

Rural Concerns Advisory Committee

Date: September 19, 2023

Time 4:00 pm

1. Call to Order

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Rodney Clouser (Chair), Dewayne Baines, Jordan Callaham, Janet Hearn, George Mells, Cindy Sanders, Amy Van Scoik

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jennie Ford, Larry Hall (Vice Chair), Juan Salva, Richard Wilhelm

STAFF PRESENT:

Ken McMurry, Planner, Growth Management

Regina Williams, Planning Assistant, Growth Management

Ben Chumley, Principal Planner, Growth Management

OTHER STAFF:

John Adler, Fire Marshal/Division Chief, Fire Rescue

Holly Banner, Zoning Administrator, Growth Management

Angeline Jacobs, Planner, Growth Management

PUBLIC:

Mark McKinney

Donna Gocek

Chair Dr. Clouser started the meeting at 4:10 pm. Six members were physically present, which was confirmed to satisfy the requirement for at least a quorum physically present under County Advisory Board Guidelines.

Ms. Van Scoik joined the meeting at 4:15pm and Mr. Mells joined the meeting at 4:47pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Dr. Clouser asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Dr. Sanders to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Van Scoik.

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business

3.1 Review and discussion of proposed amendments to the Alachua County Unified Land Development Code – Angeline Jacobs, Planner, Growth Management Department

Angeline Jacobs gave a presentation on currently proposed amendments to the Alachua County Unified Land Development Code including Recreational Vehicles, Mobile Tiny Houses, & Temporary Living Quarter Standards and Certifications; and 1,000 Foot Roadway Lengths in New Rural Residential Subdivisions. There were questions and discussion by Committee members

regarding any fatalities to date in RV living quarters, whether food trucks would be affected, any minimum lot size requirements for RVs, frequency of registration, and inspection and certification requirements. There were also questions and discussion by Committee members regarding any similarities to the farm stay standards previously reviewed by the Committee, and any implementation impacts to County budget.

Ms. Jacobs also presented proposed amendments to the 1,000 foot Roadway Lengths in New Rural Residential Subdivisions. There were questions and discussion by Committee members regarding current requirements for maintaining unpaved roads, maintenance standards and associated code enforcement, acceptance of roads or special improvement district for County maintenance, and approaches used by other Counties. There were also questions and discussion by Committee members regarding response times for emergency vehicles on unpaved roads, data on existing road maintenance issues, and covenants acknowledging risk of unpaved roads longer than 1,000 feet.

There were questions from the public regarding rural parcels of land that were difficult to subdivide based on their dimensions and configuration in relation to the 1,000-foot road limitation.

4. Approval of minutes for 8-15-2023 meeting

Motion was made by Ms. Van Scoik to approve the minutes for the 8-15-23 meeting; seconded by Ms. Hearn.

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Callaham and Ms. Van Scoik left the meeting at 5:30 pm and 5:37 pm.

5. Old Business

5.1 Final Review and approval RCAC Annual Workplan and Accomplishments Report: FY2023-2024

As there was no longer a quorum present, there was general agreement by the Committee members to bring this item back at the next meeting.

6. Attendance Report

Mr. McMurry said the current Attendance Report showed all members in compliance with the attendance policy at this time. He said the Attendance Report is always sent out with the meeting materials and that if members have any questions, they should ask staff. He said that the County Commission at their meeting on September 12th appointed members to three of the five upcoming vacancies: Dr. Sanders and Ms. Hearn were re-appointed and one new member, John Nix, was appointed. He said that the two remaining Committee vacancies for the position of Actively Involved in Agriculture and/or Silviculture continue to be posted and advertised on the County website. He said that the Board Guidelines allow for members to continue to serve following expiration of their terms until the County Commission fills that position. Mr. Baines said his intention was to continue to serve until his position is filled.

7. Chair Comments

Chair Clouser said that he would like to thank Vice Chair Hall for serving as Chair in his absence at last month's meeting. He also thanked Mr. Baines for his service.

8. Committee Members Comments

Mr. Mells said he had concerns about the inability to retrieve and recycle items at the County's Archer Rural Collection Center. Staff said they would ask the County Solid Waste and Resources Recovery Director for clarification.

Mr. McMurry provided clarification regarding the August 15th meeting presentation by Brian Kauffman, Asst. Director, Public Works, on Pavement Management Program, Transportation Capital Improvement Program (TCIP) FY 2023 - FY 2032, and use of infrastructure surtax funds. He said that in addition to the Municipal Partnership Program of matching grant funding that was discussed, the surtax funds are distributed to Alachua County and the municipalities within the County in accordance with the formula provided in section 218.62, Florida Statutes.

9. Public Comments:

There was no public comment.

10. Next Meeting: October 17, 2023, UF/IFAS Extension Office, Newberry, FL

11. Adjournment: Chair Clouser called the meeting to a close at 5:32 PM.

Approved 10-17-2023