

**OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

OCTOBER 3, 2019

**THURSDAY
9:07 A.M.**

**NORTON MUSEUM OF ART
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION – Led by Chair Rick Roth

III. WELCOME REMARKS

III.A. Rep. Rick Roth, Chair, Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

Chair Roth welcomed everyone and thanked the Norton Museum of Art for hosting today's meeting.

III.B. Keith James, Mayor, West Palm Beach

Mayor James said that:

- His recent top priorities were public safety and the City of West Palm Beach (WPB) becoming more resident-driven.
- WPB would collaborate with federal, State, and local entities to address homelessness, water protection, and transportation.
- The Legislative Delegation (Delegation) should be commended for championing many of WPB's local bills, community appropriations requests, and legislative priorities.
- During the 2020 legislative session, the Delegation's support was requested in:
 - amending statutes that improved WPB's handling of abandoned property;
 - protecting home rule and fighting preemption efforts; and
 - securing appropriations to protect and improve WPB's water quality and storm water management and provide upgrades to its cyber security systems.

III.C. Elliot Davis, Director, Norton Museum of Art

Ms. Davis said that:

- The Norton Museum of Art was founded in 1941 with 800 paintings and sculptures. Today it housed 8,200 works of art.
- Since its renovation 8 months ago, more than 145,000 people visited the museum.
- The museum collaborated with the School District of Palm Beach County to develop a new pilot program for 2nd graders that would improve literacy through visual arts.
- Next year, students would be able to use their cell phones and tablets to interact with the museum's contemporary art collection.
- The museum partnered with 8 institutions to bring arts education directly to underserved communities at no cost.
- In January 2020, the museum would launch a new artisan residency program.

Chair Roth asked whether the museum was the first of its kind in the county.

Ms. Davis responded that it was the first museum of art in South Florida.

IV. ROLL CALL

DELEGATION MEMBERS:

State Representative Rick Roth, Chair
State Representative David Silvers, Vice Chair
State Senator Lori Berman
State Representative Mike Caruso
State Representative Joseph Casello
State Senator Gayle Harrell
State Representative Al Jacquet – Absent
State Representative MaryLynn Magar – Absent
State Representative Tina Polsky
State Senator Bobby Powell Jr. – Absent
State Senator Kevin Rader – Absent
State Representative Emily Slosberg – Absent
State Representative Matt Willhite

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:
Legislative Delegation Executive Director Victoria Nowlan
Legislative Delegation Aide Teresa Hadjipetrou
Deputy Clerk Julie Burns, Clerk & Comptroller's Office

V. DELEGATION BUSINESS

V.A. Recognition of Elected Officials

Chair Roth requested that elected officials in the audience stand and introduce themselves.

V.B. See later in the minutes.

V.C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Roth said that:

- A Delegation workshop would be held on October 31, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. with the Board of County Commissioners and the Palm Beach County School Board at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens.
- The Delegation would hold its first public hearing and workshop with the Palm Beach County League of Cities on December 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Palm Beach State College campus located in the Town of Loxahatchee Groves.
- Today's meeting would be shown on Friday, October 4, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 6, 2019 at 11:00 on PBCTV and on Comcast Channel 20, AT&T Channel 99, and streamed 24/7 on the County's Web site, pbcgov.com.

VI. See later in the minutes.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item VII. was presented at this time.)

VII. COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

VILA. Dorothy Jacks, Property Appraiser, Palm Beach County

Ms. Jacks said that:

- Members of the Florida Association of Property Appraisers Inc. (FAPA) supported 2 initiatives this year:

- o Increase the number of years in which someone could apply portability of their homestead exemption to another property by 3 tax roll cycles, which would require a ballot initiative.
- o Increase the property tax exemption amount to \$100 for widows and widowers and \$5,000 for those who were blind, or totally and permanently disabled.

Representative Joseph Casello said that a portability bill was currently being drafted.

Chair Roth asked how much money would be saved by applying the portability benefit to the new property.

Ms. Jacks said that it was difficult to determine the amount because the Property Appraiser's Office did not know who missed the deadline to transfer the portability.

