



Alachua County, FL Special Meeting

Meeting Agenda - Final

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

1:30 PM

Policy Discussion

Approval of Agenda

Items for Discussion

1. [20-0043](#) Restoration of Voting Rights for Ex-Felons
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear update and provide additional direction to staff, if desired.
[Community Engagement Survey.pdf](#)
[Fox News Article 011720.pdf](#)
[DeSantis and FL Supreme Court Summary \(ADA\).pdf](#)
2. [20-0062](#) Climate Change Discussion
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
[Climate Advisory Committee Resolution 20-xx 011720Cleandraft.docx](#)
[Feb 4 Climate Change Mtg Presentation.pptx](#)
[Alachua County Green Purchasing Policy Updated dec 19 19.docx](#)

Closing Comments

Public Comment

Commission Comment

Adjourn



Agenda Item Summary

Agenda Date: 2/4/2020

Agenda Item No.: 1.

Agenda Item Name:

Restoration of Voting Rights for Ex-Felons

Presenter:

Gina Peebles, 352-538-8265

Description:

Update on Restoration of Voting Rights for Ex-Felons

Recommended Action:

Hear update and provide additional direction to staff, if desired.

Prior Board Motions:

July. 9, 2019 - refer this matter to the Supervisor of Elections to staff and bring back an analysis on how this effects Alachua County residents including their fees and what other counties or groups are doing state wide to address this issue to facilitate the restoration of voting rights for ex-felons, then have a policy meeting at a later date (5:0).

Dec. 10, 2019 - there may only be a few fees that the County could waive. Staff to continue working on the matter to bring back to the Board as a presentation at a public meeting to discuss what has been learned and where the County may be able to waive fees (5:0).

Fiscal Consideration:

N/A

Background:

Per the attached news article of Jan. 17, 2020, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that convicted felons must pay off fines before voting. However, the 11th Circuit Court's trial will determine the final outcome.

The County Attorney's Office has provided an update of the state and federal legislation in a memo, attached.

The Clerk's Office indicated this topic is being discussed by the Clerks on a state-wide basis to try and address concerns across the board on how to handle this issue equitably.

At this point, they have determined that, for the purpose of restoring voting rights only, the amounts shown on the judgment or imposed at judgment must be paid for purposes of completing the financial obligation portion of a sentence. That eliminates collection fees and interest and some other post

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judgment fees such as driver license reinstatement fees.

As for compromising the base amounts on the judgment, they are not aware of any fines or fees that the County could waive after the fact. Waiving or reducing amounts on the judgment would need to be done by court order. They are not aware of any other equitable methods the County has available for reducing amounts on the judgment.

Lastly, looking forward prospectively the Board could consider repealing ordinances that are currently in place that add fees to criminal violations. This action would reduce fees on future court ordered judgments, but an analysis would need to be done as to the funding impacts of such changes.

The Supervisor of Elections indicated that currently, there is an on-going law suit in Tallahassee pertaining to a statute enacted by HB 7066 with stricter requirements, which was found to be unconstitutional. Until the law suit is decided, the Supervisor of Elections Offices around the state will continue to use the previous voter registration form, which had few (more general) questions. That same law suit names ~20 plaintiffs that have outstanding fines, which they argue is not part of their sentence, therefore, they have been precluded from removal from the roles.

Our local Supervisor of Elections office assumes what the applicant has reported is true and correct and they do not investigate the information provided. However, the State is charged to investigate and will notify the local Supervisor of Elections office in the event that a registration is received for a person who has not had their voting rights restored. Our local SOE will then send them a letter allowing up to 30 days to provide documentation that their voting rights have been restored. If they are unable to produce the documentation, or miss the deadline, they are removed from the voter registry roles. The Supervisor of Elections office has mailed letters to potential felons, but not based on their obligation of fines/fees.

Engagement Survey

1. In regard to this item being submitted to the agenda, has County staff engaged with the stakeholders in a way that allowed input/ feedback to be shared?

- ☐ Yes, please fill out the remainder of this form
- ☐ No, please explain why: _____
(If no, there is no need to continue filling out this form)

2. Please provide the following information for each method of engagement used by County staff.
(Please write N/A for any items that are not applicable)

<u>Engagement Activity</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Was community input recorded?</u>
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Hosted by County

Hosted with stakeholders

Surveys

Interviews

Focus Groups

Other

2. Please indicate what communication/ outreach was used to inform the public about your engagement activities. (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Email
- ☐ Letter from Mayor/ Commission
- ☐ Mailers
- ☐ Phone calls
- ☐ Print media (flyers, posters)
- ☐ Social Media
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Other:

3. How has stakeholder input/ feedback been incorporated into the recommendations being presented to the County Commission?

