

Tuesday May 15, 2018 – 10:00AM  
Special Budget Meeting  
Grace Knight Conference Room  
County Administration Building  
12 Southeast First Street  
Gainesville, Florida

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

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Interim County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Interim County Manager Lieberman, Assistant County Manager Crosby, and Clerk Tierra McClendon

The meeting was televised on Cox Cable Channel 12.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pinkoson at 10:00 A.M.

#### **Approval of Regular and Consent Agendas**

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 Cornell moved** the approval of the agenda with a modification to move Item 8 to the regular agenda for consideration of the Bradford County Phosphate Mine letter and removing the Local Stores selling Landscape Fertilizers letter for consideration.

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

#### **Action Items**

##### **Office of Management and Budget**

2. Judiciary Budget Request

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Receive Budget Request

Assistant County Manager Crosby announced that Sheriff Sadie Darnell is absent due to attending a funeral and will be presenting on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Assistant County Manager Crosby and Court Administrator Paul Silverman presented comments.

Commissioner Hutchinson entered the room at 10:02 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson, State Attorney Fiscal Director Michelle Singer, Commissioner Byerly, Public Defender Stacy Scott, Commissioner Cornell, Interim County Manager Lieberman, and Assistant County Manager Crosby presented comments.

3. Clerk of Court Budget Request  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Receive Budget Request

Clerk of Court JK "Jess" Irby presented the above item.

Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, and Assistant County Manager Crosby presented comments.

4. Tax Collector Budget Request  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Receive Budget Request

Tax Collector John Power presented the above item.

Commissioner Hutchinson, Chief Deputy John Costabile, Interim County Attorney Torres, Commissioner Cornell, Interim County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Byerly, Interim County Attorney Torres, Tax Collector John Power, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Hutchinson, Chair Pinkoson, Tax Collector John Power, Commissioner Hutchinson, Assistant County Manager Crosby, and Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

5. Property Appraiser Budget Request  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Receive budget request

Assistant County Manager Crosby presented the above item to the board.

Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Cornell, Interim County Manager Lieberman, and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

6. Supervisor of Elections Budget Request  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Receive budget request

Supervisor of Elections Kim A. Barton presented the above item.

Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell, Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections William Boyett, Commissioner Byerly, Assistant Supervisor of Elections Tim Williams, Commissioner Cornell, and Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

7. Local Business Tax discussion

**Fiscal Consideration:** The repeal of the Local Business Tax will result in a reduction of \$200,000 reduction in Revenues for the County and \$40,000 less in fees for the Tax Collector. The total impact to the FY19 budget will be \$240,000 if enacted for the FY20 Business Licenses. The total impact to the FY18 budget will be an additional \$240,000 if enacted for FY19 Business Licenses.

Five year history of the revenues received by the BoCC after the Tax Collector has retained their 20%:

FY13 \$235,709

FY14 \$229,979

FY15 \$221,217

FY16 \$211,063

FY17 \$198,432

However, the Tax Collector always returns excess fees to the BoCC at the end of each fiscal year.

**Recommended Action:** Provide direction to staff for any adjustment to the tentative budget.

Assistant County Manager Crosby presented the above item.

**Commissioner Byerly moved** to direct staff to draft an Ordinance repealing the local business tax per the previous discussion.

Interim County Attorney Torres, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Hutchinson, Interim County Manager Lieberman, Commissioner Byerly, Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Cornell, Interim County Attorney Torres, and Tax Collector John Power, presented comments.

**Commissioner Cornell moved a substitute motion to:**

1. Schedule the local business tax discussion for another meeting before the end of the month and to ask the Property Appraiser, Fire Safety, Growth Management, Private Sector/Chamber, and any beneficiaries to bring back

information to the Board on why they would like to maintain it and a schedule of who is collecting it and any Counties that do not collect the tax.

2. Staff should bring back to the Board if there is a way to collect the information in another way without collecting the tax.

Commissioner Byerly, Tax Collector John Power, Chair Pinkoson, Assistant County Manager Crosby, Chair Pinkoson, Commissioner Cornell, and Commissioner Chestnut presented comments.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

### **Consent**

8. Approval of Chair Letters: Bradford County Board of County Commissioners regarding Phosphate Mine ~~and Local Stores selling Landscape Fertilizers~~  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Authorize two letters Chair Pinkoson's signature.

Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved to** reconsider the introduction of the Bradford County Phosphate Mine letter and to allow the Chair some discretion in the wording.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

### **Closing Comments**

9. Public comments  
**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A  
**Recommended Action:** Hear Public Comments

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

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

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the Board needs a concerted and robust effort between the City and the County to show a video of the command center

discussing how smart the software is and how much the Board has increased capacity on the roadways. Further, a well-produced television piece on channel 12 is necessary and a Public Relations package to spread the word that Alachua has highly coordinated traffic lights.

Commissioner Cornell suggested adding the traffic lights issue to the agenda and asking for a presentation by the City to be presented to the MTPO board.

**Commissioner Byerly moved** the following:

1. Direct EPD Staff to present to the Board at the next regular meeting their take on the Water Resource Funding in Florida, the springs restoration plans and septic tank remediation associated with the 2016 Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act and to bring back to the Board any information on if there is anything the Board should do.
2. To invite Suwanee Water Management District

Commissioner Chestnut questioned whether or not the people living near the springs know that they need to get a better septic tank system.