VII.B. Commissioner Greg Weiss, Chairman, Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative

Commissioner Weiss said that:

- The Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative (Initiative) was a group of organizations that wanted to improve the lagoon's quality.
- The lagoon was experiencing a loss of habitat and a decline in water quality due to seawalls and leakage of septic tanks from storm water run-off.
- The Initiative members requested the Delegation's support in securing approximately \$3.7 million for 8 projects.
 - o The projects were ranked by their ability to provide the best environmental impact and offer at least a 50/50 grant match.

Representative Mike Caruso said that last year's funding for the lagoon was diverted to disaster relief from Hurricane Michael.

Commissioner Weiss stated that since 1998, the State contributed about \$22 million towards the lagoon's restoration, and \$88 million was secured through an almost 3-to-1 grant match.

UNSCHEDULED ITEM

VII.C.

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay said that:

- Serious rural housing issues existed regarding housing units owned and managed by the Belle Glade Housing Authority (BGHA).
- The Florida Department of Health, in coordination with the County's Health Department, would inspect all 715 housing units.
- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspected the properties and expressed concern with the BGHA's leadership and property maintenance.
- Senator Marco Rubio filed an amendment to the agricultural appropriations bill for an investigation into the entire USDA rural housing program.
- The Delegation's support was requested in sending a letter to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee to have the BGHA audited.

MOTION to approve that the Delegation send a letter to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee requesting that the Belle Glade Housing Authority be audited. Motion by Lori Berman, seconded by Gayle Harrell, and carried 8-0. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item VI. was presented at this time, and Chair Roth passed the gavel to Vice Chair David Silver.)

VI. LOCAL BILLS

VI.A. Indian Trails Improvement District, Betty Argue

Chair Roth stated that he sponsored the bill involving the Indian Trails Improvement District. (ITID)

Ms. Argue said that:

- ITID was created in 1957 for water canal management and now maintained 164.2 miles of canals, 9 rural and equestrian parks, and more than 458 miles of roads.
- Attempts were made to review the feasibility of incorporating ITID with The Acreage.

- A previous bill would have incorporated 38 square miles but left out many portions of ITID. It also would have prevented ITID, by charter, from discussing the bill or spending funds on incorporating.
- ITID's board believed that it was the appropriate entity to study the feasibility of incorporation, develop a draft charter, create an incorporation committee, and conduct a referendum based on facts and community input.
- 2 changes should be made to the draft charter:
 - Removing land within the Village of Royal Palm Beach and the City of Palm Beach Gardens should have an effective date of October 1, 2020 to coincide with ITID's fiscal year and to allow time to negotiate the interlocal agreements.
 - 5% of ITID voters should petition ITID for the incorporation in order to move forward with a referendum.

Senator Lori Berman asked how many homes were located in ITID, and when the referendum was anticipated.

Ms. Argue said that there were about 14,700 homes. She added that the feasibility study and the solicitation of petitions should be conducted before holding a referendum.

Representative Matt Willhite inquired whether ITID would be a dependent or independent district if the referendum passed.

Ms. Argue responded that the statute's conversion method required that ITID be dependent and that it contain a sunset date for the dissolution of the special district. She added that the sunset date would be determined through the feasibility study and reflected in the charter.

Representative Casello asked how many registered voters would vote on the conversion and how the requirement of 5% of voters was determined.

Ms. Argue stated that as of 2010, there were approximately 30,000 registered voters and that the percentage of voters was based on a turnout average from The Acreage at the last presidential election.

MOTION to approve the Indian Trails Improvement District local bill. Motion by Gayle Harrell, seconded by Rick Roth, and carried 8-0. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Vice Chair Silvers passed the gavel back to Chair Roth.)

