

# Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee – Fall Meeting 2004

Established 1932



## Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee

Coordination Through  
Corporation

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our web site: [Hhttp://www.fucc.org](http://www.fucc.org)  
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### FALL MEETING MINUTES

November 5, 2004  
St. Pete Beach, Florida

#### Chairman

Lawree Washington  
813-228-1564

#### Vice Chairman

John Murphy  
407-423-8398

#### Secretary

Kim Wiley  
813.664.6161

#### Historian

Tom Dugger  
850-599-1543

Chairman Lawree Washington called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M. He gave his opening remarks that were followed by Vince Montgomery's Invocation and Tribute to the flag. Self-introductions of those in attendance found less than 50 members present at this Business Meeting.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT-Kim Wiley

A motion was made by Sharon Luginsland and second by Jerrold Whitt to wave the reading of the Secretary's Minutes. They were approved as written and will be posted on the web site.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT-Jan Ash

The attendance at this meeting included 35 prepaid registrations, 11 regular registrations and 4 who registered for the workshop only. The total was 50 attendees for the 3 day meeting.

#### August, 2004 Meeting

Pre-Registration/Onsite Registration/Workshop	\$6070.00
Other	\$1475.00
FPL Bronze Sponsorship	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8045.00</b>
Expenses for Marco Island Banquet	\$19,065.17

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(Treasurer's Report continued)

November 2004 Meeting	
Previous Bank Balance:	\$3156.50
Pre-Registration	\$2110.00
Onsite Registration	\$ 660.00
Workshop only	<u>\$ 80.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2850.00</b>
Sponsorship's	
TBE Group	\$3000.00
Ash Engineering	\$2000.00
FDOT	<u>\$1800.00</u>
<b>Total Sponsorships</b>	<b>\$6800.00</b>
Anticipate expenses for November Meeting	\$4000.00
Anticipated Ending Balance	<b>\$8806.50</b>

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT** – Tom Dugger could not be present at this meeting. He submitted the following information which was read by Vice Chairman Murphy:

**FIFTY YEARS AGO – November 5, 1954, Ft. Myers, Florida**

CHAIRMAN-H. L. Martin, Florida Keys Electric Co-op

VICE CHAIRMAN-R.S. Davis, Florida Power and Light Company

SECRETARY-C.R. Mayhew, Southern Telephone Company, Tallahassee, Florida

**NO MINUTES OF THIS MEETING**

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO: November 2 1979, St. Petersburg, Florida**

ATTENDANCE: TELEPHONE 20, POWER 12, FDOT 8, GAS 6, COUNTIES 2, ONE CALL CENTER 3,  
CONSULTANTS 1, MUNICIPALITIES 1. TOTAL55

CHAIRMAN-Horace Irwin, Florida Power and Light

VICE CHAIRMAN-Ted Carlson, Florida Power and Light

SECRETARY-C.E. Hanle, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co.

Members who attended that meeting that are still active in the FUCC are: Rocco DePrimo, Jim Haynie and Jim Wright.

The guest speaker from Florida Power Corp. outlined some of the technological developments and improved methods of providing energy with reduced availability of fuel. He discussed various research and experimental projects presently underway. A tape was shown with many of the projects including the use of "coil" and methane as fuel. Included were experimental methods of curbing pollution. The next tape showed the recent hurricane damages and restoration work in Mobile and Pensacola. Jim Dunning, Gulf Power Corp., Pensacola, expressed his appreciation to Florida Power Corp. for all the help they sent to the disaster area.

The FDOT asked if all utilities were receiving copies of the DOT's Daily Diary on construction projects. The response was mostly negative. The FDOT assured they would see the utilities would begin receiving them.

The Standing Committee discussed the growing problems of Counties charging fees for permits. The recommendation was that a separate subcommittee be formed to gather information statewide regarding County permit fees. The Chairman asks for help from the District and Local Committees in this study. All Companies were urged to keep a close watch on the Counties which are establishing permit fees, or those that are increasing fees. We should e receiving some services in exchange for the fees, such as proper inspections, etc.

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**SUNSHINE STATE ONE CALL CENTER**-Cheryl Ritter gave the group the latest statistics in the June to October timeframe.

Incoming tickets were up 9.14%

Transmissions were up 25.65%

Phone calls were down 1847

Speed in answering the phone average was 26.38 seconds

The price of a ticket has been reduced from 62 cents to 60 cents.

If there is a late response to a ticket, there is an additional charge of 59 cents for that ticket.

The Sunshine Call Center is continuing to work for the members by reducing costs and increasing service.

### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT REPORTS

#### **District One-Jerrold Whitt**

District One is going to have only 1 District meeting this upcoming year so to be able to place more focus on that meeting. The tentative date will be sometime in April, but the exact date, time and agenda will be announced in the near future. Seven of the 12 Counties which make up District One still hold monthly utility meetings. The counties are Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Highlands. The District's 5 year work program is handed out at all of these meetings. Any Utility Agency Owner needing a copy of the 5 year work program can call the District One office.

#### **District Two-Vince Krepps**

The local utility group meeting dates and locations are on the Central Office Utility website under "District News". In the first week of December, the District Two planning office will present the 5 year work program for in 3 locations within the District. A meeting notice will be sent to all UAO's at the appropriate time by the District Two Utility Office via e-mail.

#### **District Three-Rocky DePrimo**

District 3 cancelled its district utility liaison meeting due to the hurricanes that hit the western part of the district. The meeting will be rescheduled in the near future.

#### **District Four-Rocky DePrimo**

The district continues its electronic mail-out of the status of all projects in the production and letting cycle. The utility industry should review the report and contact the District Utility Office with questions, issues, or concerns on any project.

Next quarter, the District will be sending out the final production plans (plans as shipped for letting) on a CD in a pdf format. If a utility has any problem with the CD, please contact the Utility Office, (954) 777-4126. Also, electronic files of projects in the production and letting cycle are always available for the utility industries' use. Please contact the in-house designer, the consultant designer, or the District Utility Office.

#### **District Five-Gary Bass**

Ginny Dresser was introduced into the District Five Utility office family. There is going to be a QA/QC process put into place for all Utility Coordinators. I-4 and 408 Interim Interchange has 16 million dollars in utility reimbursement. Frank, Rick, John and Vince are heavily involved in the project. The goal is to have the plans cleaned up and ready for the June '05 letting by February. The construction on the project will begin January 2006. The upcoming District Liaison meeting is scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup> at Altamonte Hilton.

#### **District Six-No Report**

#### **District Seven-Sally Prescott**

District 7 recently completed 3 different sessions of Utility Coordination training. The Florida Gas / Right-of-Way / Scheduling Concerns for Designers training will be Dec. 3 in Tampa.

The D-7 Utility Liaison Conference was Oct. 1, 2004 with presentations on the FDOT D-7 5 Year Work Program, Pasco County (Pennies for Pasco), roadway projects and Verizon's FTTP project.

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(District Seven Report continued)

D-7 Monthly Design and Construction Reports are posted each month on the FDOT Utilities Website under "District News".

### **TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE DISTRICT-Lawrence R. Hayduk**

**MEDIAN GUARDRAIL:** The Turnpike Enterprise is proposing extensive new median guardrail installation in Lake, Osceola, Orange, Indian River, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Sumter, and Dade counties. Over 150 miles of median guardrails have been added to our miscellaneous design contracts. Construction on some of the projects has begun. Construction of each project will last approximately 6-12 months depending on the length of the project. Six projects have been designed and let. The median guardrail projects will reduce cross over accidents on the north sections of the Turnpike.

**FPID 405270-1:** The turnpike is working on a PD&E Study for a new road corridor in Citrus County. The road will be an extension of the Suncoast Parkway. The Suncoast Parkway Phase II project will extend the Parkway from US98 in Brooksville to US19 (Approximately 27 miles). Ten possible corridors are being evaluated for impacts.

**FPIDs 403497-2, 403497-3, 403498-2 and 403498-3:** These projects will extend the Western Beltway (SR 429) from Seidel Road in Orange County to I-4 in Osceola County, A distance of approximately 11 miles. SR429 is a joint project with OOCEA. These are major projects with significant utility activity. Construction is underway on all projects. Completion of all sections is slated for December 2006. Once completed, you will be able to travel on SR429 from I-4 in Osceola County to US 441 in Apopka.

**FPID 232074-1:** This project is a new interchange with SR710 and the Turnpike in Palm Beach County. The new interchange will relieve congestion at existing interchanges in the north Palm Beach County. The project has been let with construction completion scheduled for February 2006. Minor utility relocations are associated with this project. We are coordinating with District 4 on a railroad crossing upgrade as part of the project.

**FPID 406150-1:** This project will widen the Turnpike mainline from 6 to 8 lanes in north Broward County. The project starts just south of Atlantic Boulevard and goes to the Palm Beach County line a distance of roughly 7 miles. Preliminary design is underway. Major utility impacts are expected including FGT gas line relocation. Letting is scheduled for March of 2007.