[Print](#) [Close](#)

Florida Supreme Court sides with DeSantis, rules convicted felons must pay off fines before voting

By David Aaro

Published January 17, 2020

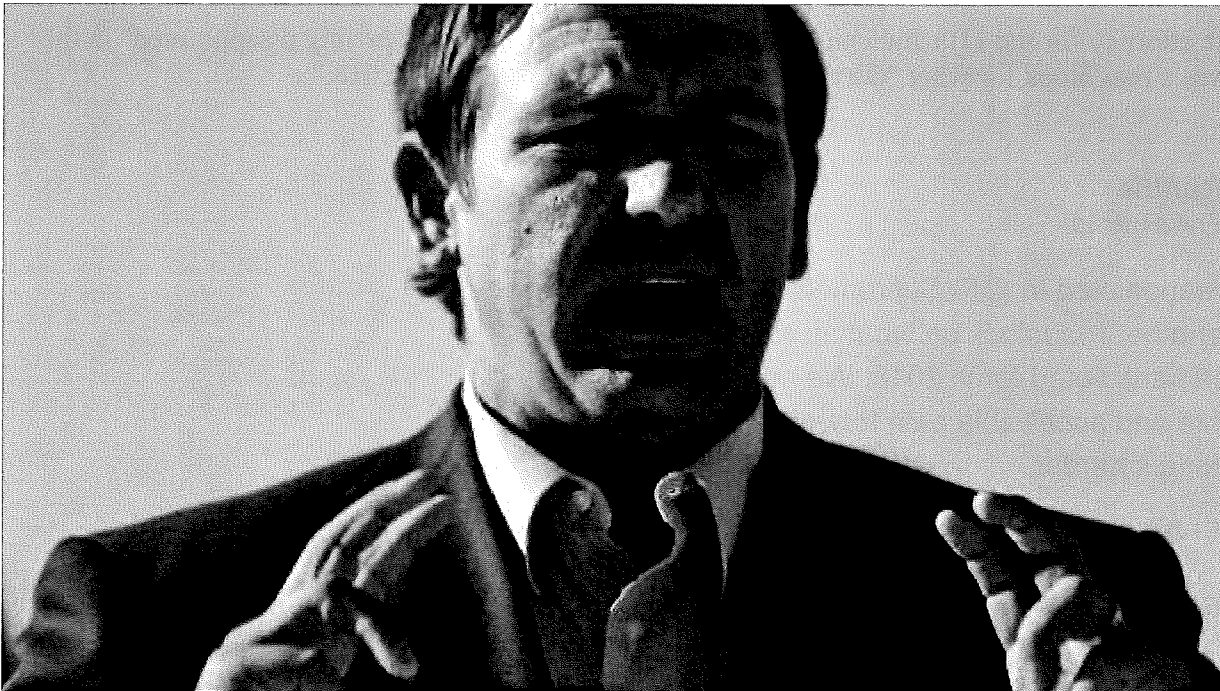
Fox News

Florida's Supreme Court has sided with Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis by ruling that some convicted felons should be required to pay off any fines or fees before they can regain their right to vote.

The court released an advisory opinion Thursday affirming the language used by DeSantis in response to Amendment 4, a change to the state's constitution in 2018 to restore voting rights to nearly 1.4 million ex-felons. Before the amendment, voting rights had been revoked for anyone convicted of a felony in Florida.

The governor wanted clarification from the court over certain language added to the law, which said that rights would be restored "upon completion of all terms of sentence including parole or probation."

FBI UPDATES POLICY ON STATE ELECTION INTERFERENCE



Gov. Ron DeSantis addresses reporters at Everglades Holiday Park in Fort Lauderdale in an undated photo. (Associated Press)

"The Governor asks whether the phrase 'all terms of sentence' encompasses legal financial obligations (LFOs)—fines, restitution, costs, and fees ordered by the sentencing court," the opinion said.

The court responded: "We answer in the affirmative, concluding that 'all terms of sentence' encompasses not just durational periods but also all LFOs imposed in conjunction with an adjudication of guilt."

