



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 12/15/23, Deerfield

The following members were in attendance:

Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade County	President
Phil Wotton	Delray Beach	Treasurer
A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Ian Montgela	Martin County	VP Central
Gerry Falconer	Miami Beach	VP South
Andy Ethridge	Volusia County	
Andrew Ritchie	St. Lucie County	
Tom Fogan	FT. Lauderdale (Retired)	
Jo Wagenhals	Pompano Beach	
Jay Moyles	Manatee County (Retired)	
Mike Brown	Deerfield Beach	
James Kehl	Pompano Beach (Retired) One of the original Chiefs.	
Marc Fichtner	Lantana Beach	
Mike Huck	Dania Beach	
Alex Bagwell	Fort Lauderdale	
Clint Tracy	Boca Raton	
Jessica Earl	St. Johns County	
Bob Maler	Miami-Dade (Retired)	

The following members were in attendance on Zoom:

Austin Turnbull	Navarre Beach	VP Pan Handle
Chet Brown	Manatee County	
Richard Hinkson	Sarasota	
Jim McCrady	Hallandale Beach	
Jason Casanova	Miami Beach	

The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by Matt Sparling at 1107 hours. Welcome and thanks to everyone for joining.

Motion made to approve minutes from November meeting made by A.J Miller, seconded by Gerry Falconer.

Bob Maler- Thanking everyone for attending. Read announcement from induction of FBPCA (40-year anniversary)



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Communications

- Sparling was asked to make a position statement in reference to Project Drown Zero.
 - Town of India Atlantic. Reference Drown Zero (rescue rings being put out instead of lifeguards.) Stems from billing issues. Also sent position statement from USLA. Discussion during New Business.
 - Bob Maler requested discussion be tabled.
- Comments of guidelines being placed for members representing FBPCA
- Rob Wallace, retired Volusia, will be paddling a surfski from the Florida/Georgia line down around the state to raise money and awareness for America's Mighty Warriors. An organization that supplements the medical bills of military vets that suffered traumatic brain injuries during service.

Officer Reports

Matt Sparling President-

- Grant update
 - 25,000 for beach warning flags
 - 71k for billboards. Matched by Ron Jon-168000
 - Flags will be purchased in January. Passed out in April meeting at Water Safety
 - Billboard campaign from 1 month to 3 months
 - 1 year round east from Orlando
 - Baggage claim being done in the month of May again
 - Corporation wants to get involved in training (Officer Training Academy, PWC class in Pan Handle and Pompano)
 - Movies theatres got approved
 - Sponsoring lifeguard tournament in Brevard with prize money
 - Over 3 million educated since last year with program
- Banquet tentative to May 17- 18
- Tentative schedule discussed
 - March set for Zoom. Open for in person submittals. Tentative St. Johns in August

Miami-Dade-

- Negotiations are ongoing. Looking at 18% to stay on par with fire department but fire just went up to 23%

Joe Westerman Advisor – Manatee County (Retired)

- Commended Sparling on the grant money procurement and his opposition statement to Project Drown Zero



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Phil Wotton Treasurer:

- Statement Balance November 30, 2023, \$2,059.26
 - November Expenses Marsh Landing
\$128.25
 - November Income

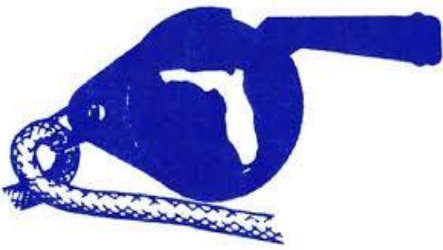
City of Delray Beach, Memberships	\$200
Destin Fire Control District, Membership	\$125
Miami Beach, Membership	\$125
St Lucie County, Membership	\$125
City of Boynton Beach	\$125
Indian River BOCC	\$125

- December Income
 - Martin County BOCC \$125
 - John's Island Club \$125
 - Volusia County \$125
 - St. John's County \$125
 - USLA SER \$1,000
 - Paragon Marine \$250
 - Gerry Falconer \$100
 - Joe Westerman \$25
 - Jay Moyles \$25

- **Banquet Outstanding Bill**
 - **Florida Open Water**
- Memberships for 2024 – Memberships are coming in for 2024.
- Operational Hours Spreadsheet – Presently being circulated for completion.
- The Salary Survey Spreadsheet - Presently being circulated for completion.

