



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 01/06/24

The following members were in attendance:

Ian Montgelas	Martin County	President
Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade	Advisor
A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Austin Turnbull	Navarre Beach	VP North
Dave Greenwood	Escambia County	
Daryl Paul	Panama City Beach	
Colin Perlaky	South Walton Beach	
Joethan Phillips	Gulf Shores	

The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:

Breck Ballou	Fort Lauderdale (Retired)
Bob Maler	Miami-Dade (Retired)

The following members attended through Zoom:

Chet Brown	Manatee County
Tamra Malphurs	Volusia County
Rick Hinkson	Sarasota
James Gray	Pompano Beach
Gio Serano	Fort Lauderdale
John Meskiel	Palm Beach County

The following guests were in attendance:

Katherine Arroyo	Pompano Beach
Scott Demarest	Delray Beach
Tessa Bailey	Navarre Beach
Alex Johnson	Pensacola Beach
Keith P.	Navarre Beach

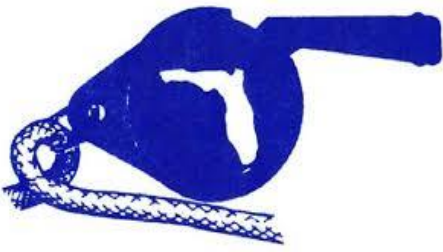
Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Ian called to order at 11:09 CT. Welcome and Introductions. Approval of December minutes.

Communications

Awards presentation recap from Navarre Beach.

Andy Ritchie unable to attend. Mark Fichtner unable to attend (busy crowd due to dredging. Sending team to regionals.



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Officer Reports

Ian Montgelas President-

- First meeting as president
 - Thanks for electing
- Moving forward with plan
- Looking for goals from members

Martin County

- Bathtub Beach is opening this month
 - Has been closed for 2 years
- 2 lifeguards crossing over to fire
 - Positions already filled
- Ordered 3 AED replacements
- \$2500 anonymous donation for Ocean rescue
- Would like to add 2 LT positions

Matt Sparling Advisor:

- Money from Endless Summer Plates will be coming in soon
 - Would like to see us promoting the foundation as part of the grant program
- Suggested agencies that have baggage claim "Swim Near a Lifeguard" in their area to visit for PR
 - Push promotion through association and agency social media with PIOs

Matt Sparling: Miami-Dade

- 5 agencies dividing due to Sheriff's election will be safe with agreement to overtake their union members
 - Staff will not be laid off
- They are short staffed
 - Looking to hire more staff

Joe Westerman: Manatee County (Retired)- Not in Attendance

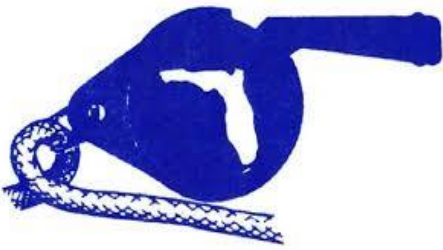
Phil Wotton Treasurer: Unable to Attend

Statement Balance

- December 31, 2024 \$6,441.86

December Income

- City of Ft Lauderdale \$200.00
- Volusia County \$275.00
- South Walton Fire District \$400.00
- December Expenses \$0.00



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Delray Beach-

- Large Crowds During Holiday Break.
- Delray Beach to host three series races with approximately ten events each day
 - February 26th, March 26th & April 30th
 - Captain's meeting will be held @ 0830. List of events will be posted soon.

A.J. Miller: Secretary –

- Please email speaking points to me prior to meetings

SOUTH

Gerry Falconer: Miami Beach- Unable to Attend

Jason Casanova: Miami Beach – Not in Attendance

Joel Fernandez: City of Miami – Unable to Attend

Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale- Unable to Attend

Gio Serrano: Fort Lauderdale – New Member

- Replace 3 of 4 Tacomas
 - Tundra to Chief
- Getting 2 Bosch tower replacements later in January
- 3 FTE vacancies
- Promoted LT starting February 2nd

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach – Not in Attendance

Ramo Cline: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance

Mike Huck: Dania Beach – Not in Attendance

John Meskiel: Palm Beach County-

- Long time Lifeguard/Firefighter John Hink passed away.
- Ocean City Maryland has 2 feet of snow on the beach
- 2 beach tests in the last two months
 - Only 2 applicants
- 10 going through academy
- 75 percent turnover in county HR department
- Pushing forward to changing manual suction units to automated, self-charging
- Has had a few high profile, early morning rescues
 - Trying to message “swim near a lifeguard’ during operational hours