DeSantis said Thursday he was "pleased" with the court's decision.

GOP REP. GAETZ DENIES CREATING SEX 'GAME' WHILE IN STATE LEGISLATURE, AMID NASTY FEUD WITH LOCAL POL

"I am pleased that @FLCourts confirms that Amendment 4 requires fines, fees & restitution be paid to victims before their voting rights may be restored," he wrote on Twitter. "Voting is a privilege that should not be taken lightly, and I am obligated to faithfully implement Amendment 4 as it is defined."



Ron DeSantis
@GovRonDeSantis

I am pleased that @FLCourts confirms that Amendment 4 requires fines, fees & restitution be paid to victims before their voting rights may be restored. Voting is a privilege that should not be taken lightly, and I am obligated to faithfully implement Amendment 4 as it is defined.

7,025 12:55 PM - Jan 16, 2020

12.3K people are talking about this

Kathy Rundle, state attorney for the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida, said she was "terribly disappointed" in the ruling, arguing it was a roadblock for what "the majority of Floridians voted for in 2018."



Kathy Rundle
@KathyFndzRundle

I am terribly disappointed in @FLSupremeCt ruling that suggests yet another roadblock on what an overwhelming majority of Floridians voted for in 2018. We need to be working on a responsible and accessible path forward on restoring rights, not making it harder.

12 6:26 PM - Jan 16, 2020

[See Kathy Rundle's other Tweets](#)

"We need to be working on a responsible and accessible path forward on restoring rights, not making it harder," she wrote.

Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has long advocated for restoring voting rights for felons who have completed their prison sentences.



Alachua County Attorney's Office

Sylvia E. Torres, County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sylvia E. Torres, County Attorney *SET*

FROM: Geena M. Cesar, Assistant County Attorney *GMC*

DATE: January 29th, 2020

SUBJECT: *Summary of Recent Opinions Related to Amendment 4*

Introduction

These opinions stem from the passing of a voter-initiated amendment, known as Amendment 4, to article VI, section 4 the Florida Constitution.¹ The amended language now reads as follows, with the new language underlined:

(a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil rights or removal of disability. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any disqualification from voting arising from a felony conviction shall terminate and voting rights shall be restored upon completion of all terms of sentence including parole or probation.

(b) No person convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense shall be qualified to vote until restoration of civil rights.²

The principal issue in these opinions is “whether the United States Constitution prohibits a state from requiring payment of financial obligations as a condition of restoring a felon’s right to vote, even when the felon is unable to pay,” as well as whether the state’s implementation of this system violates the Constitution.³

Presently, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida has ruled in *Jones v. DeSantis* that the subject language of article VI, section 4 of the Florida Constitution does include the payment of all fees and obligations.⁴ However, the court further opined that the requirement for voters to pay all fees and obligations prior to their restoring their right to vote is

¹ Jones v. DeSantis, 4:19cv300-RH/MJF (N.D. Fla. Oct. 18, 2019).

² Art. VI, § 4(a), Fla. Const. (2018).

³ Jones v. DeSantis, 4:19cv300-RH/MJF (N.D. Fla. Oct. 18, 2019).

⁴ Id.

constitutionally valid only if the State allows the lack of financial resources to be addressed in a process similar to how other felons may restore their right to vote.⁵ The current language of Amendment 4 does not expressly include this process, and it is unclear whether the language establishing this process would need to be included in the constitution itself or whether it can be established by statute to preserve the constitutionality of Amendment 4. Further, the Florida Supreme Court recently issued an advisory opinion in response to a letter by Governor DeSantis asking whether the phrase “all terms of sentence” included all legal financial obligations (“LFOs”). Examining the phrase objectively, the court concluded the phrase encompasses both durational periods and all LFO’s that are imposed with an adjudication of guilt.

Summaries

A. Jones v. DeSantis Motion for Summary Judgement and Preliminary Injunction

In *Jones v. DeSantis*, 17 plaintiffs and 3 organizations brought suit against Governor DeSantis to determine whether the United States Constitution prohibits a state from requiring payment of financial obligations, and whether the state’s implementation of the system violates the constitution.⁶ In this order, the District Court for the Northern District of Florida denied the Secretary of State and the Governor’s motion to dismiss the case.⁷ Further, the plaintiff’s preliminary injunction motion was granted in part, and the court ordered the Secretary of State and the county Supervisors of Elections to not take any action that prevents any of the named, individual plaintiff from registering to vote and/or vote, where the inability to meet the terms of Amendment 4 is based only on failure to pay a financial obligation that the plaintiff asserts they genuinely cannot pay.⁸ This applies specifically to the 17 plaintiff felons in this matter.⁹

The court found Amendment 4 clearly indicates the right to vote is conditioned on the payment of fees and obligations, so long as they are included in the sentencing document.