**FPID 406148-1:** This project will widen the Turnpike mainline from 4 to 8 lanes from I-4 to SR429 in Orange County. The project is roughly 8 miles in length. Preliminary design is underway. Letting is scheduled for March of 2007.

**FPIDs 406094-1 and 406097-1:** These projects will widen the Turnpike from 6 to 8 and 10 lanes in Broward County. These projects are being developed under contracts that combine the PD&E and design efforts. There will be extensive utility involvement on both projects. The projects are under going major re-designs to accommodate FGT gas line relocations the full length of the project. The projects will be constructed in a sequence to allow FGT to relocate their line. Both projects will take three years to construct. Approximately twelve miles of the Turnpike will be upgraded.

**FPID 406092-1:** This project is to widen the Turnpike mainline from Atlantic Avenue to the Lantana mainline toll plaza in Palm Beach County from 4 to 6 lanes and ultimately to 8 lanes. Construction has started. Construction will take approximately two years. Previously, the project included modifications to the existing interchange at Atlantic Avenue, along with widening of Atlantic Avenue within the interchange limits. This portion has since been removed from the Turnpike widening and will be let as a separate project approximately one year later because of delays in ROW acquisition.

**FPIDs 406095-1 and 406095-4:** These two projects will widen the turnpike mainline from 6 to 8 lanes from the HEFT to Griffin Road (roughly 6 miles). Survey and preliminary design are underway. Plans production is scheduled for completion in early 2007. Extensive utility relocation will be required including FGT gas lines.

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**FPID 406090-1:** This project is to widen the Beeline Expressway, SR528, in Orange County from 4 to 6 lanes, a distance of approximately 8 miles, from I-4 to Boggy Creek Road. Phase III plans are under design and utility coordination is ongoing. Letting is scheduled for October 2005.

**FPID 406091-1:** This project is to widen the Turnpike Mainline in Orange County from 4 to 8 lanes, a distance of approximately 6 miles, from I-4 to SR528. Phase IV plans are complete and the project is scheduled for letting in January 2005. Utility coordination is ongoing.

**FPID 406112-1:** This project will add a new interchange at Jog Road and the Turnpike in Palm Beach County. The project will relieve crowding at the existing West Palm Beach Interchange at Okeechobee Boulevard. The design is complete and we are in the right of way phase of the project. Letting is scheduled for September 2005.

**FPID 406102-1:** This project will add new ramps at the existing interchange between the Turnpike and SR408 in Orange County. Construction is underway with the completion slated for 2006.

**FPID 411237-1:** This project will add a new interchange on the Turnpike at Kissimmee Park Road in Osceola County. The interchange will give residents in St. Cloud better access to the Turnpike. Design is underway with construction to start in 2005.

### **FDOT CENTRAL UTILITY OFFICE UPDATE-Gordon Wheeler for Ken Weldon**

#### Utility Accommodation Manual:

A public hearing was held on October 22, 2004. Issues from the industry were discussed. FDOT provided input as to why the changes to the UAM were made. Some issues are still outstanding. The FDOT has established a Nov 19, 2004 deadline for clarifications to comments received during the hearing to be officially filed. FDOT will evaluate the comments for further changes to accommodate those suggestions. Plans are to submit the UAM to the JAPC attorney December 1.

#### Utility Training for Designers:

The training will consist of 3 parts: FGT issues, R/W issues, and scheduling and design concerns the Designers need to know to accommodate utilities. The FGT material will be similar to what they presented during the Design Conference. Some openings still exist but you must register with Nancy. She can be contacted through the Utilities web site, e-mail, or telephone. The schedule has been established and is as shown below:

Chipley	November 16	9:00 - 12:00	
Jacksonville	November 18	1:30 - 4:30	
Miami	November 30	9:00 - 12:00	1:30 - 4:30
Orlando	December 2	9:00 - 12:00	
Tampa	December 3	9:00 - 12:00	

Chipley	Jacksonville Urban Office
Chipley Materials Conference Room	D2 / St. Johns
US 90 East	2250 Irene Street
Chipley, Florida	Jacksonville, Florida

Miami	Orlando
D6 Auditorium Front/District 6-1000 Bldg.	Turnpike Enterprise
1000 NW 111th Avenue	Turkey Lake Service Plaza, Mile Marker 263
Miami, Florida	Bldg. 5315, Room 1093 and 1094/1st Floor Auditoriums A & B
	Turnpike Headquarters
	Ocoee, Florida

Tampa  
D7 Operations Conference Room/District 7 Headquarters  
11201 North Malcolm McKinley Drive  
Tampa, Florida

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### Forms and Agreements:

FDOT utility forms and agreements have been updated to the WordForms format. WordForms was selected because Microsoft word is readily available to most computers and it will be easier to fill out the forms. The FDOT is changing other office forms to HTML format. The revision date of 10/4/04 on the .pdf documents is because the .pdf documents were generated from the WordForms document. There has only been a change in format, not context. The form may appear to have changed appearance but the text has not changed. FDOT will maintain the official content of the forms and agreements. No more proprietary software and no more having to enter a userID to get to a form.

