

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 – 1:30 P.M.  
Jack Durrance Auditorium  
County Administration Building  
12 Southeast First Street  
Gainesville, Florida

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

**PRESENT:** Vice Chair Mike Byerly, Commissioner Charles S. Chestnut IV, Commissioner Ken Cornell, and Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

**ABSENT:** Chair Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson

**ALSO PRESENT:** County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Deputy County Manager James Harriot and Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

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

### **Approval of Agenda**

County Manager Lieberman advised that the County Attorney would like to add an item for discussion regarding the Charter Review Committee Vacancy.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** adoption of the agenda as amended. The motion carried 4-0 with Chair Hutchinson absent.

### **Items for Discussion**

1. Restoration of Voting Rights for Ex-Felons 20-0043

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Hear update and provide additional direction to staff, if desired.

Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell, Assistant County Attorney Bob Swain, Vice Chair Byerly, County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Wheeler, Vice Chair Byerly, Chief Financial Officer Todd Hutchison, County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Byerly, and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

**Commissioner Cornell moved the following: 2<sup>nd</sup> Chestnut**

1. That staff work with the Clerk of the Courts Office to develop a workable list of citizens that have severed their term but still have felony court fees and reside in Alachua County whether through the clerk's list, collection agency, or other sources.
2. Staff to bring back a presentation on what fees are being charged that the Board of County Commissioners has control over and what programs are funded by these revenues. (This includes the Room and Board fee.)
3. Direct staff to work with the Public Defender, 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Bar Association, Florida Association of Counties, and the Florida Voting Rights Association to determine what other Counties are doing to address this issue including but not limited to amnesty programs, Judge Modified Sentences to restore voting rights. Work with stakeholders within the community.

Commissioner Wheeler, Kristin Young, Patricia Lee, Anthony Johnson, Public Defender Stacey Scott, Sherry Spencer, Assistant County Attorney Bob Swain, and County Manager Lieberman presented comments.

**The motion carried 4-0.**

2. Climate Change Discussion 20-0062  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Adopt Climate Advisory Committee Resolution, authorize staff to initiate development of a Local Climate Plan and provide direction to staff on additional climate actions

Environmental Protection Department Director Chris Bird presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Wheeler, Vice Chair Byerly, Commissioner Wheeler Environmental Programs Manager Stephen Hofstetter, and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

**Commissioner Cornell moved the following:**

1. Staff prepare with the City of Gainesville the necessary Resolutions, Interlocal Agreements, and organizing documents to create the Joint City County Water and Climate Policy Committee.

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 – 1:30 P.M.

2. Direct staff to develop a nine member citizen at large advisory committee with experience in climate change, resiliency, climate adaption or mitigation with three year appointments with 2 year and 1 year appointments initially to allow for annual appointments and authorize the Joint Committee to appoint these members that will then be ratified by both the City and County Commissions. If the City does not approve this then this item is to be brought back to the next Joint Meeting with nominations.
3. Direct County Staff to staff to the Climate Change Plan and the Climate Change Advisory Committee. The lead departments are resiliency, EPD, and Growth Management Departments.
4. Authorize staff to initiate and develop the Climate Change Plan.
5. Direct staff to bring back the Joint City County Water and Climate Policy Committee resolutions to update the County Green Purchasing Policy.

Jim Konish, Anthony Johnson, David Moritz, Tommy Baker, Nancy Darren, and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

By consensus, the Board directed to add this matter to the March Policy Discussion.

**The motion carried 4-0.**

**ADDED ITEM:**

Charter Review Commission Vacancy

County Attorney Sylvia Torres presented the above item.

County Attorney Torres advised the Board the Charter Review Commission has one vacancy. The Charter states that if there is a vacancy the Board needs to fill that vacancy within 30 days in the same manner that the others were appointed. She advised that she would like to bring it to the Board on February 11, 2020. She advised that she will contact the applicants to ensure that they are still interested in service.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** to fill the vacant position with the existing list of applicants at the meeting on February 21, 2020. The motion carried 4-0.

Policy Meeting Scheduling

County Manager Lieberman presented the above item.

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 – 1:30 P.M.

Mrs. Lieberman advised that the following items are scheduled for the March 3, 2020 Policy Discussion:

- Board Initiated Charter Amendments – Remains on Agenda
- Ballot Initiative for Emergency Radio System – Remains on Agenda
- Mr. Everett Property Concerns – Move to 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting in March in the evening
- Rural Agriculture Comprehensive Plan – Move to another agenda
- Americans with Disability Acts Website Policy – Move to 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting in February
- Pocket Parks – Move to Regular Meeting in March
- Solid Waste Code – Remains on Agenda but may be rescheduled due to time constraints
- Climate Change Issues – Remains on Agenda

By consensus, the Board made the following adjustments to the March 3, 2020 Policy Meeting.

Commissioner Wheeler stated that she would like to add a resolution in support of community identification cards to an agenda.

County Manager advised that if Commissioner Wheeler would submit the matter to Mrs. Gainey she will assist in getting the item on the agenda.

### **Closing Comments**

#### Public Comment

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

#### Commission Comment

There were no comments presented.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 P.M.