

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #100 on Thursday, January 20, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown, at 9:00 AM EST – 11:47 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Senator Tom Wright, Chairman

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida

Task Force Members Absent:

Representative Thad Altman
Representative Wyman Duggan
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Speakers Present:

Brian Baluta, EDC of Florida's Space Coast (Zoom)
Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chair (Zoom)
Major General (R) James Hartsell, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)
Joe Marino, Veterans Florida
Lew Wilson, Florida Veterans Foundation

Others Present in Person:

Dennis Baker, Florida Veterans Foundation
Dr. Damon Friedman, SOFMissions.org
Steve Murray, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)

Others Present via ZOOM:

Rick Miller, South Florida Defense Alliance
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Roger Williams, FLNG
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Assistant, EFI
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #100
Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown
316 W. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301
AGENDA for January 20, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EST)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 9:00 – 9:25 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... | Chairman (I) |
| 9:25 – 10:00 Old Business..... | Chairman (A) / (I) |
| • Approval of Minutes | Chairman (A) |
| • FDSTF FY 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • FDSTF FY20-21 Progress Report and FY22-23 Work Plan | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • TF Grants and Contracts Status | Michelle Griggs (I) |
| • RFP Vendor Selection Approval | Terry McCaffrey (D) / (A) |
| • EDC of Florida’s Space Coast Grant Presentation | Brian Baluta (I) / (D) / (A) |
| • Economic Impact Study Results Presentation | Matt Schwalb (I) |
| 10:00 – 11:45 New Business..... | Chairman (I) |
| • TF Member Reports | Kellie Jo Kilberg (I) |
| • Florida Defense Alliance Update | Katherine Anne Russo (I) |
| • Washington Office Update | Maj Gen (R) James Hartsell (I) |
| • FDVA Update | Joe Marino (I) |
| • Veterans Florida Update | Dennis Baker (I) |
| • Florida Veterans Foundation | Terry McCaffrey (I) |
| • Military & Defense Update | |
| 11:45 – 12:00 Public Comment..... | Chairman |

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

February 17, 2022	Zoom	March 17, 2022	St. Augustine St. Francis Barracks
April 21, 2022	Zoom	May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA
June 2022	NO MEETING		

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright began the meeting at 9:00 AM EST.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright welcomed attendees and guests, asked the in-person guests to introduce themselves and led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for corrections to the November 18, 2021 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2021 TF meeting. **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

FDSTF FY 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule

Staff presented a draft calendar and locations to the TF for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for approval.

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2022-2023 TF Meeting Schedule. **Major General Richard Haddad** made a motion to approve the schedule. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the schedule was approved.

FDSTF FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and FY 2022-2023 Work Plan

Staff presented the final draft of the Progress Report and Work Plan for approval.

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the FY 2020-2021 Progress Report and FY 2022-2023 Work Plan. **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** made a motion to approve the Progress Report and Work Plan. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the Progress Report and Work Plan was approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

All videos are complete. Staff is working with EFI's IT team to develop an interactive map for the website which will include each video.

The Geollect 3D model has been completed, as well. Staff is working to place the model on the Florida's Range Complex portion of the M&D site.

The Economic Impact Study has been completed and the Summary Books have been printed and delivered.

Grants: Second quarter grant reports have been requested and are slowly coming in. As they do, they'll be included in future reports. DTF #21-106, Bay County Board of County Commissioners grant in support of the Tyndall Air Force Base rebuild will be complete at the end of this month.

Major General James Eifert provided an update on DTF #20-105, Department of Military Affairs, noting that the fence project will likely begin sometime this spring and an extension will be likely.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin asked on the progress of DTF #22-100, City of Jacksonville. Staff reported that those lands will most likely be purchased this spring and they are ready to release the funds once the City of Jacksonville submits their documentation for reimbursement.

RFPs: Staff received several proposals in response to the RFPs which were released in early December.

RFP Vendor Selection Approval

Terry McCaffrey provided a summary on the proposals that were received from the RFPs which were released in December 2021. He discussed the scoring process noting that Matrix Design Group, Inc. scored the highest for the Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan. The Roosevelt Group was the only proposal received for the Florida Public Education Impacts on Military Families RFP, but Staff discussed that it was a viable proposal and the cost was adequate for the work involved.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve the Matrix Design Group, Inc. proposal to conduct a Florida Military Installation & Community Resiliency Plan. **The Honorable Thomas Bowman** made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all were in favor and the proposal was approved.*

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to approve The Roosevelt Group, LLC. proposal to study Florida Education Impacts on Military Families. **Mr. Tom Neubauer** made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, all were in favor and the proposal was approved.*

EDC of Florida's Space Coast Grant Presentation

Brian Baluta, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, provided a presentation in support of their \$200,000 grant request to conduct a study of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Wastewater Treatment.

CHALLENGE: 21st century multi-user spaceport served by 1950s-era wastewater collection system and 25-year-old treatment plant owned and operated by U.S. Space Force. New Florida advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) standards to protect Indian River Lagoon will require significant capital investment by federal, state and local stakeholders to comply.

OPPORTUNITY: \$200K for a feasibility study is key to unlocking substantial federal and state grants intended to address such challenges, including helping defense communities support military installations with resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

Rise of multi-user spaceport:

- Eastern Range Launch Manifest
- Record-setting pace in 2020 and 2021
- 62 total launches from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS) and Kennedy Space Center (KSC).
- Driven by convergence of defense, civil and commercial space
- Annual launch rate is projected to increase to nearly 100 by 2030.

Entering Unprecedented Era in Space Access

- SpaceX Starship
- Boeing Starliner
- Astra
- Blue Origin New Glenn
- SLS & Artemis
- ULA Vulcan Centaur
- Sierra Space Dream Chaser
- Relativity Space

Center of production: Kennedy Space Center is now home to fast-growing space manufacturing operations.

Opportunity to be more strategic: The surrounding area presents an optimal case for a regional planning approach favored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Clear path forward

Feasibility Study to Catalyze:

- Basis of design for WWT project fundable by:
 - Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation Grants prioritizing infrastructure, resiliency, sustainability and mission growth (for ex. STARCOM).
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grants (boosted by federal ARPA and BIF funds) prioritizing regional, resilient and innovative approach.
- Adoption by local champion who will own and operate rather than USSF.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to fund the study of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Wastewater Treatment grant application, submitted by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast. **Major General Richard Haddad** made a motion to approve the grant. The motion was seconded by **the Honorable Thomas Bowman**, all were in favor and the grant was approved.*

Economic Impact Study Results Presentation

Matt Schwalb, Matrix Design Group, Inc., presented on the results from the Florida Defense Industry Economic Impact Analysis 2022 update.

Topics discussed were:

How the Defense Industry is Defined

- Economic Impact Analysis Economic Impact Analysis
 - Estimates how defense spending ripples through the Florida economy
 - Captures direct, indirect, and induced spending
 - Each economy is different, leading to varying impacts
 - Utilizes the industry standard REMI PI+ socio-economic model

- Spending Types
 - Installation Footprint
 - Procurement
 - Transfer Payments

Trends in Florida Defense Spending

Historical Defense-Related Spending: Total Direct Spending was \$49.3 billion in 2020 – up 12% from 2018 (\$44.0B)

How Florida Ranks in Defense-Related Contracting: Florida consistently ranks in the top 10 for defense contracts and grants

Defense Contracts Performed in Florida: Manufacturing and Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services industries drive the defense contracting economy

Historical Veterans Population and Benefits: Nationally, veteran population is down 14%, while Florida is only down 8%

Historical Military Retiree Population and Pensions: Florida outpaces the nation in retiree population growth – 11% vs 7%

State and Regional Impacts

Total Economic Impacts from Defense Spending, 2020

- Direct spending up 12% since 2018
- Total economic impacts increased 1.7% since 2018 to ≈ \$96.6 billion in 2020
- Total jobs supported declined by 6% since 2018 to ≈ 860,221 in 2020
- Household spending (induced impacts) did not generate levels of economic activity consistent with past
 - Result of COVID-19 changing household consumption patterns (Brick & Mortar vs E-commerce)
 - Contributed to ≈ 6% decrease in number of total jobs supported by defense-related spending
- Defense industry accounts for ≈ 8.5% of Florida's economy
- Florida defense economy acted as a stabilizing force
 - Outpaced total state growth during pandemic

Total Economic Impact by Year and Type		
Impact Type	Year	Impact
Total Direct Spending	2018	\$44.0
	2020	\$49.3
	% Change	12.2%
Economic Impact Gross State Product (Current USD)	2018	\$94.9
	2020	\$96.6
	% Change	1.7%
Total Jobs Supported	2018	914,787
	2020	860,221
	% Change	-6.0%

Source: REMI Pi+ Version 2.5.0 (build 5955)

Dollar values are current USD.

Regional Defense-related Impacts, 2020

Region	GRP (Billions USD)	Job Impact	Distribution
Northwest	\$21.8	186,689	22.5%
East Central	\$21.1	196,858	21.8%
Tampa Bay	\$20.2	175,108	20.9%
Southeast	\$14.6	130,484	15.1%
Northeast	\$14.4	122,056	14.9%
Southwest	\$2.4	24,558	2.5%
North Central	\$1.9	20,435	2.0%
South Central	\$0.3	4,033	0.3%

Source: REMI Pi+ Version 2.5.0 (build 5955)

Dollar values are current USD and totals may not sum due to rounding.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

The Honorable Thomas Bowman reported that the AIR (Asset Infrastructure Review) Commission is on hold until spring and is of interest due to recent comments made regarding the impact on the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Major General James Eifert reported that the Florida National Guard (FLNG) currently has 1,643 servicemembers representing 14 organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's national Defense strategy. Members of the of the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat team are in Ukraine.

Last week he was in Tallahassee briefing Legislative organizations on their FY 2022-2023 Legislative Budget Request as well as another initiative to court and revise the statutes for the creation and establishment of a Florida State Guard.

The FY 2021-2022 budget authorized \$50 million in construction funds for two (2) armories in Zephyrhills and Immokalee. This helps to offset the over 1.5 million square foot shortage in armory and Readiness Center space for current FLNG soldiers.

The Governor's Legislative Budget Request for the FLNG is as follows:

FY 2022-2023 budget request includes:

- \$27 million to build an armory at Homestead Air Reserve Base
- \$25.5 million of funding for an armory at Malabar
- \$25.5 million to build an armory in Gainesville
- \$9.5 million for an addition to the current armory in Miramar

It also includes:

- \$8.9 million for FLNG facilities' repair maintenance
- \$2.2 billion to build a new headquarters facility for the Florida National Guard Counter Drug Program on Camp Blanding
- \$2 million increase for the Florida National Guard Tuition Assistance Program, known as Educational Dollars for Duty, which provides 100% tuition assistance for their Guardsmen and is an extremely important recruiting and retention tool for their organization.

The final budget request is for the Florida State Guard which is an effort to create what was authorized in statute back in 1941, a Florida State Defense Force. The purpose of the Defense Force was if the entire Florida National Force was deployed, like in World War II, the Defense Force would be able to protect the shores from invasions. The purpose of the Florida State Guard is to have additional resources to be able to pull up volunteers to assist with disaster response and for missions such as liaisons to county EOCs, management of shelters, hurricane response, hand out food and water and all the mundane tasks that our guardsmen get tasked. They are not required to have the expertise and experience the guardsmen portray and would allow the guardsmen to not be called up as extensively and help to maintain recruiting and retention numbers.

The Florida State Guard has an initial budget request of \$5 million to establish nine (9) full-time equivalents to start onboarding and establishing the additional setup of this Guard which would be geographically located throughout the state and be able to have volunteers to call up on state active duty in the case of an emergency and support the FLNG.