### Underground Imaging Pilot Projects:

A pilot project is being conducted in D7. C/O provided input to the statement of work. SSOCOF contributed \$50,000.00 to the pilot project effort. The Districts must now identify projects and partner with C/O for assistance. (Central Office Update continued)

### Research Update:

A prototype has been developed that will address 2 scenarios: Road Construction Projects where all utilities potentially have to be moved and when utilities want to install facilities in existing R/W. Beta testing for Utility Placement Software is to begin in December.

### CADD Update:

Bill Gerry will present the current status of MicroStation 2004, Version 8.

### Utility User's Guide:

The document is available from the Utilities web site. FDOT has received very little feedback on this document.

### SPAM Filter:

FDOT has adopted a new spam filter. The system is one that learns what is and is not spam. Timely responses may be delayed because of this new system.

## PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Gerry from the FDOT Central Office gave a presentation on FDOT Utility Task Team and the progress made in updating the DOT CADD Standards. See the attached Power Point Presentation.

## COMBINED INTREST GROUP REPORT

The group discussed recent storm activity and what was learned in the aftermath.

Ron Popp with Sprint gave a synopsis of what Sprint went through with Charlie and Jean. His function was to maintain the power via generators for the SLC systems throughout the network. Sprint found that missing street signs and vandalism created major difficulties in their restoration efforts. Ron mentioned that they manned the EOC on a 24 / 7 basis at the Port Charlotte Airport and additionally had a command center in downtown Punta Gorda that was manned on a 24 / 7 for answers that came up throughout the Avon Park District.

Some questions that came up from Ron's synopsis:

Should additional locators be hired to work closely with the disaster command center?

Could a GPS system be used to mark existing sites to make them easier to find?

Were permits waived during restoration?

A. Yes. Both permits and locates were waived.

Jerrold Whitt brought up the DOT's willingness to work with those Utilities whose cleanup efforts kept them from doing business as usual. Jerrold also mentioned that the FDOT went through an assessment of which projects would be affected because of the storms.

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Earl Fair with Clay Electric asked each power entity to talk about their storm cleanups. Clay Electric brought crews in from other states. His workforce doubled in size for restoration. Material was in short supply. Logistics to house and feed the additional crews became a problem. Their goal was to put the poles back in the same holes thereby minimizing the damage to other utilities. Clay Electric's crews also did tree removal from power lines in the ROW to ensure safety.

Vince Montgomery from the Orlando Utilities Commission mentioned that most of the 90% loss of power was due to downed trees. Their biggest challenge was to keep people away from power lines. Approximately 1000 contractors were brought in to help with the cleanup. After the first storm it took approximately 8 days to have power fully restored. They found that wooden poles withstood the storms better. Trees broke though the concrete poles.

Art Gilmore with Progress Energy stated that they turn off their power for flood prone areas during hurricanes. They were hit by 4 storms. After the last storm it took only 4 days to restore service. They had a storm center in which all utilities were housed. They kept the EOC informed of their progress. Progress Energy had a 43 million dollar storm fund. They spent 300 million.

Gary Butler with Lakeland Electric stated that they were hit by all 4 storms as well. They had many problems with fires caused by the electrical problems. They brought in 400 tree trimmers from as far away as Oregon to help. Emergency locates were needed which brought up the need for updated contact lists for other utilities. During their debriefing afterwards, they found that emergency teams such as police and fire departments did not know the difference between power, CATV, and telephone lines. This brought up the need for educating the community.

Arlene Brown with TECO brought up how communication was also a major issue for them. They realized quickly that radios were needed in the field due to cell phone outages. Crews worked 7 days a week. Service was up by the following Sunday. They used incident centers around the area to organize their efforts.

Cheryl Ritter with Sunshine State One Call added that the Sunshine Center was open for extended hours to provide information. She shared that when members of Sunshine declare extraordinary circumstances, as they did during the aftermath of the storms, excavators are not legally required to wait for locates. Instead they are allowed to proceed with caution showing due diligence by locating utilities themselves prior to excavation.

