



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## MEETING MINUTES: Martin County

02/21/23

### The following members were in attendance:

Matthew Sparling	Miami-Dade County	President
Phil Wotton	Delray Beach	Treasurer
Joe Westerman	Manatee County	Advisor
A.J. Miller	Volusia County	Secretary
Ian Montgelas	Martin County	VP Central
Jeremy Watkins	St. Johns County	VP North
Jo Wagenhalls	Pompano Beach	
Alexandra Bagwell	Ft. Lauderdale	
Marcos Fernandez	City of Miami	
Shane Sutton	City of Miami	
Andrew Ritchie	St. Lucie County	
Don May	Retired Palm Beach County	

### The following Lifetime Members were in attendance:

Rob Caldwell	Retired Lantana
Tom Fogan	Retired Ft. Lauderdale
Breck Ballou	Retired Ft. Lauderdale

## Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by Matt Sparling at 10:40 WELCOME and thanks to everyone for joining.

Motion made to approve minutes from last meeting – Motion made by Don May  
Seconded by Rob Caldwell

## Communications

The entirety of the participating member as the meeting sat in on the Martin County Commissioner Meeting where Chief Montgelas received the Beach Patrol of The Year award. Presented by Advisor Westerman. Bob Maler advised through text he was unable to attend.



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## Officer Reports

**Matt Sparling President** – Gave update on billboard campaign from Eric Hellstrom. Chief Hellstrom is now the Logistics Chief for St. Johns County. He will no longer be able to participate in the FBPCA.

He has finalized the billboard campaign for 2023 to include 7 major airports in Florida and 16 billboards throughout the state. Beach Safety week is in May. The campaign will run for 8 weeks electronic signs and until the billboard space is purchased by another market for print. The airport signage will be displayed in baggage claim.

Beach condition flags were purchased and will be passed out at the annual banquet.

March's meeting will be Zoom only.

April's meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> will be at Water Safety Products in Palm Bay.

**Miami-Dade-** 13 PTE positions were moved to fulltime. They had a PWC explode on the beach due to lack of venting. They have been busy due to festivals. 13 Towers went out to bid to be built for Crandon Beach, just waiting on the mayor's office.

**Joe Westerman Advisor - No report submitted** but stressed the importance of membership involvement. Stated that the organization needs participation to continue. Remarked on the membership loss of Eric Hellstrom due to responsibility changes with his position in St. Johns County.

Still need sponsorships for banquet.

### **Phil Wotton: Treasurer –**

Banquet Income:

Feb 13th	P2P Rescue	\$250
	Original Waterman	\$500

Checks written:

Feb 13th	Water Safety Products	\$20,837.50
Feb 16th	Clear Channel Outdoor	\$123,673

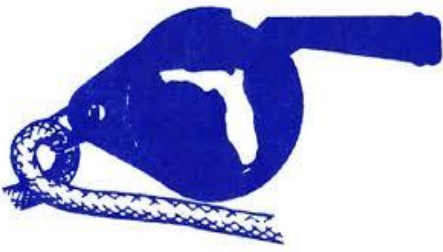
Surplus from Grant: \$2,489.50

Information was found that we are able to use any grant surplus towards educational means.

Balance: \$8,322.85

There are tabs on the bottom of the salary report going back each year for comparison. Delray has 3 or 4 fulltime positions.

**Delray Beach** - USLA SER Regionals July 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> / Jr's July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Still working on securing host hotel for event. Two vacant FT positions. Three vacant PT positions



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

**A.J. Miller: Secretary** – Request reports from each VP, even if not in attendance, prior to each meeting to increase the detail in the minutes. Any member wishing to add to the meeting may submit a report for the minutes as well. This does not have to be anything very formal. A simple email or even text will suffice.

**Volusia County** - We are gaining sand back. Apologies to Flagler because we now have most of theirs. We recently hired 7 new FTE. We are looking at building 3 permanent towers over the next 5 years. We still have 3 of our 5 control towers inoperable due to damage from the hurricanes.

