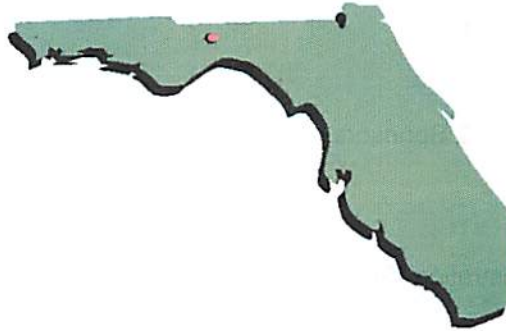


**Established 1932**



## **Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee**

Coordination Through  
Cooperation

See the latest FDOT / Utility Issues on  
our web site: [Hhttp://www.fucc.org](http://www.fucc.org)

E Group: [FUCC@callsunshine.com](mailto:FUCC@callsunshine.com)

### **FALL MEETING MINUTES**

Cocoa Beach, Florida, December 7, thru December 9, 2005

**Chairman**  
John Murphy  
407-423-8398

**Vice Chairman**  
Vincent Montgomery  
407-384-4172

**Secretary**  
Ron Popp  
239-336-2162

**Historian**  
Tom Dugger  
850-599-1543

Chairman John Murphy called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M. He gave his opening remarks that were followed by Vincent Montgomery's Invocation and Tribute to the flag. Self-introductions of those in attendance found 45 at this Business Meeting.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Ron Popp reported that the minutes from the Marco Island meeting are currently posted on the web site. Copies will be mailed to the membership next week. Several copies of the minutes were available for those who did not have access to the web.

A motion was made by Vinnie LaVallette and second by Cheryl Ritter to waive the reading of the Secretary's Minutes. They were approved as written and will be posted on the web site. The group was reminded of the E-mail Group for the FUCC. To become a member of the group you should send an E-Mail to [FUCC@callsunshine.com](mailto:FUCC@callsunshine.com). In the subject line, type the word: subscribe, you will automatically be added to the group and will be receiving all future electronic mail outs. The FUCC web site is up and running at the old address: <http://www.fucc.org>.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**TREASURER'S REPORT –Vinnie LaVallette, Treasurer No Report Available**

<b>Beginning Balance</b>		\$
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Pre-Registration	\$	
On-Site Registration & Sponsors	\$	\$
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Incorporation Registration (State of Florida)	\$	
ACTEVA Fees	\$	
May Meeting	\$	
SSOCOF Golf Sponsorship	\$	
Hospitality	\$	
Door Prizes	\$	
Gratuity	\$	
Meeting Planner Fee	\$	
Annual Banquet	\$	\$

**Un-audited Balance**

It is very important to the FUCC that everyone register via ACTEVA. Search word is "FUCC." When you reach the site, there will be four selections. If you have prepaid, please use the appropriate selection, there is No Charge, only the registration. With this electronic registrations, the Committee can plan for the meals and breaks at each meeting.

ACTEVA will allow FUCC to conduct a survey by posting three questions regarding the Registrations Fees. The last increase in Registration Fees was in 1999. Please respond to our survey, which will assist in the continued development of the FUCC to better serve the members. All questions must be answered during the registration for the November Meeting.

1. IF we need to raise the Registration, what is an acceptable meeting fee?
2. What are the least important food and beverage benefit?
3. What can we do to improve our meeting?

**HISTORIAN'S REPORT – Tom Dugger No Report**

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT REPORTS**

**District One – Walter Childs District Utility Administrator**

District One had their District meeting last March in Sarasota. They had approximately 80 people in attendance.

Their key note speaker was Valerie Touter. She gave a presentation on partnering.

**District Two – Bobby Ellis- No Report**

**District Three – No Report**

**District Four – Rocky DePrimo, District Utility Administrator**

District 4 continues to mail a monthly status report on all projects to the utilities within the district. All final plans are sent to the utilities on CD's.

