

Tuesday, November 05, 2019 – 1:30 P.M.
Grace Knight Conference Room
County Administration Building
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners met for the Special Meeting.

PRESENT: Vice Chair Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly,
Commissioner Ken Cornell, Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

ABSENT: Chair Charles “Chuck” Chestnut, IV

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres,
Deputy County Manager James Harriott and Minutes Clerk Loretta
Adams

Vice Chair Robert Hutchinson called meeting to order at 1:33 PM

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Regular and Consent Agendas - A motion to approve the Agenda approve all items on the Consent Agenda. All matters on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion unless desired by a Commissioner.

1. Approve the agenda 19-0627

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: A Motion to Approve the Agenda: (a) approve any amendments to the Agenda; and (b) adopt the Agenda

Added Item to the end of the Agenda: Vice Chair Hutchinson requested to County Manager Lieberman talk with Rebuilding Together Inc. to see if there is a way the AmeriCorps crew could be accommodated at Camp McConnell and to assess the situation, cost, liabilities, etc. and go forth and come back to the Board if necessary.

Commissioner Cornell verified that Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is aware of CareerSource North Central Florida Three month extension of Interlocal Agreement.

County Attorney Sylvia Torres advised of multiple discussions with the EDO, including the Director. The EDO is aware that Alachua County and Bradford County are considering doing a 3 month extension. Bradford County adopted the Resolution and First Amendment in their meeting held 11/04/19.

Commissioner Cornell moved adoption of the agenda with the addition of the AmeriCorps, Inc. item at the end of the agenda and the consent agenda item concerning CareerSource. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Byerly out of the room and Chair Chestnut absent.

Items for Discussion

2. 2020 Climate Change Policy Discussion **19-0375**

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Provide direction to staff.

Deputy County Manager James Harriott and Director of Environmental Protection Chris Bird presented above item.

Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, County Manager Lieberman, Deputy County Manager and Vice Chair Hutchinson presented comments.

Jim McFarland, Sarah Younger, Ellen Siegel, Susan Nugent, Deborah Scheuer, Sarah Goff, Bob Tancig, Anna Prizzia, Alice Kremac, Anton Kernohan, Casey Willis, Mary Alfred, Nancy Daren, Mike Roth with Our Santa Fe River, Anthony Johnson, Patrick Gilmartin with Gainesville area chapter of the climate reality projects, Maryvonne Devensky, Greg Undean, Karen Arrington, Sarah Lockhart, Kwanda Jah, Roberta Gastmeyer and Merrilee Malwitz provided comments.

Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Director Environmental Protection Chris Bird, Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler, Commissioner Cornell, County Manager Lieberman and Growth Management Director Missy Daniels presented comments.

County Manager Lieberman provided update on advertisement of CRC issues and advised that there is a CRC Website page that is live and anyone can access and put in Charter ideas and submit them to the committee and they will go to the Charter Review Commission.

Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Bob Tancig with Climate Reality Project and County Attorney Sylvia Torres presented comments.

Commissioner Byerly moved the following:

1. Direct staff to develop for the Boards consideration a Local Climate Mitigation and Adaption Plan to include with it a 2 phase presentation from staff a tentative frame work that will be introduced along with the proposed budget by the beginning of the summer (June) with the goal of final adoption by the end of 2020.
2. Direct staff to strengthen and update Climate Change Policies in the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan but not to allow that to interfere with the priority of the Land Development Regulation Implementation.
3. Collaborate with other public initiatives and agencies.
4. Create a Climate Advisory Committee of 9 members that would make recommendations with the focus on changes or better practices for Alachua County Government. Not only bringing their expertise to staff but being a conduit for all groups and individuals that want to get recommendations to staff as to what to include in the plan.
5. Direct County Telecommunications staff to make sure that the different groups and organizations working in the community on this issue are aware of the Charter Review Commission and its ongoing activities.

Commissioner Ken Cornell, County Manager Michele Lieberman, Vice-Chair Hutchinson, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Director Environmental Protection Chris Bird presented comments.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Jim McFarland, Anthony Johnson, Sarah Younger, Mary Alford, David Moritz, and Matt Williams who presented comments.

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly and Commissioner Hutchinson provided comments.

The motion carried 4-0.

3. 2020 Infrastructure Surtax Discussion 19-0366

Fiscal Consideration: A full cent surtax should generate approximately \$23 million/year.

Recommended Action: Discuss priorities and provide direction to staff. Direct staff to reach out to UF and City of Gainesville counterparts, community stakeholders, and advisory boards to discuss opportunities for a cooperative effort on surtax priorities.

Deputy County Manager James Harriott presented above item.

Vice Chair Hutchinson presented comments.