## SOUTH

**Gerry Falconer: Miami Beach VP South** – Not in attendance

**Jason Casanova: Miami Beach** – Not in Attendance

**Marcos Fernandez: City of Miami (not Miami Beach)** – Looking to increase salary from 16.50 to 22.50 and hiring an Ocean Rescue Supervisor.

**Jim McCrady: Hallandale Beach** – Not in attendance.

**Bruce Wilkie: Hollywood Beach** – Not in Attendance

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

**Alexandra Bagwell: Ft. Lauderdale** – The airshow is coming up April 29-30. They hired 12 new PTE and are replacing 3 towers.

**Jo Wagenhals: Pompano Beach** – Their new headquarters is currently under construction. Tentative date of completion is in May. USLA SER PWC class was a success. March is the swim series. April is the row series for the SER. It is time to capitalize on Luke Shepardson winning the Eddie. Using this media to help publicize the shortages of surf lifesaving.

**Tom Fogan: Fort Pierce** – 1 FTE, 1 PTE. South park “Bee” closed for the year. Working with upper management for staffing needs.

**Mike Brown: Deerfield Beach** – Not in attendance

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



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## CENTRAL

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

**Phil Wotton: Delray Beach – Gave Report under Treasurers report.**

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

**Matt Botts and Doug Yoakum: Lake Worth Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Julia Leo: Palm Beach County –** Beach attendance has been high but no major incidents to report. We've been busy testing for full time and part time positions. We're currently awaiting HR to process 6 full time hires. (We lost Patrick Casey to you – ouch. Very good guy). Conducting District Supervisor interviews this week and next to replace Joe Peloquin. Joe has declined his name from consideration of the FBPCA Lifetime Achievement Award. We bought 5 new beach wheelchairs that have an aluminum frame- big improvement over the PVC ones. We have designed a mobile tower for Bausch. The tower can be broken down in two parts (each part weighs less than 100 lbs), can be deployed to different locations as needed, and the base meets the minor structures ordinance for sea turtle protection. We plan on ordering 3 towers. The towers will allow the guards better visibility of the shoreline if there is an escarpment, and after beach nourishment projects.

**Joe Peloquin: Palm Beach County – Not in Attendance**

**Ian Montgelas: Martin County –** Down 1 position currently. 1 lifeguard resigning this week. 1 new hire starting on Monday 2/27. 1 new hire starting the beginning of April – getting us to full-staff. Bathtub Beach remains closed. Continuing with 4-day, 10-hour schedule. With Bathtub Beach closed we are doing fine with staffing levels. Once the beach reopens, we will need to reassess schedule.

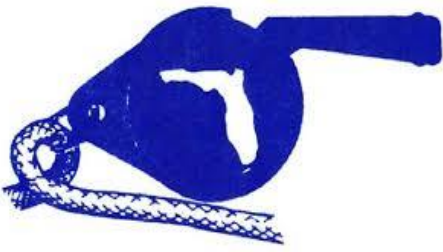
Big thanks again for support on the Beach Patrol of the Year presentation in the morning.

**Andy Ritchie: St. Lucie County –** 1 Full time position and 1 PT position open at this time. All beaches maxed out. Dredging to begin this week, 500,000 cubic yards from S. Jetty south 1.2 miles.

**Johnathan Billings: Indian River County –Not in attendance**

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

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



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## North

**Jeremy Watkins: St. Johns County VP North with Hunter Ingle** – Their season is ramping up. They have a pay increase for their seasonal guards. Marine Rescue division was split into marine and hazmat response. There is a beach renourishment project in the planning, and they currently have minimal beach due to erosion.