Beginning in 2006, the District 4 Utility Office's information will be on the web. The district will work with any utility that has the capability of transferring plans electronically during the production cycle.

**District Five – Gary Bass, District Utility/Value Engineering Administrator-**

The District is currently meeting and working on a location and date for the 2006 Utility Liaison Conference. They are looking in Mid-Spring 2006.

**District Six – No Report**

**District Seven – Sally Prescott**

District Seven had it's Utility Liaison Conference in September and presented SECO'S electronic data base.

John Kubler presented on his revamped utility process which emphasized expectations of the UAO's:

- Phase I Greenlines
- Phase II Red, Green, Browns
- Phase III Relocation Schedules and Agents And Clarification on previous markups. \*

Dwayne Kide spoke on LAP project changes and work program update. (Federal Scrutiny)

\* Agreements need to be based on Engineers Estimates rather than "ball park" figures, so they will be done later in the projects phase.

**TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE DISTRICT – James G. Kervin, Turnpike Utility Engineer**

*Below is an update of some of the major projects under development at the Turnpike Enterprise.*

**Canal Protection Systems:** These projects will install a combination of guardrail and cable systems in areas where canals are in close proximity to the travel lanes within Palm Beach, St. Lucie and Dade Counties. Final design is underway and letting is scheduled for April 2006.

**Dade County**

**FPID 406096-1:** This project will widen the HEFT to 8 lanes between 117<sup>th</sup> and Kendall Drive plus 2 auxiliary lanes around the SR 874 Interchange. Preliminary design is underway and is scheduled for letting in February 2008.

**FPID 415462-2:** This project will relocate the existing Golden Glades Mainline Toll Plaza to the north at the Miami Gardens Drive overpass and will provide express lanes for SunPass users. Extensive utility relocations will be required including the FGT gas lines. Preliminary design is underway with a letting scheduled for January 2008.

**FPID 415905-1:** This project will convert the existing Okeechobee Mainline Toll Plaza to both cash lanes and SunPass express lanes. Utility services to the Mainline Toll Plaza will require relocation and upgrading. An interchange at NW 74<sup>th</sup> Street will be added in cooperation with Miami-Dade County and District 6. Phase III plans are complete and the letting is scheduled for May 2006.

**Broward County**

**FPID 406094-1 and 406097-1:** These projects will widen the Turnpike from 6 to 8 and 10 lanes in Broward County. These two projects will be for southbound widening only. Both projects will take three years to construct. These projects were let in June with construction scheduled to begin the first of the year. Design of the northbound widening is scheduled to begin next year.

**FPID 406095-1 and 406095-4:** These two projects will widen the Turnpike mainline from 6 to 8 lanes from the HEFT to Griffin Road (approximately 7 miles in length) Extensive utility relocations will be required including the FGT gas lines. Phase III plans are due in December.

**FPID 406147-1:** This project is a Design-Build to widen the Sawgrass Expressway between Atlantic Ave and Coral Ridge Dr. from 4 lanes to 6 lanes. The project has been let and construction is scheduled to be completed by March 2008.

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

**FPID 406153-1:** This project is a Design-Build to widen the Sawgrass Expressway from 4 to 6 lanes between Coral Ridge Drive to the Turnpike Mainline. Construction is underway.

**Palm Beach County**

**FPID 232074-1:** This project is a new interchange with SR 710 and the Turnpike Mainline in Palm Beach County. Construction is underway and scheduled for completion in February 2006.

**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 is underway. The project also includes modifications to the Atlantic Avenue Interchange.

**FPID 406112-1:** This project will add a new interchange at Jog Road and the Turnpike Mainline in Palm Beach County. The project has been let and construction will start in early 2006.

**Orange County**

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

**FPID 406090-1:** This project is to widen the Beeline Expressway, SR 528, in Orange County from 4 to 6 lanes, a distance of approximately 8 miles, from I-4 to Boggy Creek Road. Phase IV plans are complete and utility coordination is ongoing. Letting is scheduled for June 2006.

