

FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Minutes

February 2, 1968
Panama City, Florida

The quarterly meeting held at the Holiday Lodge was called to order by chairman Jim Tinsley at 9:30 A.M.

Following the introduction of special guests by the chairman, the usual self introductions of all present were made and those attending were as follows:

NAME	COMPANY	ADDRESS
Donald F. Johnson	General Telephone Company	Tampa, Florida
Marion W. Gilliam	Florida Power Corporation	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Walter H. Anderson	Florida Power and Light Co.	Sarasota, Florida
Bob Jenkins	Florida Power and Light Co.	Cocoa, Florida
Joe T. Bayer	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Jacksonville, Florida
Jim E. Griffin	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Pensacola, Florida
A. C. Hughes	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Pensacola, Florida
Clyde Hopkins	City of Chattahoochee	Chattahoochee, Fla.
E. B. Bradley	City of Chattahoochee	Chattahoochee, Fla.
H. M. Sowell	United Gas Pipe Line Co.	Mobile, Alabama
Jim Bell	Florida Gas Trans. Company	Chipley, Florida
J. L. Dunning	Gulf Power Company	Pensacola, Florida
T. H. Bond	Florida State Road Department	Pensacola, Florida
J. H. Foshee	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Pensacola, Florida
S. B. Hombroek	Gulf Power Company	Pensacola, Florida
M. Lee Young	Peoples Gas System	Tampa, Florida
N. H. Bollinger	Peoples Gas System	North Miami, Florida
John Martin	Talquin Electric Coop.	Quincy, Florida
Joe E. Cox	City of Gainesville	Gainesville, Florida
R. C. Stanton	City of Gainesville Utilities	Gainesville, Florida
Stanley Warth (Ret)	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Jacksonville, Florida
Ivon Tilyou	Peace River Electric Coop.	Wauchula, Florida
Karl M. Allison, Sr.	-Lee County Electric Coop., Inc.	Fort Myers, Florida
Clarence R. Wood	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Keystone Heights, Fla.
Jim Kellermann	Sumpter Electric Cooperative, Inc.	-Sumterville, Fla.
Thomas E. Lewis	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Keystone Heights, Fla.
Jimmy Price	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Keystone Heights, Fla.
R. W. Lee	Sumter Electric Coop.	Sumterville, Fla.
D. J. Thigpen, Jr.	Sumter Electric Coop.	Sumterville, Florida
Charles H. Batten	Fla. Public Service Comm.	Tallahassee, Florida
Thomas H. Knox	St. Joe National Co.	Port St. Joe, Florida
Robert L. Traxler	Gulf Power Company	Pensacola, Florida
E. M. Salley	State Road Department	Tallahassee, Florida
J. A. Carney	Bureau of Public Roads	Tallahassee, Florida

W. F. Cox	State Road Department	Chipley, Florida
C. E. Peterson	City of Panama City	Panama City, Florida
C. H. Andrews	State Road Department	Chipley, Florida
J. W. Carden	Florida Gas Company	Winter Park, Florida
R. L. Orth	State Road Department	Tallahassee, Florida
T. S. Spangenberg	State Road Department	Chipley, Florida
W. E. Douglas	State Road Department	Tallahassee, Florida
J. M. Rogers	Fla. Public Service Comm.	Marianna, Florida
A. W. Gordon	Gordon Engineering	Ocala, Florida
A. D. Cullifer	Gulf Coast Electric Coop.	
David Mathews, Jr.	Gulf Power Company	Pensacola, Florida
W. R. Scheibe	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Panama City, Florida
H. R. Jones	Gulf Power Company	Pensacola, Florida
Verne Brown	General Telephone Company	Tampa, Florida
Jim Tinsley	Southern Bell Tel. and Tel. Co.	Jacksonville, Florida
G. A. Reed	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Keystone Heights, Fla.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with and approved as mailed.

The chairman declared the first order of business for the day to be the Florida State Road Department draft of the proposed Utility Accommodation Guide, and turned the floor over to the chairman of the Accommodation Guide Sub-committee Verne Brown.

Verne reported that due to the draft being received by this committee on such a short notice the Sub-committee had been unable to meet and ask chairman Tinsley to bring the group up to date on the happenings related to the guide since our last meeting.

The chairman's report on Utility Accommodation Guide and Safety Requirements was as follows:

At the last meeting a motion was passed that another meeting be arranged with officials of the State Road Department to discuss the matter of safely setback requirements. Such a meeting was arranged through Malcolm Yancey and held on December 18, 1967. At the request of the State Road Department attendance was limited to this Chairman, the President of the American Right-of-way Assn., Duff Matson; and the Chairman of the American Right-of-way Assn., Duff Matson; and the Chairman of the American Right-of-way Assn. Liaison Committee, Bob Traxler. The common membership of these individuals and the joint interest of these two organizations-the F.U.C.C. and the AR/WA-made such a joint venture desirable.