Finally, he recently spoke with the Chief of Space Operations for the National Guard as they've been in pursuit of expansion of their Space Mission from an Offensive Space Control Squadron, currently located at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and are now competing for a Defensive Space Control Squadron. He's received indication that they're very competitive for that increased manpower to the Florida Air National Guard, hopefully eventually the Space National Guard, and continue to work that initiative to Legislative Delegations to create the Space National Guard so that current guardsmen in the Space Mission are not orphaned from their parent service, the United States Space Force.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that in December, NAS Jacksonville, in coordination with the City of Jacksonville, closed on 3.91 acres of property near Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse to preserve and buffer that area.

NAS Jacksonville will be hosting COMPTUEX (Composite Training Unit Exercise) for one of our Carrier Strike Groups through the end of January. This is a rehearsal each US Navy Carrier Strike Group performs before departing for deployment. COMPTUEX brings ships together to project force as a battle group. COMPTUEX is an intermediate-level battle group exercise designed to forge together the battle group and its components into a fully functional fighting team.

NAS Jacksonville is in the final stages of amending and renewing the Multi-Year Agreement (Encroachment Protection Partnership Agreement) with the City of Jacksonville to purchase restrictive easements and the North Florida Land Trust (NFLT) is a third partner in this agreement.

NAS Jacksonville is in the process of hosting, coordinating and planning for an October 2022 Air Show. They have not had an Air Show since 2018.

The last Amphib (USS Iwo Jima) left NS Mayport on the 10th of December. NS Mayport received the first MQ-4 TRITON which arrived on December 16th. They anticipate operations starting sometime in 2022, moved up from 2024. The first operational support mission should begin this month.

Florida's naval bases will participate in Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield exercises from January 31st to February 4th. These are annual anti-terrorism/force protection exercises conducted on all Navy installations in the continental United States.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl thanked the TF for their assistance in obtaining the KC-46 mission at MacDill AFB. Other issues of importance in the Tampa/MacDill area: the Florida Rock issue is being dealt with; the resiliency study in Tampa funded by the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) is underway; the Tinker School is anticipating \$300 million from the DoD Public School Program to build a middle school; Army Reserve Medevac Helicopters are arriving this week at MacDill AFB thanks to a \$50 million MILCON project to support that bed down; the US Air Force is having a year-long celebration of their 75th Anniversary and will update on any events happening at MacDill AFB.

Other upcoming events are:

- MacDill AFB will host a US Coast Guard commissioning at the end of February at the Port of Tampa
- The Air Fest at MacDill AFB will take place March 26th and March 27th
- Central Command and Special Operations Command will have changes of command at the end of March

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that both NSA Panama City and Tyndall AFB have gone to Health Protection Condition Charlie. Most of the non-essential workers are working remotely.

The contract for the 27,000 square-foot fighter wing building was recently approved. Many of the new buildings will be built to withstand up to 170 mile per hour winds, particularly on the operational side of the base. This is just one of the first of 3 million square-feet of construction and 40 MILCON projects that will take place at Tyndall AFB over the next four years.

During the rebuild Tyndall AFB will track between 3,000 and 3,500 workers traveling into and out of the base daily. The PMO will use the Defense System Visitor Enrollment System, a new system that was brought out by DoD to track the 3,000 to 3,500 people traveling through the gates each day. During this year many of the contracts will be accepted and let, and visitors will peak, most likely, in 2023.

Affordable housing has become a significant problem across the entire military and communities all around Florida are experiencing a problem with housing for military members. The Base Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates were released on January 1st and the housing allowance is about 5.1% which is inadequate in most places. The Air Force stood up a committee to address this issue and will survey each community to come up with ways to resolve some of the housing problems.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that at AFSOC, on December 4, 2021 for the first time, two special tactics Airmen assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing competed together in a major competition for Team USA bobsledding November 28th through 29th in Park City, Utah. Major Chris Walsh, a special tactics officer, and Staff Sergeant Matt Beach, a combat controller, competed together at the International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation North American Cup for a chance to represent Team USA at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

An aircrew with the 492nd Special Operations Training Group Detachment 2, Hurlburt Field, Florida, conducted the palletized munitions platform's first live-fire test from an MC-130J Combat Talon II for the Rapid Dragon program, December 16, 2021, over the Gulf of Mexico.

Air Force Special Operations Command's year of innovative projects started with the creation of mission sustainment teams and leapt to the conceptualization of an amphibious capable MC-130J concept. These pathfinding efforts pave the way for a ready and relevant force of future warfighters.

On January 7, 2022, an anonymous social media post regarding alleged special treatment of a minority female candidate in her effort to become part of the Air Force's elite Special Tactics forces has prompted a reaction from Lieutenant General Jim Slife, Commander of the Hurlburt Field-headquartered Air Force Special Operations Command, under which Special Tactics units operate. In a statement issued Thursday, Slife called the post "bullying and harassment" of the candidate with assertions that are "... either factually incorrect or missing important context which would completely change the perception. Additionally, in a memorandum to Special Tactics airmen, Slife called for Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall III to direct the service's inspector general "to conduct an independent review of the allegations contained in the email," according to a copy of the memorandum linked to an Air Force Times article on the social media post.

SOCOM: On November 22, 2021, following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan at the end of August, the only semblance of government remaining there is the Taliban. But the Taliban are not partners in defeating terrorism there, the commander of U.S. Special Operations Command said. "I don't see them as a partner - I'll just be frank," Army Gen. Richard D. Clarke, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, said at the annual Halifax International Security Forum event in Nova Scotia, Canada. "I think we have an interest from the U.S. perspective that the ISIS threat that is in Afghanistan is disrupted, that it can't roost so that it could actually affect one of our nations. But I wouldn't, as we look at the Taliban, I don't think they're an entity, today, that should be ... a counterterrorism partner."

According to General Clark, USSOCOM CC, "All of us understand diversity and inclusion are operational imperatives," the plan opens. "This Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan provides a roadmap for sustained and direct action toward increasing the diversity of our formation and ensuring all our environments, from the team room to the executive conference room, are inclusive." A push to promote more women and people of color into leadership, as well as rank-and-file, positions held overwhelmingly by white, male troops, decades after racial and gender integration, is part of a long game.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

- Congressman Matt Gaetz has a new Military Affairs Coordinator, Juan Valdez; a medically retired US Marine who is working from Wash DC but spends time in District 1.
- The 33rd Fighter Wing has reactivated the 60th Fighter Squadron as they receive more F-35s.
- The Military Mission Line moratorium needs to be made permanent legislatively. Plus, it needs to address all forms of encroachment and not just the oil/gas industry. We are concerned about Wind Turbine encroachment impacting the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR). Currently the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has proposed leasing in the Western and Central Gulf Planning Areas. We are also concerned about potential Aquaculture projects encroachment and impacts on the EGTTR. We are currently monitoring H.R. 6258: Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture Act sponsored by Rep Stephen Palazzo (R-MS-4) and co-sponsored by: Rep Ed Case, (D-HI-1). On 14 December 2021: Introduced in House and Referred to Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture and Transportation. The following day (15 December 2021) it was referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation for Action by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. It is important to reinforce DoD position regarding safety of non-participating personnel and infrastructure in the areas of hazardous military operations if these projects go into or near the EGTTR areas.
- The long-term viability of the Okaloosa County airports has been assured: Eglin AFB and the citizens of Okaloosa County now have an enhanced use lease until 2063 and a joint-use agreement until 2061. The airports are debt-free, ridership has increased 150%, and the airports contribute a \$2B economic impact on local economy helping both the military and the local community.

- A Child Development Center (CDC) to support the northern part of the Eglin Community is still a top priority (especially for the 7th SFG(A)). The previously discussed WellPlex on the south end of Crestview is still in work but has been delayed to 2023. This is a family readiness issue.
- The Tri-County Partnership Initiative (TCPI) held a virtual workshop for the Eglin-Hurlburt-Community on January 12. SAF/IE hosted a series of three virtual military-community leadership virtual brainstorming sessions. Military and community champions were identified on priority topics. The SAF/IE facilitation team will reach out to each champion for next steps. We expect a report from SAF/IE soon. This is part of SAF/IEs reboot of the Air Force Community Partnership Program.
- Hurlburt leadership wants to suggest that the Base Commanders' Meeting with the Governor and his staff happen on a more consistent and frequent basis so that the Commanders could get their concerns directly to the Governor. As one example, they would like to emphasize the need for improving traffic flow on Highway 98. A current project for Highway 98 adds additional Lanes and can be found in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) project 220196-3-52-01, "SR30 (US 98) from Santa Rosa County line to East of Cody Avenue – Add Lanes & Reconstruct". Currently under design with a 30% submittal just received by Hurlburt from FDOT for review. Status of funding for construction is not in FDOT future year program. This specific section by Hurlburt is part of the bigger project: <https://nwflroads.com/projects/220196-2>.
- The Air Force Enlisted Village, located outside of Eglin's west gate, has purchased 80 acres adjacent to its main campus for \$5M to develop the Victory Village which will support all services and wounded warriors. A capital campaign is underway for the first phase of construction. They are currently working with the County on zoning.
- We are still monitoring the rumored reduction in FY23 Air Force Test and Evaluation funding and investment. The DoD Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) had previously indicated that if funding is not restored in the President's Budget Request, TRMC would be forced to de-certify the AF budget.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reported that Gary Puckett and the Union Gap performed in his district on Veterans Day for about 300 veterans and raised \$75,000 for 13 local veterans' organizations.

Also, a family has donated a beautiful library built in 1926 to his community. The lease is \$20/year for the next 30 years, located in Daytona Beach and will be the War Museum for all their veterans to support and remind people of what so many have given so we can enjoy our freedom.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, discussed that the ADC has opened applications for the next selection of Great American Defense Communities. The state of Florida has four (4) Great American Defense Communities: Okaloosa/Walton, Pensacola, Tampa Bay and Bay County. She anticipates one or two communities will submit applications.

Last year our Legislators passed the Purple Star School Program, but the program has not yet been rolled out as it is still with the Department of Education (DOE) in Rules. She asked **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** for assistance with the DOE as schools and districts are waiting to start the program.

The second contract regarding the 3D Range model, the communications piece advancing Florida's military training testing evaluation ranges is moving forward as UWF has selected The Roosevelt Group for this project. Kathleen Ferguson will be reaching out to TF members for informal individual conversations as they develop their plan, so please be sure to take her call.

ADC is looking to co-host a regional meeting in Florida possibly this fall and the FDA sees this as a great opportunity to inform, educate and engage many more Florida organizations on the importance of this foundational base in Florida, particularly for the economic impact that it has. This will be a great opportunity to

bring more regional councils together with city councils or county commissioners to look at the foundational pieces that our installations bring to Florida. This will be a great opportunity to share information with more people as ADC can bring in top-notch speakers. Also, knowing that Florida's military and defense is 8.5% of the state's economy, military bases keep the economy stable.

Finally, the FDA is still tracking one or two compacts for spousal employment. They were hoping to get more through legislation this Session but will attempt to get more through during the next cycle.

FDVA Update

Major General James Hartsell (Ret), Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA), provided a department update on the FDVA. FDVA is a 1,500-member constitutionally chartered State Veterans' Affairs department with a \$160 million annual budget responsible for serving the nation's third largest veteran population. Operating as the premier point of entry for Florida's 1.5 million veterans, FDVA operates a network of seven state veterans' homes and provides outreach to connect veterans with their earned services, benefits and support. Two additional state veterans' homes will open in the second half of 2021. At the end of World War II, the State of Florida recognized the need to provide services to returning service members and created a division within state government to connect veterans with their earned benefits. To better serve veterans and their families, Florida voters in 1988 overwhelmingly approved a Constitutional Amendment to create a Cabinet Agency to "Honor Those Who Served U.S." Today, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is the premier point of entry for Florida veterans to access earned services, benefits and support.

