

## **Infrastructure Surtax Citizen Oversight Board**

Date: November 19, 2024  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Location: County Administration Building - Grace Knight Conference Room  
12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

Alachua County Members Present: Jill Cunningham (Vice Chair), Eric Drummond (Chair), Steve Howard, Jack Kulas, and Nancy Wilkinson (alternate)

City of Gainesville Members Present: David Ruiz

Incorporated Cities (not Gainesville) Members Present: Ross Ambrose

Members Absent: Makyla Mafi and Mary Lou Hildreth (alternate)

Staff Present: Gina Peebles

Other Municipal Staff Present: Betsy Waite

Outside Counsel Absent: Patrice Boyes

### **2. Approval of the Regular and Consent Agendas**

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the Regular and Consent agendas as presented; Jack Kulas second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the July 22 minutes as presented; Jack Kulas second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### **4. Consent Agenda**

**4.1 Accept 3rd Qtr. (Apr., May, Jun. , 2024) Wild Spaces Public Places Expenditures for Archer, Hawthorne, LaCrosse, and Waldo**

**4.2 Accept 3rd Qtr. (Apr., May, Jun. , 2024) Infrastructure Expenditures for Alachua, Archer, Hawthorne, LaCrosse, and Waldo**

#### **4.3 FY 23 Annual Surtax Audit Findings Attestation Reports**

The city of High Springs will submit their attestation once their audit is finalized.

### **5. Review of Quarterly Wild Spaces Public Places Municipal / County Expenditures for 3rd Qtr. (Apr., May, Jun., 2024)**

#### **5.1 Alachua County**

Jack Kulas made a motion to approve the quarterly Alachua County report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried. The Oversight Board requested more detail for the Cuscowilla operating expenses moving forward.

#### **5.2 Alachua**

Jill Cunningham made a motion to approve the quarterly Alachua report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

#### **5.3 Gainesville**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to approve the quarterly Gainesville report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried. Betsy Waite reported the City is strategically investing 2017 funds for certain projects while balancing operating expenses of previously completed projects. Discussion ensued about sunk costs for projects that aren't constructed for various reasons. The consensus was that design/engineering plans can be constructed at some point in the future with little to no modification, so surtax expenditures for these services are appropriate.

#### **5.4 High Springs**

The consensus was to table this report until the next meeting as the Cash on Hand and 2023 Surtax Remaining don't match.

#### **5.5 Micanopy**

Jill Cunningham made a motion to approve the quarterly Micanopy report as presented; Jack Kulas seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

#### **5.6 Newberry**

The consensus was to table this report until the next meeting as it is critical to distinguish the Cash on Hand for 2017 and 2023.

**6. Review of Quarterly Infrastructure Municipal / County Expenditures for 3rd Qtr. (Apr., May, Jun., 2024)**

**6.1 Alachua County**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to approve the quarterly Alachua County report as presented; the motion was amended pending confirmation and approval of the \$212,000+ Quarterly Revenue Received discrepancy between the WSPP and Infrastructure reports; Jill Cunningham seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

Subsequent to the meeting, staff determined the discrepancy was due to the Infrastructure report including interest earned during the quarter, while the WSPP report only included surtax revenue proceeds. Moving forward, both reports will include interest earned during the quarter.

**6.2 Gainesville**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to approve the quarterly Gainesville report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

**6.3 High Springs**

Jack Kulas made a motion to approve the quarterly High Springs report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

**6.4 Micanopy**

Jack Kulas made a motion to approve the quarterly Micanopy report as presented; Jill Cunningham seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

**6.5 Newberry**

Jill Cunningham made a motion to approve the quarterly Newberry report as presented; Jack Kulas seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried. The Board did request more detail moving forward.

**7. Old Business**

**7.1 High Springs**

The consensus was to ask our Outside Counsel, Patrice Boyes, for a legal opinion as the City purchased the Outpost assuming they had eight (8) years of surtax revenue to repay the loan. However, it was cut short by two (2) years when the 2023 surtax was approved and the 2017 surtax was sunset. They also disagree with the city's responses regarding the

playground chips, debt service, and van sale revenue. Additional clarification will be requested.

## **7.2 Newberry**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to approve the 2nd quarter Newberry report as presented; Jill Cunningham seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

## **7.3 Micanopy**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to approve the 2nd quarterly Micanopy report as presented; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

# **8. New Business**

## **8.1 Quarterly Report Formatting**

The consensus was to update the quarterly report formatting as discussed.

## **8.2 Resolution Update**

Ross Ambrose made a motion to request the Board update Resolution 22-105 (section 7.5) to state that "A quorum will consist of 50% plus one of filled member or alternate member seats" rather than four as currently written; David Ruiz seconded. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

This change will allow flexibility of the Board to conduct meeting in case of many vacancies.

Chair Drummond suggested the Board also consider allowing the eight small cities to report annually since they have very few expenses, but the consensus of the Board was to continue quarterly reporting to ask questions and address concerns timely.

# **9. Public Comment (3 Minutes)**

None.

# **10. Date/Time/Location of Next Meeting**

The next Infrastructure Oversight Board meeting will be held on Feb. 24, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

# **11. Attendance Report**

# **12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.