The above group met with Mr. P. W. Ekey-State Highway Engineer, Mr. C. J. Schenck Assistant State Highway Engineer-Design, Mr. V. G. Marcoux representing Mr. Rolfe Mickler-State Highway Engineer-Maintenance, Mr. R. L. Orth-incoming Right-of-way Engineer, and Mr. Yancey-retiring Right-of-way Engineer.

The meeting was cordial and the problems of the safety setback requirements were openly discussed. The salient points discussed and the general reactions of the State Road Department were:

1. In the area of new design, Mr. Schenck pointed out that at the time the first IM's were issued, existing jobs and jobs about to be let for contract had to be redesigned to meet the safety criteria. This cause a considerable number of problems to the State Road Department as well as the utilities. However, Mr. Schenck pointed out that design for new jobs took the safety criteria into account and should not present any serious problems to utilities. If the setback requirements do present problems, the State Road Department would entertain exceptions and would work with the utilities to change the requirements where experience has shown the requirements to be unreasonable.
2. Mr. Marcoux pointed out that on applications for new use permits the safety setback requirements must be observed on existing roads. much discussion ensued on this point and Mr. Ekey pointed out that the State Road Department would attempt to use good judgement in considering actual cases. He also agreed to try to obtain uniformity among the various districts in interpreting the requirements.

All in all, the meeting left the impression of a willingness to work with the utilities in resolving the problems.

On January 16, 1968, Mr. C. R. Miller, Engineer of Maintenance, transmitted the proposed Accommodation Guide to me for review by this Committee with a request for comments by February 2, 1968, Subsequent to receipt of this letter the proposal was sent to Brad Shepherd and Verne Brown for subcommittee action. On January 22, Mr. Matson and Mr. Wall of Florida Power and Light Company talked to Mr. Ekey concerning the matter and in the course of conversation obtained a delay in replying.

On January 23, 1968, I met with Mr. Mickler, Assistant State Highway Engineer-Maintenance, to discuss the proposed Utility Accommodation Guide. In this meeting Mr. Mickler, after consultation with Mr. Ekey, confirmed that the reply of the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee on the proposed draft would not be required until a reasonable time after our meeting on February 2. Mr. Mickler also assured me that the State Road Department would meet with the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee's subcommittee, formed for this purpose, and try to jointly arrive at a Utility Accommodation policy mutually acceptable to the State Road Department and the utilities. He also offered the opportunity for further review of another revised draft copy of the Utility Accommodation Guide before it became official.

The time extension was accepted and a copy of the Proposed Accommodation Guide was mailed to each member (except SRD) for comments to be brought to this meeting.

Signed J. M. Tinsley, Chairman.

In the absence of Mr. Wall and Mr. Duff Matson the Chairman also read copies of the following telegrams:

Mr. F. C. Turner
Director of Public Roads
United States Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
Bureau of Public Roads
Washington, D. C.

Mr. C. R. Miller, Engineer of Maintenance, Florida State Road Department, by letter dated January 16, 1968, addressed to Mr. J. M. Tinsley, Chairman of the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee, states: "The State Road Department is revising its utility accommodation policy in order to provide for the inclusion of the latest safety criteria and also to simplify the method in which permits are issued. As you have been promised an opportunity to review this policy prior to its adoption, we are sending you five copies of a draft of this policy."

"It is necessary that this new policy be adopted as soon as possible in order to comply with requirements of the Bureau of Public Roads. We would appreciate receiving any comments that you might have at your earliest convenience, but not later than February 2, 1968."

"If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact the writer or Mr. W. E. Douglas, Assistant Engineer of Maintenance, Tallahassee. Very truly yours, C. R. Miller, Engineer of Maintenance."

I have been in touch with Charles Russell of the Union Electric Company, electric utility representative on the Ad Hoc Committee of the American Right-of-way Association, who met with you on November 15, 1967 to discuss various points of differences created by the proposed Instructional Memorandum, 21-11-67 (1), dated June 29, 1967, issued by your office. He advised me that at the conclusion of your meeting, representatives of the Bureau stated that the proposed Instructional Memorandum would be further revised and resubmitted to members of the committee and to others for further review and comment before a final policy is issued. Mr. Russell has also advised me that subsequent to this meeting, your Department has issued a general statement containing the following paragraph:

"Following the completion of our review and further work on the present draft, we plan to issue a revised draft for further review by all parties of interest. We plan to do this during the next few months. A firm date for issuing a final policy has not been determined."

Mr. Russell told me today that he had no further information that a new memorandum had been issued by your department. Would you be kind enough to advise me by collect wire whether or not the Bureau of Public Roads has instructed the Florida State Road Department to adopt, as soon as possible, a new utility accommodation policy incorporating the latest safety criteria in order to comply with requirements of your bureau?

