



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 11/15/23, Fellsmere

The following members were in attendance:

Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade County	President
Phil Wotton	Delray Beach	Treasurer
A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Ian Montgelas	Martin County	VP Central
Jim McCrady	Hallandale Beach	
Derek Swor	Brevard County	
Chet Brown	Manatee County	
Andrew Ritchie	St. Lucie County	
Tom Fogan	FT. Lauderdale (Retired)	
Jo Wagenhals	Pompano Beach	
John Frazier	Indian River (Retired)	

The following members were in attendance on Zoom:

Austin Turnbull	Navarre Beach	VP Pan Handle
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The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:

Breck Ballou	FT. Lauderdale (Retired) (Zoom)
Bob Maler	Miami-Dade (Retired) (Zoom)

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

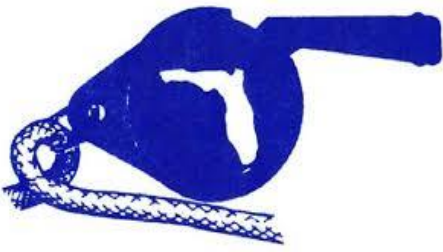
Meeting called to order by Matt Sparling at 1123 hours. Welcome and thanks to everyone for joining.

Corrections to October minutes made. (Email Ajmillier@volusia.org for corrections)

Motion made to approve minutes from September meeting made by A.J Miller, seconded by Matt Sparling.

Communications

- Westerman unable to attend due to family emergency
- Alex Bagwell unable to attend, has new tower being delivered
- Don May unable to attend, previously scheduled appointment
- Jonathon Billings- out of town
- These agencies have submitted for BPOTY
 - Lantana, Delray, Navarre, Pompano, Ft. Lauderdale, Volusia
- Submittals for LGOTY being sent out. Voting at Deerfield Meeting December 15th



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Officer Reports

Matt Sparling President-

- Proposed meeting locations for 2024
 - January meeting hosted by BPOTY.
 - February Lanatana
 - March Zoom
 - April Water Safety Products
 - May Orlando
 - June Martin County
 - July
 - August
 - September Miami Dade
 - October Panama City
 - November Marsh Landing
 - December

Miami-Dade-

- Swim test. 108. 36 had right certs. 9 passed
- 3,3,4% cola
- 6 FTE vacancies

Joe Westerman Advisor – Unable to Attend

Phil Wotton Treasurer: Statement Balance October 31, 2023, \$1,362.51

- October Expenses N/A
- October Income N/A
- November Income City of Delray Beach, Memberships \$200
 Destin Fire Control District, Membership \$125
 Miami Beach, Membership \$125
 St Lucie County, Membership \$125

- Banquet Outstanding **Paragon Marine**
 Florida Open Water
 USLA SER

- Memberships for 2024 are starting to come in.
- Operational Hours Spreadsheet – Presently being circulated for completion.
- The Salary Survey Spreadsheet for FY24 will be sent out next week.



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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.
- 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 –

- Working with Jo Wags on email list

Volusia County-

- Bid approved for 6 new ATVS
- New Community Relations Officer/JR Coordinator promoted
- Getting ready to break ground on concrete control tower
- Looking at Watch Tower for new reporting system
- Entering a bid for Regionals '24

SOUTH

Gerry Falconer: Miami Beach VP South – Unable to Attend

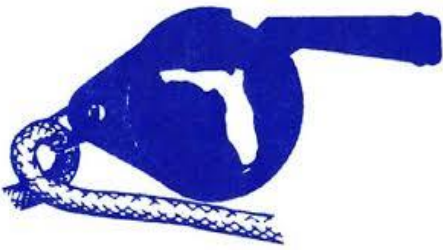
Jason Casanova: Miami Beach – Not in Attendance

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

Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale- Unable to Attend

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach –

- Back to full staff
- 4 FTE
- 20 seasonal
- PTE making \$25 with weekend differential
- Purchased CanAm ATVs. Wearing better than Polaris or Hondas have in the past



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Ramo Cline: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance

Mike Huck: Dania Beach –

- Working on transitioning PTE to FTE
- Working on getting HR to understand their position and why the job description is listed as it is.
- Wants to differentiate between PT and FT
 - Certifications listed different

Jo Wagenhals: Pompano/Deerfield

- Waiting to get into HQ Still
- Second floor is big meeting space
- Looking to put together video on tower security
- Test today. Big surf. 1 PTE passed swim, needs to come back for rescue
- 5 applicants, one showed up
- 2 FTE vacancies
- 2 out on injury

Deerfield

- Most of the towers completed.
 - Drop deck on the front.
 - Modeled off Tower 8.
 - Looks to have space under for ATV/storage

Tom Fogan: Fort Lauderdale – Nothing to discuss

Mike Brown: Deerfield Beach – Not in Attendance

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

CENTRAL

Chet Brown: Manatee County-

- Fully staffed
- Requesting 4 new FTE. Will be supervisory positions
- Recently asked to oversee Marine Response Team

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in attendance

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

Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance



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Ian Montgelas: Martin County –

