested a look at the MOAA chart to get to a full green-up on those issues as well. Staff related it would have a report on those issues at the next meeting.

Public Comments: No Public Comments

*The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM EST*

**Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2014**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hampton Inn and Suites South Miami/Homestead, Homestead, Florida, 9:00 AM EST -11:00 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

**Task Force Members Present:**

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Acting Chair  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, AUS (ret.)  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)

**Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)  
Dana Young, State Representative  
MAJ GEN Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

**Task Force Members Absent:**

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman

**Speakers Present:**

Jonathan Bogert, Military Affairs Committee, Homestead and Florida City  
MGen Mike Jones, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
Mike Prendergast, Florida Department of Veteran Affairs

**Others Present:**

Congressman Joe Garcia, 26<sup>st</sup> Congressional District of Florida  
Florida House, Representative Holly Raschein, District 120  
BGen Sean Mulholland, Commander SOCSOUTH  
Bill Avery, Director US Customs and Border patrol  
Mayor Jeff Porter, City of Homestead  
Vice Mayor Steve Shelley, City of Homestead  
Mayor Ed McDougal, Cutler Bay  
Gus Cruz, Executive Director, Dade County Military Affairs  
Larry Ventura, Homestead Base Community Planner  
Thomas Hastings, Homestead Community Planning Contract Support  
Diana Gonzalez, Beacon Council, Miami-Dade Defense Alliance  
Jim Murley, South Florida Regional Planning Council  
Major Brooke Cortez, Homestead Air Force Reserve Base  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington, D.C. Office  
MGen Keye Sabol, TPG  
Jim Breitenfeld, TPG  
Col Jeff Davies, Inspector General Homestead ARB  
Lt Col Brian Fallon, Florida National Guard  
Capt. Pat Turner, US Coast Guard Miami

**Staff Present:**

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc. (On the Phone)  
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force, Enterprise Florida, Inc.  
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

## Minutes of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

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Marcy Sanders, 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.

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Hampton Inn and Suites, Miami South Homestead  
2855 N.E. 9<sup>th</sup> St, Homestead, FL 33033

## Agenda -- Meeting #24 (As of: May 2, 2014)

**Thursday - May 15, 2014**

**9:00 AM – 2:30 PM**

0900 – 0920	Welcome/Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance Remarks from U.S. Congressman Welcome/Information Briefing	Chairman Joe Garcia Local Defense Leaders
0920 - 0930	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Approval of March 11th minutes</li><li>- FY 2014 budget update</li><li>- TF Grant and Contract Status</li></ul>	Chairman Bruce Grant Camila Hornung
0930 – 1015	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- TF member reports</li><li>- Washington Update</li><li>- Update from The Principi Group</li><li>- FDVA Update</li><li>- Legislative Update – Results from session</li><li>- Fact Book and Military Friendly Guide Updates</li></ul>	TF Members John Walsh Mike Jones Mike Prendergast Bruce Grant Bruce Grant
1015 – 1030	Public Comment	Chairman
-----BREAK-----		
1045 - 1230	CLOSED SESSION / Member Lunch (Strategy session, discussion of advocacy)	

Next Meetings:

Thursday, June 19, 2014 – Orlando  
Thursday, July 17, 2014 -- Pensacola  
August – NO MEETING  
Thursday, September 18, 2014 – Tallahassee  
Thursday, October 16, 2014 – Key West  
Thursday, November 20, 2014 – Okaloosa  
December – NO MEETING  
January 15, 2015 -- TBD

Adjourn

1230 – 1430      Tour of Homestead ARB

**Points of Contact:**

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Tom Neubauer, FDSTF Acting Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Acting Chairman Neubauer welcomed attendees and guests and asked Major Brooke Cortez to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Representative Holly Raschein gave greetings and remarks.

III. Congressman Joe Garcia gave greetings and remarks.

IV. Welcome/Information Briefing by the Local Defense Community

- a. Larry Ventura presented the Homestead ARB Video showcasing the capabilities of the base.
- b. Jonathan Bogert welcomed the TF to Homestead and discussed prior and future funding request, and provided an overview of the Homestead ARB.
- c. Dianna Gonzalez welcomed the TF to Homestead and discussed the importance of the Homestead ARB, and the strategic plan Beacon Council is working on with The Principi Group (TPG).

IV. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the March 11, 2014 open and closed meeting minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff provided an update on the Task Force (TF) budget, which includes FY2013 grant contracts. Staff provided an update on the status of the new (FY2014) TF grants.

*Question:* Admiral Delaney asked if there were any pending grant applications that we deferred.  
*Staff Answer:* There are not any pending grant applications at this time.

Staff provided updates on the status of the twenty-one open grants. Handouts were included in the book.

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

**MAJ GEN Titshaw** gave a brief on the status on the Florida National Guard and other issues impacting military and civilian communities. He gave a brief discussion of Northrup Grumman coming to his area, and suggested the TF look at other venues outside of military installations to host TF meeting, such as Embry Riddle, to foster relationships.

*Question:* Congressman Garcia requested the House Bill Number reported by MGen Titshaw that freezes any cuts to Army until a review on how the Army should be balanced is completed.  
*Answer:* HB 3930.

*Question:* Admiral Delaney – Is there some way to equate the disaster response in Florida for the FNG to delayed responses and the inability to meet the taskings that the FNG has beyond the missions in Iraq and Afghanistan to our Congressional delegation?

*Answer:* MAJ GEN Titshaw stated he has written three letters over the past three months laying out the issues to maintain the end strength of the FNG to include National Disasters. He has had numerous discussions with Governor Scott and Senator Nelson about having one of the lowest Guardsmen to citizen ratio (53 of 54) of any other state, and we have a large and increasing population.

*Comment:* MGen Taluto speaking to the Congressman and the other elected officials in the room, our state missions have to be considered when talking about cuts, which is what HB 3930 is

about.

Acting Chair Neubauer introduced Congressman Joe Garcia.

**Judge Patt Maney** deferred to J.R. McDonald.

**J.R. McDonald** gave a briefing on Northwest Florida bases. He reported there are now 48 F-35's at Eglin AFB.

**RAdm Kevin Delaney** gave a briefing on state Navy issues for Mayport, Pensacola, Whiting Field, and Key West. He noted keeping a watchful eye on the encroachment issues at NAS Key West.

**MGen Joseph Taluto** reported on his visit to Homestead and congratulated the team on how well they are doing. He suggested that a dialogue needs to be started with the whole Miami/Dade County area regarding military issues.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** briefed on Air Force issues in Northwest Florida.

*Question:* What is the status of the land encroachment issues at NSA Panama City? Did the Legislature give more money for that?

*Answer:* Yes. We have the money in place and now we are looking for the mechanism for the transfer.

VI. Updates:

**John Patrick Walsh** thanked Mayor Porter and the TF for the opportunity to have a firsthand experience at Homestead. He also briefed the TF on current issues and the passing of HR 4486, the Military Construction and Veterans Spending Bill. HB 3930 which may require a separate vote because of amendments which were added, there is a companion bill which looks promising. The Washington DC office will continue to pursue the issue of cuts to the FNG.

**MGen Mike Jones (TPG)** Briefly discussed the President's budget, HR 4486 and noted all of Florida's MilCon projects were supported in the bill at the recommended levels. Also Congressman Ross successfully inserted an amendment prohibiting the closings of any military commissaries. He discussed several committee reports which address issues of space launch; DOD Title X notification requirements to Congress for base realignments; and the National Defense Authorization Act for 2015. He discussed several successes around the state at Tyndall, and the central Florida SIM Center. He thanked the Homestead community for a great visit and acknowledged all of the great progress the community has made since the last TPG/Spectrum Group visit, and he thanked Jonathan Bogert for putting the visit together.

**Mike Prendergast** gave a comprehensive brief on the Veteran's/Florida GI Bill passed during the last session. Handouts were provided.

*Question:* MGen Taluto - What is the timeframe for standing up the non-profit Florida is For Veterans, Inc.?

*Answer:* Mike Prendergast – The Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Senate President each will nominate three members to the board. Nominations are due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have recommendations please send them to FDVA and we will forward to the leadership.

*Comments:* Representative Raschein commented on how proud she was to have been part of the Legislature that passed this Veteran and Defense friendly legislation.

MGen Titshaw thanked Representative Raschein and her colleagues in the Legislature for their support.

RAdm Delaney requested FDVA staff provide an update/overview on the State Veteran's Homes at the next meeting in Orlando.

**TF Staff** provided a legislative wrap-up. Handouts were provided. Staff added updates to the Military Friendly Guide are being updated and a new publication is expected around the September timeframe. Also, for the June meeting staff will bring to the TF for a vote requesting an update of the Economic Impact Study and the Florida Factbook.

VII. Agenda Item IV:  
Public Comment

**James F. Murley, South Florida Regional Planning Council** gave an update on the Council and their military support activities.

**Judge Maney** discussed Oklahoma becoming the first state to pass a bill addressing treatment for Veterans with traumatic brain injury using Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment (HBOT). He said Florida needs to address this issue as well.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM EST*

**Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2014**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Doubletree Downtown Orlando, Orlando, Florida 9:00 AM EST -11:00 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

**Task Force Members Present:**

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Acting Chair  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (ret.)  
MAJ GEN Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida

**Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
Dana Young, State Representative

**Task Force Members Absent:**

MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)

**Speakers Present:**

LTGEN Tom Baptiste, National Center for Simulation  
Craig Dalton, Chairman, Florida Defense Alliance  
MGen Mike Jones, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
COL Mike Prendergast, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veteran Affairs  
COL Glenn Sanders, USAR 81<sup>st</sup> Regional Support Command  
Eric Sherman, DoD Southeastern Regional Liaison  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington, D.C. Office

**Others Present:**

Susan Fernandez, Senator Rubio's Office  
Celeste Brown, Senator Nelson's Office  
Craig Deatheridge, Congressman Southerland's Office  
Patrick Kelly, Congressman Mica's Office  
Sal Nuzzo, Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation  
Jim Breitenfeld, TPG  
Waymon Armstrong, Chair, Metro Orlando Defense Task Force  
Members of the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) and various stakeholders from the local community

**Staff Present:**

Al Latimer, SVP, Strategic Partnerships, Enterprise Florida, Inc.  
Tony Burkart, Manager, Business Development  
Noreen Levitt, Director, Investor & Partner Development  
Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs  
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs  
Marcy Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force

The meeting was open to the public.

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Doubletree Downtown Orlando  
60 South Ivanhoe Blvd., Orlando, FL 32804

## Agenda -- Meeting #25 (As of: June 12, 2014)

### **Thursday - June 19, 2014** **9:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

0900 – 0920	Welcome/Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance Welcome/Information Briefing	Chairman Local Defense Leaders
0920 – 0930	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Approval of May 15th minutes</li><li>- FY 2014 budget update</li><li>- TF Grant and Contract Status /Discussion</li></ul>	Chairman Bruce Grant Camila Hornung
0930 – 1100	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- TF member reports</li><li>- Washington Update</li><li>- Update from The Principi Group</li><li>- Florida Defense Alliance Update</li><li>- DOD Family Issues</li><li>- FDVA Update</li><li>- US Army Reserve Update</li></ul>	TF Members John Walsh MG (ret) Mike Jones Craig Dalton Eric Sherman Mike Prendergast COL Glenn Sanders
1100 – 1115	Public Comment	Chairman

----BREAK----

1130 – 1230            CLOSED SESSION / Member Lunch (Strategy session, discussion of advocacy)

**Next Meetings:**

Thursday, July 17, 2014 – Pensacola	Thursday, November 20, 2014 – Okaloosa
August – NO MEETING	December – NO MEETING
Thursday, September 18, 2014 – Tallahassee	January 15, 2015 -- TBD
Thursday, October 16, 2014 – Key West	

Adjourn

**Points of Contact:**

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*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and guests and asked Representative Matt Gaetz to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Welcome/Information Briefing by the Local Defense Community

- a. *Waymon Armstrong, Chair of the Orlando/Orange County Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force for Modeling, Simulation, and Training* brought greetings from the Mayor and briefed the Florida Defense Support Task Force (TF) on the mission of the year old Mayor's task force is to support the modeling and simulation community.
- b. *LTGEN Baptiste, National Simulation and Modeling Center*, welcomed the TF and gave a brief overview of Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando—the epicenter of the Modeling, Simulation & Training (MS&T) Industry including progress towards goals for the installation. He discussed the turnover situation with all commands having had or will have change of command in the past 30 days and the need to engage in relationship building; and the importance of helping the new commanders understand the various task forces and commissions and what they are trying to accomplish on their behalf.

*Question:* Representative Gaetz asked about the SWOT analysis concerns of Team Orlando regarding the energy efficiency profile, which appears to be a current priority for the Department of Defense (DOD). What is your expectation of the overall energy efficiency platform given the changes you briefed this morning?

*Answer:* LTGEN Baptiste - University of Central Florida is the facilities architect and they would address the energy platform issues and make the buildings compliant with current energy efficiency standards.

IV. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the May 15, 2014 open meeting and closed session minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff provided an update on the Task Force (TF) budget, which includes FY 2012-2013 grant contracts; the current budget balance is below \$200,000 as the fiscal year closes. Staff provided updates on the FY 2013-2014 grants cycle and the upcoming grants application cycle for FY 2014 – 2015. Additionally, staff pointed out the Santa Rosa County grant completed at \$30,600 under budget and these funds would be made available during the next grant cycle.

V. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

**RAdm Kevin Delaney** briefed Mayport is awaiting an amphibious carrier and a ship which would bring the total compliment of sailors (and their families) at Mayport to 3,500. USS New York is underway bringing back the Benghazi suspect.

**J.R. McDonald** deferred to Northwest Florida members present.

*Question:* Judge Maney asked for a status update on the F-35B.

*Answer:* The Marine Corp movement is still on schedule to start in the summer and conclude by the spring 2015. The issue of plane replacement is still unresolved and waiting on the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and the record of decision (ROD) to give the command the ability to replace those airplanes with other models.

