



Alachua County Special Meeting

Minutes

December 5, 2023, 1:30 PM

Present: Chair Mary Alford, Commissioner Ken Cornell, Commissioner Anna Prizzia, Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

Absent: Vice Chair Charles S. Chestnut, IV

A. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cornell moved to find an extraordinary circumstance and allow Commissioner Prizzia to appear via ZOOM. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent and Commissioner Prizzia unable to vote on the motion.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Commissioner Cornell moved adoption of the agenda as printed with the amendment to allow public comment at the end of each item. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Chair Alford recognized Bruce Borders who presented comments to the Board.

To approve the Agenda.

B. Items for Discussion

1. Small Business Enterprise Program Review - 23-00773

Procurement Manager TJ White and Assistant County Manager Tommy Crosby presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell, Chair Alford, Commissioner Wheeler, and Commissioner Prizzia presented comments.

Commissioner Cornell moved the following:

- Staff recommended action to implement the current suggested changes, gather the data from the community survey and report back the findings from Contract close out data.
- Increase the net worth from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.
- Create an emerging small businesses category keeping the \$1,000,000 net worth for tracking purposes similar to what the University of Florida is doing.
- Direct staff to bring back recommendations for capacity building initiatives which might include mentoring and other best practices utilized locally for future Board discussion.

2nd Commissioner Prizzia

Chair Alford recognized Kali Blount and Bruce Borders who presented comments to the Board.

The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent.

2. Alachua County Agricultural Land Protection Strategy Update - 23-00797

Conservation Lands Manager Andi Christman and Alachua Conservation Trust Executive Director Tom Kay presented the above item.

Chair Alford, Commissioner Prizzia, Commissioner Cornell, and Commissioner Wheeler, presented comments.

Chair Alford recognized Bruce Borders who presented comments to the Board.

3. Alachua County Forever Hunting Business Plan Update - 23-00798

Conservation Lands Manager Andi Christman and Assistant County Attorney Dave Forziano, and Risk Manager John Carnell presented the above item.

Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Cornell, FWC Holly Nichols, Commissioner Prizzia, and Chair Alford presented comments.

Commissioner Prizzia moved to direct staff to move forward with the development of a relationship with the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) on the Lochloosa Slew Property using our existing hunting business plan. Also, direct staff to report back to the Board on best practices of other counties to reduce liabilities on hunting properties. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent.

2nd Commissioner Cornell

C. Closing Comments

1. Public Comment

Chair Alford recognized Kali Blount who presented comments to the Board.

2. Commission Comment

Dash Boards

Commissioner Prizzia stated that she would like to propose a motion regarding dashboards for the County website. The Board has discussed them with regards to climate change, growth management, food systems map, and roads. She is not sure that the Board gave explicit direction in the matter.

Commissioner Prizzia moved to direct staff to explore opportunities to develop a County dashboard that would highlight and provide feedback to the public regarding County strategic goals, and to bring back those ideas to the Board at a future meeting and to coordinate with local municipalities and our community foundation with regards to align our dashboard with anything they are doing.

Chair Alford and Commissioner Cornell presented comments regarding the matter.

By consensus, the Board directed the matter be discussed January at a Policy Meeting. The Board would like to see previous direction and see what staff has developed to date so they may discuss the matter.

Deputy County Manager Smart stated that he would make sure the matter is scheduled.

Central Florida Action Agency

Commissioner Wheeler stated that she needs permission from the Board to continue her work with Central Florida Action Agency.

Commissioner Cornell moved to authorize Commissioner Wheeler to continue to work with the Central Florida Action Agency. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Hawthorne Boys Basketball Championship

Commissioner Wheeler stated that the Hawthorne basketball team is headed to the State Championship, and they are in need of donations to assist with the trip. If anyone is in a position to support them it would be greatly appreciated.

SWAG Area Donations

Chair Alford stated that the SWAG Area is in need of donations of diapers, wipes, etc. to assist young mothers dealing with inflation.

Email City Manager of Newberry

Commissioner Cornell stated the City Manager Mike New is requesting a Chair Letter in support of the wastewater project in Newberry. The cost of the project has ballooned up to \$55,000,000. They are looking for financial support from the State. He would like staff such as EPD Mr. Hoffstetter and any other necessary staff to draft a letter for the County Manager to review and the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Cornell moved to authorize the Chair letter and distribute when the letter is appropriate for the Chair. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut absent.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

D. Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.