Mission & Vision:

- Mission: To advocate with purpose and passion for Florida Veterans and link them to superior services, benefits and support.
- Vision: FDVA is premier point of entry for Florida Veterans to access earned services, benefits & support.
- Florida is projected to have 2nd highest Veteran population by 2032.

Women Veterans:

- Demographics: Sunshine State has 2nd largest population of Women Veterans in nation - more than 164,000.
- Challenge: Many women veterans don't know they're eligible for full range of earned benefits & services.
- Town Hall Meetings: FDVA held four meetings in 2021 to gauge understanding of issues; report to FDVA due March 2022

Vietnam Veterans:

- Demographics: Approximately out of every three Veterans in Florida is a Vietnam-era Veteran - more than 484,000; projected tops in nation in 2025.
- Challenge: Reluctant to seek help. VA recognizes service may have exposed Veterans to Agent Orange & other herbicides.
- Town Hall Meetings: Scheduled following legislative session; report to FDVA due summer 2022

Veterans' Claims Examiners from the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs are connecting veterans and their families with earned services, benefits and support. To contact a FDVA Veterans' Claims Examiner, call (727) 319-7440 and they'll return your call within 24 hours. All services are free to the veteran. You may also contact them via e-mail at VSO@fdva.state.fl.us. Many FDVA Veterans' Claims Examiners have returned to serving veterans at VA Medical Centers and VA Outpatient Clinics via appointments. For a list of phone numbers, visit the Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide at <https://floridavets.org/resources/va-benefits-guide/>. Video Teleconferencing now available for Florida Veterans: FDVA has launched a new "virtual" video conference option, providing Veterans with the flexibility and convenience of meeting with a claims examiner from a personal computer or mobile device. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (727) 319-7408.

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs operates six skilled nursing facilities and one assisted living facility. All facilities are licensed by Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration and inspected annually by AHCA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The homes are supervised round the clock by registered and licensed nurses. Basic admission requirements for all state veterans' homes include an honorable discharge, Florida residency, and certification of need of assisted living or skilled nursing care as determined by a VA physician. The map also shows our primary offices in Tallahassee, Bay Pines and our administrative headquarters in Largo.

Governor Ron DeSantis lent his signature to the Florida Veteran Suicide Prevention Month Proclamation in September 2019, highlighting the state's involvement with the "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families," a national call to action asking state, military and civilian interagency teams to embark on a process of collaborating, planning and implementing suicide prevention best practices and policies for service members, veterans and their families statewide. We've been working hard on this initiative during the past two years.

The Florida Veterans Support Line, 1-844-MyFLVet (693-5838), continues to provide confidential emotional support and connection to community resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The line, supported by FDVA and its suicide prevention partners, is available to all veterans in Florida.

2021 Florida Legislative Session Major veteran-related bills:

- HB 231 - FDVA establishes Florida Veterans' Care Coordination Program to provide and expand behavioral health care referral and care coordination services for veterans and families.
- Partners with 14 Florida 2-1-1 Network participants to provide services
- HB 7023 – Veterans Treatment Courts legislation creates uniform standards and procedures for Florida's current and future VTCs.

2022 Florida Legislative Session:

Governor DeSantis' Freedom First Budget Strongly Supports Florida's Veteran Community

- Funding for completion/staffing of additional state veterans' nursing homes in Port St. Lucie and Orlando
- Capital improvements/replacement of equipment & furniture for state's operational veterans' homes
- Additional \$\$\$ for contract services to cover agency staffing, housekeeping, therapy, medical & pharmacy services; upgraded information technology to track facility medical equipment & resident medical needs
- Provides \$350,000 for continuation of veteran suicide prevention outreach program - "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families"
- Continues funding for Veterans Florida, the non-profit created by the State of Florida to help military veterans transition to civilian life and promote Florida's status as the nation's most veteran-friendly state.

2022 Florida Legislative Session Veteran-related bills

- Recognizing Veteran Suicide - HB 63 (Willhite) & SB 302 (Burgess) - Urges Congress to recognize epidemic of suicide among veterans & fully fund suicide prevention efforts by the VA
- Educator Certification Pathways for Veterans - HB 573 (Snyder) & SB 896 (Burgess) - Expands eligibility to seek educator certification to specified servicemembers; authorizes DOE to issue temporary certificate to specified servicemembers & specifies duration of temporary certificate for specified servicemembers.
- State Park Fee Discounts - HB 115 (Casello) & SB 232 (Harrell) - Active-duty members and veterans who are Florida residents will receive a lifetime family annual pass at no cost.
- Military Medics and Corpsmen of Florida Program - HB 131 (Woodson) & SB 466 (Torres) - Requires FDVA & DOH to establish & administer Military Medics and Corpsmen of Florida program; authorizes

medically trained veterans participating in program to perform certain medical activities under specified supervision.

- Alcohol Purchases by Veterans' Service Organizations - HB 755 (Overdorf) & SB 1082 (Gruters) - Revises limitations on purchases of alcoholic beverages by vendors from vendors to exclude purchases by certain veterans' service organizations
- United States Space Force - HB 465 (Sirois) & SB 438 (Burgess) - Revising the definition of the term "uniformed services" to include the United States Space Force.

Governor DeSantis is committed to ensuring our service-members have the support of the state's legal community and its best legal minds. To achieve this goal, the Governor's Initiative on Lawyers Assisting Warriors (GI LAW) is drawing from the talent of Florida's leading law firms to provide pro bono services for military members. Through this initiative, our state's men and women in uniform will receive local counsel in a variety of civil matters, including actions in local courts. Participating attorneys will dedicate time and expertise to ensure a prompt and fair resolution of legal matters. This program is a collaboration between the Governor, the Department of Military Affairs, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs and Enterprise Florida, Inc. Update: 166 active-duty service members have taken advantage of the program as of December 2021.

Veterans Florida Update

Joe Marino, Veterans Florida, provided a presentation on Veterans Florida's missions and programs.

Topics of discussion:

Purpose: Veterans Florida is a non-profit corporation created by the State of Florida in 2014 to help veterans fully transition to civilian life in the Sunshine State and to promote Florida, the most veteran-friendly state in the country, as the best place to reside upon leaving the military.

Board of Directors

VETS Program - Veterans Employment and Training Services, Section 295.22, Florida Statutes Statute:

- Promote the state to veterans
- Veterans seeking employment
- Employers seeking veterans
- Workforce grant for employers
- Veteran entrepreneur initiative
- Florida's principal DOD SkillBridge assistance organization

Services:

- Marketing with VISIT Florida
- Career Services
- Workforce Recruiting
- Workforce Training Grant
- Entrepreneurship Program
- Florida SkillBridge Initiative

Marketing:

- US Servicemembers 12 months prior to, and veterans within 24 months after, separating or retiring from the military
- 200,000 separate each year across the country

- Geographically located at major and minor military installations in Florida and around the country, predominantly in the Southeast US, Texas, California, and East Coast US
- Branding and Messaging: social media

Career Services:

Transition Services

- Inform about Florida industries and opportunities
- Activity checkpoints as retirement or separation approaches

Career Services

- Skills and career preference assessments
- Resume assistance
- Interview preparation

Job Placement

- Coach veterans through start date at new job

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, Guard/Reserve, and spouses

Entrepreneurship:

- Workshops & Networking
- Topical and specific lessons for a group lasting a few hours
- Build their local business and mentorship network

Facilitated Cohorts

- In depth courses over several weeks
- 10-12 veteran businesses in Idea/Startup or Growth
- Pathway for moving business to next stage
- Mentoring provided

CoWorking & Incubators

- Reserved memberships for veterans to take advantage of office and meeting space, local resources, and mentoring

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, and Guard/Reserve - spouses may join

SkillBridge:

Program:

- Servicemembers with less than 180 days until separation or retirement
- Gain workforce training at an employer or industry partner under an apprenticeship or internship in lieu of their military duties
- Retain their full DoD pay and benefits.
- Commander approval

Industries:

- Aerospace, logistics, law enforcement, agriculture, etc.

Available to transitioning service members

Agriculture:

IFAS Internship

- 6 months paid fellowship at a University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Research Center
- Learn skills in various Florida agricultural areas from farming to ranching

Job Placement

- Place into full time work in agriculture industry

Available to transitioning service members, veterans, and Guard/Reserve. Veterans and Guard/Reserve access program through our USDA funded AgVets three-year grant. Transitioning servicemembers access program through our DoD SkillBridge certification.

FY 2021-22 Priorities: Legislative Budget Request

- Operations - \$400,000 (increase of ~ \$55,000)
- VETS Program - \$2 million (increase of \$700,000)

Florida Veterans Foundation Update

Lew Wilson, Florida Veterans Foundation (FVF), provided a briefing and overview of their Foundation. They were established by the Florida Legislature in 2008 as a direct support organization of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA), a 501(C)(3) Nonprofit foundation. FVF is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Resources.

Topics of discussion were:

Board of Directors, District Directors and Members at Large

Serving ALL Florida Veterans:

- Represents Nearly 1.5 million Veterans PLUS their Survivors & Families
- All Branches of Service and All Service Eras: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Cold War, Global War on Terror
- 28,000 Florida Veterans Monthly
- Florida Veteran's Council
- 375 Florida Veterans Service Organizations (VSO's)
- 67 Counties - 135 CVSO's
- Provides Education & Relief Resources to Florida Veterans
- Partnerships (DAV, Project Vet Relief, NAVF, BALS, CCTB)

Programs:

- Suicide Prevention & Opioid Addiction
- Aging Veterans & Survivor Benefits
- Emergency Assistance
- Locating Veterans
- Fraud & Financial Literacy
- Homeless Veterans
- Veterans Transportation
- PTSD & Mental Health
- Veterans Treatment Courts

Aging Veterans Benefits:

- Pension Plus Aid & Attendance (A&A)

- 20,000 Veterans X \$50,000 (Average Benefit) = \$1,000,000,000 In Benefits At NO COST TO THE VETERAN!

Resources:

- www.HelpFLVets.org
- VA Survivors & Burial Benefits Kit
- Florida Veterans Benefits Guide

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

There are over 100 military and veteran related bills set to be presented to the Legislature this Session. A full list can be found in Tab 11 of your books.

Thank you to the Legislators on the TF and their support across the State of Florida through legislative actions.

Staff is working on an interactive map for the website to incorporate a multitude of information as well as the completed videos and the updated economic impact study numbers.

ADC is hosting their 2022 Defense Communities National Summit in Washington, DC on March 7th through 9th, which Staff will attend. Staff is also in discussion with ADC on a Regional Summit in Florida sometime this September.

Terry will be attending the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando on March 2nd through 4th. He'll be joining EFI's Business Development Team to sell Florida to military defense industries.

Thank you to:

- Our Veteran partners for attending today's meeting and providing wonderful updates to the TF
- Lee Cardice for the great job providing A/V to the meeting
- His M&D team for all they do everyday
- The TF members, especially original members for the last 10 years, **Mr. Tom Neubauer** and **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, thank you for all you have done and will do for the State of Florida

Cake will be served after the meeting to celebrate 100 TF meetings.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

No Public Comments were made during this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM EST

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #101 on Thursday, February 17, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EST – 10:47 AM EST. For Agenda: See Page 2.

