

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 – 1:30 P.M.
John R. "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 Ken Cornell; Vice Chair Marihelen Wheeler, Commissioner Anna Prizzia, Commissioner Charles S. Chestnut IV, and Commissioner Mary Alford (via zoom)

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Paul Myers public health department and Deputy Clerk Casey Miller

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Prizzia moved to approve the agenda.

2nd commissioner Wheeler

The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut out of the room.

Items for Discussion

1. Discussion of Local State of Emergency and Short Term Emergency Order

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Have a discussion.

Health Department Director Paul D. Myers presented the above item.

Commissioner Chestnut entered the room at 1:33 P.M.

Commissioner Wheeler, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Alford, and Mark Sexton Communications Director presented comments.

Assistant County Manager Tommy Crosby presented an update on the vaccination program and on self-insurance fund for Covid related items.

Commissioner Alford, Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Prizzia, County Manager Michele Lieberman, and Chair Cornell all presented comments.

Fire Chief Harold Theus presented updates on fire rescue first responders.

Commissioner Prizzia, Commissioner Alford and Chair Cornell presented comments.

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Deputy County Manager Carl Smart gave an update on getting COVID mask signage out to businesses and enforcement.

Commissioner Wheeler, Commissioner Prizzia, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Commissioner Alford, County Manager Michele Lieberman, Chair Cornell, and Commissioner Chestnut presented comments.

Commissioner Prizzia moved the following:

1. Extension of the state of emergency.
2. Extension of the emergency order with minor changes suggested by the County Attorney's Office allowing for enforcement action against businesses or organizations if they don't put up the signage or prohibit employees from wearing a mask.
3. Enforcement phase for business if needed.
4. Write a chair letter to UF and Santa Fe College asking them to join in the emergency order on their campuses.

Commissioner Wheeler 2nd motion

The motion carried 5-0

Closing Comments:

Heather Akpan Human Resources Director and Amy Childs Assistant Risk Manager presented comments on updated employee numbers and the testing protocol that has been put in place.

Public Comment:

There were no comments at this time.

Commission Comment:

Commissioner Wheeler stated that she was excited to see the local High School football games appear on local television. She was hopeful the band performances would be broadcast as well.

Chair Cornell stated that Leon County is going to have an Emergency Meeting to discuss a potential State of Emergency.

Adjourn:

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 P.M.