- 1 FTE short
- Swim test and interviews today. 1 cancel and 1 no show
- Fire Rescue job opening for Martin County. 4 lifeguards have applied
- Ongoing tower projects with Paragon Marine
- Looking at starting Ocean Rescue Cadet program for recruiting purposes. 15 and 16 year-olds coming out and shadowing staff. At 18, sent through EMT school
- New rescue boards and side by side
- Starting contract negotiations next month
- Received checks

Andy Ritchie: St. Lucie County –

- Sort of slow. People starting to show back up.
- Assisted Naval 5K run. Last year, 62 y/o Naval veteran, ROSC. Came back to race this year
- South Beach Park, trying to move tower back to Pepper Park.
 - Tower is buried, will need front end loader to cut
- Full staff since January

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

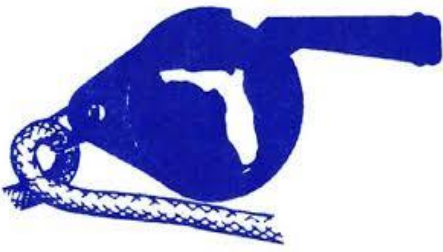
Helena Khoshnevis: Breakers – Not in Attendance

North

Jeremy Watkins: St. Johns County VP North–

- Finished seasonal staffing
- Back to 3 FTE on beach
- Working on more positions. Discussing 4 lifeguard positions and 1 captain
- Fire Chief and Finance Chief dismissed from positions
- Multiple dredge project occurring
- Getting staff ready for upcoming summer

Stephen Fender: Brevard County – Not in Attendance



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Andrew Ethridge: Volusia County – Not in Attendance

Aaron Jenkins: Volusia County-Not in Attendance

Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance

Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance

Sam Swor: Brevard County-

- 2 new fulltime towers
- 2 new supervisor positions
- Cocoa Beach area March 7th behind Ron Jons.
 - Beach and Boards lifeguard event. 4-6 person teams

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–

- Everything is good. 28th of October off the beach. Austin only staff member
- Started enclosure under HQ.
- Adding tower and 2 roving patrols
- Moved competition equipment
- Surfer struggling in the water. Local dentist hit the beach and coded. CPR initiated. One shock, ROSC
- Been slower with colder temperatures
- Snow birds will start to arrive around Thanksgiving
- Unable to get guest passes for local pool. Next three tryouts will be 1 hour away in Escambia County. Same days as Pensacola.
- 20 applicants
- Emerald Coast Race Challenge next year. Once a month for 9 beaches
- Supervisors doing leadership training next year



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Orange Beach-

- Additional FTE

Pensacola-

- Additional FTE
- Negotiating contract for Perdido Key beach. Currently has no guards but drownings, has to respond often for rescues
- Perdido Key looking at incorporating
- Buoy on a stick in Navarre Beach previously caused more drownings, this is Perdido Key's answer

Destin-

- Two more FTE

South Fort Walton

- 26 FTE, several openings

Panama City Beach-

- Doing better with personnel issues. Had to release one FTE and lost another due to decision
- Looking at getting more towers and patrols on the beach next year.
- Looking at 5-year plan to minimize impact on budget

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 – Not in Attendance

Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach – Not in Attendance



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Chet Brown: Manatee County –

- Recently approved for USLA
- Looking at report writing system.
 - Between Watch Tower and Street LG
- EMTs being credentialed through Manatee County, not just state. Will take protocol test.
- Getting new boat delivered in January.
- Met with CG. CG budget getting cut by 50%. CG requested list of lifeguard tools so they can request assistance. Asking to use lifeguard EMTs on CG vessels for deep water rescues
- 1 FTE open
- 19 FTE 3 PTE
- Put in for 3 more L for next budget year
- Two, 49 passenger water taxi pontoons starting next Monday. Responsible for response. Will operate Fri, Sat, Sun
- Removing all the trees and installing asphalt path, eliminating all the shade
- Will have a Captain reach out to spend a day with other agencies

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

No new items

USLA Update

- Membership- age of D division still in talks
- Professional Membership went from 30-40
- Tentative Dates for USLA SER PWC 02/05-02/09

New Business

- BPOTY, LGOTY, Meritorious Acts awards nominations due prior to December 15th meeting in Deerfield

Billboard Update –

- Submitted for billboards all over the state (Pan Handle)
- Movie theaters

Banquet Update-

- Potential rename to State of Florida Lifesaving Awards banquet.
- May 17-18



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Need Submit/Discuss Disposition of Goals 2023 (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 TBD	BPOTY WINNER
February 16 th @11-2	Lantana Beach
March 13 th 11-2	Zoom
April 19 th 11-2	Water Safety Products – Palm Bay
May 17 th and May 18 th	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	Miami-Dade County
October 18 th 11-2	Panama City Beach
November 15 th 11-2	Marsh Landing
December 13 th 11-2**	Deerfield Beach

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Matt Sparling. Seconded by Chet Brown. 1308

Next meeting

Deerfield Beach, FL
401A SW 4th Street 33441
City Campus Center – 2nd floor Conference Room