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- Highly recommend CISM and crisis team
 - Partnerships with Fire Services
- Raise
 - \$21.10 for PT
 - Still in union negotiations
 - Looking at 6% for union
 - Non-negotiating members received raise
 - Union president is currently union representative
 - Potentially leaving lifeguard position for full-time union representative
- Using 310-380 hours of OT per 2-week schedule due to lack of staff
- Pushing for \$75 a paycheck for EMT pay
 - Denied by county administration
- Starting full-time PR position
- Making proposal for 10 new LT positions
 - LT at every beach
- Looking at RWC class in spring
- Looking at annual or biannual rescue boat class
- Another great year with the USLA Training Officer Academy

Doug Woakum: Lake Worth – Not in Attendance

Pete McGinnis: Pompano – Not in Attendance

Justin Halloway: Pompano – Not in Attendance

Mike Brown: Deerfield- Not in Attendance

Tom Fogan: Fort Lauderdale – Not in Attendance

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

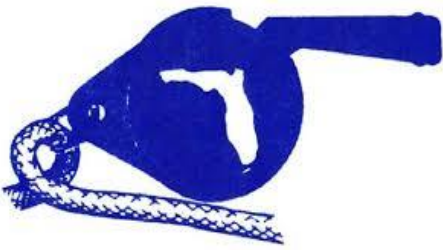
CENTRAL

Mark Fitchner: Lantana Beach- Unable to Attend

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in Attendance

Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance

Andy Ritchie: St. Lucie County – Not in Attendance



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Johnathan Billings: Indian River County – Not in Attendance

Nathan Rieck: Vero Beach – Not in Attendance

Ken Keaton: John's Island - Not in Attendance

Helena Khoshnevis: Breakers – Not in Attendance

Katherine Arroyo and James Gray: Pompano Beach

- 5 FTE vacancies
 - Tested in December with no applicants
- Have needed to close some towers to compensate for lack of staff

North

Jessica Earl: St. Johns County VP North- Not in Attendance

Jeremy Watkins: St. Johns– Not in Attendance

Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance

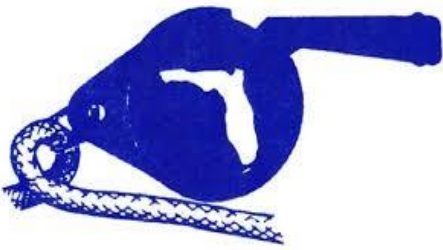
Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance

Sam Swor: Brevard County- Not in Attendance

Eisen Witcher: Brevard County – Not in Attendance

Tamra Malphurs: Volusia County–

- Service model update
 - Upper management suggested, post law enforcement transition
- Advertising for a Captain position soon
 - Will be open competitive
- Looking at AOR to add upland BLS response
- Seasonal lifeguards start at \$18.50
 - Push from county leadership emphasizing PTE over FTE
- 4 FTE vacancies
- Adding more control towers over the next 3-5 years
- Upper leadership discussing messaging toward visiting certain towers and minimizing patrols
- 2 staff members currently at basic PIO class at fire conference
- Have CISM on staff to travel throughout county
- Asked suggestions from group of off-peak responsibilities



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- Suggestions from Pan Handle
 - Track recruiting in the off season
 - Explain hard to find qualified candidates that would work part time
 - Familiarization for council members
 - Training and recruiting
- Okaloosa Island EMTs get placed on BLS response ambulances
- Panama City Beach upper management requested them to do maintenance
 - Chief shortened off season and built out training schedule

Panhandle

Austin Turnbull: Navarre Beach VP Panhandle –

- Thanked everyone for support
- 1 PT/FT position added
- Doing leadership academy for senior leadership
 - 40-hour course with pay incentive
- New towers and trailers coming in
- Looking for Honda Pioneer 520 side by side

Joethan Phillips: Gulf Shores

- Gave thanks for ability to participate in the meeting
- Submitted 4 FTE but denied
- Received pay increases

Joe DAgostino: Destin Beach – Not in Attendance

Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance

David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District –

Dave Greenwood: Pensacola –

- Added lifeguard tower on Perdido Key
- Recertification test last December
 - Currently training this weekend
- 5th FTE position starting 2025
- Preparing to put towers on the beach in March

Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach-

- Currently at 8 FTE vacancies
- Added FTE in 2024
- Still working on developing agency



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Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance

Colin Perlaky: South Walton-

- Starting academies within the next couple weeks
- 5 vacant Beach Safety Officer FTE
- Contacted by private beaches for coverage
- Gearing up for the year
 - Staffing is currently looking better than in years past