Delray Beach-

- One vacant full-time position. Position to be filled from in-house.
- Three part-time vacancies. Considering leaving them vacant to convert to full time position in October.
- Returned to Standard Time Schedule on Sunday November 5th.
- 92' Viking broke down and came ashore in rough conditions. Three occupants on board.
- The contract has been approved for Delray. 2023 8%, 2024 3%, 2025 3%. EMT \$4.50 per hour & pensionable. PRWC increase to \$1.00 per hour. PRWC Instructor \$1.00 per hour. Waiting for confirmation from HR on Part Time impacts.



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

- Sick time sell back policy. Allows employees to sell back up to 80 hours of sick time.
- Attended Dave Lill's funeral service.

A.J. Miller: Secretary –

- Was elected Southeast Regional Secretary for 24-25

SOUTH

Gerry Falconer: Miami Beach VP South

- Hopes the wind calms down this weekend for Jets/Dolphins game
- Beaches are getting battered.
- Moving lifeguard stands
- Every event possible is coming to Miami
- Orange bowl is the next big event
- Grant for 24 AEDs successfully purchased and trained on
- Last year of contract, expires September 30
- Able transition PTE into FTE
- Established Hazardous pay

Jason Casanova: Miami Beach –

- Events growing larger every year
- Grant for AEDs is from Striker. They will go to supervisors
- Looking at getting LUCAS device
- 7-mile reef structure starting next year, hoping it will bring more lifeguards

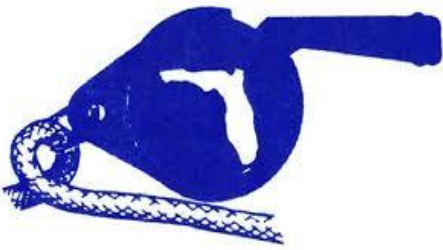
Marcos Fernandez: City of Miami (not Miami Beach) – Not in Attendance

Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale-

- Safety issue for prones to race Bergman
- 3 Bosch lifeguard towers with storage for skis
- 5-year contract replacing two a year
- 10 new hires going through EMR
- All FTE full

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach –

- Fully staffed
- Just got a raise for PTE
- Working on EMT pay raise from 2.5 to 5
- Looking to go to 4 10s after clocks change



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

- Sand renourishment project washing away. 50-70 yards of sand previously in front of towers, now gone
- Gene Bergman 10-mile row, surfski, and paddle will now be the row and surfski due to safety issues with the paddleboards and the inlet
- Sending an email looking for paddleboard series dates in January
- 2-mile race at 0730 in the morning with 6 different divisions

Ramo Cline: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance

Mike Huck: Dania Beach –

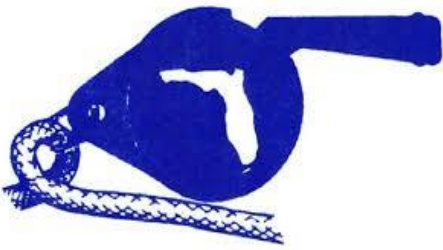
- January 1st for Hangover Helper paddle
- Dealing with erosion, just pulled a tower of last Saturday. Must done with a crane
- Trying to convert PTE to FTE

Jo Wagenhals: Pompano/Deerfield

- She reports to 9 battalion chiefs that do not understand the scope of beach safety
- Went from 10 hour shifts for 7 months, now advised on 8 hour shifts for entire year
- VAC accruals have now changed with 8s to accrue 3 less weeks a year, working on rectifying the issue

Mike Brown: Deerfield

- Captain Phil Dibello retired
 - Will be able to hire from within
 - Posted in the new year
- Attempting to negotiate eliminating 8 “will call” positions to 4 FTE
- Has placed on budget considerations for past 5 years
- Mayor bumped every pay level up one grade
- Working on EMT incentives
- 3-4 “will call” positions open but will not fill in hopes of FTE conversion
- Old Tower 9 is about to fall into the ocean
- New lifeguard towers being built. Cost of 160K pre-covid, now 211k
 - 5 towers in production
- Adding new tower on the north to unguarded areas
- Has great crew currently working
 - Here for the profession not just a stepping stone
- Department now falls under Public Protection
- Starting the process of public safety master plan of structures for entire city (fire, police and ocean rescue)



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Tom Fogan: Fort Lauderdale – Nothing to discuss

Luis Andrade: – Miami-Dade County – Not in Attendance

CENTRAL

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Nothing to discuss

Phil Wotton: Delray Beach – Gave Report under Treasurers report.

Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance

Ian Montgelas: Martin County – Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Andy Ritchie: St. Lucie County – Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Johnathan Billings: Indian River County – Not in Attendance

Nathan Rieck: Vero Beach – Not in Attendance

Ken Keaton: John's Island - Not in Attendance

Mark Fitchner: Lantana Beach- Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Helena Khoshnevis: Breakers – Not in Attendance

North

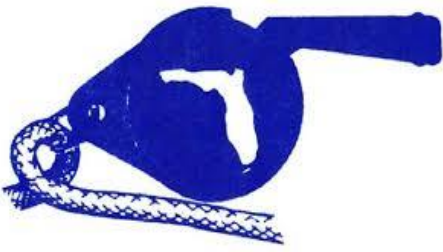
Jeremy Watkins: St. Johns County VP North–

Stephen Fender: Brevard County – Not in Attendance

Andrew Ethridge: Volusia County – Not in Attendance

Aaron Jenkins: Volusia County-Not in Attendance

Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance

Sam Swor: Brevard County- Not in Attendance

Panhandle

Will Spivey: Panama City Beach VP Panhandle – Not in Attendance

Joe DAgostino: Destin Beach – Not in Attendance

Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance

David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District – Not in Attendance

Austin Turnbull: Navarre/Orange Beach/Pensacola/Okaloosa/Destin/South Fort Walton/Panama City Beach– Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Dave Greenwood: Pensacola – Not in Attendance

Joe Earl: Gulf Shores- Not in Attendance

Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach- Not in Attendance

Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance

Colin Perlaky: South Fort Walton- Not in Attendance

West Coast

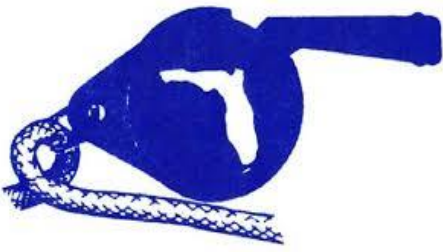
Rick Hinkson: Sarasota County – Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach – Not in Attendance

Chet Brown: Manatee County – Waived update for time constraints due to voting

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance

DISPOSITION OF BILLS



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

No new items

USLA Update

- Time reserved for voting

New Business

Beach Patrol of the Year

- Lantana Beach, presentation by Marc Fictner
- Ft. Lauderdale, presentation by Alex Bagwell
- Pompano Beach, presentation by Jo Wags
- Volusia County, presentation by Ethridge
- Navarre Beach, presentation by Austin Turnbull
- Delray Beach, presentation by Phil Wotton

WINNER Volusia County

Lifeguard of the Year

- Pompano Beach, Thierry Lirola, presentation by Jo Wags
- Delray Beach, Justin Cattan, presentation by Phil Wotton
- Fort Lauderdale, Terry Randolph Jr., presentation by Alex Bagwell

WINNER Terry Randolph Jr.

Heroic Acts

Martin County Sam Mohony, presentation by Ian Montgelas

Voted to approve Sam Mahoney

Meritorious Acts

Volusia County, presentation by Andrew Ethridge

Miami-Dade County, presentation by Matthew Sparling

Martin County, presentation by Ian Montgelas

WINNER Miami-Dade

Lifetime Achievement

Matt Sparling recommended Julia Leo and Joe Westerman, seconded by Gerry Falconer

Both voted and passed

Billboard Update –

- See President's Report



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Banquet Update-

- No updates

Need Submit/Discuss Disposition of Goals 2024 (if time allows)

~~FBPCA Coins are still available to be purchased~~

Here is a DRAFT Schedule for 2024 – If anyone would like to host a meeting let us know.

2024 Meeting Schedule	
January 19	13731 Collins Ave Miami Beach, FL 33154
February 6 th @ 9am (BPOTY Presentation)	123 W. Indiana Ave, DeLand, FL 32720 Meeting to Follow 515 S. Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Meeting to follow at Beach HQ	
March 13th 11-2	Zoom
April 19th 11-2	Water Safety Products – Palm Bay
May 17 th and May 18th	Orlando --- 2023 Lifesaving Awards Banquet & Educational Conference
June 14 th 11-2	Martin County
July TBD	Regional Competition location
August 14 th 11-2	Zoom
September* 13	Lantana
October 18th 11-2	Panama City Beach
November 15 th 11-2	Marsh Landing
December 13 th 11-2**	Deerfield Beach

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn A.J. Miller, seconded by Joe Westerman
1407

Next meeting

13731 Collins Ave
Miami Beach, FL 33154

When: Jan 19, 2024 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tjwvdumspjwrHNHXuSe1-1QHhu8Xd-HQejdH>