

Friday, May 1, 2020 – 10:00 A.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: Chair Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson; Vice Chair Mike Byerly, Commissioner Charles S. Chestnut IV, Commissioner Ken Cornell, and Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Deputy County Manager James Harriot and Clerk of Court J.K. “Jess” Irby, Esq., Chief Financial Officer Todd Hutchinson, Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

(All members participated through the Zoom App and all votes were done by roll call.)

Approval of Agenda

Items for Discussion

1. Discussion of Alachua County Emergency Order 20-0370

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Have a discussion on the Alachua County Emergency Order.

Health Department Director Paul Myers presented a County Update.

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, and Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

Commissioner Chestnut entered the meeting at 10:25 A.M.

County Attorney Torres, Commissioner Cornell, and Deputy County Manager Harriott presented comments.

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Occupancy

Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, County Attorney Torres, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly Commissioner Chestnut Commissioner Wheeler Chair Hutchinson Commission Cornell Commissioner Byerly Chair Hutchinson Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Cornell Commissioner Byerly Commissioner Chestnut Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Byerly, and Deputy County Manager Harriott Chair Hutchinson presented comments.

Masks

Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Byerly Commissioner Cornell, County Attorney Torres, and Commissioner Wheeler presented comments.

Manufacturing Facilities

Chair Hutchinson, County Attorney Torres, Assistant County Attorney Bob Swain, and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

County Government Reopening

Deputy County Manager Harriott

Churches

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, County Attorney Torres, Commissioner Chestnut, and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

Commissioner Cornell moved the following:

1. To follow the Governors order
 - 1A. to follow the restaurant piece
 - 1B. to follow the retail piece
 - 1C. follow the FDA best business practices for restaurants.
2. Add to the order that to the extent there is a governing body or licensing group that imposes more stringent guidelines than OSHA then the business shall follow those guidelines
3. That the Board adopt the Miami Dade face covering emergency order 20-20.

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4. Authorize a Chair Letter to the Governor requesting to allow the permitting of non-essential manufacturing or other businesses that can identify and prove to the local jurisdiction that they qualify are low risk under the OSHA regulations and ask the Governor to permit the opening of passive parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

Commissioner Byerly substitute motion as follows:

1. To follow the Governors order
 - A. To follow Governor's Order except prohibit restaurant table service
 - B. To follow the retail piece with the addition of the County standard of 1 person per 750 sq. ft.
 - C. Follow the FDA best practices for restaurants in a Covid environment

The motion failed 2-3 with Commissioners Chestnut, Cornell, and Wheeler voting "Nay".

2. Add to the local order that to the extent there is a governing body or licensing group that imposes more stringent guidelines than OSHA then the business shall follow those guidelines.

The motion carried 5-0.

3. Authorize a Chair Letter to the Governor requesting to allow the permitting of non-essential manufacturing or other businesses that can identify and prove to the local jurisdiction that they qualify are low risk under the OSHA regulations and ask the Governor to permit the opening of passive parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Byerly moved to follow the FDA best practices for restaurants in a Covid environment. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Byerly moved to follow the Governors order for retail/essential business changing the occupancy to 1 customer for 500 sq. ft. The motion carried 3-2 with Commissioner Cornell and Commissioner Chestnut voting "Nay".

Commissioner Byerly moved to follow the Governor's restaurant order with the amendment of prohibiting table service at restaurants. The motion failed 2-3 with Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Cornell, and Commissioner Wheeler voting "Nay".

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Commissioner Cornell moved the Board adopt the Miami Dade face covering emergency order 20-20 with the amendment of exempting restaurant patrons while dining. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Byerly voting "Nay".

Commissioner Byerly moved his original 1A to follow the restaurant the order excluding table service at restaurants. With the incorporation of the FDA best practices for restaurants. 2nd Wheeler Failed 2-3 Chestnut, Cornell, and Wheeler Nay.

Closing Comments

Public Comment

There was no public comments offered.

Commission Comment

Commissioner Cornell stated that the library is planning to open in the next couple of weeks with considerations such as appointment only and curbside pickup for library materials.

Chair Hutchinson would like the frequently asked questions and other guidance on the County Website be updated with respect to grooming services, tanning salons, personal services, pools, and bowling alleys.

Commissioner Wheeler inquired if florist are able to be open for Mother's Day.

Chair Hutchinson stated he believes they are retail so they should be able to open under the guidance provided to retail.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.