West Coast

Rick Hinkson: Sarasota County VP- Unable to Attend

2025 Goals:

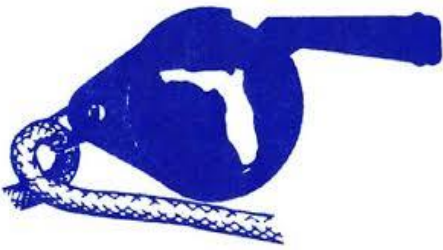
- Roll out 4 new towers built with FEMA funds, currently under construction.
- Open North Jetty Park (closed after Helene/Milton destruction of Park), get staff back to guarding the most dangerous public beach we provide service to in February
- Fill 2 LT positions
- Jet Ski Training with Glen in October/November
- Job Description Upgrade for LT position to include EMT credentials (SP RISK nudge)
- Junior LG growth w/ Siesta Key Kiwanis

Other good news:

- County-sponsored EMT student wrapping clinicals, NREMT exam this month.
- Sending two to EMT school in spring
- LifePak AEDs at all facilities, mirroring Fire units – seamless transitions
- Completed Jet Ski training with Fire and Lifeguard personnel 12/20/24 w/ Glen and Luke
- Filling vacancies, have 2 starting next week and 2 in pipeline for February
- LT Chris Lender (started in Gulf Shores, has been with us for 19 years) promoted to Captain to replace Captain Roy Routh, retiring 1/31/25
- Lifeguard Austin Venhaus promoted to LT position

Chet Brown: Manatee –

- All their beaches are back open
- Mountains of sand were removed
- 2 Bosch towers getting delivered in February
- 3 towers that sustained damage from Milton will be replaced with permanent, in the ground towers
- Happy to be back up and running post storm



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

- 5 new FTE
- Filled 2 new LT positions
 - Requesting 3 more
- Adding 2 new patrol units to cover the entire island once new positions are filled
- Looking at adding towers on Anna Maria Island and Bradenton beach

Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach – Not in Attendance

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

Concurrent Resolution 41

- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/41/text>
- Please still contact your congress person in support of the bill

USLA Update

Regionals to be hosted by Volusia County Beach safety

Adults on July 23-24

JG on July 26

Old Business

Gio Serrano applied to take the place of Alex Bagwell as interim Chief.

Nominated by Wotton, seconded by Sparling. **MPU**

New Business

Sparling asked if any agencies host training for potential employees and how they handle liabilities of injury

Gulf Shores, South Walton Fire, Navarre Beach and Volusia County all do

Sparling also asked about in-house training for new applicants

Volusia and Navarre both train without hiring and then have sign on bonus

Sarasota hires as probationary employee with in-house training

Fill out Excel spreadsheets (salary, hours of operation)

Maler proposed design for additional billboards to help promote Endless Summer license plate, in turn supporting Florida beach lifeguard agencies

Bring language to the next meeting for alumni members to be able to nominate members during voting (add verbiage to current bylaws)

Start taking a photo after every meeting

Banquet Update-

Looking at the potential for new venue in Orlando for the banquet

Discussion of more family friendly resort to draw in more banquet participation



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Need Submit/Discuss Disposition of Goals 2025 (if time allows)

Ian Montgelas is looking for suggestions

Ian looking at VPs reaching out to their respective beaches to either get them involved or to check in and get updates prior to meetings

Here is a DRAFT Schedule for 2025 – If anyone would like to host a meeting let us know.

2025 Meeting Schedule	
January 6 th @ 11-2	Navarre Beach
February 12 th @11-2	Miami-Dade County (Haulover)
March 12 th 11-2	Zoom – Spring Break
April 11 th 11-2	Water Safety Products – Palm Bay
May 16 th and May 17 th	Orlando --- 2025 Lifesaving Awards Banquet & Educational Conference
June 20 th 11-2	Martin County
July 22 nd (Tentative)	USLA Regionals – Volusia
August 20 th 11-2	Fort Lauderdale
September 12 th 11-2	Lantana
October 17 th 11-2	Manatee County/Sarasota
November 12 th 11-2	Marsh Landing
December 12 th 11-2	Deerfield Beach

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Ian Montgelas, seconded by A.J. Miller at 1340.

Next Meeting

Haulover Beach,
13731 Collins Ave
Miami Beach, FL 33160
11:00AM

Topic: FBPCA Meeting

Time: Feb 12, 2025 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91919929378?pwd=Uxihk3Y0otx59nqRa7u5zMq6ULdlal.1>

Meeting ID: 919 1992 9378

Passcode: 112187