

# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL chiefs association

## MEETING MINUTES: 10/17/25 Manatee County

**The following members were in attendance:**

Ian Montgelas	Martin County	President
Phil Wotton	Delray Beach	Treasurer
Chet Brown	Manatee County	VP West
Marshall Green	Manatee County	
Patrick Bradford	Clearwater Beach	
Earl Greg Rose	Sarasota County	
Jonathn Billings	Indian River	
Chris Lender	Sarasota County	
Andrea Moreira	Pinellas County	

**The following Members were in attendance on Zoom:**

A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade County	Advisor
Morgan Harmon	St. Lucie	
Mike Brown	Deerfield Beach	
Jim McCrady	Hallandale Beach	
Eisen Witcher	Brevard County	
Tammy Malphurs	Volusia County	

**The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:**

Bob Maler Miami-Dade (Retired)

### **The following guests were in attendance:**

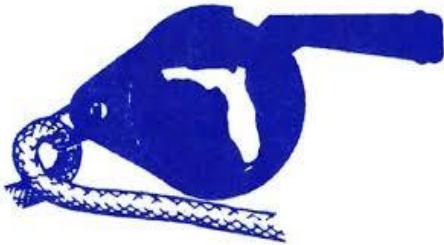
## **Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

Call to order at 11:01am

## Communications

Ja'Rell Fenix

- Student at UCF
- Founder of Beach Lens
  - Allows users to see conditions at different beaches
  - Options to do if conditions are not favorable
  - Gained 2k users in the first 28 days
  - No cost to Beaches
  - Would need data and live updates
    - Currently a website
    - Launching app in 2026



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Marc Fichtner is unable to attend  
Tom Fogan is unable to attend  
Eric Depall Barbosa, Lifeguard of the year 1988

## Officer Reports

### **Ian Montgelas President-**

- Scheduling-
- Next meeting Marsh Landing 11/12
  - Sparling
- Deerfield will be December 19th
- Shoutout to Mark Fichtner for Chiefs' spotlight
  - Will continue with Executive Board and then move onto members
- License plates
  - Lifeguard and Ocean Rescue
    - \$10 per plate
  - If anyone wants to be fronted plates, Wotton will track disbursement

### **Matt Sparling Advisor:**

- Suggested \$10 for waitstaff at November meeting
- November meeting is deadline and voting for all award nominations
  - Can submit through the website

### **Phil Wotton Treasurer:**

• Statement Balance September 30, 2025	\$3,950.69
• September Income <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Brevard BOCC</li><li>◦ City of Hallandale Beach</li></ul>	\$275.00 125.00
• September Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Signature Coins</li><li>◦ James Hagen Distributing / License Plates</li></ul>	\$1,146.00 \$250.00

### **A.J. Miller: Secretary –**

Need congressional cosponsors for HR27

Concurrent resolution to identify Ocean Rescue Lifeguards as first responders on the federal level

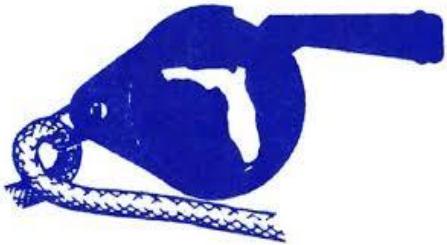
Working with Florida DCF for grant funding to purchase multiple Slip Streams

Will be utilized in curriculum for live rip current simulators

## SOUTH

**Jason Casanova: Miami Beach, South VP– Not in Attendance**

**Joel Fernandez: Miami – Not in Attendance**



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL chiefs association

**Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale- Not in Attendance**

**Gio Serrano: Fort Lauderdale – Not in Attendance**

**Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach –**

- Fully staffed
- 5 ATVs
- Ordering a new jetski
- 3% COLA
- \$5 extra an hour for PTE on the weekends
- 4x10s during the season
- Back to 8s in the off season (4 months)
- Dealing with King Tides
- Work road through Hollywood is underwater
- Tide is about 1 foot higher
- November 10<sup>th</sup>, paddle around Key West rebranding as the Florida Surfboat Championships

**Ramo Cline: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance**

**John Guscott: Not in Attendance**

**Mike Huck: Dania Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Mark Beaudreau: Pompano – Not in Attendance**

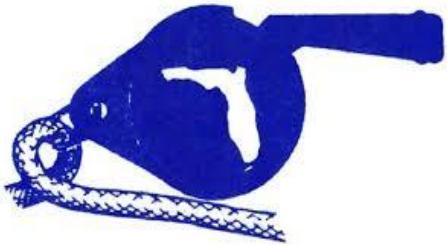
**Mike Brown: Deerfield-**

- Nothing to report
- Made rules for who can use their new Race One racing mal

**Tom Fogan: Fort Lauderdale – Not in Attendance**

**Mathew Sparling-Miami-Dade County-**

- Nothing to report



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## CENTRAL

**Mark Fitchner: Lantana Beach, Central VP-**

**John Meskiel: Palm Beach County-**

- Palm Beach County is transitioning to the Fire Department

**Doug Yoakum: Lake Worth – Not in Attendance**

**Phil Wotton: Delray Beach-**

- Moved back to office on the beachside
- Filled FTE and PTE
- Dread project starting

**Ian Montgelas -Martin County**

- Full time applicant offered position
- Promoted 4 new LT making 8 LTs
- Recent swell caused erosion at Bathtub beach
- Had to remove one of the two towers

**Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in Attendance**

**Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Morgan Harmon: St. Lucie County –**

**Nothing to report**

**Jonathn Billings: Indian River County –**

- Dressing up vehicles and passing out candy for Halloween

**Nathan Rieck: Vero Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Ken Keaton: John's Island - Not in Attendance**

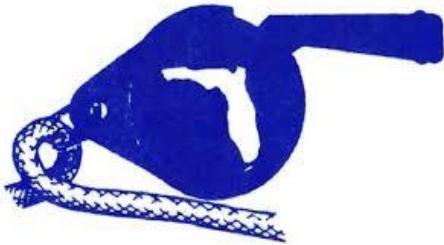
**Helena Khoshnevis: Breakers – Not in Attendance**

## North

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

**Nothing to report**

**Jeremy Watkins: St. Johns– Not in Attendance**



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

**Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Sam Swor: Brevard County- No in Attendance**

**Eisen Witcher: Brevard County –**

- Senator Mayfeld visited
- New fiscal year
- Trying to get fire union to accept Ocean Rescue
- Losing beach
- Lots of rescues

**Tamra Malphurs: Volusia County-**

- Fall recruit class November 15
- Seasonal \$19
  - Bonus
- Internal and external swim workshops
- 600 out of 1500 poles knocked out due to tide
- Flew double red flags due to debris in the water
- BLS response on the island
- Question-What do you FTE do in the off season
  - Brevard is always short
  - Training SO as first responders
    - Pulling staff for education

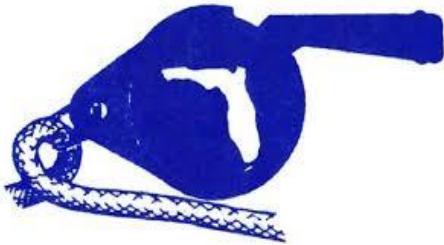
**A.J. Miller: Volusia-**  
Presented in New Business

**Aaron Jenkins: Volusia County- Unable to Attend**

## Panhandle

**Austin Turnbull: Navarre Beach VP Panhandle –**

- ECLA board meeting
  - Elections took place
- Nominated first lifetime member
  - Rick Huffnagle
- Working on lifeguard development program
- ECLA race calendar



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## **Joethan Phillips: Gulf Shores- Not in Attendance**

- 6 FTE positions
- Orange beach broke ground on new station

## **Mo: Destin Beach – Not in Attendance**

## **Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance**

## **David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District – Not in Attendance**

## **Dave Greenwood: Escambia County – Not in Attendance**

- 5 new FTE

## **Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach- Not in Attendance**

## **Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance**

- Restructuring

## **Colin Perlaky: South Walton- Not in Attendance**

- Going up to \$26.32 an hour

## **West Coast**

### **Chet Brown: Manatee VP West-**

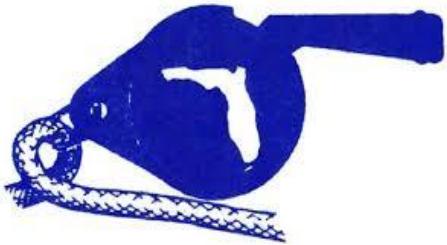
Nothing new to report

### **Greg Rose: Sarasota County-**

- Have a couple openings to fill
- Open Chief position
- Had Code X outside of guarded area
  - Working on how to address those areas
- Physicals and requalification underway

### **Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach –**

- Swim Testing in progress
- Code X two weeks ago on their south beach
  - Calm day
  - Swam to last known location
  - Began line search
  - Launched assets (thermal and water with sidescan sonar)
  - Last known 30m from shore
  - Debrief revealed using several different search patterns



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL chiefs association

## **Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County –**

- Closed due to dangerous conditions
  - Looking at keeping Fort DeSoto open

## **DISPOSITION OF BILLS**

- H. Con. Res. 27
  - Reintroduced in April '25. Looking for co-sponsors. None currently in Florida

## **USLA Update**

- National BOD next week in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- Wilkie, Wagenhals, Holt, Turnbull, McGibeny, Bagwell
- McCrady stepping down as region competition chair after the first of the year
  - Fort Lauderdale hosting Nationals '26

## **Old Business**

- Award nominations due by November 12<sup>th</sup> (Marsh Landing meeting)
- Discussion on swim advisory flag
  - Current signs have been in place since 2005
  - Do we need to work on a state level to add an advisory flag
  - Potentially working more on a local level for advisement
    - Using status boards and making face to face contact

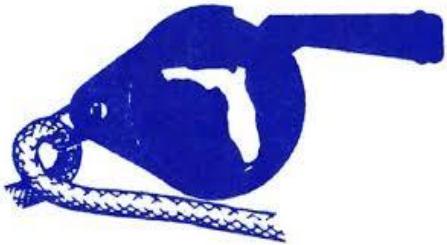
## **New Business**

Bylaw changes from Ian on award criteria

Please update operational hours spreadsheet and pay scale spreadsheet

## **Banquet Update-**

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



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## Open Forum

2025 Meeting Schedule	
January 6 <sup>th</sup> @ 8:30	Navarre Beach — BOCC Presentation and Chiefs Meeting @ 11
February 12 <sup>th</sup> @ 11-2	Miami-Dade County
March 12 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Zoom — Spring Break
April 18 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Water Safety Products — Palm Bay
May 17 <sup>th</sup> 1-4	Orlando — 2024 Surf Lifesaving Awards Banquet & Chiefs Meeting
June 20 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Martin County
July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 4-6 PM	USLA Regionals — Volusia
August 20 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Fort Lauderdale
September 17 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Lantana
October 17 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Manatee County
November 12 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Marsh Landing
December 19 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Deerfield Beach

## Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn A.J. Miller, seconded Eisen Wicher. Adjourned at 12:50pm

## Next Meeting

### FBPCA Meeting — Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

44 North Broadway Street, Fellsmere, FL 32948  
11:00 AM

## ZOOM Link

<https://zoom.us/j/96031974624?pwd=Qom0Gq32LonaOC2Nsqz7Olx45iybf5.1>