VI.B. Port of Palm Beach, Richard Pinsky

Mr. Pinsky said that the local bill contained amendments to the State's laws governing the Port:

- An outdated requirement that Port commissioners secure a surety bond upon election would be eliminated.
 - The Port's accounting and operations procedures were now handled by staff rather than by the commissioners themselves.
- The Port's charter would be conformed to reflect the practice of seating and electing Port commission officers in January following an election.
- An additional surety bond provision would be deleted.
- References to Port manager throughout the local bill would be changed to Port director.
- The commissioners' salaries would increase to \$12,000, and they would be allowed to set their own future salary increases by no more than 3% per annum.
 - The last time the legislature set commissioners' salaries was 1999.
 - The change would provide conformity with all ports statewide.
- The maximum amount that the Port could assess on ad valorem taxes would be reduced from the current 2 mills to .25 mills, and the 1974 obsolete taxing cap would be removed.
 - The Port was an independent special taxing district but had not exercised its taxing authority in 50 years.

Representative Willhite said that:

- A \$2,500 increase to commissioners' salaries was an insignificant amount considering the work that they performed.
- The Port and municipalities should discuss future Port funding and assessments.
 - He would offer a title amendment to the local bill, which would delete the taxing issues contained in the local bill and retain the other 4 provisions.

MOTION to approve the title amendment to the local bill as discussed. Motion by Matt Willhite, seconded by Gayle Harrell, and carried 8-0. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

Senator Gayle Harrell asked whether the 3% annual salary increase was cumulative.

Chair Roth clarified that the commissioners did not have to vote on a salary increase each year, but when they voted, it would only be on a 3% increase and not a cumulative percentage.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion to approve the Port of Palm Beach local bill as amended carried 8-0. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

VI.C. See later in the minutes.

(CLERK'S COMMENT: Item V.B. was presented at this time.)

V.B. Presentation of Proclamation to Dupytren Foundation by Vice Chair David Silvers – PRESENTED

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item VI.C. was presented at this time.)

VI.C. Town of Lake Clarke Shores, Richard Pinsky

Mr. Pinsky said that:

- The Town of Lake Clarke Shores (Town) wanted to extend its boundaries, containing approximately 900 homes, to include an area of 100 homes.
- The Town believed that the residents of both areas would be better served by having uniform services.
- The annexation would be presented to the legislature through a local bill.

Representative Caruso asked what municipal services were being provided to the 100 homes.

Mr. Pinsky said that they received the same municipal services as the surrounding homes.

Chair Roth requested a brief history of the proposed annexation.

Mr. Pinsky said that:

- Formal attempts to previously annex the area occurred in 2003 and 2006.
- A public hearing on the current proposed annexation was held last week, but no one commented.
- The Town would request public feedback again before the local bill was presented to the legislature.

Senator Harrell asked whether the residents living in the 100-home enclave were paying taxes for the municipal services.

Mr. Pinsky said that they were not.

Chair Roth asked how the Town's septic-to-sewer conversion would impact the enclave.

Mr. Pinsky responded that:

- There would be no direct tax implication.
- Officials from the County, the Town, and the City of Greenacres were discussing efficient methods of supplying water and handling storm water run-off.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Robert Shalhoub.

MOTION to approve the Town of Lake Clarke Shores local bill. Motion by David Silvers, seconded by Mike Caruso, and carried 8-0. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

VII. See earlier in the minutes.

VIII. PRESENTERS

MOTION to approve reducing the public comment time from 3 minutes to 2 minutes. Motion by Mike Caruso, seconded by Tina Polsky, and carried 7-1. Joseph Casello opposed. Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Bobby Powell Jr., Kevin Rader, and Emily Slosberg absent.

(CLERK'S NOTE: The presentations were taken out of agenda order.)

VIII.X. Yvette Avila

Ms. Avila said that:

- The National Childhood Vaccination Act of 1986 and the Florida Constitution legally protected doctors, nurses, and vaccine manufacturers but not constituents.
- All vaccine ingredients were deemed unclean and against her religious creed.
- An executive order should be executed that superseded and protected religious creeds and that was respected by the nation's health care organizations.

