The Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of the Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida, Inc. (RCI) was held on March 25, 2019. The meeting took place at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida, 32202.

Vice Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at noon. The following RCI board members were present: Mr. Bob Page, Ms. Mary Alice Phelan, Mr. Bob Rhodes, Mr. Benjie Bates (on the phone), Mr. Mike Perry, Mr. Bill Garrison (on the phone), Mr. Rob Palmer, Mr. Ed Perez, Hon. Paul Waldron, Ms. Denise Bevan (on the phone), Ms. Teresa Bishop (on the phone) and Dr. Quinton White. Mr. Doug Conkey, Mr. Thad Crowe and Chair Nazzaro were excused.

The following staff was present: Ms. Beth Payne, Ms. Margo Moehring, Mr. Aaron Glick, Ms. V. Christiansen

Vice Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at noon. Roll call was completed and it was determined there was a quorum. The Chair extended an invitation for public comment. No public comment was made. The minutes of the January 28, 2019 meeting were approved subject to one minor change, under a motion by Ms. Phelan and a second by Commissioner Waldron. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Moehring provided an update on the status of the action items related to the regional action plans “Water Beyond Borders” and Regional Tourism. Progress is steady but would be enhanced by more staffing at NEFRC. She also provided an update on resiliency, where the release of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s coastal resilience assessment is apparently imminent, allowing for progress on the regional vulnerability assessment, now to be called the exposure analysis. Elevate Northeast Florida is essentially completed, allowing for the update to CEDS which will be a part of a single economic development plan for Northeast Florida. Ms. Moehring provided an update on RLA, noting this year’s class is small but comprised of very distinguished and motivated individuals.

There was discussion on legislative priorities, and whether RCI should have a role. It was expressed that regional councils might support home rule issues, and Ms. Payne indicated that this was a part of the Florida Regional Council Association’s platform. Ms. Moehring was asked to broaden the question asked of RLA classes, “What should we do?”, to include not just policy challenges but ways to address leadership and the implementation of First Coast Vision in Northeast Florida. Ms. Moehring distributed a list of policy issues that have come from various sources. There was discussion of policy issues including bike and pedestrian safety and regional leadership. There was also discussion of surface freight, our function as gateway to the State and the need for 15 million trucks to pass through the region. There was further discussion of corridors and the need for routes parallel to I-75 and I-10, and it was brought up that, despite our work on the Tampa to Jacksonville corridor, it is not clear how RCI is involved in conversations on these issues. Ms. Moehring was asked to put this issue on the June agenda, which will include discussion of a policy issue for next year.

There was no general discussion or general public comment. The Board agreed by consensus that the next meetings would be June 24 and September 30, and to adjourn the meeting at 1:15pm.