**Rep. Matt Gaetz** deferred the discussion of the Veteran's Court to Judge Maney, but noted it is the type of celebratory event that he would like to see in the other 14 Veteran's Courts throughout the State to increase public awareness of the program and the cost savings potential to the court. He also discussed the success of the Florida GI Bill rollout in Okaloosa County through partnerships with Veterans support organizations from the region to ensure Veterans have full utilization of the benefits available to them. Rep. Gaetz said his office would be publishing a document that will summarize who they brought in to participate in the event and how the event was organized to encourage GI Bill rollouts all over the State.

**MAJ GEN Titshaw** notified the TF that letters of invitation to the Exportable Combat Training Capability Exercise at Camp Blanding July 18 - 20, 2014 will be going out this week to TF members. This is a significant exercise for the Florida National Guard (FNG) comprising 3,400 soldiers of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team augmented by an active component of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart. The FNG continues to track the progress of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and its potential impact on Army end strength and the FNG. He reported the State is starting hurricane season with 9,000 soldiers to assist the citizens of Florida, the most the State has had since 9/11.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** Briefed the TF on the F-22 Squadron arrival at Tyndall AFB, it is anticipated the squadron will be fully operational by July. 16 of 20 T-38's are there and about 850 of the 1,000 expected personnel and their families have moved to Florida. Air Force Installation Support Center consolidation is ongoing; currently Tyndall is the only Florida base under consideration.

*Question:* Rep. Patronis asked about the lawsuit between Bay County and Tyndall AFB.

*Answer:* Mr. Neubauer answered the issue is a contract dispute over water rates from a contract written in the 1990's that locked in water rates. Based on the contract the Federal government was not authorized to pay the higher water rates and the difference grew over the course of five to seven years to approximately \$500,000. It was finally decided by the courts the County could unilaterally amend the contract with the rate changes. It is unclear if the decision will be appealed or not but it is not as contentious as it sounds.

**Rep. Jimmy Patronis** provided an overview of the recently concluded legislative session. He told the TF this may be his last meeting as chair.

**Judge Patt Maney** briefed the TF on the Okaloosa County Veteran's Court graduation. Rep. Gaetz was the keynote speaker. He also discussed the legislature authorization of the Veteran's Courts for the State of Florida and the positive influence the court is having on the Florida judicial system. There are both active duty service members and veterans in the Veteran's Treatment Court. Due to funding made available by the legislature some active duty service members are able to receive substance abuse evaluation and treatment through private vendors which may not otherwise be available. Judge Maney also advocated for the use of hyperbaric oxygen treatment for traumatic brain injury (TBI), citing recent legislation by the States of Oklahoma and Indiana's approving the use of hyperbaric oxygen treatment for veterans with service connected TBI. He believes it is time for Florida to follow suit with those States.

**Commissioner Barbara Stewart** recognized Buck McLaughlin representing Avon Park Air Force Range. She discussed the use of the range for real world practice, which was realized over the past week with the A-10's utilizing the runway. Moody AFB initiated an organizational request to realign Avon Park under the 23<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group. The request was approved. Under the new organization Avon Park becomes Detachment 1, 23<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing and aligns both Grand Bay and Avon Park under the same organizational structure. There will be no changes anticipated to daily operations under the new command structure. The new range commander has been selected, LTCOL Kevin Beeker; the Change of Command is to be determined. The acquisition of portions of two ranches for the conservation easement of 1,100 acres has been negotiation and

appraisals are pending. Once the appraisals have been completed and reviewed by the Nature Conservancy (TNC) the offer letters will be sent. The Nature Conservancy anticipates closing on the properties by the end of the year. The TF grant was essential in securing the DoD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) grant to purchase the easement. A Florida Forever project for another 2,200 acres was approved, making it eligible for State matching funds.

*Question:* Rep. Gaetz asked is there anything we can do to help you with the acquisition of the easement?

*Answer:* Comm. Stewart responded TNC is awaiting the appraisals and they anticipate closing by the end of the year.

**Dr. David Goetsch** reported on a \$1.8 million grant Okaloosa County received from the Wounded Warrior Project to help wounded warriors transition into the workplace.

VI. Updates:

**John Patrick Walsh** briefed the TF on the success of the Florida Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) delegation's trip to Washington DC where they were hosted by the State of Florida Office. The National VFW has recognized this successful legislative week as a model for visits to Capitol Hill. He also discussed the letter to Governor Rick Scott from Department of Defense Secretary Hagel regarding the changes to end strength of the Army National Guard.

**MGen Mike Jones (TPG)** Briefed the TF on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). He noted the vote on the act coming out of the Senate Armed Service Committee (SASC) was near unanimous (25 to 1). The committee is looking forward to floor time to debate the recommendations prior to a vote. There is language in the SASC mark-up that no language in the bill should be construed as a call for a BRAC. Both the SASC and House Armed Service Committee (HASC) contained language which calls for the reduction of staff in combatant command headquarters, of which there are three in Florida. Additionally the HASC version calls for a reduction of geographic combatant commands from six to four, two are in Florida (SOUTHCOM and CENTCOM). Also, in the House Bill there was support for the retiring of the A-10. It looks possible there will be a budget continuing resolution to continue operations until after the November election. Bases are still faced with cost saving measures to address the increased pressure to accomplish their missions in a more austere fiscal climate.

*Question:* Judge Maney asked if there is any organized effort to see how military medical cost can be more effectively shared with the Veterans Administration (VA) where Military Medicine and the VA facilities are co-located?

*Answer:* MGen Jones stated he was unaware of any formal effort to share cost at this time. There are some efforts in terms of automated records and other activities that have been underway for some time. He noted he would follow-up on the medical cost sharing activities and get back to the Judge.

*Question:* J.R. McDonald noted last month the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) sent a report to Congress that outlined the reorganization of the office of the Secretary of Defense to carry out reductions in Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense. One of the Under Secretaries of Defense that was highlighted that is scheduled to be reduced is the Deputy Under Secretary For Installations and Environment that is the part of OSD that has responsibility for BRAC. When they go away who is going to pick up the policy lead for BRAC? Follow on question: Any policy changes anticipated as a result of this reorganization?

*Answer:* MGen Jones responded that when you look at the reorganization it is actually a consolidation and it combines the Assistant Secretary for Operational Energy with the Installations and Environment Under Secretary and makes it an Assistant Secretary. It changes the level of the person responsible for BRAC. The people who are responsible for BRAC will substantially remain the same and it will probably be more of a title change. Answer to follow on



question: No. Given the players, it appears the Department is taking a more holistic look at energy vice the compartmental view of the current organization.

**Craig Dalton**, Chair of the Florida Defense Alliance (FDA), responded to Judge Maney's earlier question noting that he would share with him later regarding cost saving measures between Military Medicine and the Veteran's Administration that are currently underway. He reported on the FDA meeting from the the day before and items to be presented to the TF for their consideration are: 1. The FDA would like the TF to commission a survey of the best practices of other States to use as a measuring stick to support our installations. 2. FDA is requesting a wiring diagram of Florida Installations interconnectivity. He stated this would strengthen us as a State to show how installations are connected.

*Question:* Dr. Goetsch it sounds like what you are requesting would be something the TF would ask Principi Group to do (under a new contract), but it seems to me that we should ask TPG to get with FDA and look into what it would take to produce these two products. Could we refer this to TPG?

*Answer:* MGen Jones, we could do the work we need to do some research to figure out what it would take to produce the deliverable and present a proposal.

*A motion was made and seconded to ask TPG to proceed with proposal development on the two deliverables requested by the Florida Defense Alliance; if a separate contract is required it should be included in the proposal. Motion passed.*

**Eric Sherman**, Southeastern Regional Liaison for the Department of Defense, discussed the process of how the DOD vets issues related to military families at the State level. He emphasized how well Florida is doing in addressing current issues identified by the DOD for 2013-2014. He reported the DOD is in the process of identifying issues for FY 2014-2015, and he would report on those once the list is completed.

**Mike Prendergast** Executive Director, Florida Department Veteran Affairs, reported the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is having its annual convention starting today, and noted how important the organization is to veteran's issues in the State of Florida. There are eight Governor's Veterans Service Awards Ceremonies scheduled starting June 30<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup> throughout the State. Details of the ceremonies are posted to the FDVA Facebook page. Reported on the Veterans homes in the State of Florida, the homes recently reached full occupancy a milestone for the Veterans home; and he stated he would keep the TF informed on the site selection for the 7<sup>th</sup> home. He discussed the standing up of the Board of Directors for Florida is for Veterans, Inc.

**Col Glenn Saunders**, Legislative Liaison 81<sup>st</sup> Regional Support Command provided a brief of the Army Reserve and the Army Reserve in Florida. In Florida there are 9,000 traditional Army Reserve Soldiers, 611 full-time Reservist, and 300 full-time civilians make up the full complement of Reserve forces. Which translates to 1 in every 3 soldiers in Florida is a Reservist. Generally, the Reserve component is much smaller than the National Guard but in Florida force strength is near identical, making Florida unique. The Army Reserve in Florida has 39 facilities and anticipates growing to 42 facilities. The Army Reserve has expended a construction budget of \$69 million to build the Florida facilities over the past two years.

Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

**Sal Nuzzo**, Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation, invited the TF to the Florida Chamber Foundation's Military, Defense & Veterans Opportunities Summit August 13, 2014 in Orlando, Florida at the Hyatt Regency.

**Patrick Kelly**, Congressman Mica's Office thanked the TF for the work they have done. The Congressman continues to support the NDAA, and simulation and modeling in the Orlando area.

**Susan Fernandez**, Regional Director for Senator Rubio's Office. The Senator continues to support modeling and simulation in the NDAA, and the military in the State of Florida. She noted she has already passed to the Senators staff some of the issues discussed here today.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM EST*

## Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, July 31, 2014

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, Florida 9:00 AM EST -12:00 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

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

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (ret.)  
MAJ GEN Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)

### **Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin

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

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Ed Naggjar, USN (ret.)  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)  
Dana Young, State Representative

### **Speakers Present:**

Admiral Vic Guillory – City of Jacksonville Office of the Mayor  
MGen Mike Jones, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
COL Mike Prendergast, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veteran Affairs

### **Others Present:**

Senator Audrey Gibson – Florida State Senate District 9  
Ms. Katie Ross, Senator Nelson's Office  
Ms. Adele Griffin, Senator Rubio's Office  
Ms. Jackie Smith – Congressman Crenshaw's Office  
Mr. Harrison Conyers – City of Jacksonville  
Mr. Charles Battaglia – TPG  
Mr. Jim Breitenfeld, TPG  
Cpt. Adam Bailey, Florida National Guard  
Cpt. Ryan Hagemeyer, Florida National Guard  
Ms. Kelley Borree – Director of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection  
Ms. Deb Keller, The Nature Conservancy

### **Staff Present:**

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs  
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force (on the phone)  
Marcy Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Military and Defense

The meeting was open to the public.

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

225 E. Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202

## Agenda – Meeting #26 (As of: July 24, 2014)

### **Thursday - July 31, 2014**

### **9:00 AM – Noon**

0900 – 0905	Welcome/Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance Welcoming Remarks	Chairman City of Jacksonville
0905 – 0915	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Approval of June 19<sup>th</sup> minutes</li><li>- FY 2014 budget update/ 2015 Grant Application</li><li>- TF Grant and Contract Status /Discussion</li></ul>	Chairman Bruce Grant Camila Hornung
0915 – 1045	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- TF member reports</li><li>- Update from The Principi Group</li><li>- DEP Update Fenton</li><li>- Veterans Court Update</li><li>- FL State Veterans Nursing Homes Prendergast</li><li>- Okaloosa County Public Private Partnership Project</li></ul>	TF Members MG (ret) Mike Jones Deputy Secretary Katy  Judge Patt Maney COL (ret) Mike  COL (ret) Sal Nodjomian
1045 – 1100	Public Comment  -----BREAK-----	Chairman
1115 – 1200	CLOSED SESSION / Member Lunch (Strategy session, discussion of advocacy)	
1200 – 1500	Tour of NAS Jacksonville: Fleet Readiness Ctr and P-8's Matt Schellhorn	

#### Next Meetings:

August – NO MEETING

Thursday, September 18, 2014 – Tallahassee

Thursday, October 16, 2014 – Key West Thursday,

Thursday, November 20, 2014 –

December – NO MEETING

January 15, 2015 -- TBD

#### Points of Contact:

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*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and guests and asked them to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Welcome/Information Briefing by the Local Defense Community

a. *Admiral Vic Guillory*, welcomed the Task Force to Jacksonville on behalf of Mayor Brown and discussed the growth of the Jacksonville Naval community. He also discussed the Friends of the National Guard Day which was recently held at Camp Blanding.

IV. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the June 19, 2014 open meeting minutes with noted corrections and closed session minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff provided an update on the Task Force (TF) budget reporting a year-end balance for FY 2013-2014 of \$127,802 and budget funding for FY 2014-2015 of \$3,500,000. Also discussed was the need for some grantees to spend their grant funds. Progress on 2014 grants was reported noting Camp Blanding has completed the mass notification system.

*Question:* Judge Maney asked if the Bay Defense Alliance Grant would be coming back.

*Answer:* We will be getting an update today from the State Division of Lands specific to how the process is moving forward for Barefoot Palms and the intention is these monies will revert back to the TF once the process is completed.

Staff also reported on contract updates for FY 2012 – 2013 and FY 2013 – 2014. A request was made for the TF to continue to help keep contract projects moving forward to utilize grant funds efficiently and effectively. New grant cycle application, for FY 2014 -2015 was released on June 16, 2014 which has one notable change to the application, requiring substantial completion (50%) of the FY 2012 -2013 grant to be expended before they will be eligible for the FY 2014 – 2015 grants cycle.

*Question:* BGen Diehl asked when is the 50% cut-off date.

*Answer:* Staff stated that 50% would have to be met in August when the grant application is submitted.

V. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

**Commissioner Stewart** reported on her participation in the Friends of the National Guard Day event at Camp Blanding of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Teams Exportable Combat Training Center Exercise. Her participation in the exercise gave her a great appreciation for the facilities and the soldiers of the Florida National Guard. She also reported she and her husband fired the 105mm cannon during the exercise.

Comm. Stewart reported progress continues to be made on acquiring the two conservation easements for Avon Park with the TF grants, and they are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. One agreement has been signed and the other is under review by the owner. The range received \$500,000 in Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) 2014 funds this week for an effort to acquire a conservation easement on the eastern scarp range land Florida Forever project. The range has submitted its 2015 annual REPI application which includes Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG) applications from Polk and Highlands Counties, possible Highlands County Environmental Trust Fund monies, and a partnership with the Florida Forest Service. The Change of Command Ceremony for Avon Park will be in a few weeks.

**MAJ GEN Titshaw** attended the Governor's Base Commanders meeting last week at Homestead Air Reserve Base. Expanded reporting criteria from the four major categories that we currently report on: encroachment/land use, infrastructure, energy, and quality of life was increased to five. We have now expanded that reporting to recognize public private partnerships and we have asked each of the base Commanders to bring their cases best practices to this forum. Going forward all of the base Commander will have visibility on some the really unique public private partnerships going on around Florida. We have enhanced our own efforts in the FNG and announced our partnership with Florida Power and Light (FPL). In discussions with FPL about emergency response we learned our responses to emergencies were very similar and we could learn a lot from a collaborative effort through the FPL emergency operations center. One FNG soldier is located at FPL to help coordinate FPL's emergency response in this test collaborative effort. He reported working on budget issues while in Washington, D.C. and Task Force Continuum issues plusing-up the National Guard squadrons. All of the services are moving toward leveraging industry with public-public and public-private partnerships (P4) are going to be a greatly enhanced concept; relationships in Florida that will be required to help us execute our budget. The General thanked Commissioner Stewart and her husband for participating in the exercise. He also noted, there were 4,200 soldiers participated in the exercise and presented a short video of the exercise. He presented Commissioner Stewart with the 105mm artillery shells she and her husband fired.

**J.R. McDonald** sent the Air Force Strategy document for distribution to the TF at General Titshaw's request to staff. Reported total F-35 aircraft numbers should remain stable after the transition of F-35 B model to Beaufort.

**BGen Diehl** reported on MacDill AFB activities. The environmental studies are going well and funding is strong. The Wing Commander at MacDill AFB is retiring and his replacement is Col. Dan Tulley.

**Judge Patt Maney** Special Operations Command is moving a UAV Squadron to Hurlburt Field, due to the Air Force reorganization. Eglin AFB will lose 22 jobs under the Air Force reorganization.

**Rep. Jimmy Patronis** provided an overview of the recently concluded legislative session.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported there is a new 325<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander at Tyndall AFB, Col. Derek LaFrance. July 12<sup>th</sup> was a big day; the 44<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group was activated. The 44<sup>th</sup> was a Guard and Reserve component for F-22's at Tyndall that has been declared combat ready, which represent the culmination of a five year effort. The Naval Support Activity now has two gates thanks to two defense infrastructure grants. It has really improved the traffic situation at the installation. Air Force Installation Mission Support Command stand-up has been delayed, and the expectation is the impact to Air Force Civil Engineering Command will be minimal at Tyndall.

VI. Updates:

**Charlie Bataglia (TPG)** discussed the Veteran's Administration (VA) and recent legislation approving over \$17 billion budget over three years. Some of the changes in the VA legislation will allow changes to the delivery of care for veterans including private service provider for vets living more than 40 miles away from a VA facility. There are currently seven major hospitals and 49 outpatient facilities for veterans in Florida. The numbers of veterans is decreasing nationwide. He also discussed budget issues facing Florida's military after the November elections and potential sequestration cuts in FY 2016.

*Remarks:* MGen Titshaw commented on cuts to the Army and Army National Guard. He discussed his ongoing work with the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) and the need to maintain or increase end strength in disaster prone and states with large populations of the National Guard using a threat analysis model. There is support for this structure of the National Guard in the Senate.

**MGen Mike Jones (TPG)** Discussed the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) budget mark-ups. There isn't expected to be any significant movement of the budget until after the November election. He summarized other events and meetings taking place that impact Florida's military.

*Remarks:* MGen Titshaw commented that the removal of the F-35B models could not be replaced at Eglin AFB with A or C models based on discussions at the Base Commanders Conference.

MGen Jones discussed the FDA request to have TPG look into what it would take to perform two new tasks: 1. a survey of best practices of other military installations around the country and; 2. a study of the linkages of military installations in Florida. TPG determined both tasks fall within the current scope of work in the TPG contract.

1. The survey of best practices of other military installations around the country, after on conversations with TF staff, it was determined the scope of work could be reduced to 25 states/20 communities nationally using a sampling method to analyze data. What are those states and communities doing to sustain the military and determine which of the best practices are not being utilized in Florida will be the focus of this report. Deliverable for this report would be by the October 31, 2014 at a cost of \$66,000.
2. A study of the linkages of the military installations in Florida will be a deliverable of a number of graphic depictions of relationships between Florida's installations. We determined the linkages between the installations needs to include the National Guard, the Army, Air Force, and Reserve components due to the invisible support they provide to the active component. Proposed project cost is \$53,500.

*Question:* Commissioner Stewart asked if the reports will become public information.

*Answer:* Staff noted the statute exempts for strategic products, and these reports generally fall into that category.

*Question:* Senator Gibson, Congressman Crenshaw's Office would like to know if all branches of service would be included or could be included in the study.

*Answer:* MGen Jones, yes we could include the services represented on those installations.

*Question:* Commissioner Stewart asked would it be useful to include linkages between installations outside of the state and with foreign entities that use Florida installations. She noted Avon Park has many customers outside of the State of Florida that use the ranges.

*Answer:* MGen Jones, yes I think it would be useful, but he deferred to the TF to determine the usefulness of that additional scope of work.

*Question:* Senator Gibson asked about the methodology of the best practices study in comparing Florida to other States.

*Answer:* MGen Jones we would look at how other states are organized and how things are done and what they have accomplished.

Chairman Patronis instructed the Task Force to select a date for the conference call on vote of the amended proposals from TPG. It was determined the call would be August 21, 2014 providing sufficient time for the meeting to be publically noticed and TPG to rework the proposals.

**Senator Audrey Gibson**, Florida Senate District 9, thanked the Task Force for meeting in District 9, and reminded everyone of the great strides the Florida Legislature took this past session to make and keep Florida the most military and veteran friendly state in the nation. She offered brief comments on the Federal budget review process and its impact on military in Florida.

**Kelley Borree**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Director of State Lands, briefed the TF on the status of non-conservation lands and military buffering. The appropriation for FY 2014-2015 is \$7 million. DEP has identified and have moved forward with the appraisal process of MacDill AFB, Mayport, and Panama City as the bases having specific projects the

department is buffering this fiscal year. Of note the MacDill and Panama City acquisitions will be full fee and the Mayport purchase will be less than fee easements.

*Question:* Commissioner Stewart asked if Ms. Borree could give the TF an estimated completion time for MacDill and Panama City.

*Answer:* The MacDill project the appraisal just started and it is generally a 30 day process to complete the appraisal, then it will go through a review process prior to contract negotiations. It will probably be at least two months before we are at the final point. We have been in touch with the land owners and they are willing to discuss the negotiations.

Panama City is a little bit ahead of schedule because we had already been in contact with the county who is the land owner. DEP expects to get the appraisal back the end of this month because it was ready to go July 1 when the budget funding became available.

**Judge Maney** briefed the TF on how he became involved in creating Veteran's Court, initially creating an informal court and advocating for the courts through the legislative process after returning to the bench from Afghanistan. The Florida legislature approved Veteran's Courts with the support of the legislative members of the TF. He believes it is important to brief the TF on the current status of the Veteran's Courts. The Veteran's Courts are a diversionary model, along the lines of the model for the drug and mental health courts, although it is focused on Veterans. What is important to Florida taxpayers is that it leverages Federal resources so we can treat justice involved Veterans with Federal resources under the Veteran's Administration programs. It is an outcome based program treating people so they do not come back into the system by committing criminal acts. The court is diversionary and post-adjudicative, which allows a judge to divert a convicted veteran to treatment and when treatment is completed they are released without probation. There are 19 charges that are ineligible from inclusion in the Veteran's Courts. There are now 17 Veteran's Treatment Courts in the state. The Veteran's Courts also treat active duty members. He also discussed legislation to treat Veterans with traumatic brain injury with hyperbaric oxygen treatments as has been legislated in other states.

*Question:* BGen Diehl, is there any ripple effect whether it is on a case or to take advantage of treatment for spouses that are involved in some of these cases, so we can work with the spouse or treat with the spouse?

*Answer:* Judge Maney answered yes, through the Veterans Centers which treats family members, broadly defined as parents, spouse, girlfriend, child, etc., anyone who is associated with the combat Veteran that is affected by the problem.

*Question:* MGen Titshaw asked if there are any members in active service that are in this process. *Follow-On Question:* Is there currently any hang-up on the definition of Veteran for those in active service, for instance a Guardsman or Reservist who has not deployed to a combat zone is not considered a Veteran?

*Answer:* Judge Maney, responded in Okaloosa 40% of my defendants are active duty Army and Air Force personnel from Eglin AFB. He has had one member from Hurlburt. One of the things we are using the appropriation for is to provide treatment in the public sector for active members not able to go to the VA. *Follow-on Answer:* No, because that is a national definition of a Veteran, but it is not our problem under the State law.

*Question:* Chairman Patronis asked about the large population of Veterans in Bay County and the lack of a Veteran's court, is there any movement to create a Veteran's Court there. *Follow-On Question:* Are there other counties that could benefit from a Veteran's Court?

*Answer:* Judge Maney answered there has been no movement in Bay County to start a court. *Follow-On Answer:* Yes. Collier County could use a Veteran's Court in my opinion as well as Escambia County.

**Mike Prendergast**, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs (FDVA), provided an update of the State Veteran's Nursing Homes. There are currently six Veteran's Homes in the state and one new proposed home awaiting site selection for the seventh home.



There is one assisted living facility in the state as well. The state is currently running a 99% occupancy in the homes. CMS currently ranks four out of six homes at the five star level. The goal of FDVA is to get the five-star rating for all of the homes in the state. The Clifford C. Sims home in Panama City, Florida received the Governor's Gold Seal Award, a first in the history of the FDVA, from the Agency for Health Care Administration. He also discussed the site selection process for the seventh Veteran's Home. The formal committee recommendation, of St. Lucie County, will be forwarded by the FDVA for presentation at the August 19, 2014 Cabinet meeting. He also, briefed the TF the anticipated ground breaking will be sometime after the first of the year and the TF will receive invitations for that event.

**Sal Nodjomian**, EDC of Okaloosa County, briefed the Task Force on the Tri-County Partnership Initiative (TPCI) public-public, public-private partnerships (P4). He discussed the Air Force initiative and the TF grant with the EDC is becoming a model of how to navigate this process. He discussed the Air Force's process, partnership objectives, areas of potential partnerships, current initiatives, and next steps.

*Question:* BGen Diehl, on the Air staff process, when it's all done is it up to the communities to find the funding for the projects? *Follow-On Question:* How do we share the ideas from the other communities that are going through the process, because there are a lot of good ideas out there. *Answer:* The way we have approached it is that everyone has to get better as you go through the process, or you are not going to move forward with it. If we cannot reduce the Air Forces cost or increase service for the majority of parties then it is not something we will pursue. *Follow-On Question:* MGen Titshaw responded that at the last Base Commanders Meeting we have now enhanced from four reporting criteria to a fifth one. Commanders can bring their best practices to that forum. Mr. Nodjomian also responded, General Harris has been a part of the process and he will be at the next Base Commanders Conference. MGen Titshaw noted there will also be someone there from the National Guard at the conference as well; this cross pollination has already started to occur.

*Comments:* Commissioner Stewart commented that her recollection was this is the reason the TF funded this project, it would be able to be replicated in other areas.

*Response:* Mr. Nodjomian noted that sharing and briefing the findings is included in the plan as noted on the last slide and as part of the grant.

Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

**Deb Keller**, The Nature Conservancy, Florida Chapter, reported the US Senate and the House in their mark-up of the FY 2014 -2015 budget increased REPI, by \$15 million, which brings the total to \$58.4 million, under a continuing resolution it would remain at last year's rate of \$60.1 million. The ability to use Federal Farm Bill monies as well was approved to match REPI funds as well as community and state funds. One of the projects the Nature Conservancy is working on is creating a barrier/reef to protect the coast of Eglin AFB from erosion.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM EST*

## Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, August 21, 2014

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting via conference call 10:00 AM EST -10:30AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

### **Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (ret.)  
Brig Gen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (ret.)  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
Dana Young, State Representative

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

MAJ GEN Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
Dr. David Goetsch, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Ed Naggiar, USN (ret.)

### **Others Present:**

MGen Mike Jones, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
COL Mike Prendergast, Executive Director, Florida Department of Veteran Affairs  
Ms. Deb Kellor, The Nature Conservancy  
Cpt. Adam Bailey, Florida National Guard  
Lt Col Brian Fallon, Florida National Guard  
Mike Maurial, Tampa Chamber of Commerce  
Sherry Coven, Florida Associations of Counties

### **Staff Present:**

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs  
Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force  
Marcy Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Military and Defense

The meeting was open to the public.

# Florida Defense Support Task Force

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

225 E. Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Agenda – Meeting #27 (As of: July 24, 2014)

## **Thursday - August 21, 2014** **10:00 – 11:00am**

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1000 – 1010	Roll Call Welcoming Remarks	Bruce Grant Chairman
1010 – 1045	New Business - Proposals from the Principi Group - #1 Study to ID Linkages Among FL Military Installations - #2 Study to ID Best Practices of State and Defense Initiatives	Chairman
1045 – 1100	Public Comment -----BREAK-----	Chairman

### Next Meetings:

August – NO MEETING

Thursday, September 18, 2014 – Tallahassee

Thursday, October 16, 2014 – Key West Thursday

Thursday, November 20, 2014 – Pensacola

December – NO MEETING

January 15, 2015 -- TBD

### Points of Contact:

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*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

The roll was taken and a quorum was present.

Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and thanked them for attending the call to complete the TF business.

II. Agenda Item III: New Business  
Proposals from The Principi Group

**MGen Jones** discussed the updated proposals as requested from the July TF meeting and informed the TF that for study #1 to include linkages for bases outside of Florida would be cost prohibitive, since many installations have as many as 60 tenants. Cost of the study \$63,850.

Question: RAdm Delaney asked if non-military activities on installations would be included in the study.

Answer: MGen Jones answered it is not in the current proposal to include non-Department of Defense (DOD) activities unless a linkage to DOD is established.

*A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the statement of work and cost was carried by a unanimous vote.*

MGen Jones discussed proposal #2 and told the task for that it would include a mix of installations in 25 states/ 20 communities. Due to the requested change the delivery date would be delayed by one month. Cost of the study \$66,000.

*A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the statement of work and cost was carried by a unanimous vote.*

III. Agenda Item III: Public Comment

There was no public comment

*The meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM EST*

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

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, September 18, 2014**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at DoubleTree by Hilton, Tallahassee, Florida 9:00 AM EST -15:30 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

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

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (Ret)  
MajGen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
BrigGen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (Ret)  
James Montgomerie, Vertol Systems

#### **Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (Ret)  
Dana Young, State Representative

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

Dr. Ed Naggiar, CDR USN (Ret)

#### **Speakers Present:**

MG Mike Jones, USA (Ret)The Principi Group LLC (TPG)

#### **Others Present:**

Mary Louise Hester, Senator Nelson's Office  
Craig Deatherage, Congressman Southerland's Office  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington DC Office  
Mr. Jim Breitenfeld, TPG  
Cpt. Ryan Hagemeyer, Florida National Guard (FNG)  
LTC Brian Fallon, USA NG, FNG  
Ms. Kelley Borree – Director of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection  
Ms. Deb Keller, The Nature Conservancy  
Mark Oglesby, Florida Department of Military Affairs  
Col Sal Nodjomian, USAF (Ret), Okaloosa County

**Staff Present:**

Al Latimer, SVP, Strategic Partners, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Rocky McPherson, VP, Military and Defense Programs

Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Heather Cave, Manager, Military and Defense Programs

Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Marcy Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Military and Defense Programs

# Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting Agenda – Meeting # 28

Doubletree Hotel, 101 S. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301



**CALL-IN**  
**NUMBER: 800.501.8979**  
**ACCESS CODE: 8784566**

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

## AGENDA September 18, 2014 (As of: September 5, 2014)

- 0900 – 0905 Welcome, Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance.....Chairman **(I)**
- 0905 – 0915 Old Business.....Chairman **(A)/(I)**
- Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Camila Hornung **(I)**
  - FY 2014 Budget Update Bruce Grant **(I) (D)**
- 0915 – 1000 New Business.....Chairman **(I)**
- TF Members Reports TF Members
  - Update from Principi Group Secretary Principi
- 1000 – 1015 Public Comment.....Chairman
- 1015 – 1200 FY 2015 Grant Application Presentations.....Chairman **(I)**
- Break/Lunch -----
- 1230 – 1530 FY 2015 Grant Application Presentations.....Chairman **(I)**
- 1530 – 1630 CLOSED SESSION-- Discussion of strategy.....Chairman **(I)**
- 1630 – 1700 OPEN SESSION -- Voting on Grant Applications.....Chairman **(A)**
- 1700 Adjourn.....Chairman **(A)**

### Reminders

Meeting Dates:  
October 16, 2014 Key West  
November 20, 2014 Pensacola  
December NO MEETING  
January 15, 2015 TBD

*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and acknowledged the newest member of the Task Force, Mr. James Montgomerie, CEO of Vertol Systems. He also welcomed guests and noted the Florida Channel was present broadcasting the meeting live throughout the State of Florida. He asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force (TF) the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

The Chairman extended congratulations to Judge Maney for receiving the Harvey Ford Award given to one of three hundred judges every year for dedication and service to their community. County judges throughout Florida select one person each year to receive this highest honor. Judge Maney started a veteran's center, and the first veteran's court in Florida.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the July 31, 2014 and the August 21, 2014 meeting minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff provided an update on the TF grants for FY 2012 -2013 and FY 2013-2014 summarizing grant recipients and highlighting those who have applied for grants for FY 2014 – 2015. A summary report of grant money spent on prior year grants was provided. Since the report was printed Florida 8a Alliance has completed their grant.

*Question:* Judge Maney asked if grants that have not had any funds expended, will the money revert back to the TF for reallocation.

*Answer:* Staff responded there has been an ongoing dialogue with grant recipients which fall into this category and some will revert back to the TF for reallocation, and others have a plan to spend the grant awards as programmed.

*Question:* Commissioner Stewart asked if the Florida 8a Alliance completely spent the first year grant and if the second year still stands at the reported outstanding balance.

*Answer:* Staff answered yes.

*Question:* Judge Maney asked if the Bay Defense Alliance Grant would be coming back.

*Answer:* We will be getting an update today from the State Division of Lands specific to how the process is moving forward for Barefoot Palms, and the intention is these monies will revert back to the TF once the process is completed.

Staff reported on the budget update and how much the TF would like to designate for the FY 2014 – 2015 grants cycle. Staff also reported they expected the TF to get back \$500,000 from Bay County based on the legislature appropriating money for their non-conservation land around Naval Support Activity Panama City, and approval of the amendment of the Principi contract of \$129,850 for the Florida Defense Alliance projects. Of note, the base Principi contract is fully funded, and there will be no required set-aside from FY 2014 – 2015 budget to pay the contract through December 2015. Available TF funds for FY 2014 – 2015 are approximately \$3.64 million for grants, statewide communication and outreach, and the Defense Supply Chain Study, and operating funds.

Staffed briefed the TF on the Florida Chamber Foundation's outreach event in Orlando with Florida businesses and the Defense Industry. The focus of the event emphasized the need for the TF, and the Defense Industry to tell the story better. The outcome of which identified the need for the TF to hire an outside communications company to help develop messaging



products to communicate what the TF and the defense communities are doing in the State of Florida and get that message out.

A Defense Supply Chain Study would develop a product that contractors in the State of Florida could use to identify sub-contractors in the state providing the goods or services they need.

The last budget issue briefed were options for allocation of the FY 2014 – 2015 including an option for the TF to reserve some funding for unidentified items which may occur during the fiscal year.

*Comment:* BrigGen Diehl commented on the statewide communications proposal, noting Florida Is Veteran's Inc. received a \$1,000,000 from Visit Florida conduct outreach to other states to attract veterans to Florida.

*Answer:* Staff remarked those funds are also designated to retain veterans currently residing in the State of Florida who may be retiring or discharging from service. The proposal identified by staff earlier would be an outreach to the business community.

*Comments:* Comm. Stewart expressed concern over counting on money to be returned before we have it on hand, making it more prudent to have a reserve. Chairman Patronis agreed with Comm. Stewart's concerns.

*Question:* Representative Gaetz asked if grants that are funded but money has not been spent, has the money been deployed.

*Answer:* Staff answered, no the money has not been deployed.

There was further discussion on of the reclama of unspent grant awards and specifically the funding of the Bay County project by the legislature. There was additional discussion on the need for a reserve.

A consensus was reached to not set a dollar limit for grants or the reserve until the TF had an opportunity to review the grants.

Staff discussed the proposed meeting schedule for calendar year 2015, including the March grants application review meeting to align with the Defense Infrastructure Grants and Defense Reinvestment Grants which are realigning their grants application process to be in sync with the state legislative budgeting process. The March grants cycle process would facilitate developing a budget by the TF for input into the legislative budget process, and facilitate awarding of the grants and the grants contracts at the beginning of the fiscal year vice the current out of cycle awards process. MajGen Titshaw requested a change to the proposed location on the calendar for the September and November meetings. Staff will address his request.

Staff discussed the draft of the 2015 Florida Military-Friendly Guide.

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

**Commissioner Stewart** discussed, several weeks ago the American Planning Association of Florida held its annual conference and I had the opportunity to serve on one of the panels representing the task force. The topic was Planning for an Uncertain Future: Sustaining the Impact of the Military in the Changing Sunshine State. Thomas Hastings from Marstel Day was the moderator and the other participants were Anna Richmond, Chief of the Planning Bureau of the Department of Economic Opportunity, Janet Bowman, Legislative Policy Director at the Nature Conservancy and , Major Tara Richards, Partnership Broker the Air Force Community Partnership Program. Major Richards's presentation was particularly interesting and very helpful to me because she discussed the P4

(public-public, public-private partnerships) partnership programs at Eglin, Tyndall, MacDill, and Patrick and you can access her presentation on the internet if you go into the P4 program of the Air Force. She described the process, the participants, the projects, the status, and how the various local entities relate to the bases. Some of you, Chip, I know you are very familiar with that.”

Regarding the Range, three exciting things happened since the last meeting. One is we were on the cover of Florida Trend we set the stage or I should say we set the bar, because next month MacDill is going to be there. So you are going to have to do at least as well as we did Chip. Also several weeks ago LtCol Kevin Becker assumed command of the Range and what is really interesting is that Colonel Becker just came from Nellis, so he understands firsthand the limitations of encroachment and what can happen to the mission of an installation when you have encroachment issues. In addition, regarding the approval for the Moody A-10's, they have now officially been approved and can now utilize the ranges runway. On September 3<sup>rd</sup> MajGen Post granted approval for the Moody aircraft to utilize Avon Parks Air Force Range runway under VFR without the presence of air traffic control personnel. So, from a Range view point it's a really big increase in capability and an important step in the right direction. While it falls short of the ultimate goal of various aircraft from other installations utilizing the runway this way it does provide an avenue to assess the benefits of the warfighter, while demonstrating it can be done very safely, and that's my presentation Mr. Chair.”

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** stated the P4 project is doing very well at Tyndall. They had approximately 30 recommendations in the last meeting and they have narrowed it down to about a dozen projects, some of which you will hear from today in our grants presentations. Also, Tyndall has embarked on a joint land use study. The Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) has visited the base. NSA Panama City broke ground on a new Veteran's Affairs clinic last month that was a Military Construction (MilCon) project approved about three years ago.

**MajGen Titshaw** discussed a strategic message that was suggested by the Air Force Public Affairs Office is in conjunction with the 449<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Guard as an opinion editorial piece linking the National Guard and the Air Force's anniversary's to introduce the Air Force's Strategic Plan, *America's Air Force a Call to the Future*, the Air Force released this past week. The media release will be sent today.

He also discussed the turbulence in the Army National Guard budget requiring the National Guard to postpone the September unit training. He noted funding was available, but was in operational accounts and not training accounts requiring reprogramming of funds. The necessary Congressional Committee approvals have been received for the reprogramming of funds and the September drill weekend is back on, but is not mandatory for soldiers, so as not to inconvenience them and their families.

**BrigGen Diehl** noted today is the 67<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Air Force. He reported there are two new wing Commanders at MacDill, Col Dan Tulley took over the 6<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing, and Col Randy Bright to the Air Refueling Wing for the 927<sup>th</sup> Reserves. The President of the United States visited MacDill yesterday. He participated in a reception with military spouses at the base community center, which is not a normal base visit activity for the President. The visit was very well received.

**MG Taluto** reported he has arranged for a visit with SOUTHCOM for himself, MG Mike Jones, and MajGen Keye Sabol to meet with MajGen Nowland, Chief of Staff at Southern Command on October 14, 2014 prior to the next TF meeting.

**Judge Patt Maney** discussed a New York Times article discussing the quality of health care at smaller military medical treatment facilities raising the potential of downgrading or eliminating smaller facilities. He discussed the possible impacts on this potential action on facilities in the State of Florida, and noted he would write a short white paper on the topic and send to staff to see if this issue

fits within the mission of the TF.

**RADM Delaney** reported Mayport now has three amphibious ships home ported at the Naval Station. Approximately 3,200 sailors relocated to Jacksonville with the three ships.

IV. Updates:

**MGen Mike Jones (TPG)** discussed the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) budget mark-ups. Neither or the House version of the budget has a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) provision. The House version does have a capacity analysis which is the first step of a BRAC. The current process which the services are using to realign resources and assets is likely to continue. The Navy small surface combatant study is being very closely held. The Navy's plan to drawdown and save \$4.7 billion by laying-up eleven cruisers has met with a lot of opposition, and both the Senate and the House have rejected the Navy's proposal, meaning the cruisers at Mayport are safe for the time being. The continuing budget resolution will preclude any new construction from starting including projects at Mayport, and NAS Jacksonville.

He provided a handout summary of the Association of Defense Communities Conference TPG attended recently. All four of the Service had a leadership presence at the conference indicating the importance of the P4 process.

He also reminded the TF there isn't expected to be any significant movement of the budget until after the November election.