The court further determined that the state cannot deny the restoration of voting rights solely because the felon does not have the financial resource necessary to pay the restitution. This obligation can be met by allowing the lack of financial resources to be addressed as part of a process through which other felons may obtain restoration of the right to vote such as the Clemency Board.¹⁰ As currently constituted, Florida uses an Executive Clemency Board, which allows restoration of civil rights.¹¹ The state may follow a similar process to meet this obligation, and may even properly place the burden on the felon to establish the inability to pay.¹² The Court was disturbed by the fact that during Governor Scott’s administration only 3,000 individuals had their rights restored.

Currently, the Governor has appealed this injunction, and oral arguments are set for January 29th

⁵ *Jones v. DeSantis*, 4:19cv300-RH/MJF (N.D. Fla. Oct. 18, 2019).

⁶ *Id.* at 5.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.* at 60.

⁹ *Id.* at 61.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 36.

¹¹ *Id.* at 37.

¹² *Id.* at 52.

with the trial before Judge Hinkle in Tallahassee scheduled to occur over a two-week period in April.

B. Florida Supreme Court's Advisory Opinion

In August 2019, Governor DeSantis requested the opinion of the Florida Supreme Court as to whether the phrase “all terms of sentence” in article VI, section 4 of the Florida Constitution encompasses legal financial obligations (LFOs), such as fines, restitution, costs, and fees, as ordered by the sentencing court.¹³ The court answered in the affirmative, and concluded that the phrase “all terms of sentence” encompasses both durational periods and LFO's imposed with an adjudication of guilt.¹⁴

The court stated that its opinion is based on the objective meaning of the text and not the sponsor's subjective intent or campaign statements, and disregarded those outside sources.¹⁵ They found the word “terms” to naturally mean all obligations, and the word “sentence” to designate more than just imprisonment.¹⁶ Therefore, the court concluded there is only one natural reading of Amendment 4, one which plainly encompasses all durational terms, obligations, and LFOs.¹⁷

An opposing party argued that costs and fees are excluded from the phrase “all terms of sentence” because they are not part of a “sentence.” However, the court found Amendment 4 uses the word “sentence” in its plain, common sense definition, and does not interpret it to encompass a technical meaning restricting its scope.¹⁸ Restitution and fines were further found to be part of the sentence for specified crimes, and were also found to be within the scope of “all terms of sentence.”¹⁹ Therefore, the phrase “all terms of sentence” has an ordinary meaning that includes both durational periods and all LFOs imposed in conjunction with an adjudication of guilt.²⁰

¹³ Advisory Opinion to the Governor Re: Implementation of Amendment 4, The Voting Restoration Amendment. No. SC19-1341, Jan. 16, 2020.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 2.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ *Id.* at 16.

¹⁷ *Id.* at 21.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.* at 25.

²⁰ *Id.* at 27.



Agenda Item Summary

Agenda Date: 2/4/2020

Agenda Item No.: 2.

Agenda Item Name:

Climate Change Discussion

Presenter:

Chris Bird

Description:

Discuss county policies and strategies related to climate change

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

Prior Board Motions:

At the November 5, 2019 Special Board meeting, the BOCC approved a 5-point motion to (1) direct staff to develop for the Board's consideration a Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation 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 Communications 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.

At the June 25, 2019 regular Board meeting, the BOCC approved a motion to direct staff to return to the Board at a future Policy Meeting with best business practices by reaching out to both Florida Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties on policies related to climate change and renewable energy. The motion carried 5-0.

Fiscal Consideration:

N/A

Background:

Staff is returning to present an update to the Board's November 5, 2019 direction on climate change. The Board's five-part motion included directing staff to develop a resolution to create a Climate

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Advisory Committee, develop a local climate action plan, and to collaborate with citizens, agencies and climate groups. Attached to the agenda item is a draft resolution for the creation of a Climate Advisory Committee. Staff has outlined the purpose of the committee and if adopted will work with the Committee to develop a local climate action plan and similar initiatives and identify budget impacts for FY21 on the implementations of proposed climate action strategies.

