



**Minutes of the Public Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the Florida Public Archaeology Network**
Video Conference
November 12, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN), University of West Florida, held its mid-year Board meeting on November 12, 2020, at 9:00 am Central Time via Zoom video conference.

Agenda Item I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Judy Bense at 9:00 am Central.

Agenda Item II. Board Members present were Dr. Judy Bense (chair), Dr. Greg Cook (vice-chair), Ms. Marion Almy, Ms. Adrienne Burke, Mr. Chris Davenport, Dr. Ramie Gougeon, Dr. Jeff Mitchem, Dr. Kathryn Miyar, Dr. Matthew Reeves, Dr. Jason Wenzel, and Dr. John Worth. Also present were Dr. William Lees, executive officer and secretary of the board and Dr. Elizabeth Benchley, staff advisor to the board.

Agenda Items III and IV. Dr. Bense called for any additions or changes to the draft agenda. A motion was made to accept the agenda as presented (Motion 1, M/S/Approved).

Dr. Bense called for additions or changes to the draft minutes from the May 8, 2020, meeting of the Board. A motion was made to accept the May 8, 2020, minutes as presented (Motion 2, M/S/Approved).

Agenda Item V. Dr. William Lees gave his Executive Director's Report. Bill welcomed the new Florida State Archaeologist, Dr. Kathryn Miyar, to the FPAN Board. He then thanked Becky O'Sullivan for her work at FPAN; she has taken a position with CARDNO. Bill congratulated Dr. Bense on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her contribution to UWF and Florida archaeology, and of course, FPAN.

Bill remarked that not much has changed since the May Board Meeting in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions. Staff has been working remotely for nine months now. Virtual meetings and virtual programs have been successfully implemented; however, engaging the public in face-to-face programs and encounters remains difficult. Some fieldwork has been conducted, mostly related to the HMS grant. He thanked the FPAN staff for their continued work and announced everyone is doing well during the pandemic.

Hurricane Sally made landfall September 16 and caused damage to the FPAN Coordinating Center from storm surge, wind, and driving rain. The building has been dried out without having to replace drywall in the museum which flooded. Repairs to the building roof, exterior, and interior are in the queue. FPAN is considering reopening the volunteer lab

with a reduced number of volunteers in early 2021, pending UWF guidance. The museum remains closed for pending storm repairs and COVID restrictions.

Bill indicated conversations with Dr. Tim Parsons, Director of the Florida Division of Historical Resources and Dr. Miyar, the new Florida State Archaeologist, have been positive. They have had several discussions about structuring the cooperative relationship between FPAN and DHR.

Agenda Item VI. Dr. Lees announced a Board action item of expiring Board appointments. Ms. Almy and Dr. Reeves are eligible for second terms and have indicated the desire to continue. FAS, FAC, and UWF appoint their directors so no Board action is needed for these.

A motion was made for Marion Almy to be reappointed to the FPAN Board of Directors for another three-year term. (Motion 3, M/S/Approved)

A motion was made for Dr. Matthew Reeves to be reappointed to the FPAN Board of Directors for another three-year term. (Motion 4, M/S/Approved)

Dr. Ramie Gougeon, the director representing the Florida Archaeological Council, agreed to serve another three-year term.

Dr. Jason Wenzel, the director representing the Florida Anthropological Society, agreed to serve another three-year term.

Dr. John Worth, the director representing the University of West Florida, agreed to serve another three-year term.

Agenda Item VII. Dr. Lees was pleased to announce that since he wrote his Executive Director's report, he had better news about the upcoming budget cuts. There are two main concerns: the permanent loss of the special annual allocation of \$150,000 and Florida Governor DeSantis' 6% holdback of funding to state universities. In a meeting with the Dean of our College, he learned that the Provost is handling the 6% reduction in a variety of ways that may leave FPAN relatively unscathed, except for the possible loss of carry-forward. FPAN has a hiring freeze (Becky's position is on hold) and two regional office leases were terminated. FPAN will critically evaluate its program structure, methods, and critical priorities regardless of the size or nature of any budget reduction.

Agenda Item VIII. Regional Director Sarah Miller updated the Board on the progress of the HMS Grant well into its second year. So far 221 of the 500 sites have been monitored. Progress remains strong despite challenges related to COVID-19, which has severely affected participation of citizen scientists. Remote monitoring training has been conducted. Chris Nolan, an active volunteer, has monitored many sites for FPAN. The interim report was prepared and included a COVID-19 impact statement. Some of the funds were reallocated to do arches updates. Hopefully the arches collector phone application will be launched soon.

Agenda Item IX. Regional Director Jeff Moates updated the Board on FPAN's approach to racial equity and inclusion. FPAN began the conversation at the February 2020 staff meeting where it was included in the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. In June as the nation

erupted in protests, FPAN struggled with a response. FPAN staff meets once a month to discuss inclusiveness and equitable approaches. Jeff reviewed the current state of development of a racial equity and inclusion plan for FPAN.

Dr. Mitchem noted that Arkansas is dealing with the same subjects. A lot of things brought up in discussions cost money. He recommended looking for grants that focus on directing efforts to “underserved groups” – a good term to use in grant applications.

Ms. Burke thanked Jeff and the FPAN staff in these efforts. She offered her assistance as a Board member.

Dr. Parsons complimented FPAN on a remarkable self-analysis and was impressed and encouraged they’re taking it on. The current national and state frameworks of heritage preservation as a whole fail underserved groups.

Dr. Miyar thanked FPAN and Jeff for their work on such an important topic.

Agenda Item X. Dr. Scott-Ireton reported on trademarking of FPAN programs. Graduate Assistant Austin Burkhard’s STAMP Program has been a success and other states are interested in the program. With that growth, should FPAN trademark the STAMP program and the other successful FPAN programs such as HMS, CRYPT, HDS, etc.? She has started discussions with UWF’s General Counsel Intellectual Property attorney.

Agenda Item XI. Each Regional Director and the Destination Archaeology Resource Center Manager gave brief updates on the work they have accomplished and programs they have presented this past summer and fall. Dr. Bense commended the staff for doing so well during the COVID-19 restrictions.

Agenda Item XII. Dr. Bense called for any old business to be discussed; there was none.

Agenda Item XIII. Dr. Bense called for any new business to be discussed. Dr. Wenzel with Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) announced the FAS Annual Meeting/Conference is scheduled for May 20-23, 2021 in Sanford. He asked if FPAN Board of Directors and staff would be attending as that will help determine the room block needed for the host hotel contract. He asked that FPAN let Emily Jane know of FPAN’s plans. Dr. Bense pointed out that UWF travel may still be restricted.

Agenda Item XIV. Dr. Bense asked if there were any public comments; there were none.

Agenda Item XV. Meeting was adjourned.



**Florida Public Archaeology Network
Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting**
12 November 2020 – 9:00 am CDT (10:00 pm Eastern)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order (Judy Bense, Chair)
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes of May 8, 2020
- V. Executive Director's Report (William Lees)
- VI. Reappointment of Directors
- VII. Permanent and Temporary Budget Reductions (William Lees)
- VIII. HMS Grant Update (Sarah Miller)
- IX. Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee Update (Jeff Moates)
- X. Trademarking of FPAN Programs (Della Scott-Ireton)
- XI. Regional Updates (Time Permitting)
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Public Comment(s)
- XV. Adjourn