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret.)
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Ty Martin, Office of Florida's Attorney General
Christina McCullough, Office of Florida's Attorney General

Others Present:

Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)
Rick Miller, FDA Board/South Florida Defense Alliance
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Juan Valdez, Office of Congressman Matt Gaetz
Teri Wanamaker, NAS Jacksonville
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications & Research Specialist, EFI
Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #101
Zoom
AGENDA for February 17, 2022

**Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.**

KEY:
 (I) = Information
 (D) = Discussion
 (A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EST)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
 - TF Budget Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:15 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Attorney General’s Military and Veterans’ Assistance Program Ty Martin **(I) / (D)**
 - Florida Ethics & Sunshine Law Review Ray Collins **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Mar 17, 2022	St. Augustine St. Francis Barracks	Apr 21, 2022	Zoom
May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2022	NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer welcomed attendees and guests and reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for any corrections to the January 20, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on some current TF grants.

Contracts: Contract 21-263, Matrix Design Group for the Economic Impact Study is closed as the final payment has been processed. Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive are complete and were fully executed as of February 8th.

Grants: All grantees have submitted their second quarter grant reports at this time and are included in your report.

Grant #20-100, Military Child Education Coalition has requested their final payment and has submitted their final report. This grant will be closed upon submission of their final deliverable reports.

After the printing of the grants report, Clay County has submitted their final report and requested the balance of their grant award for DTF #21-100. This contract is now closed. Clay County's contract for this year's \$500,000 grant award was executed on 2/10/2022.

Grant #21-105, the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council has requested an extension to April 30, 2022. They currently have a balance of \$11,892.50. They expect to send an invoice requesting their remaining reimbursement within the next two weeks. Also, effective February 15 and under mutual agreement of all 5 of the founding counties for the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council, fiscal agent responsibilities for The Fire Watch will shift from the City of Jacksonville to St. Johns County. This will allow payments to vendors to be made much more quickly in the future.

At this point staff has received three applications for the FY 2022-2023 grant program:

- City of Jacksonville for \$500,000
- Clay County Development Authority for \$500,000
- Military Child Education Coalition for \$250,000

On February 1st, staff re-opened the grant submission window for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. New applications are due by February 28th. At the March TF meeting Staff will submit all applications for a decision on invitations to present at the May meeting.

Continuing Services Contract & Budget: Staff has recently started working again on the Continuing Services Contract. **Terry McCaffrey** will discuss further as well as the updated Budget.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to extend DTF #21-105 the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council grant contract to April 30, 2022. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Captain Keith Hoskins**. All were in favor and the extension was approved.*

Budget Update

Terry McCaffrey discussed that after several layers of review, Staff has received approval to move forward with the Continuing Services Contract. Staff will continue working on this contract with intended execution prior to the end of this fiscal year.

Currently the TF has about \$135,000 remaining unprogrammed in the budget, of which he suggests \$100,000 be applied to the Continuing Services Contract. Staff will release an RFQ in the next few days.

Staff has been working with EFI on upgrades to the M&D website with EFI funding most of the cost. Staff would like to add an information layer to the design which would cost an additional \$3,750, funded by the TF, if the TF approves. This project should be completed in the next few weeks.

The TF members had no objections to spending \$3,750 in TF administrative funds on the website project.

Staff will continue to publish the Economic Impact Study Summary Books and include the information on the website.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl added that the books are convenient to hand out as he finds people like to keep them on their desks for easy reference.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Brigadier General Chip Diehl discussed that both CENTCOM and SOCOM will have changes of command coming up this spring. Wes Brooks, the State of Florida's new Chief Resiliency Officer, visited MacDill AFB recently having a tour of the base and meeting with base leadership. He believes Dr. Brooks will be visiting most of the bases in the State. Air Force Chief of Staff, General CQ Brown, will visit Tampa next month to drop the puck at a Tampa Bay Lightning game.

Major General James Eifert provided the following remarks as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,611 (1,355 Army & 256 Air) Servicemembers representing 13 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 6 Organizations consisting of approximately 75 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

Joint Military Training Group – Ukraine (JMTG-U). In November, the 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team composed of 165 Soldiers (160 Florida Guard Personnel) made up of three elements: headquarters staff; mentor and advisor teams and unit support personnel. The 53rd's mission is training, equipping, developing a training center, and doctrinal assistance to the Ukrainian armed forces. As you've probably seen in the news, the 53rd IBCT has been directed to suspend their mission in Ukraine and have relocated to Germany where they are awaiting guidance for their follow-on mission.

Congressional Delegation Engagements. February 1-3, I conducted legislative engagements in Washington, DC with 13 members of Congress focusing on growing the Florida National Guard, establishing the Space National Guard, and leveraging Military Construction funding to build additional readiness centers and support facilities in FL to support our growth. He is also meeting with Congressman Dunn this afternoon at Camp Blanding on the same topics.

He discussed, in depth, the many issues the FLNG is dealing with due to COVID-19 and vaccinations.

Colonel Jim Heald reported the following from Eglin AFB and Okaloosa County:

- The DSI 2022 Federal Legislative Point Paper is being finalized for dissemination. Top priorities include:
 - Permanent sustainment of the MML

- In partnership with OCEANA, DSI leadership met virtually with Senators Rubio's and Scott's staffs to advocate for the EGTRR and MML
 - EGTRR-MAX – Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range Maximization includes multiple parts needed to
 - GRE Plan – continuing request to fund the Gulf Range Enhancement
 - Spectrum Warfare/Electronic Combat Range Assets – funding started in FY20 and needs to continue – had great briefing from Col Young the commander of the new 350 Spectrum Warfare Wing
 - Range Support Aircraft (RSA) replacement – hoping for Gulfstream 550s (also called C-37) to replace the aging E-9 Widgets at Tyndall AFB. Navy is buying and has already done the engineering to make the C-37s into range support aircraft. USAF is buying 10 C-37s to replace EC-130s in the Compass Call mission. The C-37 would be a great improvement over the aging E-9s since they would not be one of a kind and would provide better public safety (range clearing) and better telemetry relay.
 - Eastern Gulf Aquaculture Buffering – another example of encroachment that could be accommodated with the proper coordination requirements in their permits
 - Childcare Development Center – highest priority for 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)
 - NexGen Eglin Language – would allow using O&M funds to repair/replace aging infrastructure
 - WTIC MILCON – Waiting on final passage of Appropriations to see if \$40M in Planning and Design funds were included
- DSI leadership met with The Roosevelt Group to discuss the Eglin Test and Training Complex and EGTRR capabilities, capacities and needs
 - One Okaloosa EDC has engaged Kennetic Productions to compose a targeted Team Eglin and EGGTR informational video. Some B Roll interview footage from last year was utilized and the product is nearing completion. The goal is to achieve expanded outreach focused on the EGTRR buffering and sustainment needs. Funds came from last year's DRG grant and the videos from the FDA/FDSTF video project
 - Previously reported that the community and military participated in a virtual meeting in January. The next step following the SAF/IE facilitated P4 brainstorming sessions on January 12, is for an out brief with BGen Cain and Col Schermerhorn. After their review and guidance, execution will engage for new and refreshed work groups.
 - The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for 26Apr22. Col Meeks, Commander AFRL Munitions Directorate will be the Keynote speaker.
 - General Arnie Bunch, the Commander of Air Force Materiel Command, will be at Eglin the end of February. Planning is underway to have a community luncheon with him.
 - We are still monitoring the rumored reduction in FY23 Air Force Test and Evaluation funding and investment. The DoD Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) had previously indicated that if funding is not restored in the President's Budget Request, TRMC would be forced to de-certify the AF budget.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed that at NSA Panama City the next generation landing craft, Ship to Shore Connector (SSC), Landing Craft, Air Cushion (LCAC), successfully completed well deck interoperability testing with USS Carter Hall and demonstrated the craft are another step closer to fleet integration. The test event, a collaboration between, PEO Ships, USS Carter Hall, Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division and other stakeholders, was the culmination of months of preparation. The testing also has historical significance, as Panama City is the location of the Navy's Air Cushion Vehicle Center of Excellence with the first-ever well deck operations occurring off Panama City in 1985 between legacy LCAC 01 and USS Whidbey Island.

Bay County is working with their local Economic Development Alliance and all of its partners to analyze the workforce problem, to find the current and future needs of the local industries to develop a means of recruiting workforce into the area, as well as deal with the workforce housing issue. Every six months their community reports to the Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard information on the housing pipeline to see what what's coming up over the next three-to-five years, the recovery of hospitals and schools from Hurricane Michael as well as quality-of-life factors. Workforce is becoming an issue they're trying to solve as it affects many other communities across the state.

The current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires tomorrow. There's a follow-on CR that will go through March 12th with optimism it includes a framework started for the 2023 bill. A critical issue is that all new programs will most likely see a two-year delay if this second CR doesn't result in a budget very quickly. There are 56 MILCON projects under the CR that cannot be funded because they're attached to new missions, which cannot be funded. They're concerned about the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) at Eglin AFB it's critical that RDT&E has fallen far behind, particularly with 12 new missiles and hypersonic weapons that are on the board ready to be tested that cannot be without this new funding. He encourages everyone to lean heavily on their CODEL to make sure that the next two weeks are the end of the CR season for Congress.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported on items of discussion from Tuesday's FDA meeting.

Matrix Design Group presented on the most recent Economic Impact Study. Having our members armed with information is very helpful as our communities go out and talk to their elected officials their community leaders on the importance of the military missions and the installations in their communities. Matrix also demonstrated their Defense Contractors Engagement Program website which is another great tool for local communities, particularly economic development organizations.

The Family Support Working Group discussed the Purple Star School Program, which is still in the rulemaking stage and hoping to be voted on in March. The Interstate Military Child Compact legislation renewal is moving through committees at this moment as well as the Licensed Professional Counselors compact and the Psychological Interjurisdictional compact. These compacts are the only ones making it through this Session. They will continue to work on the others next year.

The Mission Sustainment Working Group is moving forward with the engagement and information plan for the Florida Range Complex.

Avon Park Air Force Range is facing another encroachment issue as the county is proposing an area for permanent residence mobile homes. County staff has recommended denial of this proposal but the FDA will be keeping close watch on this situation.

As they start making plans for the May FDA meeting and beginning plans for the ADC regional meeting in September it's important to reach out to elected officials, county staffs and get them more engaged to understand what encroachment is, what it means and the important role that they play.

Attorney General's Military & Veterans Assistance Program

Ty Martin and Christina McCullough, Office of the Florida Attorney General, presented their Military and Veterans Assistance Program (MVAP).

Florida's Consumer Protection Statute: To protect the consuming public and legitimate business enterprises from those who engage in unfair methods of competition, or unconscionable, deceptive, or unfair acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce. Florida Statutes § 501.202(2) (2021).

Topics of discussion were:

- Why Florida Needs the MVAP
- Outreach and Education
- How to File an MVAP Complaint
- Lifecycle of a Complaint
- Types of Complaints
- Limited Jurisdiction
- MVAP Partnerships
- Enforcement
- Enhanced Penalties for Military Victims

- Significant Recent Resolutions
- How You Can Collaborate
- Military Consumer Protection Resource Guide
- Contact Information

The full presentation can be found here: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Florida Ethics & Sunshine Law Review

Ray Collins presented the annual review of Florida's Sunshine, Public Records and Ethics Laws.