STAFF PROPOSED SURTAX PROJECTS:

***Solar Conservation** – by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

Commissioner Byerly, Deputy County Manager James Harriott, Commissioner Cornell, Strategic Initiatives Manager Sean McLendon, Vice Chair Hutchinson, and Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

***Wild Places Public Spaces** – by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

***Local Agriculture and Food** – by consensus of the Board choose not to pursue.

Commissioner Byerly, Vice Chair Hutchinson and Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Wheeler and Deputy County Manager James Harriott presented comments.

***Carbon Sequestration** – by consensus of the board choose not to pursue.

Deputy County Manager James Harriott, Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Environmental Protection Director Chris Bird, Parks & Conservation Lands Director Charlie Houser, Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

***Open Space Connectivity and Greenbelt** – by consensus of the Board choose not to pursue.

Commissioner Byerly and Deputy County Manager James Harriott presented comments.

***Greenways and trails** – by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

Commissioner Byerly, Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell and Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

***High Frequency Public Transport** - by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

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Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Deputy County Manager James Harriott, Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Wheeler, Acting Transportation Planning Manager Chris Dawson and County Attorney Sylvia Torres presented comments.

*** Innovative Housing/Rejuvenated Communities** - by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, County Attorney Torres, and Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

***Connected Communities** - by consensus of the Board choose not to pursue.

Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, Vice Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Wheeler, IT Director Kevin Smith and County Manager Lieberman presented comments.

***Greening the Gray Infrastructure** - by consensus of the Board choose not to pursue.

Deputy County Manager James Harriott, Commissioner Byerly, Vice Chair Hutchinson and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

***Zero Waste Infrastructure** - by consensus of the Board choose to pursue.

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Wheeler, Deputy County Manager James Harriott and Strategic Initiatives Manager Sean McLendon presented comments.

Commissioner Cornell moved to direct staff to reach out to the University of Florida (UF) and The City of Gainesville, Counter Parts, Community Stake Holders and Advisory Boards and discuss opportunities for a cooperative effort on surtax priorities which would include Solar Conservation, Greenways and Trails, High Frequency Public Transportation, Innovative Housing and the Waste Initiatives.

Vice Chair Hutchinson recognized Mary Alford, Anthony Johnson, Sarah Younger and Kristin Young presented comments.

Strategic Initiatives Manager Sean McLendon presented comments.

The motion carried 4-0.

Closing Comments

4. Public Comment 19-0628

Vice Chair Hutchinson recognized Anthony Johnson who presented comments.

5. Commission Comments 19-0629

Camp McConnell

Vice Chair Hutchinson addressed letter received from AmeriCorps inquiring on using Camp McConnell from February 25 – March 27, 2020 for housing for the team that will be doing the 2020 project.

Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

Commissioner Byerly moved to direct the County Manager Lieberman to look into whether or not this request is feasible or not and report back to the board with cost, liability, etc. as soon as possible.

County Manager Lieberman advised that there is a very real concern regarding the electrical systems in the cabins a very rough estimate for fixing the issue is \$70,000.00.

Commissioner Byerly withdrew his motion based on the dollar estimate of \$70,000.00 to bring the cabin(s) up to safety standards.

By consensus, the Board directed staff to get in touch with Mr. Bonnaghan and work with him to see about finding a private entity to assist with repairs and get back to the board.

Single Use Straws

Commissioner Byerly addressed letter received from the Sierra Club regarding single use disposable straws.

Commissioner Byerly moved to draft an ordinance prohibiting single use disposable straws in the unincorporated part of Alachua County.

County Attorney Sylvia Torres presented comments.

Vice Chair Hutchinson recognized Anthony Johnson who presented comments.

The motion carried 4-0.

Watering at Jonesville Park

Commissioner Byerly addressed email received from citizen about watering in the middle of the heat of the day at the Jonesville Park. Commissioner Cornell advised that he forwarded a copy to County Manager Lieberman and Assistant Manager Gina Peebles. Assistant Manager Gina Peebles informed Commissioner Cornell that she would look into this and get back to the board. Commissioner Cornell requested to copy the Commissioners on the response.

County Attorney presented comments on Single Use Straw Ordinance.

Nestle Bottling

Commissioner Wheeler inquired of status of Nestle Bottling project. County Attorney Sylvia Torres advised that the request from Nestle was significantly higher than their original permit. County sent letter and requested that the Water Management District keep the permit at the original amount of water to be pulled from the springs.

Farmer's Market

Commissioner Byerly inquired on request from citizen to add vendor / craft booths at the Farmers Market event. Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell provided comments. Commissioner Cornell, County Manager Lieberman provided comments. Commissioner Byerly will respond and advise that the request must come from the Board of Farmer's Market and we can agenda the item for public meeting.

Vice Chair Hutchinson and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

EPD as a Charter Officer

Commissioner Hutchinson, County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Cornell discussed the possibility of creating EPD Director as a Charter Officer.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Consent

6. CareerSource North Central Florida – Three month extension of Interlocal Agreement. 19-0614

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Adopt the Resolution approving the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between Alachua County and Bradford County regarding CareerSource North Central Florida.

Prior Board Motions: N/A

Fiscal Consideration: