

Monday, September 27, 2021 – 1:00 P.M.
Grace Knight Conference Room
County Administration Building
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

Chair Cornell and Commissioner Alford met for informal discussions.

PRESENT: Chair Ken Cornell and Commissioner Mary Alford

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

The meeting was called to order and 1:00 P.M.

(There was no quorum and no actions were taken at the meeting.)

Approval of Agenda

Items for Discussion

1. General Discussion 21-0896
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Have a discussion.
 - Broadband discussion

Chair Cornell stated that it would be helpful to have the best practices from other counties. He further stated that the County needs to decide if it is looking to enhance the service already in areas or fill in the gaps where there is no service. He further stated that Technology Policy Institute.org is a leading policy think tank and would be a good resource.

Commissioner Alford stated that she feels the County needs to determine what the coverage area is as she feels the information the County currently has may not be very accurate. She further stated that she tested her own internet service and she was not receiving the service that she was paying for in East Gainesville.

Ms. Alford also stated that in discussion with Congressional Representative Kat Cammack that the goal seems to be use of the satellite internet services being developed. However, that plan is an eight year plan.

- GRUCom

Commissioner Alford stated that she would like to investigate the possibility of the County purchasing GRUCom. She stated that the County is already working on a

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countywide trunk ready system which would tie into GRUCom. She stated that she will pursue conversations with the Mayors of the smaller municipalities to develop best practices for providing internet service in their cities and cost estimates.

Discussion was had regarding the \$15,000,000 the County has earmarked for provision of internet services and the best use of the funding. Also that the City of Gainesville as an ISP is an asset that is being underutilized and they stated they would bring the matter up at the September 28, 2021 Regular Meeting during Commission Comments.

There being no further matters before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 P.M.