



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 02/26/25

The following members were in attendance:

Ian Montgelas	Martin County	President
Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade	Advisor
A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Phil Wotton	Delray Beach	Treasurer
Marc Fichtner	Lantana Beach	VP Central
Jason Casanova	City of Miami Beach	VP North
Gerry Falconer	Fort Lauderdale(Retired)	
Joel Fernandez	City of Miami Beach	
Gio Serrano	Fort Lauderdale	
Jim McCrady	Hallandale Beach	
Mike Huck	Dania Beach	

The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:

Bob Maler	Miami-Dade (Retired)
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The following members attended through Zoom:

Rick Hinkson	Sarasota Beach
Austin Turnbull	Navarre Beach
Coln Perlaky	South Walton

The following guests were in attendance on Zoom:

James Gray	Pompano Beach
Justin Holloway	Pompano Beach
Katherine Arroyo	Pompano Beach

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Call to order at 1134. Motion to approve January minutes made by Sparling, seconded by Montgelas. **MPU**

Communications

Joe Westerman is unable to attend
Tom Fogan is unable to attend
Luis Andrade is unable to attend
Andy Ritchie is unable to attend
Breck Ballou is unable to attend
Doug Yoakum is unable to attend



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Officer Reports

Ian Montgelas President-

- The grant money from Surfing's Evolution and Preservation Foundation has been deposited and will be utilized for billboards and baggage claims
- Flags will be available at the April meeting

Matt Sparling Advisor:

- Recommended cost of the banquet to member
 - Pushing sponsors to offset costs
 - Matt will be reaching out to Bosch, P2P, Water Safety Products

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

Phil Wotton Treasurer:

- Statement Balance January 31, 2025 \$193,799.96 \$6,266.38

- January Income
 - Surfing Evolution & Preservation \$78,670.00
 - Ron Jon Surf Shop \$78,670.00
 - Surfing Evolution & Preservation \$25,188.00
 - Surfing Evolution & Preservation \$5,000.00
 - Lake Worth Beach \$200.00
 - Deerfield Beach \$125.00

- January Expenses
 - Action Awards \$345.00
 - Zoom \$149.90
 - Water Safety Products \$25,187.00
 - Pak it Tight \$5.58

A.J. Miller: Secretary –

VPs to send out communications with their respective area beaches

SOUTH

Jason Casanova: Miami Beach, South VP –

- Working with Fire Division for evaluation of operational needs
 - 151 hours of OT just last month due to injury, sick, FMLA, LD
- Has had more events on the beach creating more OT
- Social media campaign "Reality Check" is being initiated
 - Crowds have shifted off the beach onto the streets and restaurants



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Gerry Falconer: City Miami Beach- (Deferred to Jason and Joel)

Joel Fernandez: City of Miami –
Everything is going well

Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale- Unable to Attend

Gio Serrano: Fort Lauderdale –

- Thanks Miami Beach for sending them all their spring breakers
- Getting ready for spring break, then air show and Tortugas Festival
 - Will not be hiring outside lifeguards for the air show this year
- Training up for the season
- Working with marine vessel response to place a lifeguard on the boat for rescue
- Received two replacement lifeguard towers from Bosch
 - Opted for model with under tower storage
 - Phasing out fiberglass models
- Switching to ImageTrend for report writing

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach –

- LT position opened
 - Starting pay is negotiable
- FTE open
- PTE opening for water test
- Ordering new jetski will make three in fleet
- ATV being ordered
 - Two-and-a-half-year rotation
 - Can-Ams

Ramo Cline: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance

Mike Huck: Dania Beach –

- Been trying to hire PTE
 - Having trouble filling
 - Trying to convince HR to convert to FTE
- Just attended a marine incident response training hosted by BSO

Phil Wotton: Delray Beach-

- Received budgeted second PRWC. Once registered it will be placed in service as the primary craft and the older one will become the spare.
- February 15th, towers start closing at 1800
- March 9th returning to Daylight Savings Schedule



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John Meskiel: Palm Beach County-Not in Attendance

Doug Yoakum: Lake Worth – Unable to Attend

Pete McGinnis: Pompano – Not in Attendance

Justin Halloway, Katherine Arroyo and James Gray: Pompano Beach: No microphone on Zoom

Mike Brown: Deerfield- Not in Attendance

Tom Fogan: Fort Lauderdale – Unable to Attend

Luis Andrade: – Miami-Dade County – Unable to Attend

CENTRAL

Mark Fitchner: Lantana Beach, Central VP-

- Lantana Marine staffing up
- Refurbishment on towers
- Approval for Tactical emergency care course

Lake Worth-

- Short staffed
- Tar balls washed on beach

Ian Montgelas -Martin County

- Bathtub Beach is open
- Preparing to advertise FTE
- Galvanized another side by side

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in Attendance

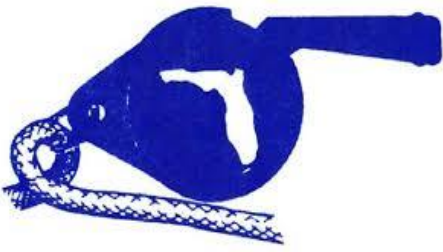
Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance

Andy Ritchie: St. Lucie County – Unable to Attend

Johnathan Billings: Indian River County – Not in Attendance

Nathan Rieck: Vero Beach – Not in Attendance

Ken Keaton: John's Island - Not in Attendance



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Helena Khoshnevis: Breakers – Not in Attendance

