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RESOLUTION 17- 36

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE WILD SPACES PUBLIC PLACES CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING A SUNSET DATE; ESTABLISHING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR THE TERM OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF MEETINGS AND OPERATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2016 the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County adopted Ordinance 16-06 to impose a voter approved local government infrastructure surtax to be utilized by Alachua County and the municipalities within Alachua County to acquire and improve conservation lands and create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities within Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, a referendum on said surtax was held on November 8, 2016, and the voters of Alachua County approved said surtax; and

WHEREAS, the ballot language for the referendum calls for 'Citizen Oversight'; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County wishes to establish a Citizen Oversight Committee to ensure that Wild Spaces Public Places infrastructure surtax revenues are expended consistent with the ballot language approved by the voters;

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

Section 1. Advisory Board Established. The Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida (Board) hereby establishes the Wild Spaces Public Places Citizen Oversight Committee (Advisory Committee).

Section 2. Designated Special Committee. This Advisory Committee is designated as a Special Committee. The Advisory Committee will sunset when the funds generated through the Wild Spaces Public Places infrastructure surtax are fully expended.

1 **Section 3. Membership and Qualifications.** The Advisory Committee shall consist of
2 no more than five (5) voting members plus three (3) alternate members and shall serve staggered
3 four-year terms. All members must be residents of Alachua County. Two (2) of the members
4 plus one (1) alternate will be appointed by the County, two (2) of the members plus one (1)
5 alternate shall reside within the Gainesville city limits and will be appointed by the City of
6 Gainesville, and one (1) of the members plus one (1) alternate will be recommended by the eight
7 remaining incorporated cities and appointed by the County. Members may not be county or
8 municipal elected officials or employees.

9
10 **Section 4. Responsibilities and Duties.** The responsibility of the Advisory Committee
11 shall be to:

- 12
13 1. Assure citizens and elected officials that funds approved through the referendum are
14 expended only to:
 - 15
16 a. Acquire and improve environmentally sensitive lands to protect drinking
17 water sources, water quality, and wildlife habitat, and,
 - 18
19 b. Create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities as permitted by
20 Florida Statutes, the referendum ballot language, and ordinances.
 - 21
22 c. Notwithstanding the above, Alachua County may utilize a portion of its
23 proceeds to establish a fund for the purpose of providing matching grants to
24 the municipalities within the County for projects that meet the requirements of
25 subsections (a) or (b), and which, in the sole discretion of Alachua County,
26 have countywide significance.
- 27
28 2. Track overall expenditure of one-half percent sales tax revenues.
- 29
30 3. Report annually, or as necessary, to the Alachua County Board of County
31 Commissioners and each City Commission on expenditure of funds.
- 32
33 4. If it is the opinion of the Advisory Committee that funds may have been
34 misappropriated, they have the right to audit, immediately bring their findings to the
35 municipality and the Board of County Commissioners and demand repayment with
36 the approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

37 **Section 5. Operations.** The Advisory Committee shall be guided by the by-laws
38 approved by the Advisory Board and the Alachua County Advisory Boards and Committee
39 Guidelines. The by-laws shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as the
40 Advisory Committee may deem appropriate.

- 41
42 1. Elections. The Advisory Committee shall annually elect one of its members as
43 Chair, and such other officers as the Advisory Board deems necessary to meet its

1 needs. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting
2 following the date the vacancy occurred.
3

- 4 2. Meetings. Meetings of the Advisory Committee or any subcommittee thereof, shall
5 be open to the public and the media and shall be conducted in compliance with the
6 Sunshine Law, Section 286.011, Florida Statutes. The County Manager or his or her
7 designee shall produce minutes of the meetings which shall be submitted to the
8 Advisory Committee for approval. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once
9 per year.
10

11 The Chair shall preside and conduct meetings of the Advisory Committee according
12 to the most recent edition of Alice Sturgis' Standard Code of Parliamentary
13 Procedure. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by any members of the
14 Advisory Committee upon forty-eight (48) hours written notice to all members and
15 to the County Manager or his or her designee.
16

- 17 3. Agenda. The Chair shall be responsible for the meeting agenda. The County
18 Manager or designee shall serve as staff liaison to the Advisory Committee and shall
19 aid in preparing and distributing the agenda prior to the meeting. The County
20 Manager or designee, or any member of the Advisory Committee may place an item
21 on the agenda by notifying the Chair prior to the preparation of the agenda.
22

- 23 4. Subcommittees. Subcommittees comprised of members of the Advisory Committee
24 may be appointed by the Chair.
25

- 26 5. Quorum. A quorum will consist of no less than three members, whether full or
27 alternate members. Recommendations and decision of the Advisory Committee must
28 be made by a majority vote of those present and voting.
29

- 30 6. Attendance. The attendance policy for the Advisory Committee shall be in
31 accordance with the attendance policy for boards and committees set forth in the
32 Alachua County Commission's Advisory Boards and Committee Guidelines.
33

- 34 7. Compensation. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation
35 for the performance of their duties and responsibilities.
36

- 37 8. Reports. The Advisory Committee will compile information received from the
38 county and municipalities and provide annual reports to the County Commission and
39 each City Commission consistent with its mission. The Committee will provide a
40 final report prior to ceasing operations. The Advisory Committee shall copy all
41 reports and communications to the County Manager or designee for forwarding to
42 the Chair of the County Commission. Any Advisory Committee reports required by
43 the Alachua County Commission's Rules of Procedure shall be submitted in
44 accordance with said Rules.
45

1 **Section 6. Effective Date.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its
2 adoption.

3
4 **DULY ADOPTED** in regular session this 28th day of March, A.D., 2017.

5
6 **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF**
7 **ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA**
8

9
10
11 By: 
12 Ken Cornell, Chair
13

14
15 ATTEST:

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17 
18
19 Jesse K. Irby, II, Clerk
20

21 APPROVED AS TO FORM

22
23 
24 Alachua County Attorney
25
26 (SEAL)