ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - ____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING ALACHUA COUNTY AS THE OFFICIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (EDO) FOR ALACHUA COUNTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, economic development is a central component of Alachua County's strategic vision; and

WHEREAS, the designation of an Economic Development Organization (EDO) enables staff to effectively coordinate and implement economic development programs, pursue grant opportunities, respond to business leads and inquiries, participate in trade missions, work closely with FloridaCommerce and other state agencies, and establish strategic partnerships that enhance economic opportunities for businesses, residents, and stakeholders throughout Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, Alachua County Tourism and Economic Development works in partnership with multiple Chambers of Commerce, municipalities, educational institutions, and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Alachua County Tourism and Economic Development collaborates with the Tourist Development Council and the Economic Development Advisory Committee, both of which serve as advisory bodies that provide strategic guidance and recommendations on matters related to tourism promotion and economic development initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of Alachua County to assume the role of the County's official EDO to ensure alignment with County objectives and efficient administration of economic development programs and resources; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has established policies to promote economic development, support business expansion and relocation, and provide tools and resources to local Economic Development Organizations (EDOs); and Alachua County seeks to engage with these programs and partnerships to represent the County's interests and advance its economic development goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

1. RECITALS. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

2. DESIGNATION OF ALACHUA COUNTY AS THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.

Alachua County is hereby designated as the official Economic Development Organization (EDO) for the entire geographic area of Alachua County, Florida and will strive to build an economy within Alachua County that is characterized by higher personal income, better employment opportunities, and improved business access to domestic and international markets in accordance with the policies approved by the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners ("Board").

3. FUNCTIONS.

The Board directs the County Manager to coordinate with Florida Commerce, and its successors agencies, if any, and all other state and federal agencies regarding economic development programs and opportunities that are beneficial to Alachua County, to comply with the requirements of §288.007, Florida Statutes, to identify and evaluate grant funding opportunities for economic development activities that would benefit Alachua County, to pursue and enter into grant funding agreements as authorized by the Board, and implement the economic development policies and directives approved by the Board. Any expenditure or commitment to expend County funds in excess of the County Manager's approval authority must be approved by the Board.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED in regular session this ____ day of June, A.D., 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq. Clerk of Court BY:

Charles Chestnut IV, Chair Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

(SEAL)

Alachua County Attorney