**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 SR 528 to L-4. The project is under construction.

**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 completion slated for 2006.

**FPID 406146-1:** This project will widen the Turnpike mainline from 4 to 8 lanes from SR 429 to SR 50 in Orange County. This project is roughly 5 miles in length. Preliminary design is underway with the letting scheduled for March 2008.

**FPID 406148-1:** This project will widen the Turnpike mainline from 4 to 8 lanes from I-4 to SR 429 in Orange County. The project is roughly 8 miles in length. Phase III design is under. Letting is scheduled for March 2007.

**Osceola County**

**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 south St. Cloud better access to the Turnpike. The project has been let and construction will start in early 2006.

**Citrus County**

**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 existing 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. The PD&E is being developed under Federal Highway Administration guidelines.

**CENTRAL OFFICE (C/O)** Kenneth Weldon

New Secretary appointed- Denver Sutler

Key Objective for the FDOT is Safety Improvements.

Appointed- Marianne Trammel Administrator

New State Roadway Design Engineer- David O'Hagan

CO Utilities Objectives for next quarter:

- 1 Complete UAM Rule Update Training for Utilities by January 2006, and for FDOT by March 2006.
- 2 Establish new Business Plan for 2006.
- 3 Develop Video Training for HDD and J&B Noise Walls
- 4 Training will be placed on Web Site

**SUNSHINE STATE ONE CALL CENTER** Cheryl Ritter

The SSOCOF Annual report is now available. The report can be viewed on the [www.callsunshine.com](http://www.callsunshine.com) website. A printed copy of the report can also be ordered from the website. The printed report was provided to the state legislators as required by state statute.

The Common Ground Alliance recently rolled out its Damage Information Reporting Toll (DIRT) and the SSOCOF urges all shareholders to use the system to assist with nationwide and local damage prevention efforts. The goal of DIRT is to reduce damages to underground facilities. An announcement, including a link to the DIRT website, will be emailed to all FUCC members.

The SSOCOF enforcement program has been expanded to include a total of 21 counties. Officers hired by SSOCOF will patrol the county areas and complete courtesy stops at construction sites. Officers are trained to educate excavators during the courtesy stops. They are authorized to issue citations if they find any violations of the one-call law.

As of November 30, 2005, the number of incoming requests for locate tickets has increased 11.24% as compared to last year. Transmission has increased 12.55% and phone calls increased 14.88%. The average answer speed is 24.56 seconds.

SSOCOF continues to promote Internet Ticket Entry as the preferred method to request locate tickets. ITE is 52% of total incoming tickets.

SSOCOF is proposing several legislative changes to Chapter 556. The legislative proposal and a summary of proposed changes will be emailed to all FUCC members. One of the changes approved by the SSOCOP board is a hand dig exemption for excavators. Any excavation of 18 inches or less for locating, repairing, connecting or routine maintenance of a private or public utility facility by an excavator, provided no mechanized equipment is used.

A liaison position with SSOCOF is now available to cover the Florida west coast region. The position was previously held by Jerry Novak. Anyone interested in applying may contact Cheryl Ritter.

## INTEREST GROUP REPORTS

**JOINT USE - Raul Rivera (Sect Mgr-Network Engineering ROW / Joint Use). 813.664.6161 or 813.892.2483 (Cell) 813.664.6054 (Fax); raul.rivera@verizon.com**

Thursday, December 8, 2005  
8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

The Joint Use Subcommittee had 13 attendees representing telecommunications, power, FDOT, and several consulting firms.

### Topic of Discussion:

Our major topic of discussion was how we as an industry can remove unnecessary poles from the right-of-way. It was discussed that every pole, or above ground appurtenance, represents a potential safety hazard to the motoring public, and also to the public at-large. It is for this reason that it would be beneficial to all to remove no longer needed poles and appurtenances. FDOT would like any poles identified to be removed without the necessity of issuing 30-day removal notices.