Topics of discussion were:

- Florida Statute 288.987, Florida Defense Support Task Force
- Florida Defense Support Task Force statutory requirements
- Task Force assignments to EFI
- Public Records:
 - Definition, Examples and Exemptions
 - Exemptions Specific to FDSTF
 - Who can Request?
 - How Long to Keep
 - Tips
- Sunshine Law
 - Requirements
 - Definition & Rules
 - Exemptions
- Ethics & Transparency
 - Definition & Rules
 - Voting Rules & Conflicts
- Ethics & Transparency Specific to FDSTF Members

The full presentation can be found here: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey discussed that Staff is working on the following:

Staff has had kickoff meetings with both Matrix Design Group for the Resiliency contract and The Roosevelt Group for the Education contract and both of those projects are moving forward.

The next TF meeting is on March 17th in St. Augustine. We plan to tour the historic Florida National Guard Headquarters building, as well stay in the historic part of the oldest city in the country. Please let Michelle know if you plan on attending the March meeting.

Upcoming events in which Staff will be participating:

- AFA Air Warfare Symposium, Orlando's Rosen Shingle Creek, March 2-4
- ADC Annual National Summit, Washington, DC, March 7-9
- 80th Doolittle Raider Goblet Turning, Fort Walton Beach, April 15-18
- Veterans Florida Expo, Orlando, June 17-18, will provide more information soon
- ADC Regional Summit – Florida is developing a regional program targeting September 2022 in Fort Walton Beach with a Resilience Funding Program theme

As of February 14th there are 66 bills that support military members:

- SB 2500 – Defense funding:
 - FDSTF \$2 million
 - DIG \$1.6 million
 - DRG \$800,000

SB 430 / HB 153 – Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity of Military Children, extends repeal of this important compact. Is through committee and on the floor for approval.

SB 1370 / HB 0953 - Psychological Interjurisdictional Compact is waiting to go into committee on the Senate; moving in the House (has passed two committees).

SB 358 / HB 590 - Licensed Professional Counselors Compact has passed one committee in the Senate: next to Approvals. Passed two committees in the House and is moving to final Approval.

SB 438 / HB 465 – US Space Force, includes space in definition of uniformed services. Is on its second reading on both the Senate and House floor.

EFI is funding a company-wide website upgrade, including the M&D site. A map will be added to incorporate information such as economic impact data and the defense videos created last year.

Northwest Florida has just been notified that they have been designated a new Sentinel Landscape. This was a huge team effort led by **Kent Wimmer** of the Defenders of Wildlife. **Ray Collins** will have more from Kent in the public comments.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife: I am thrilled to announce that on February 15, 2022, The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, comprised of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense and Department of Interior, announced three new areas are designated as sentinel landscapes: the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, the Camp Bullis Sentinel Landscape in Texas Sentinel Landscape and the Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape.

The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Partnership, representing over four dozen federal, state, and regional agencies as well as non-governmental organizations in the region including the FDSTF, is working to ensure natural and working lands thrive alongside the region's military installations and ranges. The NWFLS designation will help our partners collaborate and attract federal, state and private funding to keep working lands working to protect military missions of six major military installations and to conserve habitat for sensitive wildlife species. As the nonprofit coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, Defenders of Wildlife will be working with our agency and organizational partners, including the FDSTF and the FDA and its members, to identify and implement collaborative projects to achieve our mutual objectives.

The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape is one of the largest in the country and the second designated landscape in Florida, joining central Florida's Avon Park Air Force Range. Reinforcing Florida's strategic importance to our national defense and its strong support for the military, Florida is the first state to host multiple sentinel landscapes. To ensure effective coordination between these two sentinel landscapes and their diverse partners, 25 parties representing federal and state agencies and non-governmental organizations signed a Florida Sentinel Landscapes Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on January 21, 2022. This MOU establishes a statewide framework to strengthen collaboration and streamline activities that connect private landowners around military installations with voluntary government and private assistance programs. Unfortunately, the proposed Northeast Florida Sentinel Landscape was not selected this cycle, but we will continue to engage with and support our partners in Northeast Florida as they consider pursuing designation again.

This milestone would not have been possible without the personal and organizational contributions and commitments of the Partnership. I would like to thank Ray Collins and the members of the Florida Defense

Support Task Force and the Florida Defense Alliance for your strong support, especially over the past year as we successfully achieved designation as a sentinel landscape and executed the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida Memorandum of Understanding.

Thank you again for your partnership and support as we work together to protect base missions, working lands and wildlife habitat in Northwest Florida and across Florida.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer reminded the TF that the next meeting will be in-person, Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront in St. Augustine, Florida.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #101. A motion was made by **Major General Richard Haddad**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all were in favor and the meeting is adjourned.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM EDT.

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/2-17-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #102 on Thursday, March 17, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting at the Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront, at 9:00 AM EDT – 10:29 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF, (Ret)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret)

Task Force Members Present via ZOOM:

Representative Thad Altman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret)

Task Force Members Absent:

Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Representative Wyman Duggan

Speakers Present:

Rick Miller, Vice Chair, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA)
Brigadier General Michael Valle, Assistant Adjutant General, Florida National Guard (FLNG)

Others Present in Person:

Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
LTC Jason Hunt, FLNG
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport/NAS Jacksonville

Others Present via ZOOM:

Josh Gabel, Office of Senator Marco Rubio
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chair
Ty Martin, Florida Attorney General's Office
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting Group, LLC
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Cory Strickland, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Kristi Turner, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

Chris Weller, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
Roger Williams, FLNG
Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF
Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs
Chad Corriveau, Communications and Research Assistant, EFI (Zoom)
Michelle Griggs, Executive Assistant/Grants & Contracts Manager, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #102
Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront
32 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, FL 32084
AGENDA for March 17, 2022

KEY:
(I) = Information
(D) = Discussion
(A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- Local Defense Community Welcome Maj. Gen James Eifert **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business.....Chairman **(A) / (I)**
- Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
- 9:15 – 11:00 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
- TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Maj. Gen. James Eifert **(I)**
 - Florida National Guard Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 11:00 – 11:15 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Apr 21, 2022 Jun 2022	Zoom NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Guest Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright welcomed attendees and guests and led the TF and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked Major General James Eifert for the tour of the FLNG St. Francis Barracks and reminded the TF that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

Brigadier General Michael Valle welcomed the TF and guests to St. Augustine.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for corrections to the February 17, 2022 TF meeting minutes. Noting none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 TF meeting. **Colonel Jim Heald** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Major General Richard Haddad**, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Task Force Grants and Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs reported on several current TF contracts and grants.

Contracts: The RFQ for the Continuing Services Contract was posted on March 1st. Proposals are due by April 8th. Both the Matrix Design Group and The Roosevelt Group projects are moving forward.

Grants:

Grant #14-05, Bay County Economic Development Alliance has notified us that their project is ahead of schedule and will be complete by the end of March.

Grant #21-102, Orlando Economic Partnership, informed us that the project will be completed by March 31. They are awaiting the final invoices, but the reports have been finalized and approved.

At this point staff has received seven applications for the FY 2022-2023 grant program. Staff will be vetting these applications so the TF can announce their selections for presentations at the April meeting.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Representative Thad Altman reported that this week engineers will conduct the final test of the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket, Orion spacecraft, and Exploration Ground Systems before the Artemis I launch at Launch Pad 39B at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Also, the 45th Space Wing at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station plans to resume polar launches, which have not happened since the 1950s/1960s. The 45th Space Wing is encouraging the public to watch out for the polar inclination because of its different flight path in the clear zone. The polar launch trajectories differ greatly from a typical flight pattern from the eastern range with rockets flying south, closer to overland, just off the peninsula of Florida. It's an inclination that places satellites into an orbit that loops around the Earth's poles, which are required for satellites to see the whole planet and requires a southern launch trajectory.

The Honorable Thomas Bowman reported that he is currently in Washington, DC for a series of meetings, one of which is going to pertain to the AIR Commission (Asset & Infrastructure Review Commission). The names of the Chairman plus seven other members have been publicly identified and have been forwarded to the Senate for review and confirmation. The Honorable Patrick Murphy, former Acting Secretary of the Army, has been identified as the Chairman and his hearing is scheduled for April 5th. After that hearing the Senate

leadership will schedule the vote and confirmation of the chairman and other members. The Commission will stand up after the Chairman is confirmed and sworn in.

He believes the AIR Commission will be important as they'll be looking at the total footprint of facilities and healthcare within the VA.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin reported that the North Florida Land Trust and representatives from NAS Jacksonville met to talk about future compatible land purchases for Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport and Pinecastle Range. More information to come as that moves forward.

At the end of April \$3,530,400 will be executed for the next 60 acres at Timuquana CC of which \$882,600 will be City Grant funds.

The destroyer USS Mason (DDG-87) is moving its home port from Norfolk to NS Mayport.

Last month naval installations completed Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield. The two exercises, each with a distinct focus, occur sequentially and stress different areas of the Navy's anti-terrorism program to enhance the readiness of Navy security forces to respond to real-world threats.

NAS is in the process of hosting, coordinating and planning for the October 2022 Air Show. We have not had an Air Show since 2018.

FL SB 562, and HB 559 which expedites license applications of military spouses who hold an out-of-state certification, passed both chambers (House and Senate) this week. Proponents hope to curb the unemployment rate among military spouses by providing temporary work licenses to military spouses who hold an out-of-state professional license. It would also, among other provisions, waive Florida's license application fees.

Brigadier General Chip Diehl reported that MacDill AFB will have an Air Show on March 26th and 27th featuring the Blue Angels and a KC-46.

USCENTCOM and USSOCOM will both have changes of command this spring.

Tinker Middle School at MacDill AFB is awaiting federal funding for improvements. The funding passed for the PSMI Program (Public Schools on Military Installations) for schools on DoD bases nationwide in the new federal budget was set at \$516 million, nearly double the previously proposed amount.

Major General Richard Haddad reported that recent comments by Lieutenant General Jim Slife, AFSOC Commander: "We are entering a new operating environment, and I think what we're seeing in Eastern Europe right now is a great case study. Having our lives defined by the next rotation to Afghanistan or Syria or whatever - while we will still be involved in that work, that's not the defining thing for the future. How do we pivot around the human capital for this future operating environment? The three lines of effort in AFSOC's strategic plan were about developing our human capital, organizing our human capital and equipping our human capital with concepts and technology. Among the potential next AFSOC commanders, I think we all have a fairly common understanding that we've got to change and this is what the future looks like. I expect that there will be course changes; I would be a little surprised if there was significant course change.

AFSOC hosted its Leadership, Equity, Advocacy and Development (LEAD) Symposium featuring six keynote speakers, including U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Jim Slife, commander of AFSOC, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass on February 23rd and 24th. The virtual symposium aimed to provide an opportunity for Air Commandos to participate in a virtual professional development event and hear from subject matter experts as well as from the Air Force's most senior leaders.

2022 SOFIC will be held on May 16-19th in Tampa, Florida. This year, through live and virtual sessions, the conference will focus on "Campaigning with Partners for Integrated Deterrence." Visit [SOFIC.org](https://sofic.org) for more information or to register for the event.

10 Special Forces Group - Airborne Green Berets participated in Arctic Circle during Arctic Edge 22 for extreme weather training on February 28th through today. This regularly planned and recurring exercise gives SOF the opportunity to test their tactics and equipment throughout Alaska's intense terrain.

SOCOM Commander General Richard Clarke sat on a virtual panel discussion at the Irregular Warfare Initiative Conference that was held on March 15th, discussing the role of Irregular Warfare today and into the future.

Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR): As was previously mentioned at the last FDA/FDSTF meeting, the owners of the Resort at Canopy Oaks RV Park are seeking Polk County approval to expand their operation to include mobile homes. It currently is limited to RVs only. On March 2nd, Range staff and Moody AFB legal personnel attended the Polk County Planning Commission meeting to express concerns. Polk County classifies mobile homes as a type of permanent residence so from a range perspective, this increase in development intensity is incompatible with the APAFR mission. Fortunately, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to deny the request, however the proposal must still go before the Board of County Commissioners for a vote in May.

Also on March 2nd, at the invite of Brigadier General Chip Diehl, APAFR staff was honored to have **Ms. Kathleen Ferguson**, former Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy, and current member of the Roosevelt Group, as well as the FDSTF's own **Terry McCaffrey**, visit the Deployed Unit Complex (DUC) at MacDill AFB to get a feel for the training opportunities the DUC provides.

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council, in partnership with APAFR, hosted a Compatible Use Plan (CUP) Kickoff meeting at the Range on March 8th. The CUP will update APAFR's aging Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The meeting was well attended by elected officials and planning staff from the local community. The CUP process will continue for about a year and is scheduled for completion by Feb 2023.

Regarding Range Operations, March has been a very busy month for APAFR. At the beginning of the month, APAFR hosted another Agile Combat Employment (ACE) exercise for Moody AFB A-10s and MC-130s while at the same time, hosting a USSOCOM Technical Experimentation Event.

APAFR is currently near the end of hosting a three-week long, Close Air Support (CAS) Exercise for the 3rd Air Support Operations Group (ASOG), Ft. Hood, Texas. 3rd ASOG JTACS have been working with aircraft from throughout Florida and Georgia including A-10s, F-16s, AC-130s, and U-28s.

Looking forward, APAFR is scheduled to host additional ACE and CAS exercises as well as the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment weapons training deployment.

Colonel Jim Heald reported from Eglin AFB:

Eglin AFB has gone to Health Protection Condition Alpha; masks are not required except in healthcare facilities. 250 people can now meet at Air Force-sponsored gatherings.

March 15th Eglin AFB received the Hospital of the Year for 2021 award along with three individual awards:

- USAF Biomedical Specialist of the Year - Field Grade Category: Lieutenant Colonel William J. Chalmers III
- USAF Diet Therapy Airman of the Year - Senior Airman Maylen J. Dumanas
- USAF Physician of the Year - Field Grade Category - Major Roselyn Jan W. Fuentes

The Defense Support Initiatives and Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative have been working on ten (10) Federal Legislative inputs. The most important is to permanently extend the Military Mission Line moratorium to protect the Eastern Gulf Test and Training Range. They have requests in for range upgrades, housing allowances, roads and transportation and childcare development centers.

The Tri-County Community Partnership Initiative continues to work on infrastructure issues, recently meeting virtually with SAF/IE and are scheduled to meet in person with Nathan Sparks and leaders from both Eglin AFB

and Hurlburt Field on March 29th. April 27th they are scheduled to meet with Brigadier General Scott Caine from Eglin AFB and Colonel Jocelyn Schermerhorn commander at Hurlburt Field for the Community Partnership Program.

The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for April 26th. Colonel Meeks, Commander AFRL Munitions Directorate will be the Keynote speaker.

Mr. Tom Neubauer reported that the recent wildfires in Bay and Gulf Counties have displaced about 500 families. He thanked the Florida National Guard for their quick response in quickly containing the fires.

Tyndall AFB's annual banquet was scheduled the day the fires started. The banquet was cancelled and the meals set to be served were donated to the shelters housing the displaced families.

Surveys have been sent to all Air Force installations to address the many housing issues. Once returned, recommendations will be made by a Task Force on what can be done to improve the housing issue across the Air Force.

Tyndall AFB is still on track for having the first four F 35s delivered fall 2023. Lieutenant General Eric Frick, the program Executive Officer for F-35 JPO, recently said the F-35 is critical to joint simulation environment testing, which is to happen before the aircraft's initial production and operational testing evaluation phase can be closed and is now expected to take place in early spring and summer of 2023.

Chairman, Senator Tom Wright reported that this legislative session was very law enforcement and military friendly. Funds were appropriated to build two (2) more nursing homes for veterans and build a new 4,500-bed hospital for retired veterans; the Skillbridge Program was funded through Veterans Florida as well as a program for servicemembers returning from overseas to gain employment as truck drivers; there is a request signed by every member of the House of Representatives and the Senate to the Federal Government to allow Florida to increase the FLNG numbers by 10,000 positions; Major General James Hartsell was formally appointed as the Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA).

He has been offered to continue as the Military, Veterans, Space and Domestic Security committee chair for the next four (4) years.

He will likely be going back into Special Session to assist with homeowners' insurance rising rates issue in Florida.

Florida Defense Alliance Update

Rick Miller, FDA Vice Chair, congratulated the Space Coast as being designated by ADC a Great American Defense Community.

Earlier this month about ten (10) FDA members from across Florida attended the ADC National Summit in Washington, DC. Much discussion was around the topic of resilience, many good lessons were brought back which tie into work ongoing in South Florida and Tampa around resilience. This information will feed into the planned ADC regional event in Florida in late September with a heavy resilience focus, particularly to help communities understand how to tie the work in civilian communities around resilience with the military installations, then circle back to obtain federal dollars in other available programs like BRIC.

Family Support Working Group: The Purple Star School Program made it through last year's session. The implementation instructions have been working their way through Department of Education (DOE). March 2nd DOE opened the public comment period per the Administrative Procedures Act and Rulemaking, a 21-day period which will close in six days. DOE will take a few weeks to absorb any public comments, make appropriate adjustments and then finalize and promulgate the implementation instructions and guidance. FDA is cautiously optimistic that will happen in April. The updated language pushed the submission deadline for the

first annual round of applications from August to September, which gives schools around the state an extra month and a half to work on their packages. The FDA May meeting will be encouraging members to work with school liaison officers around the state assisting with the applications to maximize the number of Purple Star Schools in this first round this year.

Mission Sustainment Working Group: Many good initiatives are developing from the TF grant that was awarded last year. The Roosevelt Group has been working on several robust engagements over the last month pulling together the final information and they are on track to be complete this summer to deliver a very high-quality product highlighting the comprehensive totality of Florida's ranges to benefit DoD and others by bringing more range activity to Florida.

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chair, added that April is Military Child Appreciation month. Be looking for programs around the state in support of that program.

Florida National Guard

Brigadier General Michael Valle provided the following remarks, on behalf of **Major General James Eifert**, as a Florida National Guard Update.

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE

The Florida National Guard currently has 1,635 (1,384 Army & 251 Air) Servicemembers representing 16 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 178 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

PANHANDLE FIRE SUPPORT

In less than 24 hours and no notice, the Florida National Guard provided aircraft capability that made immediate and significant impact to the Chipola Fire Complex fires in the Florida Panhandle. The Chipola Fire Complex consisted of two separate fires, the Adkins Avenue fire, and the Bertha Road fire. Collectively, the fires burned over 34,000 acres. The Florida National Guard provided 29 personnel, that consisted of both air crews and support personnel for the six helicopters provided. The helicopters consisted of 3 UH-60 Blackhawks, 3 CH-47 Chinooks and 9 Bambi Buckets to drop the water. The Task Force positioned in Bay County from 5 March 2022 to 12 March 2022 and conducted multiple missions throughout their time in the county. The crews flew over 66 hours and dropped 175 buckets of water equaling to over 171,120 thousand gallons of water. while supporting the Bertha Road and Adkins Avenue fires. The county supervisors and incident commander expressed that the Florida National Guard capabilities became "a game changer," in getting the fire contained, saving both lives and property from the fires.

HURRICANE SEASON PREPARATION

The Florida National Guard is preparing for the upcoming Hurricane Season. This week, planners from our Joint Directorate of Operations and Military Support (J3, JDOMS) are attending the All Hazards Conference in New Orleans to coordinate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) agreements prior to the start of the season. Our team will also participate in the Governor's Hurricane Conference in West Palm Beach, 8-10 May. It will follow up with a hurricane response rehearsal during June's annual state-wide hurricane exercise.

SPACE NATIONAL GUARD UPDATE

Since the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) established the United States Space Force (USSF), we have failed in our efforts to establish a Space National Guard. Before NDAA 2022 conferencing began, the White House published a Statement of Administration Policy that "strongly opposes the creation of a Space National Guard" and direction to "develop alternative Space Force concepts that are efficient, effective and appropriate for space missions," which effectively stalled all efforts to maintain working House language in the 2022 NDAA to fully establish a Space National Guard. The United States Air Force, United States Space Force and National Guard Bureau support establishing a Space National Guard (SNG), comprising the existing units in the seven states and one territory that could be established within the current budget and facilities. National Guard Bureau estimates it will cost \$248,000 to transfer from the Air National Guard to a Space National Guard, with no interruption to US Space Force missions. Recently, OMB has tasked the United States Space Force

(USSF) to provide a plan, no later than July 1, 2022, to assume all National Guard space missions by FY 2025. We anticipate a transfer of tasks will incur hundreds of millions of dollars, require new MILCON for facilities and take at least seven years to completely rebuild the capabilities existing today in our National Guard space units. The transfer of space missions from the National Guard to the US Space Force is not only fiscally irresponsible but will also result in a significant interruption in critical space operations, some that the National Guard only performs. We are strongly encouraging our Congressional Delegation to consider reintroducing language in the 2023 NDAA to establish a Space National Guard and direct the CBO to submit a new cost estimate to establish a Space National Guard.

The morning of August of 2020 the FLNG stood up the 249th Special Operations Squadron and have 37 Florida Air Guardsman supporting that mission. That same afternoon the AFSOC Vice Commander informed that the CV-22s were moving to Kirtland AFB in 2023. By next summer the FLNG will not be involved in that mission.

Brigadier General Valle suggested that within the next month, the TF write letters in support of a Space National Guard to Florida's House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) members.

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey updated the TF items on which the Staff is currently working.

The next meeting is on April 21st via Zoom.

He attended the AFA Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando on March 2nd through 4th; mingled with several aerospace companies and discussed opportunities in Florida.

He and **Ray Collins** attended the ADC National Summit in Washington, DC on March 7th through 9th; they met with the Air Force SAF/IE, Ms. Carol Ann Beda, and discussed issues such as ranges, childcare, Space Force basing and affordable housing; also met with James Balocki, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Energy and Installations and discussed NAS Pensacola repairs and enclave, ranges, quality of life matrix and housing. They also discussed the Air Force scorecard with several other states who also had issues with the scoring and results.

The ADC Regional Summit will be in September 2022 in the Panhandle focusing on resilience funding programs.

The Education and Resiliency contracts are moving along. Staff has bi-weekly meetings with Matrix Design Group and The Roosevelt Group to receive updates on those projects. Matrix Design Group will also be reaching out to FDA members to coordinate with your installations and communities on resiliency projects so they can start paying attention compiling the project list.

The Continuing Services Contract RFQ has been released. He has spoken to several firms who plan on submitting proposals, which are due by April 8th.

The State Budget Report as of March 10th lists on line 2296 the TF is funded at \$2 million; line 2307 DIGs are funded at \$1.6 million; line 2301 DRGs are funded at \$800,000.

As of March 14th, there are 66 bills that support military members:

- SB430/HB153 – Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity of Military Children; extends repeal of this important compact, enrolled
- SB862/HB559 – Occupational Licensure of Military Spouses, enrolled
- SB1370/HB0953 – Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact; passed the House but then sent to the Senate and died
- SB358/HB1521 – Professional Counselors Licensure Compact; enrolled
- SB1940/HB7053 – Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience; enrolled

- SB862/HB505 – Florida National Guard Strength; enrolled
- SB438/HB465 – US Space Force; includes space in definition of uniformed services; enrolled

EFI has funded the M&D website redesign which will include upgraded functionality and interactive maps. The new site will launch mid-April.

