



FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES: 04/10/26 Water Safety Products

The following members were in attendance:

Ian Monteglas	President	Martin County
Phil Wotton	Treasurer	Delray Beach
Chet Brown	VP West	Manatee County
Jonathan Billings		Indian River
Morgan Harmon		St. Lucie
Gerry Falconer		Miami Beach (Retired)
Marc Fichtner		Lantana
Jessica Earl	VP North	St. Johns County
Jo Wagenhals		Pompano Beach (Retired)

Zoom

John Meskiel		Palm Beach County
Colin Perlaky		South Walton
Jason Cassanova	VP South	Miami Beach
Jim Mccrady		Hallandale
Maureen Abeita		Destin
Michael Patterson		Manatee County
Mathew Sparling	Advisor	Miami Dade County
Louis Rodriguez Lizardi		Sarasota
Patrick Bradford		Clearwater

The following Lifetime Members were in attendance on Zoom:

Breck Ballou	Fort Lauderdale (Retired)
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The following guests were in attendance:

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Call to order at 11:07am by President Montgelas.

Approval of March minutes. Motion by Ian Monteglas, seconded by Jonathan Billings.
Minutes Approved.

Communications

A.J. Miller is unable to attend

Tom Fogan is unable to attend

License plates 10 dollars each

Rip Current Brochures available in person

Chief Meskiel talked about drowning incident at Juno Beach and the discussion of guarded vs non guarded area came up. Also, also about critical incident management and the after affects of tragedy in reference to drowning from a mental health standpoint.

Conditions flags being handed out at the meeting.



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Officer Reports

Ian Montgelas, President-

- Banquet location determined. Contract signed for Hilton Oceanfront Daytona, Saturday May 30th. Ian went over details and information related to the Banquet. Fetch Fest is on Friday.
- Swim near a lifeguard campaign is up and running.
- Sponsors for the FBPCA banquet need help and getting more sponsors.

Phil Wotton, Treasurer-

- Statement Balance March 31, 2026 \$6,787.62
- March Income
 - City of Deerfield \$125
 - Tom Mahady \$125
- March Expenses
 - Zelle Charges \$0.20

Matt Sparling, Advisor-

- Door prizes reiterate for the banquet.
- Charity for 50/50 raffle- John Hopkins safe kids coalition
- Serious incident involving a boat accident where there was one fatality.
- Touched on the important Critical Incident Stress Management. Lots of rescues over Easter weekend and Good Friday.

A.J. Miller, Secretary-

- Attending USLA Executive Meeting in Mississippi

South

Jason Casanova: Miami Beach, VP South-

- Past weekend was very intense
 - 82 rescues in one weekend of easter
- City is in a hiring freeze waiting on 1 spot
- Getting ready for Air and Sea show and World Cup

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



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Alex Bagwell: Fort Lauderdale – Not in Attendance

Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach

- Few full-time spots open right now, not fully staffed
 - May have to go outside for full time position
 - 5 part time positions available
- Got elected to heritage committee going to meeting in Mississippi
- 11 rescues over the weekend which is a lot

Mathew Sparling-Miami-Dade County-

- Nothing to note

CENTRAL

Marc Fitchner: Lantana Beach, Central VP-

- Active shooter training for Ocean Lifeguard Professionals inquiry
 - Suicide at beach 10 feet from a tower in middle of day
 - Raised concerns about lifeguard safety and security
 - Lantana PD bought ballistic vest for Ocean Rescue HQ
- Vessel exclusion buoy project is set to start June 1st

John Meskiel: Palm Beach County-

- 10 open full-time positions
 - 22 applicants approved
- 16/17th tryouts, 20th interviews then a medical scenario
- Completed training with Boca Raton at South inlet Joint training with Fire Rescue/Ocean Rescue
- Recruit academy set for mid may for new hires
- Academy went from 120 hour to 140 hours
- Training officers completed How to task book for new recruits
- A lot of rescues lately with the large surf
- Multiagency training has helped a lot with rescues

Doug Yoakum: Lake Worth – Not in Attendance

Phil Wotton: Delray Beach-

- Dredging project is completed.
- Shelling event continues in Anchor Park and will be cleaned up on April 17th.
- Minor's SOG



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Ian Montgelas -Martin County-

- Renourishment project is underway in the guarded area at Jensen
- Full staffed
- Swim testing is underway for full time staff
- They just received slip stream rip current simulator