### Results of Discussion:

Attendees agreed that having unnecessary poles within the right-of-way represents a potential safety hazard. Our success in eliminating unnecessary poles and appurtenances within the right-of-way depends on two central factors; identifying the offending facility and informing the owner of the infraction. The rest would be for the owner of the facility to coordinate the removal of the pole or facility in question.

### Recommendations:

The Joint Use Subcommittee is making the following recommendation to the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee:

1. FUCC/FDOT will write an official letter to pole owners advising them of the problem, and the need to eliminate unnecessary, redundant, or vacated poles within the right-of-way.
2. FDOT to provide a list of vacated poles to the pole owners whenever they are discovered.

FDOT will review applications for new pole placements by performing a field check of the immediate area for existing pole facilities. Applications for placing new poles will not be approved if an alternate attachment to an existing pole can provide a feasible solution. Applications will also not be approved until vacated, redundant, or unnecessary poles in the immediate area have been properly addressed and eliminated.

### POWER INTEREST GROUP: Greg Coker- Chair

1. 24 were in attendance ( 3-FDOT, 18-Electric Utilities, 3-Consultants)

2. Discussion Items:

- A. Removal of Inactive Utility Poles from FDOT RW: Mr. Ken Weldon will soon be making a formal proposal to the FUCC relating to future FDOT Utility Permitting. Prior to approval of future utility permits, FDOT will perform a field review of the site to determine if any abandoned utility poles exist in the immediate vicinity of the proposed work. If FDOT determines that the permittee does have abandoned poles in the area (i.e. within in a block or so....), FDOT will likely make as a condition of the permit a requirement for the permittee to remove these poles from the FDOT r/w.

- B. Utility Work Schedule Special Conditions: Greg Coker shared that FPL & FDOT had discussions in yesterday's meeting with the FDOT DUE's regarding the many commonly used special conditions typically part of UWS's submitted by FPL.. FDOT believes that many of these special conditions can be eliminated since their standard plans specifications notes addresses the issues involved. Both FPL and FDOT agreed to continue their discussions regarding this matter in the future. This issue may also be a topic for a future FUCC sponsored workshop involving all member organizations.
- C. Scenic Resources Subcommittee Presentation: Speaker representing this group made a presentation focused on tree & landscape plantings within FDOT RW limits. General discussion with various comments from the audience followed.
- D. Mast Arm Signalization: This topic continues to be one of great interest. While it was agreed that progress has been made in improving the awareness of FDOT design consultants to the conflicts with existing overhead electric facilities, FDOT agreed to pursue additional training of their consultants in the future.
- E. Power Interest Group Presentation for July'06 FUCC Meeting: Greg Coker asked for input from the group regarding their thoughts on topics of general interest. Our group will be responsible for having a presenter / presentation available for the upcoming Summer FUCC meeting at Marco Island. Greg agreed to pursue the issue further and will report his findings at the Ocala meeting in February.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS:** Robert Lowen- Chair  
Jim Lormann – Co-Chair

- 1. We have established a chair/co-chair format to involve the group leaders over a two-year period. This will allow the co-chair to carry-forward agenda items from the previous year, making less stress in volunteering to participate as the group leader.
- 2. The group has decided to communicate these minutes, as well as workshop information, via e-mail. All attendees added their current electronic addresses to be used by the committees.
- 3. Other Topics Included:

Incentive's for work with no damages  
Marking facilities in accordance with F.S. 556  
UAM & work plans requiring work schedules before 90% phase  
Education Programs for Marco Island: To be discussed with Ash Engineering-Gary Monday

Robert Lowen-	robert.lowen@bellsouth.com
Christopher Pernice	christopher.pernice@bellsouth.com
Shawn E. Berner	shawn.berner@bellsouth.com
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David Summers	william.summers@dot.state.fl.us
Jim Lormann	james.r.lormann@sprint.com