A new version of the Military Benefits Guide is on the website. Since it took a while to get this version approved, Staff will not print but wait until July to print the next updated version in early July, which should be approved much more quickly.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Defenders of Wildlife, reported that on February 15, 2022, the United States Departments of Defense, Agriculture and Interior announced designation of the Northwest Florida as one of three new Sentinel Landscapes along with Southern Indiana and Camp Bullis in Texas. Florida is now the only state with two Sentinel Landscapes. On March 2, 2022, he presented the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape as part of Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program's webinar showcasing the new Sentinel Landscapes. On Tuesday March 22, the Steering Committee for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape will meet virtually to celebrate and discuss next steps. He will continue to coordinate the partnership for this Sentinel Landscape.

Unfortunately Northeast Florida was not selected as a Sentinel Landscape in this round. This past January, twenty-five (25) Federal, state and NGO partners executed the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida Memorandum of Understanding to promote coordination between the Avon Park Air Force Range and Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape and the proposed Northeast Florida Sentinel Landscape, and to encourage these signatories to support Sentinel Landscapes in Florida. For more information, please visit sentinellandscapes.org which has pages devoted to each Sentinel Landscape. The Northwest Florida page has factsheets, presentations, web applications and the Sentinel Landscapes in Florida MOU.

*A quorum being present, **Chairman, Senator Tom Wright** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #102. **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by **Mr. Tom Neubauer**, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 AM EDT.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM EDT

Final Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Florida Defense Support Task Force

Minutes for the Florida Defense Support Task Force Meeting #103 on Thursday, April 21, 2022

The Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) held a publicly noticed meeting via Zoom at 9:00 AM EDT – 10:31 AM EDT. For Agenda: See Page 3.

Task Force Members Present:

Tom Neubauer, Bay Defense Alliance, Vice Chairman
The Honorable Thomas Bowman
Rear Admiral Stan Bozin, USN, (Ret.)
Brigadier General Chip Diehl, USAF, (Ret.)
Major General Richard Haddad, USAF (Ret.)
Colonel Jim Heald, USAF, (Ret.)

Task Force Members Absent:

Senator Tom Wright, Chairman
Representative Thad Altman
Representative Wyman Duggan
Major General James Eifert, USAF, The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida
Captain Keith Hoskins, USN, (Ret.)

Speakers Present:

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt, Florida National Guard (FLNG)
Kellie Jo Kilberg, Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Chairwoman
Robbie Parrish, Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)

Others Present:

Katie Allan, Bay Defense Alliance
Lee Cardice, Cardice A/V
Ada Clark, Emerald Coast Regional Council
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Harrison Conyers, City of Jacksonville
Dave Dahl, Navy Region Southeast
Tim Farrell, Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)
Mike Ferro, Office of Florida's Lieutenant Governor
Debi Graham, Greater Pensacola Chamber
Sarah Hayenga, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB)
Paul Hirsch, EDC of Florida's Space Coast
Ty Martin, Office of Florida's Attorney General
Rick Miller, FDA Board/South Florida Defense Alliance
Austin Mount, Emerald Coast Regional Council
Dave Murzin, 850 Consulting, LLC
Kathleen Nestor, FDA Family Support Working Group Chair
Kay Rasmussen, One Okaloosa EDC
Matt Schellhorn, NS Mayport
Brooke Trawick-Gilbert, Bay Defense Alliance
Kent Wimmer, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape
The Florida Channel

Staff Present:

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director, FDSTF

Ray Collins, Special Advisor to the Vice President of Military & Defense Programs

Chad Corriveau, Communications & Research Specialist, EFI

Michelle Griggs, Manager, Contracts & Grants, EFI



Florida Defense Support Task Force – Meeting #103
Zoom
AGENDA for April 21, 2022

**Please contact the
 Military & Defense Team for
 Zoom Webinar information.**

KEY:
 (I) = Information
 (D) = Discussion
 (A) = Action

All Times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions..... Chairman **(I)**
- 9:05 – 9:15 Old Business..... Chairman **(A) / (I)**
 - Approval of Minutes Chairman **(A)**
 - TF Grants and Contracts Status Michelle Griggs **(I)**
 - FY 22-23 Grant Process Overview Ray Collins **(I) / (D)**
 - FY 22-23 TF Budget & Grants Slate Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
- 9:15 – 10:45 New Business..... Chairman **(I)**
 - TF Member Reports Kellie Jo Kilberg **(I)**
 - Florida Defense Alliance Update Chad Corriveau **(I)**
 - New Military & Defense Website Presentation Robbie Parrish **(I)**
 - DEP State Lands Presentation Terry McCaffrey **(I)**
 - Military & Defense Update
- 10:45 – 11:00 Public Comment..... Chairman

Reminder – Upcoming Meeting Dates:

May 19, 2022	Tallahassee (22-23 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2022	NO MEETING
Jul 21, 2022	Pensacola NAS Pensacola	Aug 18, 2022	Zoom
Sep 15-16, 2022	Key West Army Dive School/Truman Annex	Oct 20, 2022	Zoom
Nov 17, 2022	Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral SFS / FDA	Dec 2022	NO MEETING
Jan 19, 2023	Avon Park Avon Park AFR	Feb 16, 2023	Zoom
Mar 16, 2023	Tallahassee (Session)	Apr 20, 2023	Zoom
May 18, 2023	Tallahassee (Session / 23-24 Grants) / FDA	Jun 2023	NO MEETING

Terry McCaffrey, Vice President of Military & Defense Programs, Executive Director of the Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF), *began the meeting at 9:00 AM EDT.*

I. Agenda Item I: Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer welcomed attendees and guests and reminded attendees that the meeting is governed by the Sunshine Law.

II. Agenda Item II: Old Business

Approval of the Minutes

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for any corrections to the March 17, 2022 minutes. Noting none, a motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin** to approve the minutes, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**. All were in favor and the March 17, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.*

Task Force Grants & Contracts Status

Michelle Griggs provided a brief update on some current TF grants.

Contracts: Both contracts for the Matrix Design Group Resiliency Study and The Roosevelt Group Education deep dive continue progressing. Staff continues to have bi-weekly meetings with each firm for updates on their projects.

Grants: All grantees were notified to submit FY 21-22 third quarter reports which were due on April 11th, after the printing of this report. Most have already been submitted and will be included in next month's report.

Grant #21-105, the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council's final payment has been requested and the Defense Grant Final Report Form has been received. This grant is now closed. They are forfeiting \$130 back to the Task Force.

Grant #21-107, University of West Florida is requesting an extension to August 31, 2022. The Roosevelt Group has requested an extension for their report and engagement plan as they want to brief the findings and gather additional feedback at the May FDA meeting before submitting the final written product. They feel it will present a valuable opportunity to ensure the end-product is representative of all stakeholders while also providing full value to all audiences.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to extend DTF #21-107 the University of West Florida grant contract to August 31, 2022. A motion was made by **Brigadier General Chip Diehl**, seconded by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**. All were in favor and the extension was approved.*

Continuing Services Contract: Staff has received proposals from three (3) firms – The Principi Group, The Roosevelt Group and Matrix Design Group - for inclusion in the Contract. The contract has been approved by the EOG and DEO and is currently with EFI's Legal Counsel for review. We are hoping to have it executed by May 1, 2022.

FY 22-23 Grant Process Overview

Ray Collins provided an overview of the FDSTF grants program.

Annual Program Flow:

- August - Application window opens for following Fiscal Year funding
 - Staff reviews applications and develops recommendations
- September TF Meeting - TF reviews potential projects (no decision)

- Staff uses review to estimate grant funding levels and develop budget request for following Fiscal Year
- TF discusses submitted applications to inform LBR process
- March TF Meeting - TF decides which applicants to invite to provide in-person project presentations
- May TF Meeting - TF approves budget for the next FY
 - TF hears presentations on selected proposals and votes on grant awards for winning projects
- June/July - Governor announces winning grant recipients
- July - Execute contracts announced in June using current Fiscal Year

TF Staff accepts Out-of-Cycle Applications throughout year for emergency and emerging needs

May Meeting Process:

- Five proposals selected for consideration
- Total funding requested: \$1,911,810
- Maximum recommended to award: \$1,420,000
- Budget for grants = 74.3% of requested grant total
- Hear presentations (15 min)
- Ask questions (5 min)
- Review scoring, selection, and establish award during “Closed Session”
- Reconvene “Open Session” to vote on awards

FY 22-23 TF Budget & Grants’ Slate

Terry McCaffrey provided a draft of the TF Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget, noting approximately \$1,420,000 is available for next year’s grant program.

He discussed items from this year’s budget:

- Grants Program at \$1.2 million
- Military Friendly Guide at \$5,000 (which was not spent as this year’s version is digital only; the next Guide will be published in July 2022)
- Economic Impact Study at \$155,000
- Installation & Community Resilience Plan at \$150,000
- Public Education Impact on Military Families Study at \$117,000.

An updated FY 2021-2022 third quarter budget will be presented at the May TF meeting.

The TF has been appropriated \$2 million for FY 2022-2023.

He reminded the TF and guests that applications for Defense Infrastructure Grants (DIG) and Defense Reinvestment Grants (DRG) are due to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) tomorrow, Friday, April 22, 2022.

The limits for the grants are \$500,000 for DIG and \$100,000 for DRG.

The slate of grant presentations for the May TF meeting:

- City of Jacksonville - \$750,000
- Clay County Development Authority - \$500,000
- Military Child Education Coalition - \$250,000
- Emerald Coast Planning Council - \$161,810
- HSU Educational Foundation - \$250,000
- **Total \$1,911,810.00**

A quorum being present, Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer asked for a motion to accept the proposed slate of grant presentations to be heard at the May TF meeting. A motion was made by Major General Richard Haddad, seconded by Rear Admiral Stan Bozin. All were in favor and the grants' slate was approved.

III. Agenda Item III: New Business

Task Force Member Reports

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Hunt provided an update for **Major General James Eifert** from the Florida National Guard (FLNG).

MOBILIZATION/DEPLOYMENT UPDATE: The Florida National Guard currently has 1,387 (1,384 Army & 3 Air) Servicemembers representing 15 Organizations deployed globally supporting our nation's National Defense Strategy. Additionally, our mobilization pipeline continues to grow, with 5 Organizations consisting of approximately 178 Servicemembers scheduled for deployment throughout the remainder of this calendar year.

Establishment of the Space National Guard: **Major General Eifert** is traveling to Washington, DC next week to discuss this very topic with Florida's Congressional Delegation. Currently, the Administration and DoD are not in favor of establishing a second component of the Space Force; instead, DoD is proposing to establish a "full-time and a part time" service options within the Space Force, all under first Component. However, Representative Waltz will be re-introducing language for the 2023 NDAA to establish a Space National Guard. And last year, the Senate was not in support; however, this year, Senator Feinstein with Senator Rubio as the co-sponsor are introducing the same language on the Senate side. Hopefully we have good news to provide at the May Task Force Meeting.

The Honorable Thomas Bowman discussed that all nominees have been identified to serve on the AIR Commission (Asset & Infrastructure Review Commission). The tentative plan is that all nominees will have a hearing in May 2022 then will go to the floor if approved. At that point the AIR Commission will begin immediate consideration and moving forward.

Major General Richard Haddad provided the following updates from AFSOC and USSOCOM.

AFSOC: US Air Force Chief of Staff (CSAF) General CQ Brown visited Hurlburt Field and AFSOC on April 4, 2022. The visit familiarized Brown with AFSOCs Force Generation Model to include Mission Sustainment Teams, Aviation Special Operations Task Units and Special Operations Task Units

The 919th Special Operations Wing, the only Reserve organization in AFSOC, celebrated its 50th anniversary on April 1st – 3rd. **Major General Haddad** was honored to be the keynote speaker at the dinner on April 2nd.

