



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 05/30/26 Hilton Oceanfront Daytona Beach

The following members were in attendance:

Ian Monteglas	President	Martin County
Phil Wotton	Treasurer	Delray Beach
A.J. Miller	Secretary	Volusia County
Jason Casanova	VP South	Miami Beach
Jonathan Billings		Indian River
Morgan Harmon		St. Lucie
Gerry Falconer		Miami Beach (Retired)
Alex Bailey		Navarre Beach
Tessa Bailey		Navarre Beach
Aline Paterson		Deerfield Beach
Mike Brown		Deerfield Beach
Alex Bagwell		Fort Lauderdale
Dave Greenwood		Pensacola

Zoom

Colin Perlaky	South Walton Fire
Maureen Abieta	Destin Beach
Jim McCrady	Hallandale Beach

The following Lifetime Members were in attendance on Zoom:

The following guests were in attendance:

Jameson from Flash Weather AI	
Molly Clark (Captain)	Destin Beach

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Call to order at 1:07pm by President Montgelas.

Approval of April minutes. Motion by Gerry Falconer, seconded by Sparling Minutes
Approved.

Communications

Thanks to A.J. Miller for scheduling room for meeting and banquet.
Ian Monteglas went through who has paid up for

Special Presentation from Jameson from FLASH Weather AI
Lightning strike prediction and hail prediction
Currently working on Tornado alert



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Officer Reports

Ian Montgelas, President-

- Asked group if everyone got their flags from last meeting

Phil Wotton, Treasurer-

- Statement Balance April 30, 2026 \$4,247.62

May 28, 2026 \$4,154.91

April Income-

Tom Mahady \$125

Johnathan Billings \$100

Gerry Falconer \$50

Matt Sparling \$200

Marc Fitchner \$20

Water Safety Products \$500

Watchtower Solutions \$500

Alicia Warren \$20

Dune Deck Café \$250

City of Lake Worth Beach \$200

Robert Martini \$150

Marine Rescue Products \$500

Pinellas County BOCC \$125

Julia Sheffer \$10

April Expenses-

Hilton Daytona \$4,305

SM Kinane Corporation \$613.31

Action Awards \$462

Truist / Zelle \$2.40

Matt Sparling, Advisor-

- Charity and raffle for tonight

A.J. Miller, Secretary-

- Discussed plans for evening banquet



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South

Jason Casanova: Miami Beach, VP South-

- Union finalized contract
 - USLA Cert pay
 - \$50 biweekly incentive
 - Using Vektor Solutions to track training
 - 40 hours a year required
- Still in hiring freeze

John Guscott: Hollywood Beach – Not in Attendance

Mike Huck: Dania Beach – Not in Attendance

Mark Beaudreau: Pompano – Not in Attendance

Mike Brown: Deerfield- Not in Attendance

- City fire and police are separating from BSO
 - Potentially making EMT a requirement and becoming high risk
 - Would stay standalone agency

Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale –

- Looking for volunteers for Nationals '26
- Final walkthroughs for new headquarters next to Swimming World Hall of Fame

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach

- No foreseeable cuts in the future
- Most of the budget is salaries
- 1 vacancy
- Having a hard time holding on to younger lifeguards
- Looking at targeting older, seasoned lifeguards

Mathew Sparling-Miami-Dade County-

- Looking at budget cuts
- Vessel explosion at dock while fueling
 - 3 people ejected
 - MCI
 - 4 victims still in hospital after 5 weeks
- 20 vacancies between FTE and PTE
 - Will most likely be cut if cannot fill
- Big spotlight on Haulover canal
 - Always being filmed



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CENTRAL

Marc Fitchner: Lantana Beach, Central VP- Unable to Attend

John Meskiel: Palm Beach County-

Doug Yoakum: Lake Worth – Not in Attendance

Phil Wotton: Delray Beach-

- Request for promotional process
- Asked if any agencies have safety officers on the beach
 - Responding safety officer stays on the beach during rescue

Ian Montgelas -Martin County-

- Swim testing in June
- Rip Current simulator
 - 200 people signed up

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in Attendance

Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance

Morgan Harmon: St. Lucie County –

- Getting rip current simulator next month
- Andy Ritchie retired
 - Was fully staffed prior to retirement
- LT spot approved to fill
- Installed wheelchair mats and two locations

Jonathn Billings: Indian River County –

- Did a line-item budget
- Received new truck
- Doing a rip current simulator today and Juneteenth
- Fill FTE Vacancy

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

Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance

Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance

Eisen Witcher: Brevard County – Not in Attendance

A.J. Miller: Volusia-

- Surflife cameras were pulled from budget
 - Looking at other cameras
- Part time incentive pay
 - Used to be just summer holidays
 - Looking at out of season incentives
- New training requirements for part-time staff
 - 16 hours per year of EMS refresher
- 3 FTE Vacancies
- 1 Sergeant
- Looking at potentially a \$1 million cut from department
- Rip Current Simulator class
- Discussed a child hit and killed by a vehicle on the beach

Panhandle

Austin Turnbull: Navarre Beach VP Panhandle – Unable to attend

- Fully staffed and operating at full seasonal capacity
- Successfully completed the annual Iron Guard competition
- Planning a Cars & Coffee fundraiser benefiting the Junior Lifeguard Program and an Adaptive Beach Day for families with disabilities in June
- Junior Lifeguard Program has reached a record 140 participants and continues to grow
- Beach operations remained stable during recent leadership transitions within the fire department

Orange Beach Safety (AL)

- More than 60 rescues recorded during Memorial Day Weekend.
- Fully staffed and operating at full capacity



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Okaloosa Island

- Fully staffed and operating at full capacity
- Chief Huffinagle is currently dealing with health-related matters
 - Our thoughts are with him and his family.