**UNDERGROUND**      Chair      Vinnie LaVallette- TBE Group  
                                 Co-Chair      Lawree Washington – TECO/Peoples Gas

TECO/Peoples Gas shared with the group a situation that they had encountered. They were expanding their system near Jacksonville to provide service to a Power Plant on Route 301. They applied for a DOT permit to place the facility in the ROW. They were told that the route was planned to become LA (Limited Access) ROW in the future but was not yet. The permit application was delayed (almost a year) until it was denied due to the now existent LA ROW.

FDOT stated that the LA ROW plans would be in their long range plans and should have been communicated with TECO/PG. But, it also should have been stated that had the gas company been allowed to install their facilities in the ROW they most likely would have had to remove the facilities when the ROW became LA. The UAM and other sources state that there will be no longitudinal installations within the LA ROW. It can only be done by exception and the utility would have to show just cause to install in that location.

TECO/PG has selected as alternate route and is installing their facilities.

Sunshine State One-Call of Florida (SSOCOF) Update by Mark Sweet and Cheryl Ritter:

Overview of new Amendments to State Statute 556. There are 15-16 proposed amendments to the Statutes. They have hired a lobbyist, Mike Moore formerly with BellSouth. Some highlights of the amendments:

1. Acknowledgement that SSOCOF does not have obligation to mark facilities.
2. Enforcement – reworded the Permitting Agency to read Local Code Enforcement Officer
3. Provision to remove small city exemption (ALL underground owners-except State)
4. Designation call out will be changed to match current ASCE standard levels of A,B,C and D
5. Current language states that ticket must be called in more than 2 days but less than 5 to be valid, new ticket life will be 20-30 days.
6. Enforcement – facilitate positive response, validate electronically
7. Require valid excavation ticket # to be provided to Enforcement Officers
8. Agency responsible for establishing color codes is APWA and also Common Ground Alliance (CGA)
9. Violations – Identified by Code Enforcement Officer, Fine cost (20% clerical, 80% to local agency), Increase time from 10 to 30 days to pay the fine, SSOCOF can elect to appeal legally, Hand dig exemption for members if 18" or less in depth

The Board of Directors has authorized a new ticket management system to help members. Currently in negotiations with AGT. Should be out first quarter of 2006, no cost to members and a value added service. The \$500,000 cost can be absorbed into their current budget.

Design Tickets will continue and are very useful. Will go electronic in the future. Some attendees stated that locates are being done for their Design Tickets. SSOCOF stated that some members have requested that all tickets be forwarded to them and the Design Tickets may get caught up with the actual Locate Tickets. Most Design Tickets do not get forwarded to the UAO (Utility Agency Owner).

National 811 calling system, used to connect to the One-Call center in your State. FCC ordered that the system will be operational 4/13/07. Telecom owners have stated that the cost to them to set up the system will be \$500,000 to \$1 million.

FPSC has asked that:

1. SSOCOF be the acknowledged owner of 811 as of 1/07
2. Telecoms vacate their current use of 811 by 12/30/06
3. The Telecoms switch the connectivity
4. The service be provided without cost to callers

Attendee told the group of a situation they had come across and asked for the group's opinion: Utilities were shown on the plans, the Contractor excavated without calling for locates, a utility ended up in another location from what was shown on the plans and the Contractor damaged the utility. Who is liable for this error?



The group's opinion was that the Contractor was negligent by not calling for a locate, and if the plans showed that a utility was nearby, they should have taken all precautions to make sure it was located and not damaged.

BFO (Buried Fiber Optic) cable was discussed regarding designating. If the fiber has a metallic sheath then there is no problem in getting and following tone. If the fiber is Teflon then a tracer wire must be installed with the cable. Sometimes this tracer wire is offset from the FOC and the designation is done on the tracer and not the FOC. It was stated that the designations done by One-Call providers has a 24" tolerance on either side of the installed facilities.

