

Monday, February 19, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.  
Jack Durrance Auditorium Room  
County Administration Building  
12 Southeast First Street  
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners met for the Joint Meeting.

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

City of Gainesville:

Mayor Lauren Poe, Commissioners Harvey Ward, David Arreola, Helen Warren, Charles Goston and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Harvey Budd

**ALSO PRESENT:** County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Clerk Stephanie Sisney

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Pinkoson called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

## **WELCOME**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

1. Lee Pinkoson, Chair, Alachua County Commission  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** N/A

Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

2. Lauren Poe, Mayor, City of Gainesville  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** N/A

**City Commissioner Budd moved** to adopt the amended agenda adding a moment of silence for the victims of the school shooting. The motion carried 6-0 with Commissioner Hayes-Santos absent.

Mayor Poe presented comments.

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## **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

3. 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.

Chair Cornell asked that the agenda be modified to include a moment of silence for the victims of the school shooting.

**Commissioner Hutchison moved** the modified agenda adding a moment of silence for the victims of the school shooting. The motion carried 5-0.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

4. Empowerment Center funding for the balance of FY 17/18, first three (3) months of FY 18/19, and discussion of alternative proposals

**Fiscal Consideration:** 001.29.2944.564.34.00 \$243,500 Remaining Budget

**Recommended Action:** Approve the recommended level of funding for operations at the Empowerment Center for the remainder of Fiscal Year 17/18.

Director of Community Support Services Claudia Tuck, Chair Pinkoson, Assistant City Manager Fred Murray, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Commissioner Byerly, Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Commissioner Byerly, Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Commissioner Byerly, GRACE Operations Director Jon DeCarmin, Commissioner Byerly, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, Commissioner Byerly, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, Joe Jackson, Commissioner Byerly, Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Commissioner Byerly, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Hutchinson, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, Chair Pinkoson, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, Chair Pinkoson and Director of Community Support Services Tuck presented comments.

Mayor Poe and Chair Pinkoson presented comments regarding the tragedy at the Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida. A moment of silence was held for the victims and their families.

Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, Chair Pinkoson, County Manager Michele Lieberman, Chair Pinkoson, Director of Community Support Services Tuck, Chair Pinkoson, City Commissioner Charles Goston, GRACE Operations Director DeCarmin, City Commissioner Goston, City Commissioner Harvey Ward, City Commissioner Hellen Warren, Commissioner Byerly, Gainesville Assistant City Manager Fred Murray, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Byerly, Gainesville Assistant City Manager Murray and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

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**Commissioner Hutchinson moved the following:**

1. The County affirms the City's ranking of vendors: #1 - ACCHH and #2 Grace Foundation
2. Term of contract is nine months with an option for one additional year, with that renewal to be determined by July 1, 2018
3. Recommend that contract negotiations include a recommendation for up to \$125,000 a year from Alachua County reserves contingent on a City match and assuming compliance with local government minimum wage.
4. Request that City and County Staff bring to the Oversight Board their suggestions for benchmarks for successful grant administration, and who will measure it.
5. Request how to substantially reduce the number of residents in Dignity Village, including how to implement single room occupancy, Tiny Houses, and other housing options be placed on the agenda at the next Oversight Board meeting. This might include capital improvements grants to the Grace Foundation or other vendors.
- ~~6. Request that Staff could propose alternative ways of assessing the number of people in the homeless community.~~
7. Request a meeting between the City and County Commissions be scheduled to exclusively discuss homelessness to be in March if possible no later than April and that the following subjects be discussed:
  - A. A public option including the differences between management philosophies outlined tonight by County Staff and City Staff and the Coalition as well as any public option efficiencies that can be incorporated into ACCHH, for example: Use of County/City facilities departments for maintenance
  - B. The role of the Oversight Board and make it more effective or get rid of it.
  - C. Recommendations from Staff as to how the point in time survey could be more scientifically valid.
  - D. Performance measures with the onus on Commissioners to make sure that Staff understands what they mean by the meeting and they be prepared to discuss those.
  - E. Issue of the Veteran's Building and whether that would be handicapping the ability to bring people inside from the pavilion who would like to be include and with the understanding with each of the options. Staff is to ensure that all backup materials produced by both the City and County are distributed to both Boards well in advance of the meeting.
  - F. Discussion about whether or not to open more buildings on the campus.

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- G. Discuss a plan of how to utilize the property at Grace Market Place.
- H. Request that City and County Staff have an opportunity to present what they thought were some of the good ideas in the model proposed by Mr. Stockwell that the County might want to consider in cooperating into how we work with anyone who does it.

Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Hutchinson, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Mayor Poe, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell and City Commissioner Ward presented comments.