V. Grants Presentations

**Jim Scholl** presented the City of Key West grant application requesting \$344,000 for the construction of six roadway elements facilitating access to NAS Key West. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Larry Sassano** presented Florida's Great Northwest application requesting \$50,000 to the implement a marketing program to aerospace and defense industries to bring veteran's jobs to NW Florida. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Tom Baptiste** presented the National Center for Simulation grant application requesting \$350,000 for executing strategic plan to retain Team Orlando and address office space shortages. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Pete Gandy** presented Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners application requesting \$20,654 for site clearing to improve force protection at NAS Whiting Field. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Josh Cockrell** presented the Clay County Development Authority grant application requesting \$400,000 to purchase of 159 acres adjacent to Camp Blanding to provide buffer from incompatible land development and encroachment. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Brooke McLean** presented the Air Force Enlisted Village grant application requesting \$531,272 for the construction of veterans housing in Ft. Walton Beach area. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**John Scheuler** presented the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance grant application requesting \$225,000 to execute strategic plan (MacDill 2025) to champion MacDill AFB and create P4

for use of Florida Rock property. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Mike Marrian** presented the grant application for Space Florida requesting \$38,500 for the implement UAS component to emergency response exercise at Camp Blanding. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

*The meeting recessed at 11:52 AM EST for lunch*

*The meeting reconvened at 12:42 PM EST*

**Stephanie Landing** and **Andy Harold** presented the Florida 8a Alliance grant application requesting \$200,000 to continue to develop defense industry and veteran-owned small business growth and job creation. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

*Jimmy Patronis, FDSTF Chairman, passed the gavel to Matt Gaetz at 12:50 PM EST.*

**Maria Goodwin** presented the Career Source Gulf Coast grant application requesting \$220,000 to provide meaningful employment and training services to transitioning military members. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Buck McLaughlin** presented the Polk County Board of County Commissioners grant application requesting \$500,000 to protect Avon Park Range from incompatible land use through acquisition of land or specific property rights. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Marion Cook** presented the Bay County grant application requesting \$400,000 to expand Bay County Intelligent Transportation System to synchronize traffic lights on access roads to Tyndall AFB. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Gerry Hoewing** presented the University of West Florida's grant application requesting \$350,000 to implement program to identify and train military and veterans in IT and cybersecurity skills. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

**Sal Nodjoman** presented Okaloosa Economic Development Council's grant application requesting \$285,000 for continued development of P4 to improve the military value of Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field. There was a question and answer session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

Staff briefed the TF on the scoring process for the grant applications prior to recess and convening of the closed session for the TF to discuss and make recommendations on TF strategy and grant awards.

*The meeting recessed at 14:10 AM EST for Tabulation and Closed Session*

*The meeting reconvened at 15:26 PM EST*

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to rescind two grants previously awarded to the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce for Cyber Innovation Centers and make those funds available to the TF for further use.*

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that \$2,244,154 be allocated as discussed to applicants of our grant program and staff be directed to begin preparing contracts and contact those grant recipients.*

Staff provided an update on Enterprise Florida travel reimbursement policy and disseminated the most recent TPG report, which staff noted was exempted from the sunshine under Florida Statutes.

*The meeting adjourned at 15:31 PM EST*



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FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT *of*  
ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY

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# **Military Base Protection Program - Non-Conservation Encroachment**



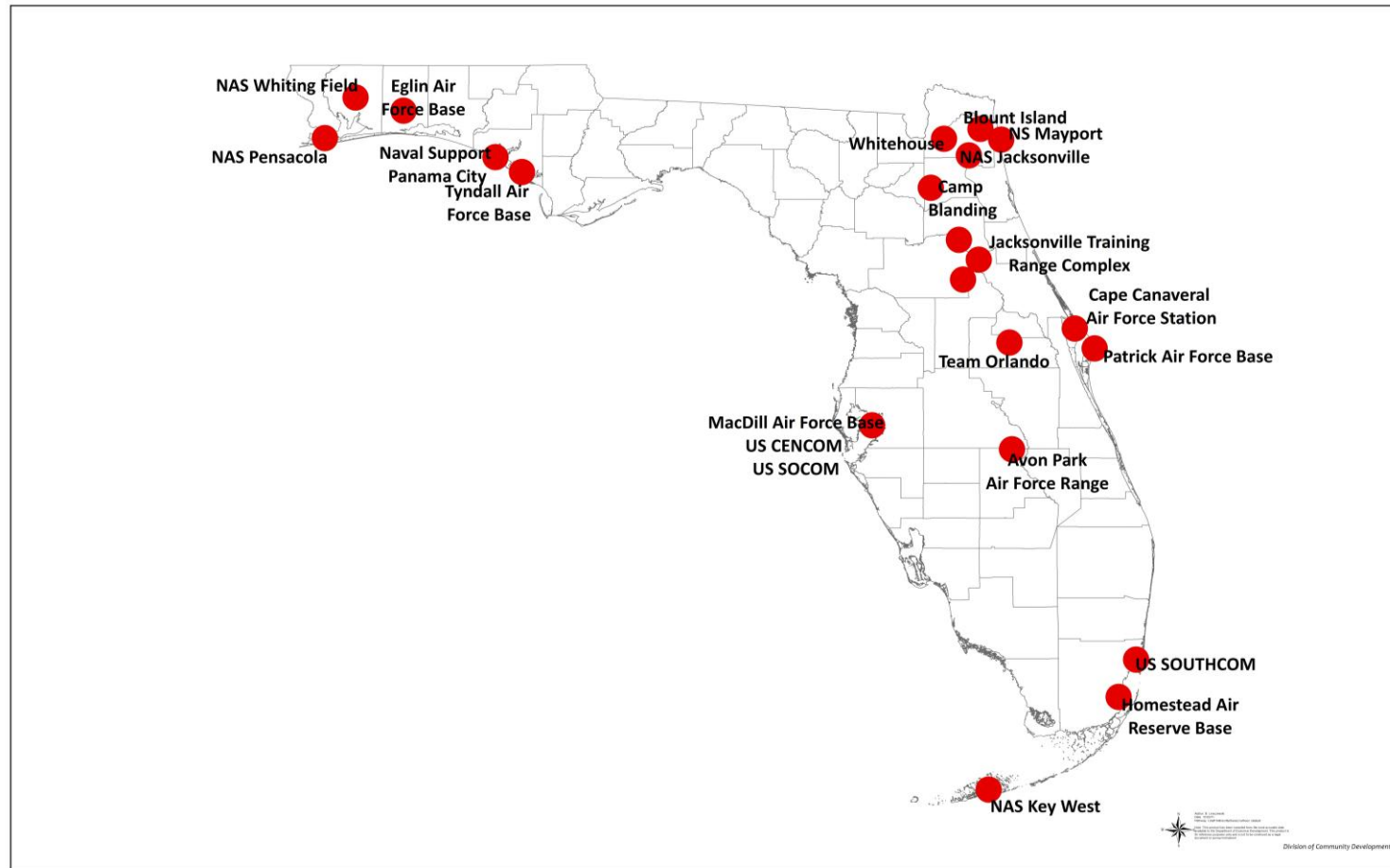
# Military Base Protection Program

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- MBPP includes the securing of non-conservation lands to serve as a buffer to protect military installations against encroachment
- “non-conservation lands” are defined as lands that are not subject to acquisition by the Florida Forever Program



# Map of Major Military Bases





# Process

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- DEO to submit an annual list to the Board to acquire non-conservation lands
- Directs the Board of Trustees to consider the recommendations of the Florida Defense Support Task Force in making determinations to acquire non-conservation lands



# Last Year

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- Legislative Success
  - **Governor and Legislature funded acquisition of all Tier 1 sites**
- Willing Seller and Market Issues



# Identified Non Conservation Encroachment Threats

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- 49 sites identified totaling over 1,000 acres
  - **Air Force**
    - 36 sites totaling 732 acres
  - **Navy**
    - 13 sites totaling 307 acres
- Less sites and less acreage than last year
  - **no sites identified from Camp Blanding this year**



# Types of Encroachment

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- Residential Development in Clear Zone, Accident Potential Zones, or within 65dB and above noise contour line
- Sites exempted from local government AICUZ Ordinance
- Proximity to existing and proposed ranges



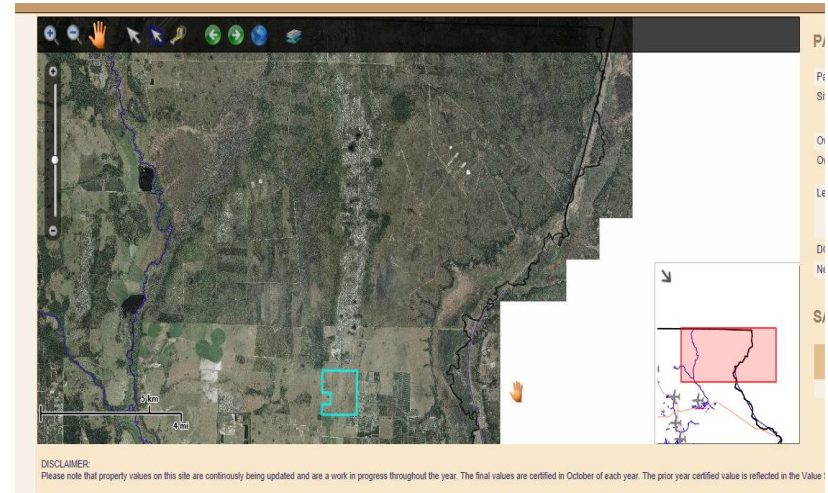
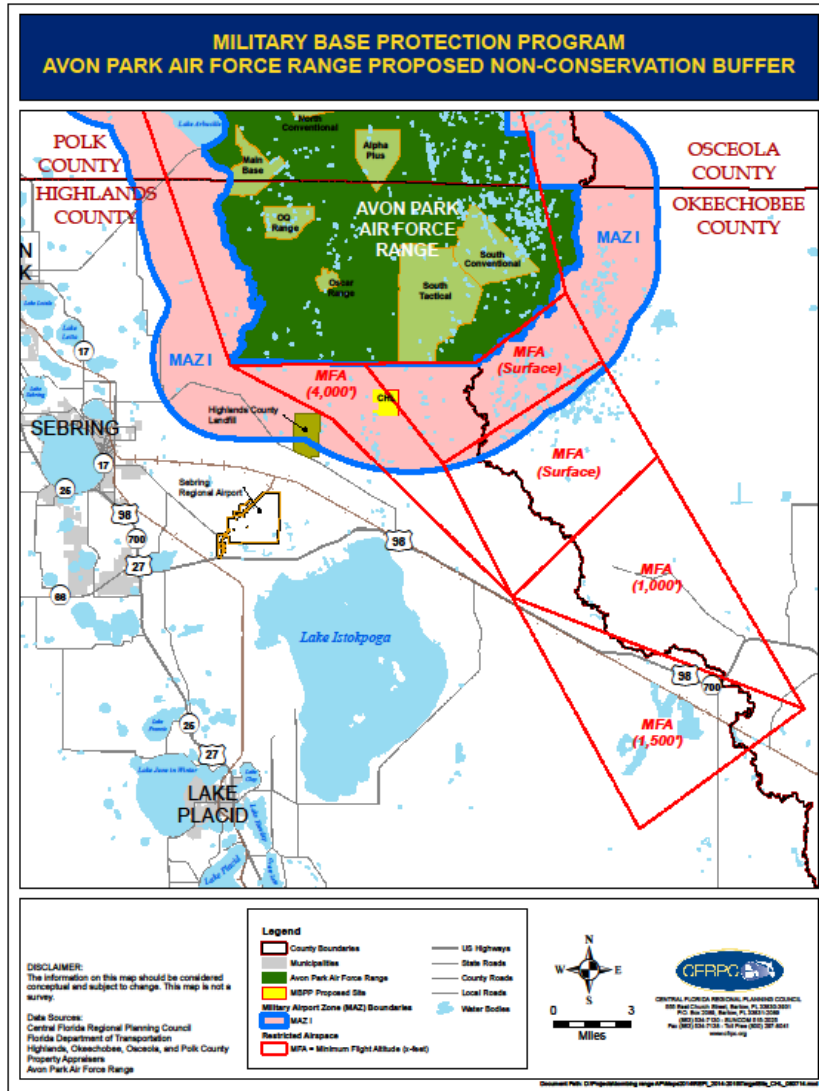
# Air Force

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- Avon Park
  - **1 Site totaling 600 acres**
- Eglin Air Force Base and Hurlburt Field
  - **2 sites totaling 6 acres**
- Homestead Air Reserve Base
  - **31 sites totaling 629 acres**
- MacDill Air Force Base
  - **2 sites totaling 8.43 acres**
- Tyndall Air Force Base
  - **3 sites totaling 251 acres**
- Patrick Air Force Base identified no sites



# Avon Park



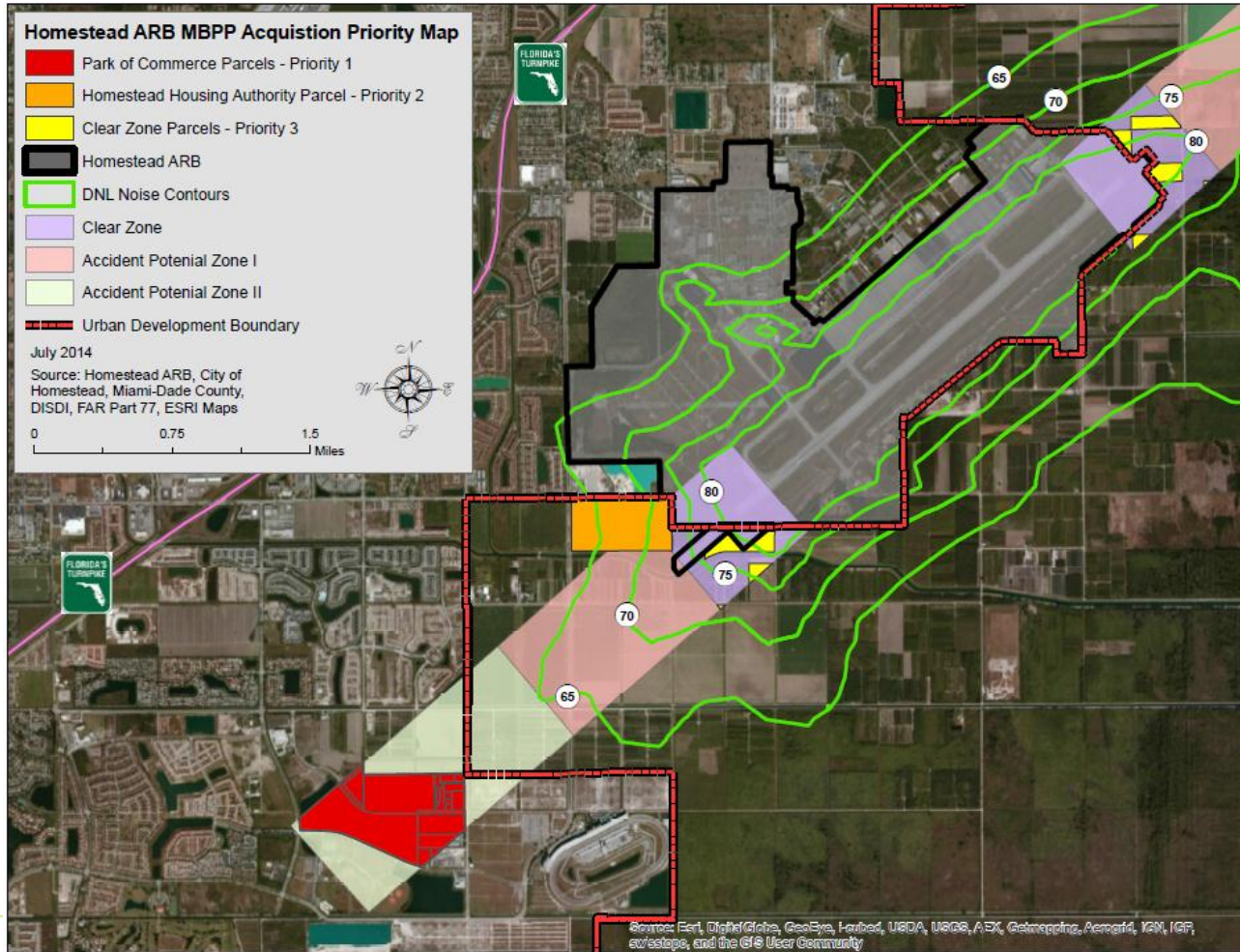
# Eglin Air Force Base



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# Homestead Air Reserve Base





