

Tuesday, December 5, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.
Grace Knight Conference Room
County Administration Building
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners met for a special session.

PRESENT: Chair Lee Pinkoson, Vice-Chair Charles “Chuck” Chestnut, Commissioners Mike Byerly, Ken Cornell and Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michelle Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles, Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey James Harriot

The meeting was televised on Cox Cable Channel 12.

Chair Pinkoson called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M.

Commissioner Byerly entered the room at 5:33 P.M.

Approval of Agenda

1. Approve the agenda
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: A Motion to Approve the Agenda: (a) approve any amendments to the Agenda; and (b) adopt the Agenda

Commissioner Chestnut moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

The motion carried 5-0.

Flood Mitigation Discussion

2. Flood Mitigation
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear presentation of potential flood mitigation projects, discuss funding options and provide staff with direction on project priorities and purchase of real property.

County Engineer Ramon Gavarrete presented the above item to the Board.

Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, Alachua County Public Works Development Review Engineer Lalit Lalwani, Commissioner Cornell, St. Johns River Water Management District Jim Troiano, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Hutchinson, Assistant County Manager Jim Harriot, Commissioner Hutchinson, Public Works Stormwater Engineer James Link, Commissioner Hutchinson, Assistant County Manager Harriot, Commissioner Hutchinson, Interim County Manager Michele Lieberman, Commissioner Hutchinson, Assistant County Manager Harriot, Commissioner Hutchinson, Vice-Chair Chestnut, Public Works Stormwater Engineer Link, County Engineer Gavarrete, Vice-Chair Chestnut, Public Works Stormwater Engineer Link, Commissioner Chestnut, County Engineer Gavarrete, Vice-Chair Chestnut, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, Alachua County Public Works Development Review Engineer Lalwani, Chair Pinkoson and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

Commissioner Byerly moved the following:

1. Direct staff to prioritize the flooded homes on the basis of the severity of the damage and communicate with the owner of the home regarding their willingness to sell at appraised market value.
2. If any sub divisions with flooded homes have an option for preventing future flooding that is less costly than the acquisitions of homes, then select that option.
3. ~~Subdivisions with road closures that posed a threat to public safety (3): this will be open for further options to be determined~~
It is not necessary to permanently protect an individual road segment from the possibility of flooding. The key is that during peak flooding events people have access and that if a more cost effective method to achieve that task that is the approach the County should pursue.
4. Ask staff to complete the same analysis for the rest of the County not yet analyzed and incorporate these findings into the existing priority list. ~~Return to the Board after completion of the number one item with cost estimates for the plan outline in this motion.~~
5. Refer staff to immediately meet with the St. John and Suwannee River Water Management District to identify specific criteria for cost sharing opportunities and bring back to the Board an update on the proposed project list based on these meetings and discussions and meet with our local delegations to determine if there are any additional funding or state matching opportunities available through the water management districts or other funding opportunities.
6. To refer to OMB to bring back to the Board prior to budget deliberations funding options that would including bonding up to one half of the current StormWater Assessment and/or special assessment districts or MSBU options based on benefits specific to watershed basins.
7. Authorize the hiring of Consultants to assists with the process.

8. ~~Direct Staff to complete the same analyses for the rest of the county not yet analyzed and incorporates these findings into the existing priority list~~

Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Cornell, Chair Pinkoson, County Engineer Gavarrete, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, County Engineer Gavarrete, Commissioner Byerly, Vice-Chair Chestnut, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Interim County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Vice-Chair Chestnut, County Engineer Gavarrete, Vice-Chair Chestnut, County Engineer Gavarrete and Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

Public Comment:

Luisa Pena, Emilio Una, Glen Moody, Amy Tackett, Mr. Johnson, Frank Curtis, Brain Sheehan, Joanna Computa, Weena Nonog, Debby Menacher, Joanna White, Alan Shapiro, Tracy Curtis, Betsy Hurst, Larry Croy, Ralph Youngstrom, Mike Blanchard, Tim Deegan, Ginger Nappy, Jim Doolittle, Michael Baker and Donna Doolittle presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Cornell, Public Works Stormwater Engineer Link, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Interim County Attorney Torres, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Byerly, County Engineer Gavarrete, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, County Engineer Gavarrete, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly and Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

The motion carried 5-0.

Closing Comments

3. Public Comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear Public Comments

Public Comment:

Mr. Johnson, Amy Tackett, Betty Martin and Gram White presented comments to the Board.

4. Commission comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear Commission comments

There were no comments presented.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 P.M.