

FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FT. MYERS, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 10, 1944

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The regular quarterly meeting of the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee was held at the Bradford Hotel, Ft. Myers, Florida, November 10, 1944. Those present were:

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| Mr. R. E. Baker | Lt. W. F. Hagen |
| Mr. Harry Crandell | Mr. Paul E. Ley |
| Mr. H. F. Conley | Mr. Wilkins Linhart |
| Mr. B. N. Darlington | Mr. E. M. Menéndez |
| Mr. Bill Girtman | Mr. E. W. Smith |
| Mr. Al Galloway | Mr. Stanley Warth |
| | Mr. Homer Welch |

Chairman Red Davis was absent due to the inroads into his senile and doting constitution of some vicious microbes. However, as Stan Warth put it, Red did the next best thing and that was to send his representative "I. W. Harper" to sit in at the meeting. Mrs. Harper stayed in Sarasota to nurse him back to health - the brazen hussey!

Mr. Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and stood to be corrected in part of the discussion by Mr. Wasson, as follows:

Mr. Wasson gave an incident where track was constructed under existing wires and train was operated before his Company was notified. This should have read: "Construction of track was under way, but conflict was corrected before trains were operated."

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Williams in referring to conflict he had had with railroads being built under existing drop wire said in part "that such crossings were regulated by Specifications of Florida Railroad Commission and that certain clearances were to be maintained as outlined therein, and therefore, it was his opinion that notification of proposed plans of track construction should be given wire company by whoever was requesting such construction."

Under the head of Old Business or "Neglected Business" could come another item of major importance to the Committee's welfare. This neglect, by the way, was very forcibly brought to the attention of the Committee when time came to raise the gavel to call the meeting to order and there was no "gavel raiser". Red Davis being in the condition as referred to above left the meeting without guidance and totally without spirits.

Mr. Ken Williams being a man of quick decision, sound judgement, and hairtrigger temper, did, with slight pressure from the other members of the Committee, take over long enough to permit the nomination and election of a Vice-chairman.

Mr. Bill Girtman immediately nominated Mr. Homer Welch who, in the opinion of all present, was the man for the job as was indicated by the lack of even one dissenting vote.

CORRESPONDANCE:

Notices of intent to construct by:

(1) Florida Power and Light Company to American Telephone and Telegraph Company of intent to construct a three-phase three-wire 13,200 volt line along a portion of State Road #4 at Ojus, Florida.

(2) Letter to Mr. Ralph Smith of REA from Mr. A. R. Swanson, American Telephone and Telegraph Company confirming a previous conversation regarding an extension of 13KV line on the Florida Keys between TeaTable Relief Channel and Key Vaca.

(3) Florida Forest and Park Service to Peninsular Telephone Company of extension of telephone lines from Pinellas Water Works in Hillsboro County to Dunedin Towersite in Pinellas County.

Also proposed extension to Pinellas Park Towersite from Peninsular Company's line at Pinellas Park.

(4) Florida Power and Light Company to Gulf Telephone Company of intent to construct a 2300 volt line along a portion of State Roads #5A and #299 between Foley and Fenhalloway, Taylor County, Florida.

(5) Peninsular Telephone Company to Florida Power Corporation of intent to construct a line along State Highway #5 in Pasco County near Denham.

(6) Letter from Mr. E. F. Johnson, Florida Power and Light Company to Mr. R. U. Titus, Florida Forest and Park Service, acknowledging letter of intent to construct a pole and wire line along State Road #96 from Wacissa Fire Tower to Town of Wacissa.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Ken Williams gave an account of some of his storm troubles and was high in his praise of the splendid help given him by the Army, and thanked Lt. Hagin for his assistance during the emergency.

Chairman Welch added that had it not been for the Army his lines would have been out a lot longer than they were. Especially helpful was the transportation which Lt. Hagin was so kind in furnishing to him.

Mr. Al Galloway said that in looking over the Committee roster he noticed that the Florida Power Corporation had only two members listed. It seemed to him that a concern as large as the Florida Power Corporation should have more representation and be able to have at least one member at each meeting. Now that we had the REA fellows coming back maybe we ought to do a little missionary work in the Sunshine City.

Mr. Homer Welch asked just how proposed construction of lines wherein there would be a conflict with some other Company was handled through the Committee.

Mr. Ben Darlington answered that copies of all notices of intent to construct were sent to the Secretary to be read at the next meeting and discussed if necessary. Chairman Welch asked for a rising vote of thanks to the Inter County Telephone Company fellows for a most enjoyable and unusual time. As will long be remembered the inimitable hospitality extended to all members alike in the "Glow Room" of the Bradford Hotel. Even though it recalls to one, Mr. Bill Girtman a slightly reddening experience with a pair of ivory cubes. I am sure he had the time of his life with his conscience no worse for wear.

NEXT MEETING PLACE:

Mr. Menendez very kindly asked the Committee to come to Tallahassee for the February meeting.

Mr. Al Galloway extended an invitation to come to Orlando and he said he would get together with some of the Florida Power Corporation fellows there and make it sort of a joint meeting. (Joint in this instance does not necessarily imply a dump of inquiry, but could be a respectable joke).

The vote was favorable for the meeting place in Orlando, with due thanks to Mr. Menendez for his kind offers.

Chairman Homer Welch thanked the Inter County Fellows for a most enjoyable time. As Homer put it, it certainly set an example of real hospitality that would be hard to beat.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 after which a most delicious dinner was served.

B. N. Darlington
Secretary

FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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