

ALACHUA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION 25-\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE ENTITY APPLICATION FOR AN AGRICULTURAL LAND EASEMENT (ALE) AGREEMENT, AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE, FINALIZE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND EXECUTE THE PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE AND ALACHUA COUNTY FOR THE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM AGRICULTURAL LAND EASEMENTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, on September 10, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida passed Resolution 24-81, which established a process for acquiring interests in agriculturally significant lands purchased using wild spaces public places local government infrastructure surtax proceeds; and

**WHEREAS**, the County previously entered into a Program Agreement with the United States (U.S.) Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program Agricultural Land Easements (“Program Agreement”) and this agreement provided for cost sharing with the federal government for the

acquisition of agriculturally significant lands, however, the agreement expired on September 30, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, county staff recommends that the County continue its partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service to enable the County to obtain federal cost-share assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the receipt of federal funding the County is required to comply with certain requirements including submitting an Entity Application for an Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) Agreement and entering into a new Program Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has not received the final version of the Program Agreement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, however, the County has obtained the most recently updated form of the Program Agreement which is attached as Exhibit 2 to Agenda Item Summary 25-00830; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 24-81, authorizes county staff to develop any partnerships with other agencies and non-profits and to apply for grants to match surtax funds, however, the U.S. Department of Agriculture requires more specific signatory authority in order to accept the Entity Application, Program Agreement, and the associated documents.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA;**

**SECTION 1. RECITALS.** The above recitals are true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein.

**SECTION 2.** The County Manager or her designee is authorized to complete and execute the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Entity Application

for an Agriculture Land Easement Agreement, and execute all documents associated with it including any amendments to the application.

**SECTION 3.** The County Manager or her designee is authorized to negotiate, finalize the terms and conditions, and execute the Program Agreement between the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Alachua County for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) Agreement, and the County Manager or her designee is authorized to execute all the associated documents with this Program Agreement.

**SECTION 4.** The County Attorney or her designee shall review and approve as to form all documents prior to their execution by the County Manager or her designee.

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**DULY ADOPTED** in regular session, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Charles S. Chestnut, IV, Chair

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq., Clerk  
(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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Alachua County Attorney