VIII.Q. Jose Machovec

Ms. Machovec said that:

- The Nuremberg Code stated that "Voluntary consent must be given by the human subject."
- The gold standard for safety testing of vaccines was double-blind placebo tests, which were not being performed.
- A panel of experts from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices raised questions about the safety of a new vaccine, and post-marketing data would be reviewed for answers.
- The Delegation's support was requested in strengthening parental rights and opposing Senate Bill (SB) 64.

VIII.T. Ilonka O'Neil

- Mandated vaccines were causing harm and possible death to some genetically susceptible children.
- Pharmaceutical lobbyists should not be permitted to write vaccine policies.
- Parents should be allowed to decide which medical interventions would be given to their children.
- The Delegation's support was requested in opposing SB 64.

Representative Casello asked how many children were mentally or physically harmed by the vaccines.

Ms. O'Neil responded that about 92,000 adverse vaccine reactions were self-reported to a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System database.

VIII.Z. Rachael Brent

Ms. Brent said that:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended 15 vaccines by the age of 1, and parents currently could choose which ones should be given and when they should be administered.
- Public servants should serve individuals and families and not encroach on religious liberties.
- The Delegation's support was requested in opposing SB 64.

VIII.A. Albrey Arrington, Chairman, Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative

Mr. Arrington said that:

- The Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative was a group of public agencies in northern and southern Martin County that focused on Loxahatchee River issues.
- The first incident of red tide in the Loxahatchee River was reported several years ago.
- The Delegation's continued support of Loxahatchee River projects was requested.

VIII.B. Davicka Thompson, Children's Home Society of Palm Beach

Ms. Thompson requested that the Delegation continue to support:

- the \$7.1 million appropriation for community partnership schools, and an additional appropriation to further expand the community partnership into more schools; and
- funding to bring CaseAIM to more case management organizations throughout Florida.
 - CaseAIM addressed key factors, such as case manager turnover, which affected foster care children.

VIII.C. Cara Capp, National Parks Conservation Association

Ms. Capp said that:

- Much of the National Parks Conservation Association's (NPCA) work involved restoration of the greater Everglades ecosystem, including the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge.
- In 2018, Florida's broken water system led to toxic algae blooms in Martin and Palm Beach counties.
- Governor Ron DeSantis requested that the legislature support \$625 million in recurring funds for the Everglades and water quality infrastructure over the next 3 years, and the NPCA requested that the Delegation support that request.

VIII.D. Pam Bergsma, Joey Bergsma Retinoblastoma Awareness Foundation

Ms. Bergsma said that:

- Enhanced eye exams to detect cataracts and retinoblastoma tumors should be performed on newborns.
- The Delegation's support of House Bill 67 and SB 46 was requested.

Representative Caruso asked what types of drops were placed in infants' eyes.

Ms. Bergsma said that they were the same type of drops as those given to premature infants.

VIII.E. Jim Smith, Delray Beach Employees' Retirement Fund Committee

Mr. Smith said that:

- The Delegation's support was requested in sponsoring or cosponsoring a bill that would save Florida's taxpayers about \$60 million yearly.
 - The bill would allow local pension boards throughout the state to invest in pension funds at a reduced rate by piggybacking onto the Florida Retirement System fund managed by, or invested in by, the Florida Board of Administration.
 - Many pension funds struggled with large unfunded pension liabilities, and approving this bill would help reduce investment fee expenses and provide access to certain asset classes.

VIII.F. Mary Ellen Pinsker – Not Presented

VIII.G. Maggie Gill, Delray Medical Center

Ms. Gill said that:

- Delray Medical Center (DMC) was one of 5 acute care hospitals under the Tenet Healthcare Palm Beach Group.
- The Delegation's continued support of the level 1 trauma centers at St. Mary's Hospital and DMC was requested.

VIII.H. Shayna Adaniel, Alzheimer's Association

- There was no cure, treatment, or prevention for Alzheimer's Disease, which was the 6th leading cause of death in the United States.
- Approximately 5.8 million individuals nationwide had Alzheimer's Disease, and 51,000 individuals were diagnosed in the county.
- The Delegation's support was requested in:
 - establishing a dementia coordinator with the Department of Elder Affairs to facilitate, support, and coordinate State programs and policies related to Alzheimer's and dementia;
 - passing legislation that protected vulnerable adults from financial exploitation;
 - securing funding for the Brain Bus program, which was a mobile outreach program offering early detection, awareness, education, and other resources to diverse and underprivileged communities; and
 - increasing caregiver services for respite and other Alzheimer's initiatives and increasing funding for the Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program.