City Commissioner Ward requested that for all upcoming meetings staff provide the back up from both the County and the City to both Boards so that the Commissioners have all the necessary materials to be fully informed.

Commissioner Chestnut requested that staff provide all three years' worth of audits to the Board to review.

City Commissioner Arreola presented comments.

**City Commissioner Arreola moved the following:**

1. The County affirms the City's ranking of vendors: #1 - ACCHH and #2 Grace Foundation
2. Term of contract is nine months with an option for one additional year, with that renewal to be determined by July 1, 2018
3. Recommend that contract negotiations include a recommendation for up to \$125,000 a year from Alachua County ~~reserves~~ contingent on a City match and assuming compliance with local government minimum wage.
4. Request that City and County Staff bring to the Oversight Board their suggestions for benchmarks for successful grant administration, and who will measure it.
5. Request how to substantially reduce the number of residents in Dignity Village, including how to implement single room occupancy, Tiny Houses, and other housing options be placed on the agenda at the next Oversight Board meeting. This might include capital improvements grants to the Grace Foundation or other vendors.
- ~~6. Request that Staff could propose alternative ways of assessing the number of people in the homeless community.~~
7. Request a meeting between the City and County Commissions be scheduled to exclusively discuss homelessness to be in March if possible no later than April and that the following subjects are discussed:

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- A. A public option including the differences between management philosophies outlined tonight by County Staff and City Staff and the Coalition as well as any public option efficiencies that can be incorporated into ACCHH, for example: Use of County/City facilities departments for maintenance
- B. The role of the Oversight Board and make it more effective or get rid of it.
- C. Recommendations from Staff as to how the point in time survey could be more scientifically valid.
- D. Performance measures with the onus on Commissioners to make sure that Staff understands what they mean by the meeting and they are prepared to discuss those.
- E. Issue of the Veteran's Building and whether that would be handicapping the ability to bring people inside from the pavilion who would like to be include and with the understanding with each of the options. Staff is to ensure that all backup materials produced by both the City and County are distributed to both Boards well in advance of the meeting.
- F. Discussion about whether or not to open more buildings on the campus.
- G. Discuss a plan of how to utilize the property at Grace Market Place.
- H. Request that City and County Staff have an opportunity to present what they thought were some of the good ideas in the model proposed by Mr. Stockwell that the County might want to consider in cooperating into how we work with anyone who does it.

Commissioner Byerly, City Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Pinkoson, County Manger Michele Lieberman, Chair Pinkoson, County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Hutchinson, Mayor Poe, City Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Hutchinson, City Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Byerly, City Commissioner Warren, Chair Pinkoson, City Commissioner Goston and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

**Commissioner Chestnut left the room at 8:22 P.M.**

Public Comments:

Jim Konish, Mary Helen Wheeler, Jerry Fleming, James Thompson, Khalid Blount, Iris Berg, Joe Caldwell, Stockwell, Mark Venzke, Mariam Elliot, James Single and Dr. Alicia McGruder presented comments to the Board.

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Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Cornell, Chair Pinkoson,

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

**The City of Gainesville motion carried 6-0** with City Commissioner Hayes-Santos absent.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

5. Public comments  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Hear public comments.

City of Newberry Mayor Marlow presented comments to the Board.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** that the County agenda the Local Option Gas Tax discussion for February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Hutchinson, County Manger Lieberman, Commissioner Hutchinson and City of Newberry Mayor Marlow presented comments.

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

Commissioner Cornell requested the County Manager notify the municipalities that there will be a discussion regarding the distribution of their 9.2 percent of the gas tax.

## **COMMISSION GENERAL COMMENTS AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION**

6. City Commission comments  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Hear City Commission comments.

City Commissioner Ward stated that a discussion about preparing a Resolution for Board consideration urging the State of Florida Legislature to take action on the issues of mental health and gun regulation to prevent future tragedies be placed on the upcoming agenda.

Mayor Poe stated that creating a Resolution is fine however he does not believe they carry any weight with elected officials and believes that if it is important to the City Commission that it is put on the Legislative Agenda and make it a Legislative priority.

City Commissioner Ward stated that this is an opportunity for the City Commission to show support for citizens.

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Commissioner Cornell stated that the way State actions start is by leadership from Cities and Counties.

7. County Commission comments

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Hear County Commission comments.

Chair Cornell stated that after the terrible events that occurred at Stoneman Douglas High School he would like staff to prepare a Resolution for Board consideration urging the State of Florida Legislature to take action on the issues of mental health and gun regulation to prevent future tragedies.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** that staff prepare Resolution urging the State of Florida Legislature to take action on the issues of mental health and gun regulation and if they do not urge them to end the preemption and allow local governments to do so.

Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Cornell and City Commissioner Arreola presented comments.

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

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.