



Alachua County Special Meeting

Minutes

June 5, 2025, 4:00 PM

Present: Vice Chair Mary Alford, Commissioner Charles S. Chestnut, IV,
Commissioner Ken Cornell, Chair Anna Prizzia, Commissioner
Marihelen Wheeler

A. Approval of Agenda

Chair Chestnut called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

This meeting was conducted via ZOOM.

B. Items for Discussion

Chair Chestnut stated that during the Board's regular meeting of May 27, 2025, the Board instructed the County Attorney to schedule a closed-to-the-public attorney-client litigation strategy session to obtain advice from the Commission regarding the case of Julianna Witte, Plaintiff, vs. Alachua County, Defendant, Case #2023-CA-4087, and that such advice be provided in closed session pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes. In a moment I will ask for a motion to recess while we hold the attorney-client meeting. Madam Attorney, please explain the process we are to follow.

County Attorney Torres stated that Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes allows for public bodies to enter into a closed session to discuss pending litigation, and the issues of settlement negotiations or strategy sessions related to litigation expenditures. The entire proceeding is recorded by a court reporter, and the transcript will be prepared and made public record at the conclusion of the litigation. Only the Board members, the County Manager and necessary Attorneys, along with the Court Reporter, are allowed to attend. This meeting has been noticed in advance with all the necessary statutory components listed in the notice. Upon conclusion of the closed meeting, the Board will resume this public meeting.

Chair Chestnut asked, "Is there a motion to recess this meeting?"

Commissioner Alford moved to recess the Shade Meeting.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Chair Chestnut asked, "Is there any public comment regarding moving into a closed session?"

There were no comments offered.

Chair Chestnut asked, "Are there any comments from the Board Members regarding moving into a closed session?"

There were no comments offered.

The motion carried 5-0.

MEETING RECESSED AT: 4:09 P.M.

Chair Chestnut stated that the Motion passes. We will recess this meeting, and the following people will move to a closed forum for a closed attorney-client session:

Commissioner Charles "Chuck" Chestnut, IV, Chair
Commissioner Ken Cornell, Vice Chair
Commissioner Mary Alford
Commissioner Anna Prizzia
Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler
Michele Lieberman, County Manager
Sylvia Torres, County Attorney
Bob Swain, Deputy County Attorney
David Forziano, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Certified Court Reporter Jami Stanely

The meeting is expected to last about an hour, after which we will return to this special set meeting. We stand in recess.

MEETING RECONVENED AT: 4:50 P.M.

Chair Chestnut announced that the attorney-client session has ended and inquired if there was a motion to terminate the attorney-client session?

Commissioner Wheeler moved to terminate the attorney-client session. The motion carried 5-0.

2nd Commissioner Cornell

There being no further business before the Board Chair Chestnut inquired if there is a motion to adjourn the meeting?

Commissioner Prizzia moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

C. Closing Comments

1. Public Comment

There were no comments offered.

2. Commission Comment

There were no comments offered.

D. Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.