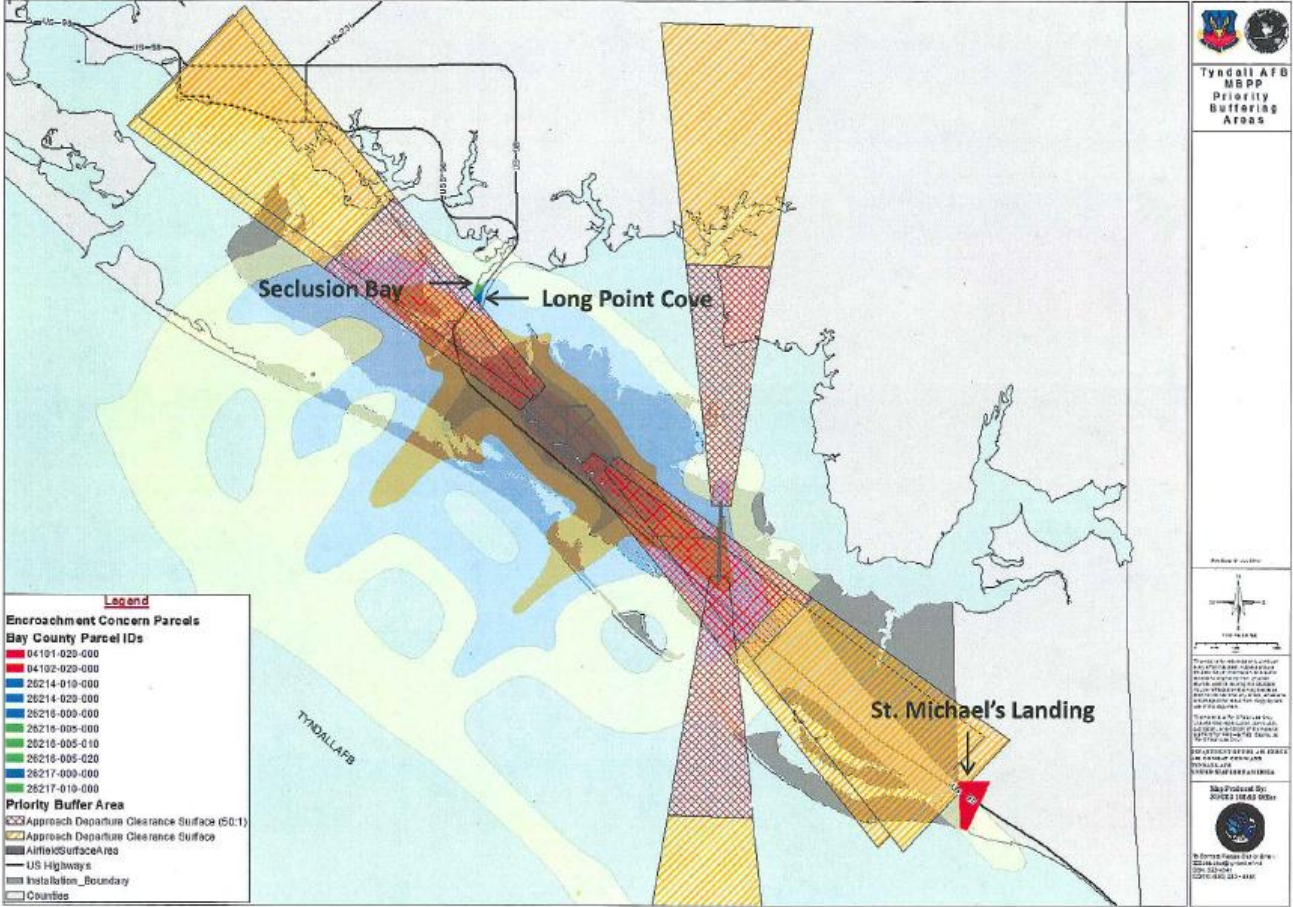
# MacDill Air Force Base



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# Tyndall Air Force Base



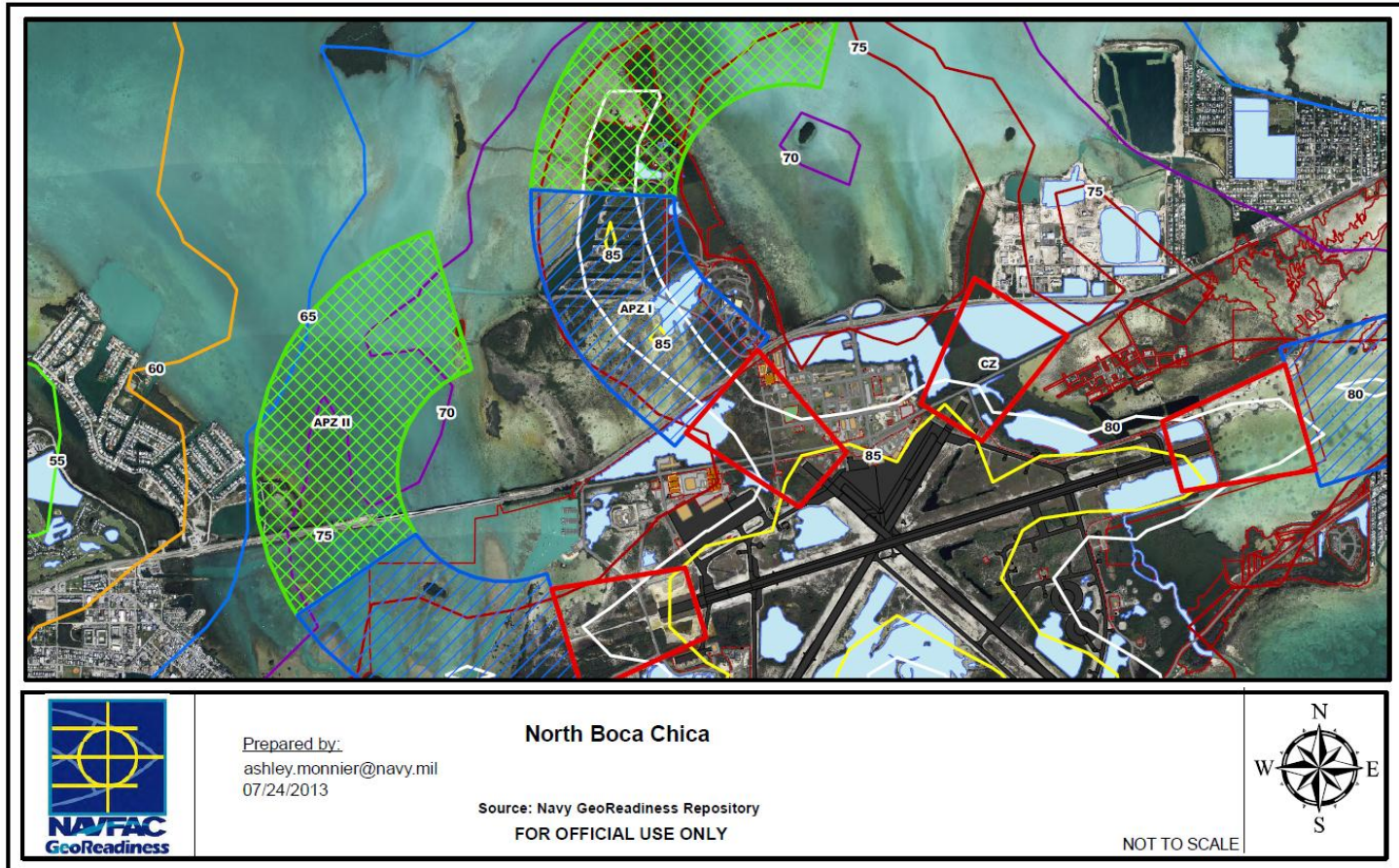
# Navy

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- Naval Air Station Key West
  - **3 sites totaling 136 acres**
- Naval Air Station Pensacola
  - **9 sites totaling 171.41 acres**
- Jacksonville Training Range Complex, NAS Jacksonville, NAS Whiting Field, and Naval Support Activity Panama City identified no sites



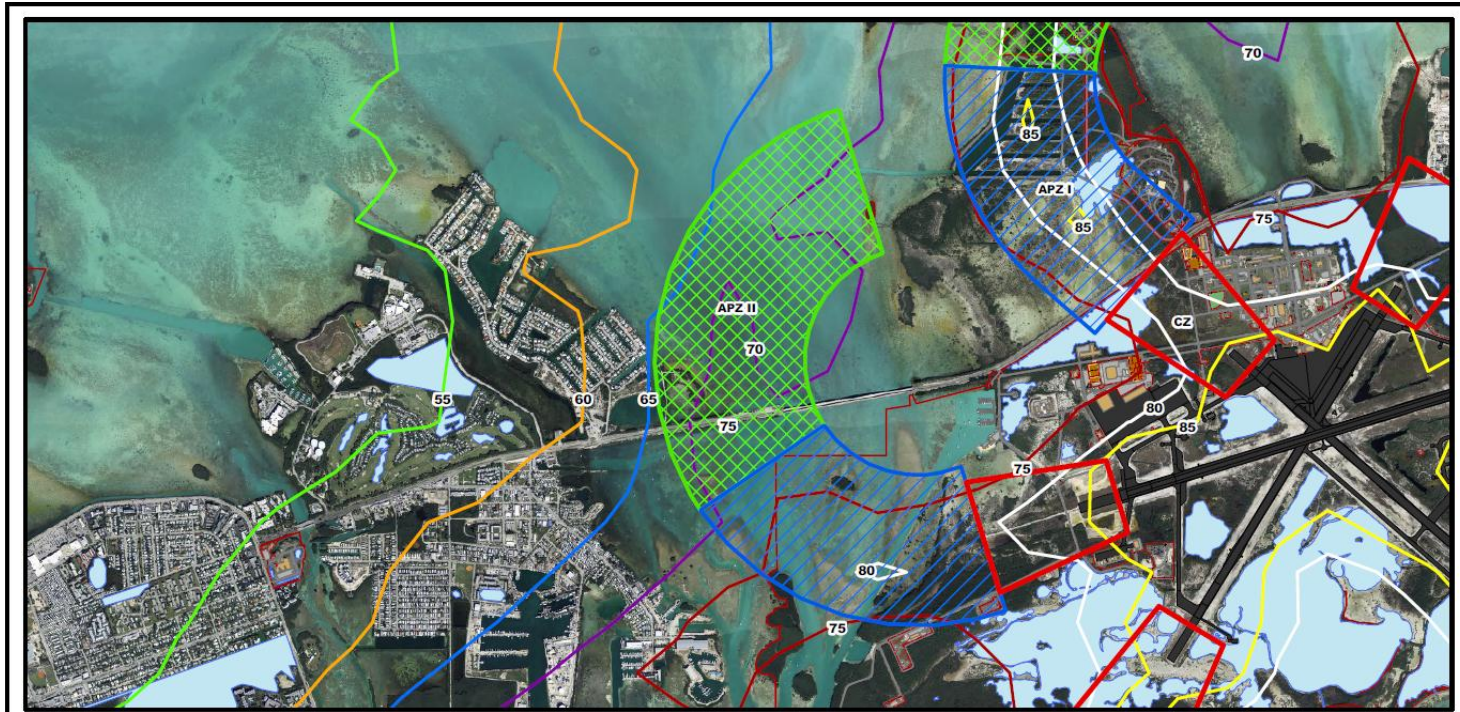
# Naval Air Station Key West



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



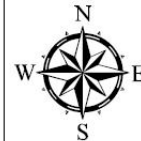
# Naval Air Station Key West



Prepared by:  
ashley.monnier@navy.mil  
07/24/2013

Enchanted Island

Source: Navy GeoReadiness Repository  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



NOT TO SCALE



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

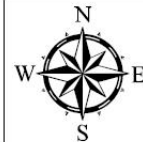
# Naval Air Station Key West



Prepared by:  
ashley.monnier@navy.mil  
07/24/2013

South Stock Island (Gulf Seafood Company)

Source: Navy GeoReadiness Repository  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



NOT TO SCALE



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# Naval Air Station Pensacola



# DEO Ranking

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- Existing land use restrictions
- Existing development on site
- Redevelopment potential
- Ownership
- Identified encroachment threat
- Short Term vs. Long Term





# DEO Ranking – Short Term

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- Tier 1
  - High likelihood of development incompatible with Clear Zone or Accident Potential Zone 1
  - Approved development with potential to impact overall base mission
  - No existing restrictions on development to reduce encroachment/safety risk



# DEO Ranking – Long Term

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- Tier 2
  - Existing development within Clear Zone or Accident Potential Zones with low likelihood of redevelopment
- Tier 3
  - Existing restrictive easements on properties
  - Currently compatible land use and zoning on property



# Tier 1\*

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- MacDill AFB - Florida Rock Property
- NSA Panama City - Barefoot Palms Property
- NS Mayport - JaxPort Properties

\* Due to unforeseen circumstances properties identified as Tier 1 last year were not able to be purchased this year despite the appropriation. Given the continued identified encroachment threat DEO recommends continued acquisition efforts.



