

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 – 5:00 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 Regular Meeting.

PRESENT: Chair Ken Cornell, Vice-Chair Lee Pinkoson, Commissioners Mike Byerly and Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Dr. Lee Niblock, County Attorney Michele Lieberman, Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles, Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

The meeting was televised on Cox Cable Channel 12.

Chair Cornell called the meeting to order at 5:01 P.M.

Approval of Public Hearing Agenda

1. Approve the agenda

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: A Motion to Approve the Agenda: (a) approve any amendments to the Public Hearing Agenda; and (b) adopt the Public Hearing Agenda

Commissioner Pinkoson moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (immediately following Public Hearing(s) or at 5:01)

2. Public Comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear Public Comments

Jim Konish, Don Lining, Mac McEachern and James Thompson presented comments to the Board.

Proclamations and Presentations

3. Presentation by Ed Bielarski, General Manager, Gainesville Regional Utilities

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear presentation by Ed Bielarski, General Manager, Gainesville Regional Utilities

Chair Cornell presented comments.

Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Ed Bielarski presented the above item to the Board.

Commissioner Pinkoson, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, County Manager Lee Niblock, Commissioner Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Pinkoson, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Pinkoson, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Commissioner Pinkoson, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Pinkoson, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Pinkoson, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Justin Locke, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Locke, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Pinkoson, Commissioner Chestnut, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Justin Locke, Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Pinkoson, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Justin Locke, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Chair Cornell, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Justin Locke, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski and Chair Cornell presented comments.

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Commissioner Byerly moved the following:

1. Immediately reinstate all arbitration efforts and to the greatest extent possible accelerate these efforts.
2. Utilize their internal auditor – Mr. Holt, and whatever outside experts are necessary to discover who, what, where, when, how, and why the terms of the PPA were changed between signing on 4/29/09 and the modification of the PPA on 6/30/11 when the consent agreement was executed by Mr. Huntzinger without the knowledge of the City Commission
3. Consider holding off on the MOU until completion of the arbitration in order to put the City, the citizens, and customers of GRU on an equal negotiating position with GREC before the expiration of the statute of limitations which expires at the end of 2017.

Commissioner Byerly, Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski, Commissioner Chestnut, Gainesville Regional Utilities CFO Justin Locke, and Chair Cornell presented comments.

Commissioner Pinkoson exited at 7:28 P.M.

CLOSING COMMENTS

4. Closing comments from the public

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear closing comments from the public.

Ray Washington, Adele Franson, Nathan Skop, Ernesto Martinez, Debbie Martinez, Scott Austin, Jo Beaty, Mac McEachern, Don Glendenning, Karen Errington, George Papadi, Paula Stammer, James Thompson, Annie Orlando and Tamera Robins presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Hutchinson, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly and Gainesville Regional Utilities General Manager Bielarski presented comments.

The motion carried 3-1 with Commissioner Hutchinson voting “Nay” and Commissioner Pinkoson out of the room.

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Public Comments

Chair Cornell recognized Tamera Robbins stated that the County planted approximately 110 oak trees on County Road 241. She was concerned that all the trees are planted in front of one private property owner's property.

Commissioner Byerly stated that he would like this matter to be address in the annual review of the tree planting program as soon as possible.

By consensus the Board directed that the matter be schedule as soon as possible.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that most of the trees that the County planted on Southeast 30th are all virtually dead. He stated that they are not being watered sufficiently.

Chair Cornell stated that Mrs. Robbins provide a document regarding Intergovernmental Coordinating Element. He stated that he will see that each Commissioner will be provided with a copy of the document. He requested that the County Manager review the document.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.