

FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE

DAYTONA, FLORIDA

November 9, 1945

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. o'clock by Chairman B. N. Darlington who asked the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting. Mr. Sparkman, who had been elected Secretary in the last meeting asked for permission to explain his predicament and to be relieved of the secretarial job. The members listened patiently to every argument presented by Mr. Sparkman, but still refused to accept his resignation. Minutes of the last meeting were then read by the Secretary and were approved as read.

The Chairman asked that each one present please rise in turn, and introduce himself stating whom he represented and where he was from. The following were found to be present:

W. M. Whitman	R. S. Davis
Ray L. Atkinson	Ken Williams
B. A. Wilkerson	Allan Wright
M. A. Bane	R. L. Smith
H. B. Crandall	G. B. Prime, Jr.
W. F. Cook	H. G. (Sam) Williams
Wilkins Linhart	J. G. Sparkman
R. A. Goodburn	B. N. Darlington

The Chairman then asked for a report of the Committee on road construction. Mr. R. S. Davis stated that they had not met, and the best he could find out was that all the work being done by the Road Department thus far was a lot of paper work, due to the fact that most of the contractors are not ready or able to reconvert from wartime to peace time contracting.

Mr. B. N. Darlington said he did not have anything worthwhile on his report, but asked that if anyone had or could get any historical information on the subject to please send it to him.

The Chairman asked the Secretary to read all important correspondence and the following letters were read;

COORESPONDANCE:

Notices of intent to construct by:

1. Florida Power and Light Company to Western Union Telegraph Company of intent to construct a 7620 volt 60 cycle distribution line near Indiantown.
2. Florida Power and Light Company to Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company of intent to construct a 7620 volt 60 cycle single phase distribution line along a portion of State Road #13 between Yullee and Orient.
3. Florida Power and Light Company to Peninsular Telephone Company of intent to construct a 2300 volt single phase line along State Road #356 between Bradenton and Tallevast.
4. Florida Power and Light Company to Peninsular Telephone Company of intent to construct a 13,200 volt extension along Manhattan Road, east of Parrish. Line at present to be operated at 13,200 volts for 1.4 miles and at a potential of 7620 volts for a distance of 1.5 miles beyond.



Mr. Linhart explained that Mr. Girtman and Mr. R. E. Baker of Leesburg were to come with him, but Mr. Girtman was allegedly sick (sour mash scurvey), and Mr. Baker had been hindered by some legitimate reason at the last minute. Regrets were extended to the Committee by both the absent members and there was a general expression of regret by all that Mr. Girtman and Mr. Baker were not present.

The matter of railroad crossing permits was discussed, and Mr. B. E. Wilkerson explained that some of the delay in the approval of railroad permits was due to the fact that in many cases the sketch did not give full detailed information. For example, some fail to give the description on the permit, showing which direction the milepost is from the proposed crossing, the lowest milepost number and the distance from the milepost which causes delays locating the crossing. The discussion rambled around to the point where it was admitted that the railway companies track-age records were somewhat "snafued" in that they contained nautical miles, kilometers, statute miles, lilliputian-miles, and down to even a few chain links. This seems to come about from re-routing of trackage, abandonments, and the like. Mr. Wilkerson referred the members to the minutes of May 11, 1945 where other phases of this subject were covered more fully.

The value of having more of the cooperative managers and REA officials present at the meetings was discussed. It was decided that to get personally acquainted helped in settling matters as friends can settle differences more quickly than strangers.

Mr. Sparkman was asked to try to stimulate more interest among the REA project managers to attend the Committee meetings. Mr. Sparkman said that he would do his best to get the managers to attend as the meetings had meant a lot to him, but that it is difficult for the managers to attend due to their many duties, and then some of the Cooperative Board members have been unable to see the advantages of the meetings compared with the expense incurred. Several of those present said that they would be glad to bring the Cooperative Managers that are close to them to the meetings as they are needed so much and it would be considered a privilege to have them attend.

The question of over building was brought up, and Mr. H. B. Crandall suggested that any Power Company that plans over building any telephone or telegraph lines should make some effort to find out who owns the line, and notify them of such proposed construction in time that a satisfactory agreement may be worked out.

It was suggested by someone, whose identity was obscured by the sudden smoke screen of scorn and vituperation, that we could possibly be benefitted by legislation of a sort that would designate a given side of the road for certain wire users. Mr. Stanley Warth entered the discussion by invitation to give the members the benefit of his experience concerning laws as such and friendly arbitration in resolving any differences over rights-of-way. After Mr. Warth's very able presentation of the Committee history and organization and its success in solving these problems in a friendly manner, it was generally conceded that better results could be obtained by using the Committee as it had been used in the past.



Mr. Goodburn observed at this moment, that "use" of the Committee implied things other than as a vehicle to win an argument for your cause. During a discussion of State Road Department permits, Mr. Warth was asked several questions about the forms submitted by wire users, and rather than go into a discussion of details, he asked that a copy of the State Road application of both the Power and Telephone Company be brought to the next meeting for examination and study. Mr. Warth stated that the Coordinating Committee had been a great help in settling problems in a satisfactory manner between Companies and that he gave credit for the success to the Committee meetings wherein members become better acquainted and friends.

The Committee accepted the invitation of Mr. Warth to be the guests of Jacksonville (the Convention City) at our February meeting.

No further business coming before the Committee it was adjourned, and repaired to the Ridgewood Dining Room where an excellent luncheon was served by the courtesy of Mr. Allan Wright and Mr. Sam Williams.

Respectfully submitted

J. G. Sparkman, Secretary  
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