

MINUTES
FLORIDA UTILITIES COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 1949
HARRINGTON HOTEL, OCALA, FLORIDA

The meeting was called to order at about 10:00 A.M., Friday, February 11, 1949, Chairman V. R. Parrack presiding.

The following were in attendance:

Mr. S. R. Ryan	Railroad & Public Util. Comm.	Tallahassee, Fla.
Mr. Al Galloway	Winter Park Telephone Company	Winter Park, Fla.
Mr. L. G. Zelenka	American Tel. & Tel. Company	Jacksonville, Fla.
Mr. Ken Williams	Inter-Co. Tel. & Tel. Company	Ft. Myers, Fla.
Mr. J. W. Manix	Peninsular Telephone Company	Tampa, Fla.
Mr. B. N. Darlington	Peninsular Telephone Company	Tampa, Fla.
Mr. R. S. Davis	Florida Power & Light Company	Sarasota, Fla.
Mr. John S. Cadel	State Road Department	Orlando, Fla.
Mr. G. L. Kenny, Jr.	Florida Power Corporation	Ocala, Fla.
Mr. J. F. Hosea	Inter-Co. Tel. & Tel. Co.	Ft. Myers, Fla.
Mr. E. B. Emrey	Florida Telephone Corporation	Ocala, Fla.
Mr. James R. Brice	Tampa Electric Company	Tampa, Fla.
Mr. V. R. Parrack	Florida Power Corporation	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Mr. A. G. Loudon	Clay Electric Coop.	Keystone Hts., Fla.
Mr. Stanley Warth	Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co.	Jacksonville, Fla.
Mr. B. E. Wilkerson	S. A. L. Railroad	Norfolk, Va.
Mr. Arthur M. Brown, Jr.	Florida Telephone Corporation	Ocala, Fla.

Mr. Parrack asked each member present to stand and introduce himself to the group.

The Secretary read the minutes of the November 12 meeting at Lakeland, which were duly approved. Letter referred to in the minutes which was written to the State Road Department was read. There was no old business brought up for discussion.

Mr. Parrack welcomed Mr. John S. Cadel, State Road Department, from Orlando, to our meeting. It was brought out that no reply had been received to the letter to the State Road Department relative to them notifying the State Highway Patrol of movements of objects of large size along the state roads. Mr. Cadel pointed out that the practice of notifying the State Highway Patrol upon issuance of a special permit for moves of this nature was an established practice with the State Road Department.

Mr. Ryan pointed out a case where the Inter-County Telephone & Telegraph Company had experienced considerable difficulty through lack of coordination between the State Road Department and a contractor working on a State Road project where telephone plant was involved in the construction. Mr. Ryan stated that he contacted the State Road Department in this instance and in a matter of hours the situation was brought under control.

Mr. Parrack asked Mr. Cadel if he was in a position to make any comments on the requirement of 20 feet clearance over state roads with particular regard to the additional 2 feet required over and above the 18 foot requirement of the National Electric Safety code. Mr. Cadel replied that he is aware of such requirements but is unable at this time to make any comments upon such. Mr. Wilkerson advised that he has made some inquiry through his legal department in regards to this requirement, but had no information to offer at this time.

Notices of intent to construct, received since the last meeting, were read by the Secretary. No discussion followed. The Chairman called attention to the fact that fewer notices of intent to construct were being received by the Committee and in quite a few cases the Committee had not received copies of answers to such letters which were written. It is the Committee's opinion that there has been no marked slow down in the construction programs and those who are responsible for these notices and replies should make a renewed effort to see that they are properly handled.

Mr. Zelenka brought up for discussion the proposed construction on highway U. S. #1, north of Daytona Beach to Ormond. Mr. Cadell advised that funds have been allocated but the right-of-way has not been secured and it is not expected that bids will be asked for any time in the immediate future.

Mr. Ken Williams cited a case where one of the Electric Coops. over-built an open wire telephone line which was in the process of being replaced with cable. The result was that plans had to be changed, new highway applications secured and the cable relocated across the highway. This indicates need for closer coordination and a renewed effort to see that other wire users are advised of "intent to construct." In this same connection, Mr. Darlington had noticed poles distributed along the highway north of Denham on the same side of the highway which telephone lines exist and has not to date received a notice of intent to construct. It was suggested that discussion on this subject be renewed at the next meeting.

Mr. Loudon stated that he will renew his efforts for closer cooperation between the Clay Electric Coop. and the other wire users.

Mr. Warth reported to the Committee that Mr. Ralph Smith, REA Field Director, Thomasville, Georgia, was involved in an automobile accident and was expected to be in the hospital in Thomasville, Georgia for some time. Mr. Warth made a motion which was duly passed, that the Committee write a letter of regret to Mr. Smith.

The subject of Mobile Radio was opened for discussion. Mr. Parrack advised that the Florida Power Corp. plans to install in their Winter Park Division, a set-up similar to their St. Petersburg mobile station and the frequency probably will be 37.7 m. e.. They have been monitoring on that frequency at Winter Park and have picked up only two messages in three weeks. Mr. Loudon stated that the Clay Electric Coop. is now operating on 37.8 m. e. and can pick up stations in Arkansas even to Mobile station.

Mr. Darlington offered the opinion that 152 m. e. band will be freer from interference due to the absence of so called "skip interference", and recent data gathered by Bell Company indicates approximately the same coverage as with the 30-40 m. e. band.

Mr. Warth stated that the Southern Bell has had no difficulties from interference or noise on their Miami mobile and that the only trouble arose from the customers trying to extend the range from which they could talk.

Mr. Brice pointed out that, so far as he knows, there has never been any "skip" effect on 152 m. e.. Occasionally there is an extended ground wave which is brought about by atmospheric conditions or a refracted wave condition and not a reflected wave. The extended ground wave is a local condition that may cover a radius up to a few hundred miles; whereas, "skip" on 30 m. e. usually begins at about a thousand miles and may extend from there on.

Upon question from Mr. Parrack, Mr. Warth states that in his opinion commercial mobile telephone service is slow in public acceptance in Jacksonville.

Mr. Hosea asks if anyone has any information on point to point radio. Mr. Darlington states that the price will have to be brought down to approach competition with wire lines. However, antenna height is still the big factor and towers of sufficient height to give reliable service takes it out of economical range in most cases. Water barriers seem to be main application up to present time.

The Chairman asks if there has been any trouble about railroad crossing applications. None worthy of discussion.


Due to a couple of cases of some misunderstanding where power wire crossings were being made over railroads, Mr. Ryan points out that the Florida Railroad Commission has no direct jurisdiction over power wire crossings where as there are regulations covering communications crossings. Mr. Ryan requests the opinion of those representing power companies as to the probable reaction to the expansion of the Florida Railroad Commission regulation to cover power crossing permits similar to those of communications lines.

Mr. Parrack expressed willingness to cooperate or sponsor this movement provided such regulations followed the National Electric Code and not the A. A. R. code. Also, if the scope of any regulations should go beyond the N. E. C., the power companies should have voice in the revisions.

Mr. Davis stated he, on behalf of the Florida Power and Light Company, is in accord with Mr. Parrack's views.

The place for the next meeting was next discussed with Mr. Parrack renewing his invitation to meet in St. Petersburg. Mr. Davis made the motion to meet in St. Petersburg, which was seconded and passed.

The meeting adjourned about 12:30, after which the Committee was the guest of the Florida Telephone Corporation at a steak luncheon.


ARTHUR M. BROWN, JR., SECRETARY
Florida Utilities Coordinating
Committee

AMB:lw