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– Unable to Attend

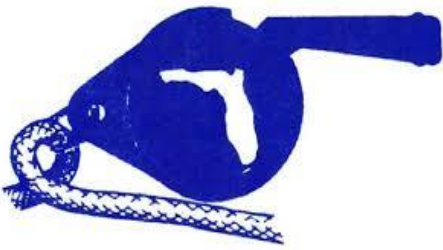
A.J. Miller: Volusia-

- Final stages of updating our service model
- Received 6 F150s, ordering 6 more
- 6 ATVs arriving soon
- Ordering two new skis, looking at larger models
- Final stages before posting a Captain's position
 - Open competitive
- Looking at hiring a full-time PR person
- Looking at hiring a logistics
- Working on upland BLS response (closest unit)

Panhandle

Austin Turnbull: Navarre Beach VP Panhandle –

- Emerald Coast has lifeguard development course in February
- Kite foil and board rescue class
- Beaches staffing starts in March
- Last week had 40 show up to tryouts
- Working on sourcing UTVs
 - Just got two
- Hired first year-round PTE
- Painted all UTVs to mitigate rust
- Took them down to the frame and painted



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- Sprayed with rust inhibitor coating
- Had 30 returning guards out of staff of 40
- 26 have 3+ years
- Revamped recruit class
- Had 20+ applicants
- Only hiring 7-10
- Developed leadership training for staff
- Ordered a new tower and trailer
- Building new aluminum tower with sport fishing manufacturer

Pensacola

- Has been struggling on hiring

Destin

- Doing hiring and training

Panama City

- Hiring PTE and FTE

Destin

- Joe D'Agostino and the agency is celebrating 20 years

Joethan Phillips: Gulf Shores- Not in Attendance

Joe DAgostino: Destin Beach – Not in Attendance

Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance

David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District –

Dave Greenwood: Pensacola –

Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach-

Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance



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Colin Perlaky: South Walton-

- Increased season and full time pay
 - 21/24.37
- Received more Tacomas
- Getting more jetskis
- Interviews ongoing for 5 FTE
- Working on nailing down dates for SER PWRC course
- Additional towers coming on
- One with private contract
- One through opening another beach access
- Currently in discussions with two private beaches for providing service
- Would create four new towers
- Moving scheduling to Vector Scheduling to fall in line with Fire

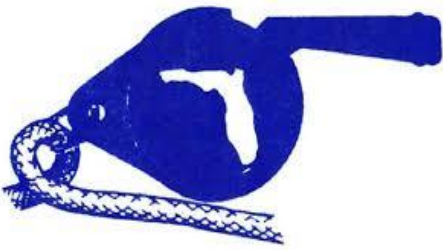
West Coast

- **Rick Hinkson: Sarasota County VP-**
- Enjoying the day off
- Waiting on 4 towers
- North Jetty Beach is still closed
- Advertised for a couple LT positions
 - Has more FTE
- Working on UTV and truck changes
- Looking at one off, in-house sprint series
- EMT class planned for October
 - 9 interested
- Fire has been involved in high schools teaching hand only CPR
- Fire updating CAD
 - Beach agency being added into dispatch capabilities
- Preparing for busy summer

Chet Brown: Manatee – Not in Attendance

Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach – Not in Attendance

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance



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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

Stats need to be in by March 1

Mariano Martinez received Medal of Valor

USLA certification may increase cost

Spring meeting in Rhode Island

Finishing up paddleboard series

Underwhelming participation this year

Gene Bergman had 5 boats participate

Old Business

New Business

Gerry Falconer stepping down as South VP. Believes it should be an active chief. Jason Casanova nominated by Montgelas, seconded by A.J. Miller. MPU

McCrary stated he will be an assistant in Jason's absence.

Should the reports come through the VP directly?

Give reports for beaches in their area not in attendance

Also utilize VPs for president backup and assigning specific tasks

Does the report have to come from the Chief?

Should at least come from associate members

Does anyone have any local vendors that are interested in sponsorships for the banquet

Marc looking at quotes for new website platform

Will get three quotes

Looking at input from others for content for website

Social media is going well

Putting a solicitation of website for sponsorships

Posting a solicitation on social media

Ian will contact Westerman for original creator of the website for admin release

McCrary was invited to a contaminated water subcommittee

Had first Zoom last week

Looking at adding bacteria level and sick leave due to contaminated water and/or bacterial levels



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- Proposed language added into bylaws for alumni nominations during election periods.
 - **Article 7 - Elections. Proposed language:**
 - ***“All members, including alumni, in good standing with the organization shall have the right to nominate candidates for positions on the Executive Board.”***

Ian proposed a change to the existing billboard campaign artwork

Artwork will not replace current billboards, only new

Wotton made a motion to utilize the new artwork, Seconded by Falconer. **MPU**

Pease make sure you are updating the salary spreadsheets and hour of operation

Officer Training Academy sponsorship discussion

Banquet Update-

Working with Marriott World Center for a possible banquet location

Most agencies need 30 days' notice for travel

Potentially moving meeting time later for travel

Looking for door prizes from sponsors

Need 2024 photos for banquet program

Regional and national results

Need “In memory of” submissions

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

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 17 th	Orlando --- 2025 Lifesaving Awards Banquet & Chief's Meeting
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



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Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Ian Montgelas, seconded by Falconer. Adjourned at 1405

Next Meeting

Topic: FBPCA Meeting

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98701419957?pwd=fA8tobgrj454gQUg8rdFvviKmbMS8H.1>

Meeting ID: 987 0141 9957

Passcode: 247985

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,98701419957#,,,,*247985# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,98701419957#,,,,*247985# US (New York)

Dial by your location

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Meeting ID: 987 0141 9957

Passcode: 247985

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abK9qb0mct>