



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00186

Agenda Date: 5/23/2023

Agenda Item Name:

Appoint Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. as Special Attorney to represent Alachua County regarding the purchase of a trunked radio system.

Presenter:

Sylvia Torres, County Attorney. Phone: (352) 374-5218

Description:

Alachua County will retain the law firm of Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. as Special Attorney to provide legal services related to the County's decision to purchase a trunked radio system.

Recommended Action:

Appoint the law firm of Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. as Special Attorney.

Prior Board Motions:

2/28/23 - Commissioner Alford moved the following:

Part 1:

Authorize Staff to purchase the Trunked Radio System from Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) for Eight Million Dollars and assume ownership and operation on October 1, 2023 with payments for service from all users fixed for 5 years. GRU will agree to pay \$164,000 per year for 5 years (\$820,000), and the City of Gainesville will agree to pay \$937,000 for 2 years and \$750,000 for the following 3 years (\$4,124,000). Authorize Staff to memorialize these terms and prepare a contract in collaboration with the County's Legal and Procurement Offices

Part 2:

If GRU and the City of Gainesville will not contractually agree to these full amounts staff will cease discussions with GRU and begin development and construction of a County-owned trunked radio system immediately.

Part 3:

Authorize staff to immediately advertise and hire a Radio Systems Manager

2nd Commissioner Cornell Chair

The motion carried 5-0.

Fiscal Note:

This contract will have a not-to-exceed provision of \$50,000. Shareholders will be paid \$325.00/hour. Associate Attorneys will be paid \$250.00/hour. The budget to cover this expense will be from:
072.54.5425.529.31.00

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

Alachua County Code

Sec. 21.42 – Special Attorneys. Special Attorneys shall be appointed only for the purposes and in the manner prescribed in this section.

(a) Special attorneys to the Board may be appointed by motion, ordinance or resolution, providing a description of the duties to be performed and the compensation to be paid.

(b) Special attorneys may be appointed to represent the Board in legal actions involving specific matters or as subject-matter experts, subject to approval by the Board.

(c) Bond counsel shall be selected and appointed by the Board from one or more qualified names submitted to the Board by the County Attorney and the County Manager.