

**FLORIDA GOVERNMENT
FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
July 7, 2009 via Conference Call**

The Board meeting of the FGFOA Board of Directors took place on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 via Conference Call.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT

Rick Helms, President, Highlands County – BCC
Jeff Smith, President-Elect Indian River County Clerk of the Court
Mary Anderson-Pickle, Director, City of Palm Beach Gardens
Sarah Koser, Director, Citrus County - CCC
Doreen Lam, Director, City of Hollywood
Kent Olson, Director, City of Jacksonville
Mary-Lou Pickles, Director, Saint Johns River Water Management District
Ted Sauerbeck, Director, Auditor General
Barry Skinner, Deputy Director-Finance & Accounting, Orange County Co.
Comptroller's Office

NOT PRESENT

Christopher Lyons, Secretary/Treasurer Director, City of Sarasota
Georgina Rodriguez, Director, Town of Pembroke Park

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Jeannie Garner, Florida League of Cities
Penny Mitchell, Florida League of Cities

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:05 p.m. President Helms called the meeting of the FGFOA Board of Directors to order. A quorum of the Board was present.

GASB RESPONSE

The first order of business was the preparation of the GASB response to Post Employment Benefits Accounting and Reporting. Mr. Sauerbeck indicated that there had been only two responses from the membership. The Technical Resources Committee will draft a response for the Board to review and comments will be circulated via email.

FGFOA GASB CONTRIBUTION

At the June 3, 2009 FGFOA Board of Directors meeting, Mr. Skinner suggested that FGFOA should not be contributing the \$2,000 to GASB, for potential ethical concerns as GASB is a standard setting Board. The annual GASB Contribution covers speaker fees only, not travel expenses for GASB staff, such as David

Bean. After discussion, the Board requested to have Ms. Garner contact GASB to inquire what fees for GASB Speakers would be without the annual contribution as well as information on what other State GFOAs contribute to GASB. Ms. Garner reported that she spoke with David Bean who provided the information and directed her to the GASB website for the honorarium fees. Ms. Garner indicated that Mr. Bean was very helpful and also understood the concerns of the Board. However, he stated that GASB has a long history of independence from its contributors and without the support of contributions, the GASB would not be able to function.

The FGFOA typically uses a GASB Speaker for four hours. With no contribution that fee would be \$1,500 in addition to travel reimbursement and with the \$2,000 FGFOA currently contributes, there is no fee for a GASB Speaker only travel reimbursement. GASB considers the list of contributors a confidential list, but offered the following:

- The following six State GFOA's contribute to the GASB: Conn, NC, NY, OH, TX & VA
- The National Association of state auditors and treasurers contributes \$1,000,000
- The GFOA contributed \$130,000 last year and makes an annual contribution in the same range
- AGA contributed \$50,000

Mr. Skinner motioned to stop GASB contributions and add speaker's expenses to the Budget. Motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Ms. Pickles to continue to contribute the \$2,000 to GASB. Motion passed eight to one, with Mr. Skinner opposed.

BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

At the 2009-2010 Strategic planning session it was decided to establish a Bylaw Review Committee to review the election process and the duties of the Nominating Committee. Bylaw Review Committee will be chaired by Immediate Past President, Linda Davidson with Committee members of Mark Fostier, Amy Elliott, Jeff Smith, Margie Simmons, Damon Adams and John McKinney. **Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Ms. Lam to approve the Bylaw Review Committee. Motion passed unanimously.**

2009 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The Board was asked about any urgent topics from the survey that needed to be discussed prior to the August 21, 2009 Board of Directors meeting. Ms. Pickles, Conference Program Liaison, requested direction on what topic should be covered in the Pre-Conference Seminar. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to offer both an eight hour Investment and Leadership program for the Pre-Conference.

2009 SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENTAL FINANCE

Ms. Garner indicated that the review of topics for the 2009 SOGF would require approval before the August 21, 2009 Board of Directors meeting. The Board will hold a conference call on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. to approve session topics for the SOGF.

EMBASSY SUITES ATTRITION

The original block with FGFOA Embassy Suites Tampa, which served as the backup hotel for the 2009 Annual Conference was a total of 400 rooms blocked May 30 – June 2, 2009, but less than 200 were sold. The hotel did not sell out for May 30th and May 31st. However, the hotel did sell out on June 1st and June 2nd due to a conference in the Tampa Civic Center. The allowable room night slippage was 20% or 80 total room nights. The final pick-up was 158 room nights short of the contracted minimum. Embassy gave full credit for the minimum room nights on the dates of June 1st and 2nd due to high occupancy. Therefore, the room nights short were 74 for the dates of May 30th and 31st. Per the contract agreed upon by FGFOA, with Embassy Suites Tampa, FGFOA is obligated to pay performance damages to the hotel if the room block usage did not achieve the minimum room night guarantee. Thus, FGFOA owes the Embassy Suites Tampa the total of 74 room nights at \$159 or \$11,766. In a good faith effort to show appreciation Hilton offered a 50% reduction. The total performance obligation paid to the Embassy Suites Tampa was \$5,883.00.

FISCAL SURVIVOR SERIES

There was discussion of paying speaker expenses for the August 27, 2009 Fiscal Survivor Seminar. It is the policy of the FGFOA not to pay speaker expenses unless the Speaker is nationally recognized. **Mr. Skinner moved, seconded by Mr. Olson, to approve speaker expenses for Shayne Kavanagh, Senior Manager of Research, GFOA to speak at the August 27, 2009 Fiscal Survivor Series in Davie. Motion passed unanimously.**

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 21, 2009 at The Florida League of Cities Orlando office at 125 East Colonial, Orlando, Florida 32801.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Helms adjourned the meeting of the FGFOA Board of Directors at 4:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Garner
Executive Director, FGFOA

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ATTEST:

Rick G. Helms, President

Christopher H. Lyons, Secretary/Treasurer