# Tier 2

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- Eglin AFB – Clear Zone Properties in Valparaiso
- NAS Pensacola – APZ1 Properties
- Homestead ARB – Homestead Park of Commerce, Homestead Housing Authority
- NAS Key West – Enchanted Island



# Tier 3

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- MacDill AFB – Three C SAC Self Storage and Zons Property
- NAS Key West – Sub Pens and Gulf Seafood
- Tyndall AFB – St. Michael's Landing, Long Point Cove and Tyndall Sunset Properties
- Avon Park Bombing Range – CHL Holding Site



# Continued Outreach

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- Working with local governments and installations plan amendments
- Working with base planners and FDA on growth management issues
- Looking at what has worked in other states
  - **Virginia Beach and NAS Oceana**
- Working with the Gulf Regional Airspace Strategic Initiative
- Supporting the Air Force Community Partnership Program



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

### **Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2014**

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at DoubleTree by Hilton, Key West, Florida 10:00 AM EST -11:30 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

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

Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (Ret)  
BrigGen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (Ret)

#### **Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (Ret)  
MajGen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance

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

Dr. Ed Naggiar, CDR USN (Ret)  
Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Dana Young, State Representative  
James Montgomerie, Vertol Systems

#### **Speakers Present:**

Mark Rossi, Vice Mayor City of Key West  
Doug Callaway, State of Florida Washington DC Office  
Secretary Anthony Principi, The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
MG Mike Jones, USA (Ret)The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
CAPT Jim Scholl, USN (Ret.), Key West City Manager

#### **Others Present:**

John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington DC Office  
Ms. Kelley Borree – Director of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection – on the phone  
ADM Garry Hall, TPG  
CAPT Jim Fitton, USCG, (Ret.) Military Affairs Committee (MAC) President  
Greg Sullivan, Florida Keys Waste Management, MAC Past President  
CAPT Pat Lefere USN (Ret.), Monroe County Schools Director of Operations  
Ron Demes, Sunrise Rotary and MAC Board Member  
David Paul Hurran, MAC Past Chair  
CAPT Steve McAlearney, USN, Commanding Officer Naval Station Key West  
MAJ Josh Eaton, USA, Commanding Officer Army Dive School  
CDR John Reed, USCG, Commander United States Coast Guard Key West  
Other Members of the Military and Military Affairs Community

**Staff Present:**

Rocky McPherson, VP Enterprise Florida, Inc., Military and Defense Programs

Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Military and Defense (on the phone)



**Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #29**  
**AGENDA**  
**October 16, 2014 (As of: October 10, 2014)**

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

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

- 0800 – 1000 Tour of NAS Key West/Truman Annex.....Ron Demes **(I)**
- 1000 - 1015 Welcome, Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance..... Chairwoman **(I)**  
 Welcoming Remarks by Key West
- 1055 – 1025 Old Business..... Chairwoman **(A)/(I)**
- Approval of Minutes Chairwoman **(A)**
  - TF Grants and Contracts Status Camila Hornung **(I)**
  - FY 2014 Budget Update Bruce Grant **(I) (D)**
- 1025 – 1115 New Business.....Chairwoman **(I)**
- TF Members Reports TF Members
  - Washington DC Office Update Doug Callaway
  - Update from Principi Group TBD
  - Key West Grant Application Presentation Jim Scholl
  - Election of New Vice Chair Chairwoman
  - Discussion of 2015 Meeting Schedule Bruce Grant
- 1115 – 1130 Public Comment.....Chairwoman
- 1130 – 1230 Lunch
- 1230 - 1330 CLOSED SESSION -- Discussion of strategy .....Chairwoman **(A)**
- 1330 Adjourn
- 1400 – 1530 Tour of NAS Key West/Boca Chica.....Ron Demes

**Reminders:**

Meeting Dates:  
 November 20, 2014 Pensacola  
 December NO MEETING  
 January 15, 2015 Tallahassee



*Barbara Stewart FDSTF Acting Chair began the meeting at 10:03 AM EST.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions

Chairwoman Stewart welcomed attendees and guests, and invited them stand and introduce themselves. She asked Task Force members to intro themselves and for everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. She reminded the Task Force (TF) the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

**Mark Rossi**, Vice-Mayor of the City of Key West offered greetings to the TF and guest on behalf of the Mayor Craig Cates.

**Jim Fitton**, CAPT, USCG (Ret.), Military Affairs Committee (MAC) President welcomed the TF and guest and provided an overview of military activities at bases in Key West. He noted the Navy is the largest employer in the Keys. He also noted Key West is ideally located and suited to aviation and underwater training. He also discussed current military and civilian personnel issues.

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the September 18, 2014 TF meeting minutes.*

FY 2013 and 2014 Budget/Contract Update:

Staff reported on budget updates and noted the budget includes the approved grants from the September 18, 2014 meeting. Staff also noted the funds from two grants that were rescinded at the September meeting are also included in the budget line items. The press releases for the approved grants have been forwarded to the Governor's office for release.

Staff provided an update on the TF grants for FY 2012 -2013 and FY 2013-2014. Staff noted all grants highlighted in blue have been completed and closed out. The City of Jacksonville grant for the explosives disposal bunker has been completed and is being closed out. Clay County Mass Warning and Notification System has also been completed and is closed out, the final payment has been made. Staff informed the TF when the Governor's Office releases the press releases for the new grants cycle, staff will work with the new grantees to complete the grant award contracts.

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

**J.R. McDonald** thanked the Key West Military and the MAC for their support of the TF during this visit. He reported on the McKinley Climatic Laboratory, located in Northwest Florida, will be testing an F-35B will undergo testing for all of the F-35 model aircraft.

**MG Taluto** thanked the Key West Military and the MAC for their support of the TF during this visit. He reported on his visit to SOUTHCOM on October 14, 2014 with MG Jones (TPG) and MG Keye Sabol (TPG). They met with MajGen Nowland, Chief of Staff of SOUTHCOM. He reported It was a good meeting to discuss Homestead AFB's capabilities. MG Jones will continue to engage with the command and their planners to work out details of locations and operations. MajGen Nowland requested assistance with land acquisition to build additional base housing. He reported the Mayor of Doral is onboard with the land acquisition project, and recommended the TF have TPG engage on this issue.

**Judge Patt Maney** voiced his appreciation for the inclusion of the POW/MIA flag to the TF meetings. He reported on Okaloosa County's two Medal of Honor recipients, one, and Army aviator, has been

memorialized with a helicopter at the Eglin Airport. The other, Col. Bud Day, was a POW in Vietnam, will be memorialized with a heritage trail to honor Col. Day and his wife in Fort Walton Beach. Representative Gaetz was instrumental in receiving the legislative appropriation to build the trail. Last week he met with personnel from the Eglin hospital, and the Eglin Veteran's Administration Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) and Bob Black from Congressman Miller's Office about the quality and accessibility of military and veterans' health care. He noted he is interested in the availability of health care for veterans in Key West.

**BrigGen Diehl** reported the new Wing Commander has entered into an agreement with the public schools in Tampa/Hillsborough County to expand the A rated Tinker School from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, to a kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade for next school year. This is a quality of life improvement for the children of MacDill AFB.

**RADM Delaney** noted the crew and facilities at Key West are outstanding and he has appreciated working with them over many years. He reported the three amphibious ships are currently in port at Naval Station Mayport.

**MajGen Titshaw** reported he is continuing to work with Gen. Welsh and members of the Air Force Staff reviewing the Air Force Program Objective Memorandum (POM) for any corrections we may want to make in the Performance Based Remediation (PBR) that will come out in December. He also noted he remains optimistic there is the potential to reverse the F-15 force structure cuts from the fiscal year 2015 POM. If restored the 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing in Jacksonville would receive three additional air planes and 76 airmen. Secretary James has been invited by the Air Force Association to attend the December 7, 2014 Jacksonville Jaguars game he will keep the TF updated on the status of the invitation. General Odierno, Chief of Staff of the Army, reported at the Association of the United States Army, that he will replace active duty component personnel in West Africa on the Ebola mission with National Guard and Reserve members in the spring of 2015. The Florida National Guard (FNG) was alerted the 53<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team will mobilized next December to support operations in the Horn of Africa, for a nine month rotation to be followed by another 600 FNG soldiers. The FNG has been working with the Governor, the Florida Department of Health, and the Department of Emergency Management on contingency operations plan for an Ebola outbreak. He asked the TF to support the (NDAA) language Senator Nelson submitted and engage TPG to assist in this request.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported the Air Force's new Assistant Secretary for Installations, Environment and Energy, the Honorable Miranda Ballantine, will be traveling to Florida bases next week with Kathy Ferguson, the Acting Secretary.

**Barbara Stewart** reported last week the APAFR hosted a Moody AFB Readiness Inspection that exercised the 23<sup>rd</sup> Wing's ability to deploy and conduct Combat Search and Rescue operations anywhere in the world. Six A-10s, 3 HH-60 helicopters, and 1 HC-130, and over 150 personnel deployed to and operated out of the Range's airfield. While on the Range, they conducted a mission simulating a rescue into hostile territory to find and recover a pilot who had been shot down behind enemy lines. Col. Derek Oaks, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group Commander, was extremely pleased with the WRI – it was a huge success and the aircraft had no problems operating out of the airfield.

**Doug Callaway**, State of Florida Washington D.C. Office provided a legislative update and the current status of Florida elections.

**Secretary Anthony Principi (TPG)** provided a brief update on the proposed budget authorizations in the upcoming Congress, and noted one controversial topic will be ongoing operations in Iraq and Syria. He also discussed the deployment of troops to Liberia, which will increase from 500 to 4,000, to be in West Africa for a year. Neither the House or Senate versions of the NDAA call for a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) in 2017, but the House does call for a capacity analysis to

determine the types of facilities that are in excess of the military's needs. This is probably a precursor to a BRAC. The Navy is reconsidering the Littoral combat ship (LCS), and new ship designs. This may have an impact on ships home ported at Naval Station Mayport. He discussed other improvement and expansion projects at Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville to include runway and taxiway extensions. He also discussed land acquisition in the City of Lynn Haven in Bay County for the Air Force. Additionally, the Air Force is to provide an investment strategy for Florida's Eastern Ranges which are critical to our national security and space launches. NASA recently signed an agreement with the Air Force for the X-37B program to utilize unused hanger space and other facilities. Space Florida was instrumental in the securing of this agreement.

**MG Mike Jones (TPG)** Discussed the Annual Air Force Association Convention; senior leadership mentioned specifically the importance of range facilities to support readiness and the linkage between live, virtual, and constructive simulation. He noted this is an area that needs to be looked into by Team Orlando. The Secretary of the Air Force mentioned Gen. Hostage's remarks which made it very clear what the budget constraints have done to hinder the Air Force's mission capabilities. Gen. Odierno echoed these remarks at the Association of the United States Army Convention. Additionally, Gen. Odierno noted that if sequestration was reimplemented the Army would not be able to fulfill its commitments to the President's strategy.

MG Jones provided an update on the linkages study commissioned by the TF. The written report will lay out the linkages including graphics. There are more linkages than TPG anticipated. He provided an overview of the command and control area of the linkages.

*Comments:* BrigGen Diehl commented on the linkages update making note of the interstate and national relationships.

Commissioner Stewart requested, when TPG speaks to the fighter group commander they inquire about usages regarding the Ranges.

Staff reported on the two request made earlier by TF members for TPG tasking to continue their efforts with the SOUTHCOM housing proposal, and the request for support of the NDAA. Secretary Principi agreed these tasks can be accomplished under the existing contract.

**Jim Scholl** presented the City of Key West grant application requesting \$344,000 for the construction of six roadway elements facilitating access to NAS Key West. He discussed the tour of the Truman Annex this morning by the TF. He reported on the outstanding grants awarded to Key West for this project including a \$600,000 Enterprise Florida, Inc. - Florida Defense Alliance grant which has been delayed due to design changes and other requirements for the park plans. There was a question, answer, and discussion session regarding the merits of the application to be decided.

*A motion was made to approve the grant for the requested amount of \$344,000. The motion died for lack of a second.*

Staff presented the 2015 FDSTF meeting schedule for TF approval.