Combating climate change will require strong mitigation and adaptation measures. Climate mitigation involves reducing carbon footprints for energy, food, water, waste, transportation, supply chains, and non-renewable consumption. Climate adaptation includes both nature-based and engineered solutions that strengthen environmental resiliency and energy and food security. Alachua County's interior location, higher elevation, and history of less intensive development allows us to use less costly, more durable, nature-based adaptation methods. The foundation for this local climate adaptation strategy is through our countywide protection framework for drinking water, watersheds, wetlands, floodplains and the Alachua County Forever land conservation program and through the County's comprehensive plan and land development code.

As part of the presentation staff will outline a time frame for moving forward and provide other considerations that further strengthen and support our local climate action strategies.

RESOLUTION 20-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES THEREOF; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR MEMBERSHIP, ELECTIONS, MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE; PROVIDING FOR BYLAWS TO GUIDE THE OPERATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the County officially acknowledges existence of a global climate emergency;

WHEREAS, the impacts and risks of the climate crisis include increased and intensifying extreme weather events, including those that Alachua County is particularly vulnerable to, such as flooding, drought, and wildfires; and,

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, the County Commission directed staff to develop a Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plan hereinafter referred to as the “Climate Action Plan” by the end of 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, the County Commission moved to create a Climate Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to staff and the commission on what should be included in the Climate Action Plan and other climate strategies and policies; and,

WHEREAS, the County Commission recognizes that developing a functional Climate Action Plan will require a regional approach with collaboration between non-profits, public agencies, other local governments, universities, and similar resiliency groups throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, building a climate-resilient and adaptive community will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of residents, and will offer protections from potential adverse consequences of climate change to Alachua County’s people, ecosystems, and economies; and,

WHEREAS, climate change poses disproportionate impacts on low-income communities,

communities of color and other vulnerable populations unprepared to cope with these disruptions; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desire to name and establish the responsibilities and procedures of the Climate Advisory Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. **Advisory Committee Established.** The Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, hereinafter referred to as the “County”, hereby establishes the “Climate Advisory Committee”.

Section 2. **Designated Special Committee.** This Advisory Committee is designated as a Special Committee. The sunset date for the Advisory Committee is June 30, 2026, unless reauthorized by the Board of County Commissioners. The Staff Liaison will notify the Advisory Committee 90 day prior to its sunset date.

Section 3. **Membership and Qualifications.** The Advisory Committee shall be composed of nine (9) voting citizen members appointed on an at-large basis. Successful candidates should have community or technical experience in climate change, resiliency, natural infrastructure-based adaptation or mitigation. The Environmental Protection Department Director or designee will attend all meetings but shall not vote on any matter.

Section 4. **Appointments.** The County shall annually appoint citizens to serve on the Advisory Committee. Each member of the Advisory Committee shall serve three-year term; provided, however, that three (3) of the initial appointments shall be for a term of one-year, three

(3) of the initial appointments shall be for a term of two-years, and three (3) of the initial appointments shall be for three-year terms, and thereafter all appointments shall be for three (3) year terms. Future vacancies created in the Advisory Committee membership may be filled by appointment of the County to the term(s) remaining of the vacated member(s). Members may be re-appointed by the County to succeed themselves according to the Alachua County Advisory Boards and Committees Guidelines.

Section 5. **Responsibilities and Duties.** The responsibilities of the Advisory Committee shall be:

5.1 To elect officers pursuant to this Resolution.

5.2 To establish an annual work program for the Advisory Committee.

5.3 To assist and advise the County on the Climate Action Plan.

5.4 To assist and advise the County on bold and innovative climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, policies, and target goals.

5.5 To engage with relevant stakeholders, agencies, non-profits and the community.

5.6 To ensure that neighborhoods and communities that are most impacted or disadvantaged by climate change are taken into account in the development of policy recommendations and the Climate Action Plan.

5.7 To assist the County in the promotion of greater community awareness of climate-related issues and involvement in government climate resiliency initiatives.

Section 6. **Operations.** The Advisory Committee shall be guided by the by-laws adopted by the Alachua County Advisory Boards and Committee Guidelines. The by-laws shall include

the following provisions consistent with the sections of this resolution.