Robert W. Wall, Jr., Vice President
Florida Power and Light Company
Miami, Florida

Re your telegram of January 23rd, Accommodation of Utilities, Florida and Telephone discussions between D. W. Matson of your company and J. E. Kirk of our Utility Staff on January 26:

Our proposed policy for Accommodating Utilities is still under development. After our work on this is completed and final policy issued later this year, we plan to have our field offices review each State's Utility Accommodation Policy to determine its adequacy for use on Federal Aid Highways in that state. We have not yet reviewed any State's Policies for this express purpose nor have we asked any states to prepare a new one. We suggest that you pursue this matter with your state as requested by the January 16 letter to Mr. Tinsley referred to in your wire.

F. C. Turner
Bureau of Public Roads
Federal Highway Administration.

Bob Traxler, Gulf Power, than ask Mr. J. W. Carney, Bureau Public Roads, Tallahassee, if the new Bureau Public Roads Accommodation Guide had specific set backs spelled out in it.

Mr. Carney answered by reading the following paragraph out of the Bureau Public Roads' second draft of the guide:

6. State Accommodation Policies and Procedures: Draft: 11-7-67

A. This paragraph outlines provisions considered necessary to establish reasonably uniform policies and procedures for accommodating utility facilities on the right-of-way of Federal-Aid highway projects. These policies and procedures are to include adequate provision with respect to the following:

1. Utilities must be accommodated in a manner which will not impair the highway or interfere with the safe and free flow of traffic.
2. Consideration shall be given to the effect of Utility installations in regard to aesthetics and the cost. . difficulty of highway maintenance.
3. Utility facilities on freeway projects shall meet the requirements of the AASHD "A policy on the accommodation of Utilities on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways."
4. The use and occupancy of highway right-of-way by Utilities must comply with the State's standards governing such use. These standards must include but are not limited to the following:

A. The horizontal and vertical location requirements and required clearances for the various types of Utilities must be clearly stated. These must be adequate to insure compliance with the clear roadside safety policies for the particular highway involved. The roadside clearances required for above ground Utility facilities shall equal or exceed those required for highway appurtenances and fixtures on the type of highway involved.

Mr. Carney commented that the B.P.R. will expect the offset of vertical structures to be as much as possible, subject to consideration in special cases. They desire to get all the offset possible, preferably thirty (30) feet. However, they are not going to adopt a policy, that unless a utility gets a minimum of thirty (30) feet from the pavement they will not be permitted to use the right-of-way. It is not the B.P.R. intent to place unbearable problems upon the utilities.

Asked about having to relocate on existing highways, Mr. Carney said there is no policy for guide lines on existing highways other than the interstate system, and it is not the intent of the B.P.R. to cause a massive readjustment of utilities on existing highways. Although where known and definite hazards exist they will urge the states and utilities to take corrective measures.

Mr. W. E. Douglas, State Road Department stated that the State Road Department in their Accommodation Guide has tried to put all the requirements in writing so that the same guide lines will be used state wide, and also increase the efficiency of securing use permits.

Verne Brown then read the proposed State Utility Accommodation Guide, asking for comments on each paragraph. After very lengthy discussions, Verne asked the members to put their comments in writing as soon as possible and mail them to him, so that the subcommittee could compile this entire committees feelings about the proposed guide prior to meeting with the Road Department Officials.

The Chairman had secured a plaque honoring Mr. Wilkins Linhart, Florida Public Service Com., retired, for his long and faithful service to the F.U.C.C. Ironically, after thirty-five (35) years of perfect attendance, Mr. Linhart was unable to attend today. It was moved, 2nd and carried, that the Chairman appoint a delegation to present the plaque to Mr. Linhart. The Chairman appointed Mr. Ralph Oswald and he may select the remaining delegates to go with him.

Verne Brown reported on the Tampa Utility Groups work on the Space Allocation Guide in city streets and a brief history of that group.

Bob Traxler restated the problem of rising costs of Railroad Use Permits, and ask that anyone confronted with this same problem please contact him.

Charlie Batton, Public Service Commission, ask if any Utility Companys had any additional cost figures incurred by complying with the new state Accommodations Guide, or if some could be compiled, if so please send them to:

Mr. Charles Batton
Public Service Commission
700 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida

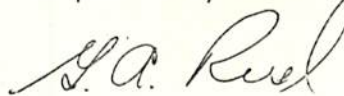
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Following announcements, Jim Tinsley thanked Bob Traxler and Gulf Power Company for the splendid arrangements made by them for this meeting and the lunch to follow.

The next meeting will be hosted by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co., to be held in Fort Lauderdale on May 3, 1968.

The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. A. Reed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

G. A. Reed
Secretary

Imc Report

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON UTILITY ACCOMMODATION GUIDE & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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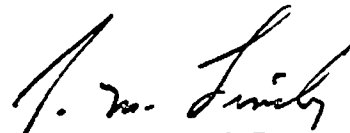
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~~While I am familiar with the actions of many of the other members I shall leave their reports to them.~~

Signed



J. M. TINSLEY
Chairman