Representative Willhite asked that Ms. Gill provide his staff with any backup materials.

VIII.I. Karen Wilkerson, League of Women Voters

Ms. Wilkerson said that the Delegation's support was requested in securing funds to ensure a complete Florida count during the 2020 census.

- An accurate count would affect Florida's congressional and legislative districts, result in the State possibly gaining 1 or 2 congressional seats, and impact the distribution of federal and State funds.
- It was estimated that 1.5 million people would be counted, and each counted person represented \$1,600 to \$2,000 in funding per year for the next decade.
- Manufacturers, retailers, construction companies, the tourism industry, public service agencies, municipalities and State agencies depended on the census figures to plan and budget for the future.

VIII.J. Laura Reynolds, PBCo. Chapter Florida Native Plant Society

Ms. Reynolds said that:

- Water qualities issues could be solved by protecting land through the acquisition of conservation easements.
- The Florida Forever Act (Florida Forever) received \$22 million in funding last year, and the Delegation's support was requested in securing a minimum of \$300 million annually.
- Florida Forever requested that a Delegation member sponsor a proposed amendment to FIB 2003, which would change the date by which bonds issued to fund Florida Forever must be retired.

Chair Roth asked that Ms. Reynolds contact his staff regarding the bill's sponsorship.

VIII.K. Margo McKnight, President & CEO, Palm Beach Zoo and Conservation Society – Not Presented

VIII.L. Kimberly McCarten, President & CEO, ARC of Palm Beach County

Ms. McCarten said that:

- The Delegation should be commended for securing an increase in "res-hab rates."
- 5.7% of the approved funds for providers of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) were sent directly to those that served individuals in The Arc of Palm Beach County's (The Arc) group homes.

- The Delegation's support was requested in securing increased funding in the amount of \$86 million for The Arc's services statewide, particularly adult day training.

VIII.M. David London

Mr. London said that:

- He recently sent an email to Governor Ron DeSantis proposing that the State have a hurricane prevention and control officer.
- Most of the Volkswagen mitigation settlement funds that Florida received would go towards the purchase of electric buses and cars.
- \$1 million of the settlement funds should go to the South Florida Science Museum so that students could work on perfecting cleaner diesel fuel.

VIII.N. David Lawrence, CEO, Cultural Council of Palm Beach County

Mr. Lawrence said that:

- The Cultural Council of Palm Beach County (Cultural Council) was the County's local arts service agency.
- The Cultural Council helped build the arts and cultural sector, connected residents to quality arts experiences, promoted its cultural assets to spark cultural tourism, and supported arts education efforts in the public school system.
- Each year, the arts and cultural sector generated more than \$633 million in economic activity, employed nearly 15,000 full-time employees at cultural institutions, and welcomed over 5.4 million visitors.
- The Delegation's support was requested in fully funding the Division of Cultural Affairs grant program.

VIII.O. Aggie Pappas, Regional Executive Director, PACE Center for Girls

Ms. Pappas said that:

- The Practical, Academic, Cultural, and Educational (PACE) Center for Girls served over 100 girls through its day program and reach counseling.
- The Delegation was invited to attend the January 29, 2020 PACE Day event in the City of Tallahassee.

VIII.P. Barbara Susco

Ms. Susco said that:

- She requested that a Delegation member sponsor her resolution on pornography.
- The resolution stated that “The legislature of the State of Florida recognizes that pornography was a public health hazard leading to a broad spectrum of individual and public health impacts and societal harms.”
- Pornography in the United States was a \$12 billion industry.
- A public school program should be incorporated that taught children to report something that they found offensive.

VIII.Q. See earlier in the minutes.

