



# Citizen Climate Advisory Committee

**Officers:** Chair Barry Jacobson  
Vice Chair John Nix  
Secretary Sage Cera  
**Staff Liaisons:** Jennison Kipp &  
Stephen Hofstetter (County)  
Dan Zhu & Jennie Ford (City of  
Gainesville)

## MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2025 – 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Grace Knight Conference Room  
12 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Gainesville, Florida 32601

1. Call to Order 6:05pm – Attendance and Determination of Quorum  
Members: In person – John Nix, John Lawson, Pamela Hawkins, Barry Jacobson, Kathryn Taubert, Terry Clark (on zoom), and Jackie Davis (on zoom), Absent: Sage Cera  
Staff: In person – Jennison Kipp (EPD), Betsy Riley (EPD), Dan Zhu (City), Stephen Hofstetter (EPD), Via Zoom: Jennie Ford (City); Absent – Jaime Verschage (GRU)  
Guests: Via Zoom: Steve Mulkey, Sandy Vardaman, Kathleen Pagan, Lisa McGaughran
2. Approval of Agenda by Kathryn Taubert, second by John Nix, motion passed 5-0.
3. Approval of February 17, 2025, and March 17, 2025, regular meeting minutes, motion by John Nix and seconded by John Lawson, motion passed 5-0.
4. Staff updates –
  - Betsy Riley and Jennison Kipp (County): Summarized presentation given to Joint Water and Climate Policy Board (JWCPB) on CAP progress and selection of November 15, 2025, as the Climate Festival time and location at the IFAS Extension Office. Provided a summary of recent events where Betsy and Jennison gave updates on the CAP and related programs.
  - Dan Zhu (City): Summarized several outreach events and efforts to engage residents with resiliency action plan and Earth Day events; John Nix mentioned the success of the Great American Clean Up Day on April 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - GRU - Jennison read information provided by Jamie Verschage (GRU) that included: GRU resources available for area teachers and students online (GRU.com -> "Environment and Community" -> "School Support") and in person; Hurricane season officially begins June 1st, prepare now, Florida sales tax holiday is May 15 – May 31 when many disaster preparedness supplies, such as flashlights, radios, tarps, coolers, fire extinguishers, and generators can be purchased without sales tax; Warm weather is here, reminder that keeping your thermostat at 78 degrees when you're at home (and higher when you're not at home) can help lower your utility bill. Ceiling fans can help you cool off, too, but remember to turn them off when not at home (fans cool people, not rooms!)

5. Review of the Introduction and Terminology Sections of the Climate Action Plan (CAP). Summary by Jennison. Comments and questions were received from members including rewriting the Vision Statement and Purpose. Suggested language given by Kathryn and follow up discussion by rest of committee. No additional comments on the terminology.
6. Discussion of all CAPS section, major themes, gaps, and synthesis needs – Jennison led discussion which included a request to have more visual information, a matrix, review of economic impacts of inaction (doing nothing) versus the taking actions already underway and proposed in the CAP, and a listing of critical factors necessary to achieve the vision and goals of the CAP.
7. Suggest items for May 19, 2025, regular meeting:
  - Discuss Green Industries draft chapter
  - Discuss updating drafts and preliminary summit strategies
  - Discuss CAP dashboard and integration considerations
8. Member recap, action items and member comments: Jennison will tabulate action items across CAP chapters and provide updated timeline.
9. Public comments – No public comment.
10. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm