

Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities
Minutes – November 19, 2025
IRSC, Brown Center for Innovation
Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members attending: Mayor Linda Hudson, Mayor Karen Ostrand, Mayor Robert Gibbons, Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Councilman Ed Dodd, Councilman David Pickett, (alternate for Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo), Councilwoman Shayla Macias, (arrived at 10:45 am), Councilman John Carroll, and Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken

Absent: Commissioner Campbell Rich, Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, Mayor Penny Townsend, Councilman William Dane, Councilwoman Phylliss Waters Brown and Councilman David McAuley.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President, Mayor Linda Hudson at 10:10 a.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: President Hudson led the pledge.

Self-Introduction of Board Members, Alternate Members and Guests President Hudson asked for a self-introduction of members and guests.

Approval of the Agenda: Councilman John Carroll made a motion to approve the agenda, and Councilman Ed Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the Minutes for March 2025
- b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for March and April 2025

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilman Ed Dodd, seconded by Councilman David Pickett. Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

President's Report: Mayor Hudson gave a report on the Executive Committee meeting, where the Executive Committee reviewed Executive Director Christensen's consulting agreement renewal and will make recommendations on renewal later in the meeting. Also discussed was travel to Tallahassee for advocacy efforts during the upcoming Legislative Session. There was also discussion of making a policy for charging for lunches for no shows after given opportunity to cancel prior to the lunch.

Old Business

- a. **Nominating Committee Report:** Councilman Ed Dodd gave his final report on the Nominating Committee and the recommendation of the slate for the 2026 year to remain in place as it was in 2025 with the recommendation as follows:
 - Fort Pierce Mayor, Linda Hudson for President
 - Okeechobee Councilman David McAuley for 2nd Vice President
 - Sewalls Point Commissioner Stuart Mayor Campbell Rich for 1st Vice President
 - Kaija Mayfield for Secretary
 - St. Lucie Village Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken for Treasurer
 - Sebastian Councilman Ed Dodd will remain as Immediate Past President

New Business

- a. **Election of Officers:** At the conclusion of Councilman Dodd's report on the Nominating Committee, a motion to accept the Slate of Officers was made by Councilman John Carroll and Seconded by Mayor Robert Gibbons. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Executive Directors Contract:** As a continuation of the President's Report, Mayor Hudson asked Ex. Director Christensen if she had any comments. Ms. Christensen explained some of the items in more detail regarding her request for an increase in compensation. There was some discussion on whether the increase should be incremental or all at once. Mayor Gibbons commented that the best way is to approve the agreement with the new amount not being incremental.

There was also discussion at creating a transition plan for the time when the Ex. Director retires, with items being added to the Goals and Objectives, including acquiring a phone/dedicated phone number for TCRLC, and begin putting together a document explaining the job and duties throughout the year.

Councilman Dodd made a motion to approve the new Consulting Agreement with the additional compensation and increase for office supplies and the additional Goals and Objectives, seconded by Mayor Gibbons. Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **2026 TCRLC Annual Budget:** The proposed budget for the 2026 Fiscal Year was presented to the Board. Ex. Director Christensen said it did include the additional proposed phone expense and compensation for the Ex. Director's position. A motion was made by Councilman John Carroll to approve the proposed budget, seconded by Council David Pickett. Motion passed unanimously.
- d. **2026 TCRLC Calendar:** Ex. Director Christensen presented the proposed calendar. It does not include a definite date for the July Okeechobee BBQ which will be discussed at an upcoming TCCLG meeting. A date for Ethics Class is still being discussed. A motion to approve the calendar with possible changes was made by Mayor Karen Ostrand and seconded by Councilman John Carroll. Motion passed unanimously.
- e. **Policies and Procedures Amendment:** Mayor Hudson presented the recommended policy to charge meals for anyone who RSVPs to attend and does not make an attempt to cancel within a reasonable time or show up for the event. It was determined that 48 hours was a reasonable time, with reasonable exception for illness. This will be added to the Policies and Procedures Handbook.

Policy Committee Reports

- a. **Development, Code Compliance and Redevelopment** – Mayor Karen Ostrand reported that Affordable Housing and ADU's are the main priority that this committee is discussing.
- b. **Finance and Taxation** – Mayor Linda Hudson reported that this committee hasn't settled on a priority by Property taxes are taking up most of the discussion.
- c. **Intergovernmental Relations, Mobility and Emergency Management** - Councilman David Pickett said that Street Art seems to be an important issue, but that reworking SB 180 is also being discussed.

- d. **Municipal Operations** – No report
- e. **Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works**- No report.

The final meeting is at the Legislative Conference in December and the final policies and priorities will be approved.

New Business

- a. **Nominating Committee Report** – In the absence of Committee Chair Ed Dodd, Councilman John Carroll presented the report and announced the Slate of Officers for the Executive Committee for 2026.

They are:

- Fort Pierce Mayor, Linda Hudson for President
- Okeechobee Councilman David McAuley for 2nd Vice President
- Sewalls Point Commissioner Stuart Mayor Campbell Rich for 1st Vice President
- Kaija Mayfield for Secretary
- St. Lucie Village Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken for Treasurer
- Sebastian Councilman Ed Dodd will remain as Immediate Past President

According to the By-laws, further nominations can be accepted from the floor during the November Board Meeting, and the election will then be held.

City/Town/Village Reports

- Ocean Breeze Mayor Karen Ostrand reported that the election took place and there are two new Council people elected. They are closing on Seawalk.
- Vero Beach Councilman John Carroll reported that a developer agreement for Three Corners Project is complete.
- Sewalls Point Commissioner Kaija Mayfield reported that they received Martin County approval for the Septic to Sewer expansion. There will be an addition 134 homes connected.
- Orchid Mayor Robert Gibbons reported that dune replenishment will continue in January.
- Port St. Lucie Councilman David Pickett announced that Port St. Lucie will be having a soccer stadium constructed.
- St. Lucie Village Alderwoman, Ingrid Van Hekkin state Phase 1 of the sewer project on the north end of the village will begin soon. Some residents on Indian River Dr. won't give the necessary right of way.
- Fort Pierce Mayor Hudson reported that an attendee at their Commission Meeting was arrested for his unruliness at the meeting. They will be hiring a new Police Chief soon.

Committee Reports

Florida League of Cities- Mayor Rich, District 9 Representative – No report

Florida Municipal Insurance Trust- Mayor Hudson -No report.

Florida League of Mayors – Mayor Ostrand reported that Mayor Hudson is now a member.

Treasure Coast Council of Local Governments- Councilman Pickett report that Allison Payne from FLC gave a legislative update.

Indian River Lagoon Council – Mayor Rich – No report.

Executive Director Report – Exec. Director Christensen reminded everyone that Legislative Action Days registration would be opening up soon. She also reminded everyone of the Holiday Installation Lunch with RSVPs required. FLC President Holly Smith is the speaker and will install the officers.

Associate Member Reports

No reports

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:45 am.

Submitted by,

Kaija Mayfield
Secretary