**Eric Hellstrom: St. Johns County** – No longer able to participate

**Eisen Witchner: Brevard County** – Not in Attendance

**Andrew Ethridge: Volusia County** – Not in Attendance

**Tammy Malphurs: Volusia County** – Not in Attendance

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

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

## Panhandle

**Will Spivey: Panama City Beach VP Panhandle** – Not in Attendance

**Joe DAgostino: Destin Beach** – Not in Attendance

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

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

**Austin Turnbull: Navaree** – Not in Attendance

**Dave Greenwood: Pensacola** – Not in Attendance

## West Coast

**Rick Hinkson: Sarasota County** – Sarasota County at 4 FTE openings. Sarasota County Lifeguards under new Fire Department Special Programs Chief, Tim Dorsey (FEMA USAR, Lake of the Ozarks Spec Ops Chief previous to Sarasota County). Working w/ Fire Admin to provide supplemental LG staffing during spring break weekends (3/11-4/9) from 5-7 at Siesta Beach. Working w/ Fire Admin to have Fire staff supplementing Lifeguard staff during tower closures due to low staffing/exhaustion of OT within LG Division. Red Tide significant at most Gulf Coast beaches (Fort Myers north to Lido Beach, Manatee County not experiencing as badly).



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

**Patrick Bradford: Clearwater Beach – Not in Attendance**

**Joe Westerman: Manatee County –** Has two open positions. Aquatics division has been placed under Beach Division.

**Andrea Moreira: Pinellas County – Not in attendance**

## **DISPOSITION OF BILLS**

No new items

## **USLA Update**

Don May suggested a dedicated laptop for scoring regionals. Stated we need more officials. He suggested the team send at least one volunteer with their competitors to help alleviate the stress of running the event.

## **New Business**

Phill Wooten suggests a Zoom option at each meeting to increase participation. Rob Caldwell pointed out that this option will show more involvement. Wags has already purchased a projector for the meetings. We can use either Phil or A.J.'s computers for the camera. A separate soundbar and microphone would be beneficial.

## **Open Discussion:**

### **Billboard Campaign Update:**

See President Report

### **2023 Banquet Preparation –**

Tentative Banquet Dates are – May 5, 2023, to have an educational component and May 6, 2022, to host the Banquet at same location.

Sponsorship levels for banquet brochure-

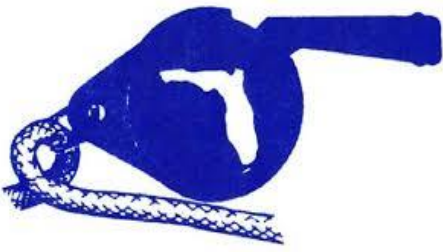
Full Page \$250

Half Page \$150

Quarter Page \$100

We are still looking for presenters for the educational portion of the banquet. Idea discussed to have the meeting on Friday with the banquet, then the education day on Saturday. Please reach out to professionals in your area that would be valuable to present.

Photo Competition – Please submit photos to be voted on and selected for the cover of banquet pamphlet.



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**Need submit Discuss Disposition of Goals 2023 (if time allows)**

~~FBPCA Coins are still available to be purchased~~

Here is a DRAFT Schedule for 2023 – If anyone would like to host a meeting let us know.

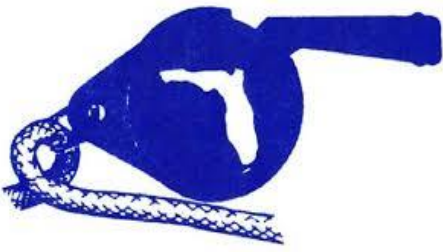
## PROPOSED SCHEDULE 2023

2022 Meeting Schedule	
January	Martin County
February 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Panhandle
March 22, 2023	Zoom
April 21 <sup>st</sup> 11-2	Water Safety Products, Palm Bay
May 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>	Orlando --- 2022 Lifesaving Awards Banquet & Educational Conference
June 14, 2023	Ft. Lauderdale
July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Regional Competition – Delray Beach
August 19 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Zoom
September* 16	FBPCA 9-12 & USLA SER 12:30- 5 Volusia County
October 20 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	St Johns County
November 15 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Marsh Landing
December** 9 <sup>th</sup> 11-2	Deerfield Beach

### **Meeting Adjournment**

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

*Meeting adjourns at 2:00*



# FLORIDA BEACH PATROL CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## Next meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98238893770?pwd=TnhNS2lTVkhrN2ZnRmM2L1I3N0NPUT09>

Meeting ID: 982 3889 3770

Passcode: 922468

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,98238893770#,,,,\*922468# US

+13126266799,,98238893770#,,,,\*922468# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 982 3889 3770

Passcode: 922468

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aeEq42Tlvs>