Chair Pinkoson asked the Board for a reminder to ask Deputy Secretary for County Health Systems Paul Meyers about the expenses regarding the septic tank system.

Commissioner Cornell wished to discuss that the biggest impact they are going to get is by working with the farmers and agriculture sector on Best Management Practices (BMP) and mentioned the importance of inviting the Farm Bureau representatives to the next meeting where the presentation will be held.

Commissioner Byerly clarified that the BMPs is now mandatory and in order to comply a letter has to be sent.

Chair Pinkoson stated that there is an advantage of cost savings that goes with BMP and if one complies, less would be spent on electricity, fertilizer, and water. There is natural incentive along with cost share.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the natural incentives are not working because there is still strong evidence that at least across the northern part of the state is using too much fertilizer and more water than necessary and water is still too cheap. Further, the change will be utilizing more time to talk to farmers familiarizing them with the technology and getting them to adopt standards that they are already supposed to be doing.

Chair Pinkoson stated that when he was on the Water Board, the BMPs or using less fertilizer was wholeheartedly embraced by the agricultural community.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the County needs a purchase of agricultural rights to encourage people to stay in agriculture and would pay them not to subdivide their land as soon as it makes economic sense to do so.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Byerly wished to discuss an email sent by former High Springs Commissioner Bob Barnus where he raised a point about the City using CRA funds and would like Staff to email the Board with information on what has been alleged in the email is correct and whether or not that information aligns with constraints of the CRA. He also wishes to discuss the problem with policies adopted by the Board that are not in the Comprehensive Plan or the Land Development Regulations but are adopted Board policy in which people are not made aware of.

Interim County Manager Lieberman agreed that there are policies that Staff or the public are not made aware of and stated that not everything that is passed as a motion as Board policy has been put in writing that is accessible. She also states that there are policies accessible through the Intranet, which are internal to the County as a whole, but are not external and available on the website. Further, there is no way for the public to access Board policy and she believes that the public needs to have access to more formalized policy.

**Commissioner Byerly moved** to refer the accessibility of Board policy issue to Staff and to come back to the Board with an agenda item and recommendations on how to effectively organize and codify adopted Board policies that are not in the Comprehensive Plan or the Land Development Regulations. **The motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioner Byerly moved** to direct Staff in their consideration of the Fairgrounds to consider the following:

1. Whether or not all of the functions that the Board has expressed an interest in the Fairgrounds providing have to be provided at one centralized Fairgrounds facility or if some of the functions could be more effectively and cost efficiently outsourced to other locations in respecting our legal obligations.
2. Empower staff to consider alternative locations for any or all of the function

Interim County Manager Lieberman stated that there is currently an outstanding report of an analysis by professionals reviewing the economic impact, beneficial or

otherwise, of remaining in the current position versus going to the proposed tract next to Resource Recovery Park. Further, if the above motion passes, Staff's understanding would be to ask the professionals to expand the report to provide a broader analysis of other potential sites as well and Staff would contact them to get information on whether or not there is a better location or other sites the County owns.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the related issue is the 4-H office and their desire to be co-located with where the Fairgrounds would be.

Commissioner Cornell stated that during the tourist development Council Meeting held last week a motion was passed unanimously to bring back to the Board information and to no longer refer to this discussion internally as the Fairgrounds project because it expands to a multi-purpose venue.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioner Byerly moved** the approval of a Chair Letter to the City of Gainesville expressing the following discussion points for a CRA Resolution:

1. The County requests that the City of Gainesville sign an Interlocal Agreement equalizing the College Park TIF.
2. The County will not pursue any further changes to the CRA either funding or management structure. The County will abandon any legislative changes and allow the CRA to stay as they are except for the change in Item #1.
3. For future Green Field Annexations within the County's Urban Cluster the City will use the County's Development Code.
4. The Multimodal Transportation Mitigation Fees and Impact Fees levied by the County will be collected and remitted to the County.
5. The County will adopt a policy that clarifies, supports, and encourages annexations in accordance with this motion.

Interim County Attorney Torres stated that the agreement is that they will have a public hearing to consider the amendment of their ordinance to equalize the TIF because they can't agree to change their ordinance and they can only change their ordinance subject to a public hearing. Further, the agreement with the City has not been executed.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that he would second the above motion with one condition that Commissioner Byerly personally makes appointments with all of the Commissioners and explains the process to them.

Chair Pinkoson stated that he is vehemently opposed to this deal and will allow the Vice Chair to sign the Chair letter should this motion be approved.

**The motion carried 4-1 with Chair Pinkoson voting "Nay".**

Commissioner Cornell respectfully withdrew previous direction to present the JPA discussion at the next MTPO meeting.

Commissioner Byerly suggested that rather than what Commissioner Cornell just proposed, the Board should instead pull the Item off of the agenda if they respond to the Chair letter in a productive way.

Chair Pinkoson clarified that it has been agreed upon that at the next Joint meeting the FSAA and the CRA will be discussed.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business before the board the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 P.M.