6.1. Elections. The Advisory committee shall annually elect one of its members as Chair, one as Vice-Chair and one as Secretary. Elections shall be held on October 1st of each year or as soon thereafter as practicable. The Chair shall preside and conduct the meetings according to the Rules of Order specified in Section 6.6 below. The Vice-Chair shall act in the absence of the Chair. The Secretary shall be responsible for recording minutes for all meetings of the Advisory Committee. Officers shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until their successors are elected. The terms of the officers shall begin immediately upon election to office. Vacancies in offices will be filled by election at the next regular meeting following the date the vacancy occurred.

6.2. Meetings. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair, or by any three (3) members of the Advisory Committee (through the Secretary of the Advisory Committee) upon forty-eight (48) hours' written notice to all members, and to the committee staff liaison. All meetings shall be open to the public.

6.3. Agenda. The Chair shall be responsible for the meeting agenda. The Environmental Protection Department Director or designated representative shall function as the committee staff liaison and aid the Chair in preparing and distributing the agenda, which, except for special meetings, shall be emailed to each member of the Advisory committee at least five (5) days prior to the next meeting date. The committee staff liaison may place an item on the agenda by notifying the Chair prior to the preparation of the agenda.

6.4. Subcommittees. Permanent or ad-hoc subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chair, when necessary, as determined by the Advisory Committee or by the Chair.

6.5. Quorum. A simple majority of filled positions of the Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum. Recommendations and decisions of the Advisory Committee must be made by a majority vote of those present and voting. When a quorum is not present, the Advisory Committee may not take official action but may meet as an informal workshop. When meeting as a workshop the attendance and minutes shall be recorded.

6.6. Rules of Order. All meetings of the Advisory Committee and Subcommittees shall be conducted according to the Alachua County Advisory Boards and Committees Guidelines. Subcommittee meetings will be conducted according to these rules of order except where modification of such rules is required and approved by a majority vote of the subcommittee because of the nature of the work to be accomplished.

6.7. Attendance. The Environmental Protection Department Director or the designated representative, shall function as the committee staff liaison and attend all meetings of the Advisory Committee, but shall not vote on any matter. The attendance policy for the Advisory Committee shall be in accordance with the attendance policy for boards and committees as set forth in the Alachua County Advisory Boards and Committees Guidelines.

6.8. Compensation. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties hereunder.

6.9. Reports. All meeting minutes and recommendations of the Advisory

Committee will be transcribed and forwarded to the committee staff liaison for any comments. The Advisory Committee reports, minutes, and recommendations shall be sent to the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 7. **Effective Date.** This resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

DULY ADOPTED in regular session, this _____ day of _____, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Robert Hutchinson, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. "Jess" Irby, Clerk
(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Sylvia Torres
Alachua County Attorney



Climate Change Discussion

Alachua County
Board of County Commissioners
February 4, 2020

Environmental Protection Department



Presentation outline:

- Follow up on BOCC's November 5, 2019 direction on climate action
- Adoption of Climate Advisory Committee resolution
- Consider additional climate actions



November 5, 2019 BOCC Recommendation

1. Direct staff to develop for the Boards consideration a Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation 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 Communications 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.



Summary of November 5, 2019 BOCC Directions

1. Adopt Local Climate Action Plan by end of 2020
2. Direct staff to strengthen and update Climate Change Policies in the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan
3. Collaborate with other public initiatives and agencies
4. Create a Climate Advisory Committee
5. Direct County Communications to make sure various groups are aware of the Charter Review Commission activities



Climate Advisory Committee Resolution

Committee Responsibilities and Duties:

- Advise the Board on climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, policies, and target goals
- Assist with development of Local Climate Action Plan
- Increase community awareness of climate issues and County climate-related initiatives



Climate Advisory Committee Resolution

- Nine at-large citizen positions with experience in climate change, resiliency, climate adaptation or mitigation
- 3-year appointments with 2-year and 1-year appointments initially to allow for annual appointments



BOCC Nov 5 2019 Direction:

Draft Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan

- Staff will work with the Climate Advisory Committee to develop the Local Climate Action Plan
- Staff will identify FY21 budget implications of proposed climate actions
- January 2021 is proposed target date for Board adoption of Climate Action Plan



Climate Action Plan

- Mitigation plan-reduce carbon footprint
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- Adaptation plan-emphasis on nature-based strategies
- Comprehensive Plan Update



Draft Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan

Climate Vulnerability Assessment:

