



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00681

Agenda Date: 8/26/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Selection of Alachua County Poet Laureate

Presenter:

Gina Peebles – Assistant County Manager – Chief of Staff

Description:

Selection of Alachua County Poet Laureate.

Recommended Action:

Select Alachua County Poet Laureate and direct the County Manager to enter into a written agreement with the selected poet that is consistent with the County's IP Policy.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

A \$3,000 annual honorarium/licensing fee will be provided to the selected Poet Laureate. This stipend is paid from the County Manager's budget in the General Fund: 001.17.1700.512.31.00 Professional Services.

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

Alachua County has had a Poet Laureate since 2020 who writes original poetry to commemorate notable happenings and events throughout the County. At the Aug. 4 Arts Council meeting, they voted unanimously to recommend E. Stanley Richardson, Lola Haskins, and Superior Moves Records, LLC as the top three ranked Poet Laureates to the County Commission. The selected Poet Laureate will be expected to write, create and read original poetry and participate at County sponsored programs and events. The poems to be created for the County by the Poet Laureate constitute Intellectual Property under the County's Intellectual Property Policy, which was adopted by the Board on September 11, 2018 (the "Policy"). In general, the Policy requires that all Intellectual Property created for the County is the property of the County, unless otherwise specified in a written agreement approved by the County Manager. In this instance, the written agreement shall provide that the Poet Laureate will maintain ownership of the poems he or she creates during tenure as Poet Laureate, but will grant the County a perpetual license to use, print, post, publish, televise, distribute, disseminate and broadcast, by print, electronic or other mediums, said poems without payment of any royalties or

additional fees beyond the \$3,000 annual payment that the County will pay to the Poet Laureate.