VIII.R. Kate Arrizza, CEO, South Florida Science Center

Ms. Arrizza said that:

- The South Florida Science Center (Center) was considered the 2nd busiest science center in the country.
- More than \$11 million in accumulative operating surplus was used towards new exhibits, facilities, and programs.
- The Delegation was asked to continue supporting cultural affairs by securing \$35 million for a new building at the Center.

VIII.S. Edward Bender, Region 9 Captain, Convention of States Action

Mr. Bender said that:

- The Convention of States Action (COSA) currently had 112,376 supporters in Florida and 4 million nationwide.
- COSA's mission was to build an engaged group of self-governing grassroots activists.
- In 2014, the legislature passed Florida Statutes (F.S.) 11.93 and 11.9352, which provided a method for selecting and limiting the number of COSA commissioners.

- The Delegation was asked to support COSA in opposing efforts to rescind the statutes and to consider a few revisions to F.S. 11.93.

VIII.T. See earlier in the minutes.

VIII.U. Mark Schneider, Chapter President, American Civil Liberties Union of Florida, PBC Chapter

Mr. Schneider said that:

- The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida (ACLU) supported criminal justice reform by campaigning to reduce the statutory “cap on gain time” so that well-behaved prisoners could earn earlier release.
- SB 394 would reduce the current cap to 65% of the original sentence served by nonviolent offenders.
- The Delegation’s help was requested in:
 - helping to move the bill forward;
 - supporting any bills that made cash bail less onerous; and
 - supporting the revision of a bill that would prevent the suspension of drivers’ licenses for failure to pay fines and fees.

VIII.V. Claudia Kirk Barto, President, Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches and Treasure Coast, Inc.

Ms. Barto said that:

- The nation’s college graduates lacked 21st century skills to succeed in the workplace, and 50% of high school dropouts said that they left school because “real world” learning mattered to them.
- Junior Achievement believed that education from kindergarten to the 12th grade should be built on a bridge of engagement between the classroom and the community, and that young adults should be empowered and prepared to succeed in a global economy.
- The Delegation’s continued support of Junior Achievement was requested.

VIII.W. Alba Gaston – Not presented

VIII.X. See earlier in the minutes.

VIII.Y. Scott Zucker, Vice President & Conservation Chair, Audubon Everglades

Mr. Zucker said that:

- There should be plans to drastically cut carbon emissions and reduce Florida's reliance on dirty fossil fuels.
- Laws should be enacted that mandated a timely and equitable shift to clean renewable energy sources and a reduction in overall energy use.
- Water and land conservation programs, such as the Florida Forever Act, should be fully funded.
- The Delegation's support was requested in reaching 100% clean energy standards.

VIII.Z. See earlier in the minutes.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Senator Berman left the meeting.)

VIII.AA. Drew Martin, Local Sierra Club Group

Mr. Martin said that the Delegation members could set an example by using reusable plastics, support local communities that wanted to eliminate single-use plastics/straws, and oppose legislation that made it difficult to fight unwanted development.

VIII.BB. Myrna Rosoff/Past President, Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations ("COBWRA")

Ms. Rosoff said that:

- HB 7103 and its amendment penalized citizens by requiring that the losing party in a comprehensive plan case pay all attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party, who was usually the government or developers.
- Senator Berman and Representative Casello should be commended for filing SB 250 and HB 6019 to repeal HB 7103's amendment.

VIII.CC. Charlie Foxx

Mr. Foxx said that:

- By legislative mandate, the current 80% threshold of votes needed to amend governing documents of community associations was impossible to attain, and should be lowered to 65%.
- The Delegation's support was requested in sponsoring a clean, standalone bill.

Chair Roth and Representative Casello asked that Mr. Foxx provide their staff with his contact information and backup materials.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IX.A.

DISCUSSED: Repeal of FIB 7103, Florida Forever Act Funding, and Water Quality Legislation.

Paul Owens said that:

- The 1,000 Friends of Florida was a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the environment, the economy, and quality of life from the threat of excessive growth and incompatible development.
- The organization's top priority during this legislative session was repealing the amendment to FIB 7103, as well as Florida Forever Act funding, and comprehensive water quality legislation.