Joethan Phillips: Gulf Shores- Not in Attendance

- Hosted USLA Sports Chair Skip Prosser and Vice President Ed Zebrowski during the NCAA National Championship Beach Volleyball Tournament to showcase event operations
- Preparing to host USLA Regional Championships, July 13–15.
- Hired 18 seasonal rookie lifeguards
- Added 6 full-time lifeguards, bringing total full-time staffing to 12
- Memorial Day Weekend resulted in approximately 70 rescues between Gulf Shores and Orange Beach with zero drownings

Maureen Abieta: Destin Beach:

- Recently hired a new Beach Safety Director and Captain who is currently transitioning into the role
- Undergoing organizational changes and moving forward under new leadership
- Successfully hosted the second ECLA race of the season with over 60 competitors
- Filled FTE
- First rip current simulator class and will run every two weeks

Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance

David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District – Not in Attendance

Reported a successful Memorial Day Weekend operation

- Lifeguards recognized for lifesaving actions during a beach cardiac arrest incident
- 215 Junior Lifeguards registered for the 2026 season
- Continuing recruitment, training, and onboarding of new lifeguards

Dave Greenwood: Escambia County –

- Busy weekend
- Surpassed 100 rescues this season.
- Experienced record-breaking attendance during Easter Weekend and the following weekend.
- Successfully staffed and operated the second-largest beach Pride event in the United States under challenging environmental conditions.
- 72 seasonal staff supported by 5 FTE
- Four trucks on the way



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Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach- Not in Attendance

- Successfully hosted the third ECLA competition of the season with over 60 competitors
- Transitioned into a new headquarters facility
- Fully staffed and operational
- Pursuing 2–3 additional full-time positions this year

Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance

- At the recent USLA Board Meeting in Biloxi, Bay County's USLA agency certification was not renewed due to identified discrepancies within agency policies and swim-testing procedures
 - As USLA Compliance Officer, I have spoken with chairman Chris Brewster regarding the path forward
 - Efforts are underway to address deficiencies and work toward recertification during the November review cycle, which will require a comprehensive review of policies, procedures, and swim-testing standards.

Colin Perlaky: South Walton-

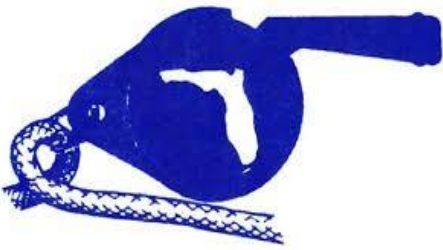
- First drowning of the year passed Thursday
 - Unguarded area

West Coast

Chet Brown: Manatee VP West via Marshall Green–

- Cardiac arrest 4 miles offshore
 - ROSC
- A drowning was brought in by bystanders
 - ROSC
- First Rip Current Simulator class
- Hiring freeze
- Had to notify 10 applicants
 - Leaving 4 vacancies

Louis Rodriguez Lizardi: Sarasota County- New Supervisor



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Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach –

- Trying to figure out next fiscal year
- No new FTEs
 - Extending hours on holiday weekends
- Working with 10 FTE supplemented by 12 PTE
 - Potential for 20 PTE
- Funded through parking, not the general fund
- Has had a large turnover with upper city administration

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

USLA Update

Gerry Falconer spoke about getting out and speaking to council and community leaders
Fall USLA Nationals BOD/Lifesaving EXPO 11/9-11/12

Old Business

Open Forum

Jason Casanova “What Three Words”
Live 911
Lulu’s Law

New Business

FBPCA logo redesign

Have a competition for a new logo and vote

Submissions before December meeting

Swim Near A Lifeguard is USLA’s campaign, Gerry Falconer asked if FBPCA wanted to have their own campaign

Discussion

FBPCA committee creation to host a race prior to the banquet

Alex Bagwell

Austin Turnbull

Jim McCrady

A.J. Miller

Potential for USLA Sport Chair to take email notifications for all competitions

Mike Brown, would we be open to a presentation from a company that has developed a solar powered well system for rinsing off volleyball courts and lifeguard towers

Social Media Update



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Swim Near a Lifeguard Campaign

No update

Still rolling through digital advertising

Banquet Update-

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

2026 FBPCA Schedule	
Tuesday, January 27th, 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Manatee County *BPOY Presentation*
February 20th, 2026 11 am – 2 pm — CENTRAL TIME	South Walton
Friday, March 13th, 2026 11 am – 2 pm	ZOOM — Spring Break
Friday, April 10th, 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Water Safety Products — Palm Bay *Conditions Flag Distribution*
May 30th 1 pm – 4 pm	Hilton Daytona Beach
Friday, June 26 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Fort Lauderdale
July 4 pm – 6 pm	Location TBD *USLA Regionals*
Friday, August 14 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Lantana
Friday, September 25 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Volusia County
Friday, October 16 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Palm Beach County
Wednesday, November 18 th , 2026 11am – 2pm	Marsh Landing – Fellsmere
Friday, December 11 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Deerfield Beach *Elections*

All dates are tentative and may change please watch for the agendas to be emailed prior to the meeting dates.

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Phil Wotton, seconded by Matt Sparling. Meeting adjourned at 3:46pm

Next Meeting

Fort Lauderdale

501 Seabreeze Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

11:00 AM

ZOOM Link

<https://zoom.us/j/93117794046?pwd=crNtkijZ4VcLadP07a1zvYbxTpCo0X.1>