- Identify additional flooding and other environmental vulnerabilities due to climate change (projections to 2070)
- Inform updates to the Climate Action Plan, Stormwater Master Plan, Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Regulations, and Water Quality Code.
- Funding Sources: Stormwater Assessment, Intergovernmental grants, and contracts
- Multi-Year Phased Completion



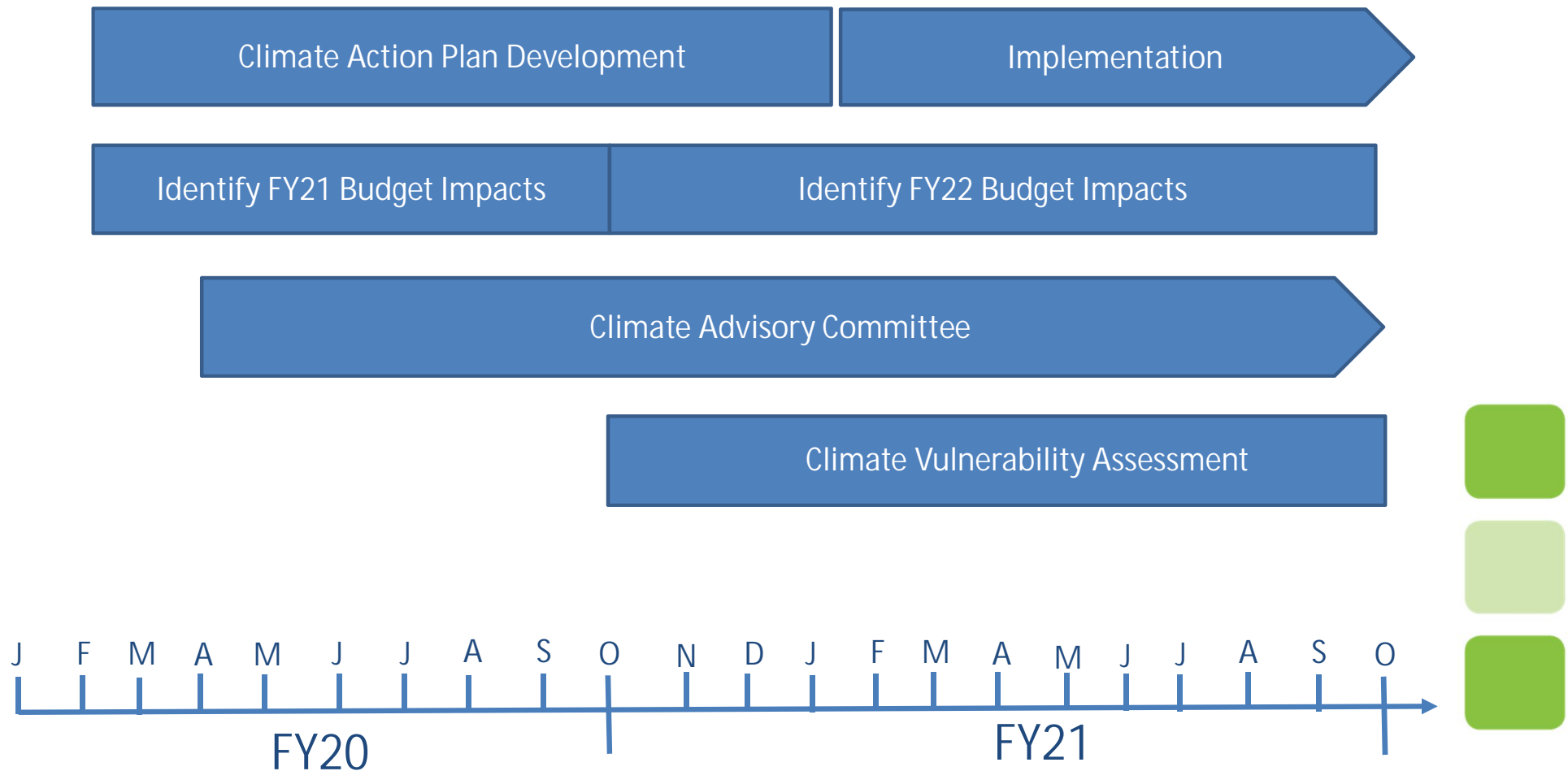
BOCC Nov 5 2019 Direction: Local Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan

Climate Action Plan Lead Departments

- Mitigation: County Manager's Resiliency Office
- Adaptation and Climate Vulnerability Assessment: Environmental Protection Department
- Comp Plan Update: Growth Management