IX.B.

DISCUSSED: American Fleart Association's Proposed Bills.

Tim Stergiou-Allen said that:

- The American Fleart Association's (AFIA) first proposed bill would ensure that Florida hospitals could select a registry that provided them with the most complete data and analysis on heart attacks to ensure best practices for all hospitals.
- The second proposed bill would update emergency medical services dispatcher training and education of regulatory standards.

- 911 operators would be trained to coach someone through chest compression cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- The Tobacco 21 bill would be brought back to combat the youth vaping epidemic.
 - The bill would increase the minimum legal sales age to 21 for all nicotine and vaping products.
- Another proposed bill would ensure that free clean water was accessible during the school day by installing water bottle filling stations in all Florida schools.
- During the upcoming legislative session, the AHA would monitor preemption language in bills pertaining to health care.

IX.C.

DISCUSSED: Justice Reform.

Andrea Davis said that justice reform should retroactively take place.

IX.D.

DISCUSSED: Florida Forever Act Funding.

Michael Kohner said that he supported controlling the bonding effort for Florida Forever Act so that funds were available to lock in purchases of conservation lands.

IX.E.

DISCUSSED: Burning of Sugar Fields in the Western Communities.

Sheila Calderon said that:

- She represented the Sierra Club, which opposed pre-harvest sugar burning.
- The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services was taking some steps to reduce the burning, but it was not enough.
- The western communities continued to suffer from the ash and smoke, while those living in the eastern communities remained protected.

IX.F.

DISCUSSED: Florida Cares.

Denise Bock said that:

- She represented Florida Cares, a charity that was dedicated to improving the lives of incarcerated individuals.
- A volunteer citizens oversight board should be formed to transcend and resolve the turmoil existing in prisons.
- A draft bill received sponsorship, but bipartisan support and a sponsor in the Senate were needed.

IX.G.

DISCUSSED: Opposition to SB 64.

Richard Kline said that:

- Big pharmaceutical companies, lobbyists, and politicians were more concerned with profits than protecting citizens' constitutional rights.
- Legislators represented the interests of large corporate entities and conglomerates in return for economic gains, even when clear scientific evidence existed regarding vaccinations.
- Individuals should have the right to vaccinate or not vaccinate their children, and to exercise their faith and freedom through religious exemption.

IX.H.

DISCUSSED: Homeowner's Association (HOA) Governing Documents.

Beverly Coccoli said that:

- The Delegation's support was requested in lowering the threshold for amending HOA governing documents from 80% to 60% votes.
- The Palm Beach Leisureville Community Association was striving to set goals that would align and compliment the City of Boynton Beach's restoration project.
- The Delegation's support was requested in sponsoring a bill that addressed her HOA's concerns.

IX.I.

DISCUSSED: Opposition to SB 64.

Jaiden Gray said that her children did not respond well to vaccines.

IX.J.

DISCUSSED: Juvenile Justice Reform.

Kathy Quarles said that:

- The juvenile justice system did not require that a legal guardian or parent be present when someone under the age of 18 was arrested.
- Juveniles could be sentenced as adults without a review from the juvenile court or a judge.
- Many juveniles served long-term sentences without meaningful reform.
- Juveniles faced a high risk of being sexually abused and had higher suicidal rates while incarcerated in adult prisons.
- The Delegation was asked to support the Senate's initiative for juvenile justice reform.

IX.K.

DISCUSSED: Turkey Point Power Plant, College Degrees, and RoundUp Herbicide.

Mr. Johnson said that:

- The Turkey Point Power Plant should be shut down because it was leaking radioactive rainwater and another type of radioactive material.
- High school graduates should obtain at least a 2-year college degree.
- RoundUp herbicide should be banned by counties and municipalities.

X. ADJOURNMENT

At 12:02 p.m., the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Representative Paul A. ...". The signature is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "Chair/Vice Chair" is printed. There is a small checkmark to the left of the signature and a small "N" to the right.

Chair/Vice Chair