USSOCOM: Their Change of Command has not yet been announced, however sometime in June is the proposed timeframe.

The Special Operations Industry Conference is scheduled for May 16th – 19th and will be held both virtually and in person. A retired GO conference, which **Major General Haddad** plans to attend, will be held on May 16th with the theme of Fourth Age of SOF- Rediscovering the Value of Special Ops in a New Era.

Rear Admiral Stan Bozin discussed the possibility of a feasibility study at NAS Pensacola focusing on public access to the base to visit the museum, cemetery and lighthouse, which are all open to the public. Another issue is at NAS Key West low-cost housing for civilians, as the housing currently available is either sub-standard or very expensive.

Both NS Mayport and NAS Jacksonville are participating in a fleet forces hurricane exercise from April 18th – 29th. This is an opportunity review heavy weather sortie and fly away instructions' guidelines, exercise the Emergency Operations Centers and muster reporting guidelines.

The USS STARK Memorial Service will be held at NS Mayport on the 17th of May, which is the 35th anniversary of the incident. 37 sailors were lost during that incident. NS Mayport Change of Command will be on the 8th of July as Captain "Stunner" Canfield will be relieved by Captain "Ghost" Binder.

CPLO met with the City of Jacksonville's Resiliency Officer to discuss DCIP/BRIC/IGSA opportunities.

CO/XO/CPLO from NAS met with the Jacksonville Airport Authority to discuss DCIP and IGSA opportunities. DCIP bottom line - OSD grants to enhance military value and installation mission resilience via off-base community infrastructure projects. We view resilience as the effort to ensure the continual operation and rapid recovery of military installations, regardless of the threat posed, part of DOD's "Mission Assurance" construct. The primary focus is on Cecil Airport's runway which had some issues since the introduction of the P-8 airframe. Approximately, 50% of all flight operations at Cecil involve Navy, USAF, USMC, FANG and USCG operations.

On May 18th, the NAS Jacksonville / City of Jacksonville Team will be closing on a 60-acre parcel adjacent to fenceline of NAS Jacksonville. This is the 3rd phase of a 5-phase restrictive use easement purchase effort to completely buffer NAS to the north of the fenceline.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer briefed that the Air Force plans to retire 33 of the older block 20 F-22 aircraft. These jets, which are currently assigned to the F-22 schoolhouse with Tyndall Tail, if approved by Congress the training unit will be reassembled with 20 F-22 combat coded aircraft and eventually moved to Langley Air Force Base. The Air Force will end up with about 153 F-22s, all of them will be combat coded in operation.

The Eastern Shipbuilding Group located in Panama City was awarded the Offshore Patrol Cutter contract with the Coast Guard recently receiving its fourth ship. They anticipate receiving an answer on the rebid process in May on the contract that was re-competed.

WestRock paper company in Panama City recently announced company closure by June 6th, losing 450 jobs. The silver lining is that Eastern Shipbuilding Group and Tyndall AFB will benefit by employing many of those workers and skilled laborers.

Colonel Jim Heald reported the following from Eglin AFB and Okaloosa County:

- Echoing what Admiral Bozin said about Navy installations, Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field are also having major issues with housing.
- Monday, April 18th was the 80th anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders Tokyo flight and the final Goblet Ceremony was held to honor the passing of the last Doolittle Raider, Colonel Richard Cole.
- Discussions and planning is ongoing for new Childcare Development Centers (CDC) with potential to have a CDC in Crestview to service the areas north of Eglin AFB and another CDC in Navarre to service areas west of Eglin AFB in addition to the CDCs that are on the Eglin AFB and Hurlburt Field main bases. These new facilities would have openings set aside for military children.
- Yesterday, a letter written by Representative Matt Gaetz (dated April 7, 2022) discussing hypersonics issues was received. This letter was addressed to the Secretary of Defense as it appears there is a discrepancy between what the Secretary of Defense said in public forum versus what was provided to CODEL members in a classified briefing. The letter requested clarification and declassification of previous remarks.
- The Gulf Coast's leading one-day technology, engineering, and manufacturing expo, the TeCMEN Industry Day is scheduled for April 26, 2022, which will feature a full day focused on technology engineering and manufacturing.

Florida Defense Alliance (FDA) Update

Kellie Jo Kilberg, FDA Chairwoman, reported on some items on which the FDA is working:

- The Purple Star School Program should be implemented in schools beginning this fall.
- Many schools in Florida are not accepting military PCS orders and allowing students to enroll
- Spousal compacts for the next Legislative Session
- DIG and DRG grant applications are due to DEO tomorrow, April 22, 2022
- The possibility of a state agency audit of those programs that affect our active military and their families on the installations

New Military & Defense Website Presentation

Chad Corriveau gave a presentation on the new map feature which includes base locations, embedded videos, base websites, information from the 2020 Economic Impact Study and the 3D range model, all in one location.

The model can currently be found here: <https://enfloridastag.wpengine.com/florida-military-map/#/>
But will live on the Military & Defense Programs website in the next week or so, after some last-minute bugs are corrected: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/military-defense/>

DEP State Lands Presentation

Robbie Parrish, Division of State Lands FDEP, presented an update on Florida Forever acquisitions. Florida Forever, in its 20-year history is a successful and respected program with established processes and procedures for the identification, evaluation and acquisition of conservation lands. Lands purchased through Florida Forever are now enjoyed as state parks, state forests, state wildlife management areas, or as local park and conservation areas.

Florida Forever Acquisitions FY 2020-2021 include 78 purchase transactions = 46,248 acres/\$105,961,674. There was more production in FY 2020-2021 than any of the previous twelve years.

2021-2022 Florida Forever Recent BOT Approved Acquisitions:

- 15,677 acres / \$35,914,293
 - Florida Keys Ecosystem – Fee – 3 acres
 - SMALL River Rise Preserve State Park – Fee – 160 acres
 - Fisheating Creek Ecosystem – CE – 6,864 acres
 - Red Hills Conservation Area – CE – 4,132 acres
 - Pumpkin Hill Creek – Fee – 241 acres
 - Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem – CE – 354 acres
 - Wolfe Creek Forest – Fee – 3,610 acres
 - Wakulla Springs Protection Zone – Fee – 313 acres

Florida Forever Active Project Areas:

Apalachicola River	Fakahatchee Strand
Ayavalla Plantation	Fisheating Creek Ecosystem
Bluefield to Cow Creek	Florida Keys Ecosystem
Blue Head Ranch	Green Swamp
Charlotte Harbor Estuary	Horse Creek Ranch
Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods	Kissimmee St. Johns River Connector
Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem
Coupon Bight/Key Deer	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem
Escribano Point	Osceola Pine Savannas
Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	Panther Glades

Pine Island Slough Ecosystem
 Pinhook Swamp
 Rainbow River Corridor
 Red Hills Conservation Area
 St. Joe Timberland
 Strategic Managed Area Lands List (SMALL)

Telogia Creek
 Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island
 Triple Diamond
 Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
 Wekiva-Ocala Greenway
 Wolfe Creek Forest

Florida Forever Annual Funding Review

FISCAL YEAR	APPROPRIATION	ACRES ACQUIRED	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE
2015 - 2016	\$17,400,000	1,867	\$4,608,111	\$91,330,541
2016 - 2017	\$15,156,206	26,798	\$27,893,125	\$78,593,622
2017 - 2018	\$0	9,335	\$25,110,972	\$53,482,650
2018 - 2019	\$77,000,000	22,775	\$19,135,745	\$111,346,905
2019 - 2020	\$33,000,000	27,253	\$61,626,547	\$82,720,358
2020 - 2021	\$67,000,000	46,248	\$105,961,674	\$43,758,685
2021 - 2022 <small>(July 1 - February 28)</small>	\$100,000,000	16,709	\$40,807,175	\$102,951,510
IN PROGRESS	ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES		ANTICIPATED BALANCE	
Closing	\$39,463,685		\$63,487,825	
Cabinet Agenda	TBD		\$63,487,825	
Negotiations	\$12,236,460		\$51,251,365	
Valuation	\$13,370,500		\$37,880,865	
Due Diligence	\$134,960,000		(\$97,079,135)	
Triage Review	\$159,500,000		(\$256,579,135)	

The entire presentation can be found at:
<https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Military & Defense Update

Terry McCaffrey provided the TF updates from the Military & Defense Team:

The next TF meeting is in Tallahassee on May 19th. If you plan on attending, please RSVP at your earliest convenience. Maximum participation is needed at this meeting as we will be hearing five (5) grant presentations for FY 2022-2023 funding which starts in July. The FDA meeting will be on the day prior, Wednesday, May 18th.

Looking to this year’s hurricane season, the forecast for this year is higher than average. The current and most recent forecast is 17 to 21 named storms, 7 to 9 hurricanes, with 3 to 5 of them being major storms.

The M&D Team traveled to Niceville and Fort Walton Beach on Monday to attend the 80th Anniversary Doolittle Raider Celebration and Final Goblet Ceremony. They also visited the Air Armament Museum before watching the Flyover at the beach.

Reminder: DIG and DRG applications are due tomorrow, Friday, April 22, 2022 to DEO.

Staff is working on a letter from the TF to both the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) in support of the Space Guard.

The Department of the Air Force selected 6 candidate locations for the US Space Force Training and Readiness Command, otherwise known as STARCOM. Selections included all of the US Space Force Bases which are candidate locations, including Patrick Space Force Base. Also, Delta 10, which is Doctrine & War Gaming, will be going to Patrick Space Force Base as the sole candidate location. Patrick Space Force Base should also be competitive for Delta 13. The strategic basing process will begin once curriculum is established for this Delta.

The ADC Florida Defense Forum will be held on September 22nd and 23rd in Fort Walton Beach. The theme will be resilience funding programs.

IV. Agenda Item IV: Public Comment

Kent Wimmer, Coordinator for the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape, reports the partners for the NWFSL have established several goals, objectives, actions and measurable results to gauge their success. To put them on the pathway to success they are forming work groups that will help them collaboratively achieve their regional resiliency and sustainability goals. Their workgroups are Climate Resiliency, Private Lands Stewardship and Natural Systems. They welcome Task Force members and others that may be willing to contribute to join a workgroup.

The next monthly partner coordination call is Tuesday, April 26 at 3:00 P.M. Eastern. At this meeting they will discuss their work groups and how they can most effectively structure them to coordinate to achieve objectives. They will also share the reporting expectations of the Sentinel Landscapes Federal Coordinating Committee. They anticipate hosting their first work group meetings in May. It is their intent that their work groups would share their collaborative efforts during our monthly NWSFL coordination calls. their monthly virtual partnership meetings are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month at 3:00 P.M. Eastern.

If you didn't receive the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape Updates newsletter yesterday, and would like to be added to their partners' distribution list and or join a work group, please contact Kent Wimmer. He has shared a pdf of the newsletter with Mr. Collins and it is available on the FDSTF website: <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/wp-content/uploads/FDSTF-Presentations-2022.pdf>

Thank you for your partnership and support.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer reminded the TF that the next meeting will be in-person, Thursday, May 19, 2022 at the Four Points by Sheraton Tallahassee Downtown in Tallahassee, Florida. The FDA meeting will be on the Wednesday prior.

*A quorum being present, **Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Neubauer** asked for a motion to adjourn FDSTF Meeting #103. A motion was made by **Rear Admiral Stan Bozin**, seconded by **Colonel Jim Heald**, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM EDT.

This meeting was recorded by The Florida Channel and can be found here: <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/4-21-22-florida-defense-support-task-force/>