Cheryl also announced that ticket prices have come down 2 cents to 60 cents per ticket. Late notices will now cost 59 cents each.

Jerry Novak, also with Sunshine State One Call announced that the fiscal year ending May 31<sup>st</sup> was up 20% in tickets. Sunshine will be hiring additional employees to help with the increase.

Luis Castellanos with Teco Peoples Gas brought up that he would like to form a natural gas interest group. He requested that the FUCC generate a letter to help him bring awareness to utilities that deal in natural gas, jet fuel, and ammonia.

Bryan Lantz with Verizon requested a workshop on how to identify these types of utilities in the ROW.

Andrew Lund with Witten mentioned that they are starting the Ulmerton Rd project and welcomed visitors to the site. They are also recommending a best practice to the CGA for locating.

At the close of the meeting, discussion took place about the success of the interest groups meeting jointly and it was recommended that we try to do it at least once a year.

# Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee – Fall Meeting 2004

## STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee met on Wednesday afternoon, late to review the work of the various sub-committees.

1. There is still a problem in accessing the web site to make reservations and payment of fees. The existing web site is not user friendly in all cases. Prepayment using the current method is getting to be time consuming. Jan Ash has discovered a service "ACTEVA.COM" which will process our reservations, notify the Committee chairs, and bill an individuals or corporate credit card, forwarded a payment in the form of a single payment to the Treasurer. The site is secure. The user enters all of the data, so most of the responsibility is upon the user, ACTEVA issues a conformation and designates a reservations number for each item registered. The user is sent an electronic receipt and the FUCC received a written conformation of the reservations. The initial use of this system has the potential of saving FUCC \$500.00 a year. It will also eliminate the need to purchase or rent a credit card machine, and save the Treasure time in processing invoices and receipts. If a person decided to cancel, this must be made one week before the next meeting date.
2. FUCC needs to consider forming a Gas Industry Sub-Committee. The natural gas transmission and distributions system should have better representation at FUCC.
3. FUCC needs to consider a Damage Prevention Sub-Committee. It goes without saying that a Damage Prevention Sub-Committee could work hand in hand with Sunshine State One Call for the betterment of all Utility Agencies and Owners. Educations to the contractors and general public will go a long way in damage avoidance.
4. It was suggested that FUCC revisit the idea of establishment of Utility Corridors within the FDOT's R/W. We also need to revisit the Best Use Practice of R/W.
5. The FUCC should contact US Water Service, the Association of Underground Contractors, and General Contractors regarding their participations at the FUCC meeting.
6. The Meeting dates and locations for 2005 are confirmed. There was a suggestion that the next Annual Banquet have a Country – Western Theme.

### UAM STANDARDS REVIEW

No Report

### E-BUSINESS / WEB PAGE

Sharon Luginsland was not able to attend the Steering Committee Meeting, but did ask Kim Wiley to share some information with the group regarding E-Business. Sharon made a change to the Meeting Registration page of the site that should enable everyone to Pre-Register Online, even FDOT folks. The form goes through a form processing site, once the user hits the submit button. The user automatically sees a confirmation page of the information they've just submitted. Because this is a free service, there is an advertisement included in the confirmation page, which results in the user having to scroll down to the bottom of the page to review their submitted information. However, at the top of the page it does indicate that their Registration for FUCC was successful. That way, there is no confusion about what the page is about. The "fox" eliminates the registration form from accessing the user's email to send the registration out. This is what was happening with the previous form. Because it does not access the user's email, there should not be any firewall issues. I encourage all to try this out and report any issues back to me. As always, Sharon is totally open to comments/suggestions to improve the FUCC website.

On a side note, Sharon was not able to make the steering committee meeting because it was being held on Wednesday night as opposed to the traditional Thursday. Her understanding of the meeting being held on Thursday was to provide a forum for each Interest group Chair, Subcommittee Chair, etc. to bring issues to the floor that have come up in the break-out sessions. Her concern is the lag time in the ability to address issues, which could dilute the ability of the FUCC to make positive changes in the industry.



## Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee – Fall Meeting 2004

### **MEMBERSHIP**

No Report

### **DESIGN TICKET**

No Report

### **CONFERENCE PLANNING**

No Report

### **AWARD COMMITTEE**

No Report

### **INDUSTRY UPDATES**

The Secretary requests that all corrections and additions be sent via E-mail to her before the close of Business on January 21, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly S. Wiley

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