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the 2015 meeting schedule.*

There was no public comment.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM EST*

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

### Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #30 on Thursday, November 20, 2014

The Florida Defense Support Task Force held a publicly noticed meeting at Crowne Plaza Pensacola Grand Hotel, Pensacola Florida 09:00 AM EST -11:45 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

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

Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, State Representative  
MajGen Emmett Titshaw, USAF, The Adjutant General of Florida  
Patt Maney, Okaloosa County Judge & BG, USA (Ret)  
BrigGen Chip Diehl, USAF (ret.)  
Barbara Stewart, Highlands County  
J.R. McDonald, Lockheed Martin  
MG Joseph Taluto, USA (Ret)  
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance

#### **Task Force Members Present by Telephone:**

RADM Kevin Delaney, USN (Ret)

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

Dr. Ed Naggiar, CDR USN (Ret)  
Matt Gaetz, State Representative  
Dana Young, State Representative  
James Montgomerie, Vertol Systems

#### **Speakers Present:**

Craig Dalton, Pensacola Chamber Foundation  
BG Michael Ferguson, USA (Ret.), US Army  
John Patrick Walsh, State of Florida Washington DC Office  
MG Mike Jones, USA (Ret)The Principi Group LLC (TPG)  
Lucian Niemeyer, TPG  
Alex Lincoln, Eagle Fund  
Ana Richmond, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

#### **Others Present:**

Sheilah Bowman, Congressman Jeff Miller's Office  
CAPT Ryan Hagemeyer, USA, Florida National Guard  
RADM James Hinkle, TPG  
Jim Breitnefeld, TPG  
Bobby Carbonell, Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs  
Col Elizabeth Medina, USAF, Deputy Commander 350<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Command  
Members of the Pensacola Area Military and Defense Community  
Kelley Boree, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (on the phone)

**Staff Present:**

Al Latimer, SVP, Enterprise Florida, Inc., Strategic Partnerships

Bruce Grant, Executive Director, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Camila Hornung, Grants Coordinator, Florida Defense Support Task Force

Marcy Muldrow Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Military and Defense

**Florida Defense Support Task Force -- Meeting #30**  
**Crowne Plaza Pensacola Grand Hotel, 200 E. Gregory St., Pensacola, FL 32502**  
**AGENDA for November 20, 2014 (As of: November 12, 2014)**

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

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0900 - 0915 Welcome, Introductions/Pledge of Allegiance.....Chairman (I)  
 Welcoming Remarks by Pensacola

0915 – 0925 Old Business.....Chairman (A)/(I)  
 • Approval of Minutes Chairman (A)  
 • TF Grants and Contracts Status Camila Hornung (I)  
 • FY 2014 Budget Update Bruce Grant (I) (D)  
 • City of Key West Grant Application Bruce Grant (D) (A)

0925 – 1130 New Business..... Chairman (I)  
 • TF Members Reports TF Members  
 • Washington DC Office Update John Patrick Walsh  
 • Update from Principi Group MG Mike Jones  
 • Eagle Fund Success Story Alex Lincoln  
 • DEO Update Ana Richmond  
 • Discussion of FY 16 Task Force Grant Application Guidance Bruce Grant  
 • Task Force Membership Update Bruce Grant

1130 – 1145 Public Comment.....Chairman

1145 – 1230 Lunch

1230 - 1400 CLOSED SESSION

Discussion of strategy, review of strategic plan and way forward Chairman (A)

1400 Adjourn

1400 – 1530 Tour of NAS Pensacola.....Craig Dalton

Reminders:

Meeting Dates:	December	NO MEETING	
	January 15, 2015	Tallahassee	ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL
	February 19, 2015	Tallahassee	
	March 19, 2015	Tallahassee	



*Representative Jimmy Patronis, Chairman, began the meeting at 09:00 AM CST.*

- I. Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions
- II. Chairman Patronis welcomed attendees and guests. He asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the Task Force (TF) the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.
- III. Agenda Item II: Old Business

**Craig Dalton**, Pensacola Chamber Foundation and Chair of the Florida Defense Alliance welcomed the Task Force and guests to Pensacola. He noted Naval Air Station Pensacola is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Pensacola Chamber exceeded their Vision 2015 goal to created 3,000 new jobs in the area in 2013 and with the help of Navy Federal Credit Union anticipates reaching 10,000 new jobs within the next couple of years.

**Michael Ferguson**, BG, USA (Ret.), Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, offered greetings to the Task Force and guests. He discussed protecting and reinforcing the bases and supporting the troops to ensure Florida bases and troops stay in Florida.

#### *Minutes Approval*

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the October 16, 2014 TF meeting minutes.*

#### **FY 2013, 2014, and 2015 Budget/Contract Update:**

Staff provided an update of the TF grants for FY 2012 -2013 and FY 2013-2014. Staff discussed preparations to close the Highlands County grant. The Jacksonville disposal bunker is complete. Staff is working on the FY 2014-2015 contracts template which has caused a short delay in sending out contracts to awardees, but anticipates they will be sent in the next two weeks.

*Questions:* Commissioner Stewart asked about the progress on the lambdarail.

*Answer:* Staff reported it looks like they will require an extension on the project to complete.

Staff reported on budget updates and noted the budget includes the approved grants for FY 2014-2015 and the reserve for future obligations. Staff discussed the new Military-Friendly-Guide and the distribution of the booklets to the commands and the military affairs communities in Florida.

*Discussion:* There was a discussion of the availability of funds from the two rescinded grants. There was a suggestion to add the Veterans Courts and their locations in the next edition of the Military-Friendly guide.

Staffed briefed the Task Force on the current status of the Key West Grant application. Commissioner Stewart reported to the TF on the Florida Department of Environmental Protections (DEP) update and noted DEP is proceeding with the purchase of the land.

*Discussion:* There was discussion of the Key West land acquisition status. Commissioner Stewart provided additional updates from Kelly Boree, DEP. The TF members indicated they wanted letters to be sent from the TF to the Governor, DEP, and the City of Key West requesting continued support for the Key West project.

*A quorum being present, a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to fund the Key*



*West grant request at \$100,000 for infrastructure and to request continued support for the .37 acre property transfer from the City to the Navy, from the Governor and DEP.*

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

**Judge Patt Maney** discussed military and Veteran medical care in the State of Florida. He discussed the need to integrate military medicine with Veterans medical care.

**BrigGen Diehl** reported the website for the Tampa Bay Defense Alliance went live last night. It is located at [tampabaydefensealliance.org](http://tampabaydefensealliance.org). He asked TF members to visit the site and provide feedback.

**MajGen Titshaw** reported The Air Force is on track to get three F-15's back to the 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing in 2016. There are two teams of Florida National Guard (FNG) trained and equipped to respond to Ebola within Florida. Additionally, he discussed upcoming FNG deployments of troops. The current budget allocations are approximately 12% less this fiscal year and are beginning to impact mission and staffing in Florida.

**Representative Patronis** discussed a training accident over the Gulf of Mexico claiming the life of a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel. He noted this would probably be his last meeting as a member of the TF.

**Barbara Stewart** reported after receiving approval to conduct limited visual flight rules (VFR) uncontrolled operations at Avon Park's airfield F-16's from the 96<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron landed at Avon Park to conduct barrier arresting kit (BAK-12) certification. The certification required the aircraft to drop their tail hook and engage the barrier cable at approximately 100 knots to test the BAK-12 ability to stop an aircraft. The barrier certification was successfully accomplished: Avon Park's staff greatly appreciates Homestead's support in taking care of the certification requirement and the certification will be good for another year. Additionally, she reported on December 1<sup>st</sup> the ranges runway will undergo construction to replace the center 75ft of asphalt. This is a \$1.3 million Air Force project to remove and replace some of the oldest pavement on the airfield and greatly extend the lifespan of the runway. The project is expected to be completed April 2015.

**Mr. Tom Neubauer** reported the Air Combat Command had a change of leadership. General Mike Hostage retired after 37 years and General Carlisle took over. He discussed potential budget cuts impacting air combat operations noting the Air Force has stated if end strength falls below 315,000 the Air Force will only be able to manage one contingency. He also discussed additional changes of command and the importance of the National Guard component on the overall mission. He discussed the focus the training accident (previously reported by Rep. Patronis) of the weapons evaluation group brought to the area and transition of the QF-4 (unmanned system) to the QF-16 (manned systems) which was lost in the training accident. There will be 48 QF-16's moved to Tyndall AFB over the next two years. The Navy stood up a new Littoral Combat Systems (LCS) unit at Mayport in Jacksonville.

**J.R. McDonald** discussed the Navy's successful trials of the F-35C. Eglin AFB F-35 activities are normalizing. All of the Marine Corps aircraft will be gone by March. The Navy's record of decision to replace the Marine Corps aircraft is still pending. He discussed the progress in the war against ISIS, and passed a message to the TF from LtGen Brad Heithold, Air Force Special Operation Command (AFSOC) that despite what you may see on television progress is being made in the air war against ISIS.

### *Washington DC Update*

**John Patrick Walsh**, State of Florida Washington D.C. Office provided a legislative update and the current status of changes in the Florida delegation. He discussed the Florida D.C. office and TPG reaching out to the new Florida delegation members and briefing them on the military in Florida to enlist their support early. He reported the new leadership of the congress on the military committees has been friendly to Florida and there is no expectation that will change. He discussed other States reaching out to the Florida D.C. office with inquiries on how Florida is successfully accomplishing its military mission. He told the TF one of his projects this term is to have the US Chamber of Commerce to recognize Florida as a Veteran All Star State. Also, he discussed the Guard to get involved with the healthy base initiative under the Department of Defense (DoD).

*Discussion:* There was discussion about how other States are engaging with the Florida State office. Mr. Walsh told the TF the Florida office is among the few state offices that represents the Governor and the Legislature. Most state offices only represent the Governor. There was further discussion of how the structure of the TF and other elements to support the legislative process in Florida which other states would like to emulate.

There was a short discussion of Florida is for Veteran's, Inc.

### *Update from the Principi Group*

**MG Mike Jones**, TPG, discussed the meeting with Col Oakes which Commissioner Stewart requested regarding Avon Park. Col Oakes referred to Avon Park as a jewel and national treasure and appears to be very supportive of the ranges. He also discussed the value of the installation guides. Progress has been made on the funding for modernization of the USS Gettysburg at Mayport. He also discussed the process for seeking additional funding for Florida bases. The Florida Linkages and Best Practices studies are in final draft and are with TF staff for review. The Linkages study shows how important Florida is to the mission of the Department of Defense (DoD). MG Jones provided a detailed summary of the Linkages study.

*Questions:* BrigGen Diehl commended MG Jones on the product and asked how do we turn negatives into positives. What's the next step?

*Answer:* MG Jones recommend the TF discuss the study in closed session to strategize specific strengths and weaknesses of the findings.

### *Eagle Fund Success Story*

**Alex Lincoln**, Director of Athletic Performance at the Andrews Institute discussed the establishment of the Andrews Institute to provide rehabilitative services for injured professional athletes. The institute's mission is to remove barriers to accelerated return to play, injury, and overall human performance for professional athletes. Upon establishing the institute the founders met with members of the special operations force and realized there were some clear innovations that could be applied from the private sector into the military community that would preserve human capital. The Eagle Fund exhibits the best in public private partnerships to improve outcomes for service members. As a result of a back and forth with the military on the validity of treatment efficacies, the Eagle Fund was established as a 501 (3)(C) foundation to ensure 100% of the funds went to help the service members. The mission was to touch 10 – 50 service members with the end goal of them having no limitations in performing their jobs. In the process they found there was more urgency to treat combat related injuries than training related injuries. The Eagle Fund recognizes a lost human asset is the same regardless of the origin of the injury. TF grants are matched by

private donations. To date the Eagle Fund has served over 50 special operations service members return to full duty.

#### *DEO Update*

**Anna Richmond**, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), discussed the status of the acquisition of properties for base buffering and non-conservation easements. This year DEO received 49 sites from bases requesting non-conservation easements. She noted the bombing ranges are the most vulnerable areas.

*Questions:* Representative Patronis asked if there are options such as Department of Transportation (DOT) uses to condemn property. MajGen Titshaw asked what was the difference in the asking price and the offer on the Florida Rock property. Is there another option to make a cash offer and work with the legislature for a tax credit?

*Answer:* DEO does not have the authority to condemn properties that DOT has. DEP would know how much Florida Rock is asking and the offer.

*Discussion:* Commissioner Stewart recommended the TF strategize on each of the tier one areas and come up with suggestions with what can and cannot be done. Mr. Neubauer concurred with Commissioner Stewart and requested some time in the closed session to discuss the Barefoot Palms land acquisition.

**Kelley Boree**, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands, provided an update on the current land acquisitions and noted she would work on the state owned lands issue.

*Questions:* Commissioner Stewart asked about the MacDill AFB land acquisition. There was additional discussion on the use of different pots of money to resolve pending settlements for land purchases. Could a not-for-profit acquire the land at higher than appraised value? What about tax relief? Can the state give some type of tax credit to make up the difference?

*Answer:* Ms. Boree noted that the offer was at full fee as the owner was not interested in less than fee. She also stated that DEP would reengage with a less than fee offer and see if they could reach some resolution. The use of different pots of money is acceptable, but the State cannot pay above appraised value for land. A not-for-profit could pay a donation to a seller, but it would not be part of the acquisition. Sellers can use the available tax credit with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). DEP recommends sellers work with their attorney to work out eligibility for such credits. Some local governments offer some incentives, but Ms. Boree would have to research other opportunities.

#### *Discussion of FY 2016 Task Force Grant Application Guidance*

There was a discussion on changing the grants application cycle to synchronize with the state legislative process. Staff noted there may be approximately \$2.0 million of recurring general revenue funding in the state's base budget for FY 2016 for TF. Changing the grants cycle affords the TF the opportunity to provide input to the legislature of the funding need for TF grants. Of note, the process would change how grants are awarded. There was some concern expressed that the new process being influenced by the certain lobbies. TF members expressed a need to develop grants funding criteria based on mission critical needs. There was also a discussion of the new organization Florida is For Veteran's, Inc. and whether they be funding veteran's issues.

#### *Task Force Membership Update*

The Chairman reminded the members of the TF all of the members terms are set to expire June 30, 2015 and if they had a desire to remain on the TF to please let staff know. He thanked the members for their service.

V. Public Comment.

**Bobby Carbonell**, Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs briefed the TF on the current status of the establishment of Florida is For Veteran's, Inc. He briefed the board members for the corporation has been seated, and they are working on budget development and hiring an Executive Director. He also discussed legislative funding for the organization as well as operational plans.

**Representative Dave Murzin** discussed issues he heard at today's meeting, and that he is putting together some legislative ideas for Senator Evers. He noted if anyone has policy ideas to please contact him.

Chairman Patronis recognized **Brittany Hamel** from Representative Mike Hill's office.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM EST*