



FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION OF FLORIDA

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Board
of Directors
June 5, 2018
2 - 4 pm
Teleconference**

Members in Attendance:

Mr. Richard A. Corbett, Chair; Mr. Jack Curlett, Vice Chair; Mr. Paul Avery; Mr. Doug Cone; Mr. Preston Fariior; Mr. Tucker Frederickson; Mr. Seth McKeel; Mr. Jerry Pate; Mr. Bruce Popham; Ms. Laura Russell; Mrs. Daphne Wood

Members Not in Attendance:

Mr. Carlos Alfonso, 2nd Vice Chair; Mrs. Connie Parker, Secretary; Mrs. Kathy Barco, Treasurer; Dr. Tracy Baker; Mr. Rodney Barreto; Mr. Ignacio Borbolla; Mr. Steve Crisafulli; Mr. John Pope; Mrs. Donna Rawson; Mr. Eric Sutton, FWC Executive Director; Mr. Stephen W. Swindal

Guests & Advisors in Attendance:

Mr. Doc Kokol, FWC Liaison to the Foundation

Staff in Attendance:

Mr. Andrew Walker; Mr. Will Bradford; Mrs. Breanne Strepina, Mrs. Erin Smart

I. Call to Order – Mr. Richard A. Corbett, Chair

Chairman Corbett called the teleconference meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. with a roll call establishing quorum. He welcomed the three new Board Members, Mr. Paul Avery, Mr. Jerry Pate and Ms. Laura Russell. Each spoke to their enthusiasm for the outdoors and for serving as members of the Board.

II. Consent Agenda

Minutes: The minutes of the April 24, 2018 Board Meeting were presented. Mrs. Daphne Wood made a motion for approval with two small corrections, seconded by Mr. Doug Cone. Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Wood praised Mr. Walker and staff for the quality of the minutes.

III. Finance & Audit – Will Bradford, Chief Financial Officer

Auditor for FY2018: Mr. Bradford requested the Board's approval to use Lanigan & Associates for the Fiscal Year 2018 audit. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Pate, seconded by Vice Chair Jack Curlett. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget: Mr. Bradford presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2019

budget to the Board. The Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the proposed budget at its May 22, 2018 meeting and recommended it for Board approval. The budget projects an operating surplus of ~\$26,000 and a net increase in program funds of \$2.6 million (\$10.9 million in revenue minus \$8.3 million in total expense). We expect to award \$5.0 million in grants in support of FWC and other conservation partners. This includes raising \$1 million in charitable gifts and pledges for EYCC and other FWC priorities.

Mr. Walker took this opportunity to revisit the Board's December 2017 question as to what position should be filled next, based on the anticipated return on such an investment. The budget correspondingly includes the mid-year (~Jan. 2019) hiring of a gifts officer/grant writer specializing in grants from foundations; this person would also track and administer the grants we receive, ensuring that interim reports and final reports to our funders are delivered on time. Mr. Walker said he and Mr. Bradford planned to wait to see how our finances look at mid-year before greenlighting this position.

Mr. Corbett commended Mr. Bradford on the clarity of the budget and thanked him for his hard work creating it. Motion for approval made by Mr. Doug Cone, seconded, and carried unanimously.

IV. FWC Update – Mr. Doc Kokol, FWC's Liaison to the Foundation

Mr. Kokol spoke about the 2018 FWC Summer Camp programs and the progress being made in Florida on its portion of the national R3 "retain, recruit and reactivate" program to increase the rolls of hunters, which have fallen sharply nationwide over the past decade. Funds from the Foundation's deer specialty license plate can and are being used to fund programs to introduce children and adults to shooting sports and hunting.