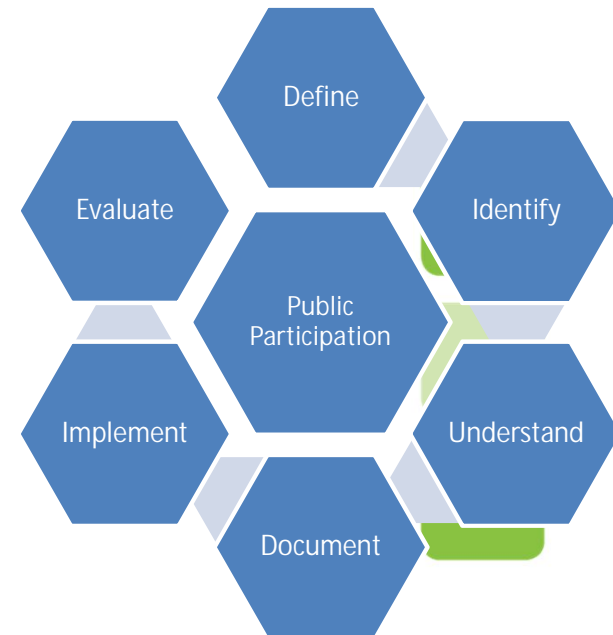


BOCC Nov 5 2019 motion: Climate Action Plan framework and timeline



BOCC Nov 5, 2020 Direction: Strengthen Policies and Collaborate with Public and Agencies

- ✓ Staff has initiated review of comprehensive plan policies and procedures
- ✓ Staff is reaching out to interested citizens, climate groups, and agencies in the region
- ✓ Communications office provided public information on the Charter Review Commission



Additional actions to consider:

- Joint City/County Climate & Water Policy Committee
(replaces existing Joint City/County Water Policy Committee)
- Update County Green Purchasing Policy
(requested by Zero Waste Gainesville)
- Climate Emergency Resolution
(requested by Climate Mobilization Group)
- Join the County Climate Coalition
(requested by The Climate Reality Project)





Staff Recommendation:

- Adopt the Climate Advisory Committee Resolution
- Authorize staff to initiate development of the Local Climate Plan
- Provide direction on additional climate actions



Climate Emergency Declaration



- Declare County recognition of climate change and that the effects and response amount to an emergency
- Over 1,300 governmental jurisdictions have officially acknowledged the existence of a global climate emergency*
- Resolutions range from declarations to prescriptive organizational actions

*1/27/2020 climateemergencydeclaration.org/



Climate Reality Project and the County Climate Coalition

- Consolidation of 2 groups in 2010, Alliance for Climate Protection and the Climate Project, founded by Al Gore
- County Climate Coalition program is a collection of counties that have adopted policies to reduce GHG emissions and the effects of climate change
- To Join: Adopt a Resolution affirming Alachua County's support for the 2015 Paris Agreement
- By joining the Coalition, Counties agree to combat climate change by:
 - Developing renewable energy.
 - Supporting alternative community energy providers.
 - Enhanced waste diversion.
 - Environmentally friendly vehicles.
 - Reducing water use.
 - Other local solutions





Zero Waste
Gainesville

Alachua County Green Purchasing Policy December 19, 2019

Purpose:

Zero Waste Gainesville is asking Alachua County to establish a Green Purchasing Policy with the goal of promoting waste reduction, conserving natural resources and act as a role model for our Zero Waste community.

Our Recommendations:

- We recommend establishing the use of durable and washable plates, cups and silverware for all Alachua County events for employees, events open to the public and employee break rooms
 - Alachua County Environmental Protection Department has a great example of this type of system in their break room
 - EPD's system is a role model for other Alachua County break rooms
- Eliminate the use of all single-use materials used in Alachua County employee events, in all employee break rooms and for events that Alachua County government holds where the public is invited
 - This includes single-use plastic plates, cutlery, cups, bags, straws, stirrers, bottled water and disposable coffee cups
- Eliminate the use and avoid purchasing water in plastic bottles
 - Instead promote our good, clean tap water provided by GRU through water refill stations in a reusable cup or water bottle
- All copy paper, fiber products, toilet paper, file folders, envelopes and other unspecified paper products will be unbleached and made of recycled content with a minimum of 30% post-consumer materials
- These efforts will support a circular economy and help change our culture from a disposable one to one that values resources