

FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES  
LAKELAND FLORIDA  
MAY 14, 1943

The regular quarterly meeting of the Florida Utilities Coordinating was held at the New Florida Hotel, Lakeland, Florida, May 14, 1943. A list of those present follows:

J. C. Buckels	W. F. Girtman
W. F. Cook	A. B. Greene
B. N. Darlington	Wilkins Linhart
R. S. Davis	L. T. Robertson
C. L. DeVane	M. R. Smith
B. A. Galloway	B. E. Wilkerson

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Galloway promptly before noon and minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary and only partially approved as read, the exception being entered by Mr. W. F. Girtman of the Florida Railroad Commission who wished to have corrected that portion which stated:

"Mr. Girtman reported that the revised crossing specifications, part two, pertaining to the construction and maintenance of electric light and power lines crossing the tracks of steam railroads, was about ready to come off the press and that they were hopeful that copies would soon be in the hands of members"

should have been reported as:

"Part One pertaining to Rules, Regulations and specifications Governing the Construction and Maintenance of Telephone, Telegraph and other Communication Lines crossing over or under the tracks of Railroads in the State of Florida".

CARRY-OVER BUSINESS

In connection with Part One referred to above, Messrs. Greene and Girtman were happy to report that copies effective as of February 1, 1943 had been sent out to members interested and other copies were available by request to the Railroad Commission, or the Secretary of the Committee. The printed copies of revised Part Two may be delayed for a considerable time and in the interim the Rules of the Fifth edition of part Two of the National Electric Safety Code for power lines, if adhered to will be acceptable to the Commission.



The matter of less frequent meetings by the Committee was discussed freely and the general expressions seemed to indicate that definite action could not be taken at this time, whereupon a motion to table indefinitely was made by Mr. Buckels and seconded by Mr. Linhart, which carried unanimously.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Communications expressing their regret at not being able to attend were received and read from members, Atkinson, Burke, Gramling, Menendez, Seward and Wright.

A letter from the Inter-County Telephone & Telegraph Company, indicating a 2 foot additional overhang requirements for their relocation project between Zolfo Springs and Brownsville, was read and placed on file. It was the opinion of Mr. Wilkerson, and others agreed, that the matter was one to be worked out between Inter-County and the Atlantic Coast Line Rwy. Company.

A letter from Mr. E. F. Johnson, Florida Power & Light Company to Mr. C. K. Carter, Georgia Southern & Florida Railway Company, in which Mr. Johnson brought Mr. Carter chronologically, up to date on the desires, impulses and motives, that evolved into the present general acceptance and adaption of a revised set of rules and regulations governing the crossings of steam railroad tracks by electric light and power lines, was read and placed on file without comment.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Buckels brought up the matter of suggested methods of constructing overhead wire crossings over railway tracks, where in close proximity to railroad trestles. It seems that Mr. Buckels had recently been requested to provide a minimum track clearance of 50 feet for a line that could not be interrupted for long periods at a time. Mr. Wilkerson said that a crossing of standard clearances would be acceptable provided the crossing span was demountable to allow for the ready movement of a Pile Driver with the boom up. Mr. Buckels suggested that this feature would not be satisfactory in most instances because of the long interruptions of service to customers, and in the case the higher clearances were a prerequisite to the granting of a crossing permit, the extension could not be justified from an economic standpoint.

Mr. Wilkerson suggested that, if a siding track was near the trestle where a work train could be hurriedly switched to permit express passage of other traffic, it would be possible to construct fairly close to the end of a trestle. Mr. Smith inquired as to how close, and Mr. Wilkerson replied maybe 300 or 400 ft., however, the requirements of other Railroads will be checked into by Mr. Wilkerson as respect to fixed distances from end of trestle, pile structure, and effects of



nearby sidings, and he will report at the next meeting, in the meantime, he suggests that crossing permits of this type be submitted with full details and to allow for ample time to verify and check with Roadmasters and Maintenance of Way Men.

Mr. Linhart discussed briefly, a problem of structure conflict between the facilities of the Florida Telephone Corpn., the Florida Public Service Company and a Rural Electric Cooperative Ass'n. in his territory, he hesitates to bring it before the committee for assistance until all direct efforts to agreement had been exhausted.

It was suggested by Mr. Darlington, and ordered by the Chairman, that the Secretary prepare a return card to be mailed out to the less active members along with the minutes notice for the purpose of verifying addresses, eliminating the deceased members, purging the parasites, lambasting the lackadaisical and beckoning the backsliders. We're picking up the latter at an alarming rate. If a card is found with this notice, it does not necessarily mean you've been placed in either of the above mentioned categories at present.

Because of the tight hotel situation in the larger cities and the sore conditions of conveyance besetting the journeyman so bold, it was decided to hold the next meeting as close to the center of activity as possible, therefore, the invitation of Mr. B. A. Galloway was accepted to hold the next meeting at Hotel Ft. Gatlin in Orlando, on Friday, August 13, 1943 at 10:30 A.M.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, thereupon refreshments were served, after which those still able to navigate in an upright attitude, repaired to the several very fine epicurian emporiums and spent a delightful two hours consorting with the lovely french words on the menu cards, joshing the Garcons la Femme and Sinking the artificial crockery into De Sota County, fresh leather hamburgers.

Respectfully submitted,



R. S. Davis, Secretary  
FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE

RSD/MR