Clint Tracy: Boca Raton VP Central– Not in Attendance

Tom Mahady: Boynton Beach – Not in Attendance

Morgan Harmon: St. Lucie County –

- Flash mobs on the beach due to senior skip day
 - Safety and security concerns are present for mass crowds on the beach
 - Good Friday was another flash mob event
- Shooting in parking lot after one of the events
- Drowning outside of guarded area
- Beach renourishment has caused more rip currents than normal

Jonathn Billings: Indian River County –

- Similar issues with Beach renourishment as far as rip currents
- Double murder, two county employees
 - Guy was swimming offshore who did it and they picked him up
 - Let him be and they haven't found him since.
- Easter Sunday guards had a ¼ mile rescue
- In front of board for slip stream for approval

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-

- Super busy and understaffed
- Trying to do a final push for another tryout
 - Lost 20 seasonal guards
 - Talked about firefighters working shifts for overtime when lifeguards aren't available

Maxwell Ervanian: Jacksonville Beach – Not in Attendance



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Tom Gillin: Flagler Beach – Not in Attendance

Eisen Witcher: Brevard County – Not in Attendance

A.J. Miller: Volusia-

- Heavy surf all week, 8-10 foot
 - No significant damage
- Starting weekend recruit class
- New training sergeant position approved
- Advertising for 2 FTEs
- Finished budget
 - Put 34 Surfline cameras and associated software hoping it gets approved
- Submitting to host USLA Nationals '27
- Slip Stream grant accepted by council
- Took delivery of 6 ATVs and 5 F150s
- Meeting Saturday April 18 with a UF student filming a documentary on Florida lifeguards, their training, lifesaving sport, and any obstacles

Panhandle

Austin Turnbull: Navarre Beach VP Panhandle – Not in Attendance

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

Maureen Abieta: Destin Beach:

- Beach Safety Director position is still open but created a new position which is Beach Safety Captain

Rich Huffnegale: Okaloosa County – Not in Attendance

David Vaughan: South Walton Fire District – Not in Attendance

Dave Greenwood: Escambia County – Not in Attendance

Daryl Paul: Panama City Beach- Not in Attendance

Dustin Mazsden: Bay County- Not in Attendance

Colin Perlaky: South Walton-

- Wrapping up spring break
- Have a lot of new lifeguards coming in, which is nice considering staffing has been an issue in the past.



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West Coast

Chet Brown: Manatee VP West via Marshall Green–

- Busiest Easter weekend ever seen
- Losing two staff to Coast guard
- National Guard is coming to facility to do a Weapons of Mass Destruction training

Louis Rodriguez Lizardi: Sarasota County- New Supervisor

- 6 candidates and only 2 so far have passed the test
- Purchasing Slip Stream Rip Current Training device

Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach –

- One of the busiest Easter weekends on record
- Focusing on getting dialed in, fitness testing at the end of the month
 - Brushing up on all response's medical and rescue.

Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in Attendance

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

USLA Update

USLA spring BOD in April 21 and 22 in Biloxi, Mississippi

Old Business

Gulf Shores, Alabama voted in as a Professional Supporting Member

Open Forum

New Business

Social Media Update

Swim Near a Lifeguard Campaign

Banquet Update-

Still working on sponsorships

Hotel link sent out by President Montgelas

Hilton Daytona Beach for \$184 a night

20 rooms in courtesy block each night for Friday and Saturday



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

2026 FBPCA Schedule	
Tuesday, January 27 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Manatee County <i>*BPOY Presentation*</i>
February 20 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm — CENTRAL TIME	South Walton
Friday, March 13 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	ZOOM — Spring Break
Friday, April 10 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Water Safety Products — Palm Bay <i>*Conditions Flag Distribution*</i>
May 30 th 1 pm – 4 pm	Hilton Daytona Beach
Friday, June 12 th , 2026 11 am – 2 pm	Fort Lauderdale
July 4 pm – 6 pm	Location TBD <i>*USLA Regionals*</i>
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 <i>*Elections*</i>

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 Jo Wagenhals, seconded by Ian Monteglas. Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting

Hilton Oceanfront Daytona Beach
100 N. Atlantic Ave, DB
Salon 6-8

ZOOM

<https://zoom.us/j/99771877830?pwd=pRPlQoPRHSdpxCdRnrifNUqieHb12u.1>