In times of National Disasters, the State Statutes allows a utility to declare what is called "Extraordinary Circumstances" with SSOCOF and that utility will not have to locate their facilities. There is no time limit on these declarations and they are not done very often and usually do not last for an extended period of time.

The group discussed possible topics for the July Educational Forum at Marco Island, some topics were:

1. DIRT registration
2. New SSOCOF Ticket Management System
3. Extraordinary Circumstances with SSOCOF

Attendees:

Vinnie LaVallette	TBE Group	vivallette@tbegroup.com
Lawree Washington	TECO/Peoples Gas	
Michael Muller	OUC Water	mmuller@ouc.com
Brett Drouin	FDOT – WPB	brett.drouin@dot.state.fl.us
Roy Brantley	FDOT – DeLand	roy.brantley@dot.state.fl.us
Gordon Wheeler	FDOT- CO	Gordon.wheeler@dot.state.fl.us
Walt Childs	FDOT- Bartow	walter.childs@dot.state.fl.us
Jeanna Dean	KCI Technologies	jdean@kci.com
Sandra M. Hagan	FDOT – Bartow	Sandra.hagan@dot.state.fl.us
Joseph E. Sanchez	FGT – Maitland	joseph.e.sanchez@crosscountryenergy.com
Juan J. Lopez	Hillsborough County ROW	lopezj@hillsboroughcounty.org
Shannon Wright	F R Aleman	swright@fr-aleman.com
Jim Kervin	Turnpike	james.kervin@dot.state.fl.us
Rick Lemke	HNTB	riemke@hntb.com
Eric Bruce	PBS&J	edbruce@pbsj.com
Ray Reyburn	Pinellas County PW	nreyburn@co.pinellas.fl.us
Louise Horn	Southeastern Surveying	lhorn@southeasternsurveying.com
Cheryl Ritter	SSOCOF	Cheryl.ritter@mail.callsunshine.com
Carlos Solis	Pinellas County Utilities	csolis@co.pinellas.fl.us
Dietmar Unger	Turnpike	dietmar.unger@dot.state.fl.us
Mark Sweet	SSOCOF	mark.sweet@mail.callsunshine.com
Daniel Checchia	TBE Group	dchecchia@tbegroup.com

#### UTILITY ACCOMMODATIONS MANUAL (UAM)

The extensive session on the UAM covered the changes that are now in effect. When there is a question, the latest version, 2004, is to be referenced.

#### SCENIC RESOURCES –

Karina Veaudry, GAI Consultants, gave a brief overview of the proposed Landscape recommendations to be presented to the membership at the Winter Meeting. This information is to be posted at the web site for additional review.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**STEERING COMMITTEE – No Report**

**E-BUSINESS / WEB PAGE – The Web site is being updated for 2006, by GAI Consultants.**

**MEMBERSHIP – No Report**

### **CONFERENCE PLANNING**

Dennis Labelle reported on some of the programs to be presented at future meetings. It was noted that the Summer meeting is being rescheduled to July, to accommodate those members who has school age children, but want to bring their families to the Summer meeting.

### **AWARD COMMITTEE**

No Report at this time. Just as a reminder, all past recipients of FUCC Awards are the members of the Award Committee

**INDUSTRY UPDATES – No Report**

### **BUSINESS MEETING – PROGRAM PRESENTATION**

The presentation at this meeting was on Lighting Safety and that it can strike twice in the same locations. The key to safety is 30 minutes before the storm and 30 minutes after, lighting is still in the area and a potential problem.

**WINTER MEETING NOTICE:** The Winter meeting will be held at the Ocala Hilton Hotel.

We encourage everyone to register on-line

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 11:00 am, to reconvene on February 3, 2006.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ron Popp, SPRINT-Florida

Secretary, Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee