



Alachua County Agricultural Land Conservation Board (ALCB)

ALCB Members

Chair
TBD

Vice-Chair
TBD

Secretary
TBD

Arden Oelke
Erica Hernandez
Jean-Paul Perez
John Nix
Juan Salva
Kelly McPherson
Nina Bhattacharyya
Paul Pritchard
Scot Eubanks

Alternate
Candace Gonzalez-Lantz

Alachua County Forever Mission Statement

To acquire, improve, and manage environmentally significant lands that protect water resources, wildlife habitats and natural areas suitable for resource-based recreation.



Meeting Minutes - August 06, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

Grace Knight Conference Room
12 SE 1st Street, Second Floor,
Alachua County Administration Building
In-Person Meeting

ALCB Members Present: Arden Oelke, Candace Gonzalez-Lantz, Erica Hernandez, Jean Paul Perez, John Nix, Juan Salva, Kelly McPherson, Nina Bhattacharyya, Paul Pritchard, Scot Eubanks

Staff Present: Andi Christman, Jean Willoughby, Kevin Ratkus, Emily Uhlmann, Michael Bird, Dave Forsiano, Shari Wallen

Members of the Public Present: Megan Abram (Alachua Conservation Trust)

Agricultural Land Conservation Strategy Mission

To increase farmland conservation within the Alachua County through the purchase of agricultural land conservation easements

1) Welcome / Introductions (6:00 - 6:15)

- a) Call Meeting to order (staff)

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Because all ALCB members are in attendance, Alternate Member Candace Gonzalez-Lantz will not be participating in any of the votes.

- b) Approval of Agenda

Paul Pritchard made a motion to approve the agenda. Jean Paul seconded the motion. Motion approved with a vote of 9-0.

- c) Sunshine Law Snapshot County

Attorney Dave Forziano provided a very brief overview of Sunshine Law and how it applies to this board. There will be a more in-depth presentation at the next meeting.

- d) ALCB Member Introductions

ALCB members all introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their backgrounds

2) Onboarding Workshop (6:15 - 7:45)

- a) Overview of the ACF Program and AG Strategy (6:15 – 6:45)
i) Staff Introduction

- ii) ACF Program History / Inclusion of Ag Strategy
 - iii) Conservation Easement Overview
- b) Meeting Procedures / ALCB Role (6:45 – 7:40)
- i) Meeting Process
 - ii) ALCB Role and Actions
 - iii) Evaluations / Assessment Criteria

3) Board Business (7:40 – 7:55)

- a) Election of Officers - *After nominations were made, each member was given a piece of paper to make their recommendation for each leadership position. County staff tallied up the votes and motions were made to approve them.*

- i) Chair Nominees: *Erica Hernandez, Paul Pritchard*

County Staff tallied up the ballots and announced that Erica Hernandez had received the majority vote. Motion to recommend Erica Hernandez to serve as Chair made by: Paul Pritchard. Motion seconded by: Scott Eubanks. Motion passes with a vote of 10-0.

With Erica approved as the new Chair, she took over the remaining motions to approve the Vice Chair and the Secretary. These motions were made together.

- ii) Vice-Chair Nominees: *Jean Paul, Erica Hernandez (removed due to election as chair), Paul Pritchard, John Nix*
- iii) Secretary Nominees: *Juan Salva*

County Staff tallied up the paper ballots: John Nix received the most votes for Vice-Chair, and Juan Salva received the most votes for Secretary.

Motion to recommend John Nix to serve as Vice-Chair and for Juan Salva to Serve as Secretary made by: Nina Bhattacharyya. Motion Seconded by: Paul Pritchard. Motion approved by a vote of 10-0.

4) Public Comment

5) Other Business

- a) Next meeting date – September 03, 2025

6) Adjourn (~8:00)

- a) Closing messages from staff
The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm

A public speaker who meets the definition of “lobbyist” per Alachua County Code Section 68.02 shall disclose that he or she is a registered lobbyist when addressing the Board