



## Alachua County Special Meeting

### Minutes

**August 5, 2025, 10:00 AM**

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

Absent: Commissioner Mary Alford

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#### **A. Approval of Agenda**

To approve the Agenda.

#### **B. Items for Discussion**

Chair Chestnut stated that during the Board's regular meeting of July 8, 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 inquired "Is there a motion to recess this meeting?"

**Commissioner Prizzia moved** recess the meeting. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Alford absent.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

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

[ONLY THOSE PEOPLE LISTED IN THIS SCRIPT MAY ATTEND THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT SESSION. AFTER THE SESSION IS OVER, EVERYONE SHOULD RETURN TO THE SPECIAL SET MEETING.]

**COMMISSION RECESSED AT: 10:05 a.m.**

The following individuals proceed to leave the room and attend the closed-door discussion:

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

A Certified Court Reporter

**COMMISSION RECONVENED: 10:46 am**

Chair Chestnut stated that the attorney-client session has ended; do I hear a motion to terminate the attorney-client session?

**Commissioner Prizzia moved** to terminate the attorney client session. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Alford absent.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Chair Chestnut stated the attorney-client session is terminated.

He inquired if there is a motion to terminate this meeting?

**Commissioner Cornell moved** to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Alford absent.

2nd Commissioner Prizzia

Chair Chestnut announced the special set meeting is terminated.

**C. Closing Comments**

1. Public Comment

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

2. Commission Comment

There were no comments offered.

**D. Adjourn**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.