V. BlueGreen 2018 – Mr. Preston Farris, BlueGreen 2018 co-chair

Mr. Farris updated the Board on BlueGreen. He reported \$105,000 has been raised through June 1st, including a \$50,000 pledge from the Miami Dolphins Foundation in honor of Rodney Barreto, \$25,000 from Mosaic procured by Mr. Seth McKeel, \$10,000 from the Everglades Foundation, and \$5,000 from John Lacy/The Lacy Group. "Black Tie and Blue Jeans" will again be this year's attire. Tickets will go on sale in August, and preregistration is open now at bluegreen2018.org. The silent auction will begin online on October 6th. Thanks to efforts by Mr. Corbett, Mr. John Pope and Ms. Connie Parker, Bass Pro Shops Founder and CEO Johnny Morris has agreed to be our guest of honor and keynote speaker. Mrs. Wood, on behalf of herself and her husband Martin, announced their intent to make a new \$100,000 gift for the Florida Youth Conservation Network, which makes them a Diamond Sponsor of BlueGreen 2018.

Potential Sponsors Lunch – Mr. Farris told the Board of the June 13, 2018 lunch to be hosted at the Capital Grille in Tampa for new potential sponsors of BlueGreen 2018. Mr. Eric Sutton, Col. Curtis Brown of FWC law enforcement and Mr. Gil McRae, director of FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, plan to attend.

VI. Palm Beach County Projects – Mr. Walker et al.

Mr. Walker reported on the Foundation's ongoing efforts in Palm Beach County. Mr. Frederickson, Ms. Russell, Mr. Lacy and Mr. Walker have been reaching out to local officials and businesses on the following issues:

- a. Paving Seminole Pratt Whitney Road: Approximately two miles of Seminole Pratt

Whitney Road remains unpaved and subject to serious deterioration from frequent traffic and rain. We have met with Palm Beach County Commissioner Hal Valeche, the South Florida Water Management District and the PB County Real Estate Department to advocate for paving this last section of road out to the Palm Beach Shooting Sports Park and Everglades Youth Conservation Camp.

- b. Palm Beach Shooting Sports Park: Mr. Walker reported that we have been meeting with Discover the Palm Beaches, Inc., the PB Tourism Development Council and the Sports Commission of Palm Beach to advocate for TDC funds to build the Shooting Sports Park’s planned clubhouse, originally estimated by FWC in 2016 at \$3 million. A formal request for TDC funding will be submitted this summer.
- c. Everglades Youth Conservation Camp: Construction costs for the ten 24-person cabin/lodges ballooned from the \$250,000/lodge estimate FWC received two years ago to \$524,000/lodge in the February bids that Ms. Rae Waddell received. Ms. Waddell was able to bring the cost down to ~\$495,000 and Glidden Spina Architects in West Palm Beach at Mr. Lacy’s request is reviewing the design for possible cost savings and is sharing the bid documents with five of the builders with whom they often work. Ms. Parker has identified a prefab construction company that specializes in cabins, with which Andy is in touch. We’ve also shared the plans with BK Cypress, a Florida-based log cabin construction company. Mrs. Wood cautioned about using even cypress wood in the wet conditions of South Florida.

VII. New Business

Specialty License Plates: Mr. Walker reported on his recent meeting with Scott Nichols of Fish Florida, which manages the billfish specialty license plate, at Mr. Barreto’s suggestion. We will continue building a relationship with Fish Florida and look for ways to make joint grants in support of youth fishing programs.

Suncoast YCC Scholarships & School Field Trips Grant: Our proposal to the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay for \$22,000 to fund camp scholarships and buses and substitute teachers for school field trips was approved in full and is being received in time to apply the funds to the 2018 SYCC summer camp program (its second) and the 2018 – 2019 school year.

VIII. Upcoming Events and Meetings

- a. The BlueGreen Prospective Sponsor Lunch is scheduled for June 13, 2018 in Tampa.
- b. The next in-person Board meeting will be held at the Gilchrist Club on Sunday and Monday, September 23-24, 2018.

There being no further business, Chairman Corbett adjourned the meeting at 2:58pm ET.

Mr. Richard Corbett, Chair

Date

Mr. Andrew Walker, CEO

Date