

ALACHUA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-\_\_**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA; FINDING THAT THE LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IS AN EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE JUSTIFYING THE REMOTE PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING FOR THE SUSPENSION OF REQUIREMENT THAT WILD SPACES PUBLIC PLACES LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX OCCUR AFTER 5PM; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR EXPIRATION OF THE RESOLUTION UPON THE EXPIRATION OF THE LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY.

**WHEREAS**, Alachua County is under a local, state and national states of emergency regarding COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of suspected and diagnosed cases in the State of Florida and specifically Alachua County continue to climb although the rate of new infections has recently fluctuated; and

**WHEREAS**, a Proclamation Declaring a State of Emergency in Alachua County was issued on March 16th, 2020 beginning at 1:04 p.m. which has been extended multiple times most recently on April 12, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, while the number of vaccinations of residents of Alachua County continue to climb, and the Governor has continued to lower the age of vaccination, allowing Floridians age 18 and up to be vaccinated, the number of those vaccinated in Alachua County is 87,419 out of a potential population above 18 of 220,884 and is still well below the number which is accepted for “herd immunity;” and

**WHEREAS**, county operations continue to be disrupted by the presence of COVID-19 in the community and ability to follow the recommendations of the CDC in efforts to return county operations to normal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alachua County Code allows certain streamlined operations during the pendency of a local declared state of emergency which allows the County Administration and the Board of County Commissioners flexibility; and

**NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners hereby resolves, finds, and declares:**

- 1. Extraordinary Circumstances for Remote Participation.** The Board of County Commissioners finds that extraordinary circumstances exist to justify the absence of remote Board members, and that all remote Board members may participate and vote on all matters before the Board as if physically-present.
- 2. Wild Spaces Public Places 5pm Hearing Requirement Suspended.** Section 5.b(8) of Alachua County Resolution 18-101 states that Board of County Commissioners' actions on the acquisition of property using revenue from the Wild Spaces Public Places Local Government Infrastructure Surtax must occur at a duly noticed public hearing held after 5pm. The requirement that such Board of County Commissioners' meeting must be held after 5pm is hereby suspended.

**SECTION 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

**SECTION 3. Expiration.** This Resolution shall expire upon the expiration of a local state of emergency related to COVID-19.

**DULY ADOPTED** in regular session, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq.  
Clerk of Court

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Cornell, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Attorney

(SEAL)