

John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium  
County Administration Building  
12 Southeast First Street  
Gainesville, Florida



Board of County Commission  
Minutes

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

5:00 P.M.

**Board of County Commissioners**

District 1 Commissioner Mike Byerly

District 2 Commissioner Marihelen

Wheeler

District 3 Vice Chair Robert

"Hutch" Hutchinson

District 4 Commissioner Ken Cornell

District 5 Chair Charles "Chuck"  
Chestnut

County Manager

Michele Lieberman

County Attorney

Sylvia Torres

## **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.

Chair Chestnut requested to move Item #6 before Item #6 to accommodate the public.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved** adoption of the agenda as amended. The motion carried 5-0.

## **Proclamations and Presentations**

2. Approval of a proclamation Declaring November 15, 2018 as "Children's Grief Awareness Day" in Alachua County, FL

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Proclaim November 15, 2018 as "Children's Grief Awareness Day" in Alachua County, FL.

Commissioner Cornell read and presented the Proclamation to Mr. Greenbrook who accepted it with gratitude.

## **Public Hearing**

3. FY19 Budget Amendment for Carry Forwards, Reappropriations and Fund Balance Adjustments

**Fiscal Consideration:** General Fund Budget Increase is \$2,518,886. Amended General Fund Budget is \$173,599,965. All Funds Budget Increase is \$67,844,894. Amended All Funds Budget is \$524,440,151.

**Recommended Action:** Conduct public hearing, adopt resolutions, approve budget amendment, Use of Reserves, updated Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and updated FTE allocation.

Budget Manager Diane Smith presented the above item.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** to conduct public hearing, adopt resolutions, approve budget amendment, Use of Reserves, updated Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and updated FTE allocation. The motion carried 5-0.

## **QuasiJudicial/Zoning Items**

6. Rescission of ZOS0896: Historic Haile Homestead Special Use Permit

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners rescind resolution Z9647, a special use permit to operate the Haile Homestead as a historic site and interpretive center.

Planner Mehdi Benkahatar presented the above item.

**Commissioner Cornell moved** that the Board of County Commissioners rescind resolution Z9647, a special use permit to operate the Haile Homestead as a historic site and interpretive center.

Interim Growth Management Director Missy Daniels, Commissioner Byerly, and Commissioner Hutchinson presented comments.

Chair Chestnut opened the Public Hearing at 5:17 P.M.

There was no one present who wished to speak in support of or in opposition to the above item.

Chair Chestnut closed the Public Hearing at 5:18 P.m.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

## **Public Comments (The earlier of 5:30PM or at the conclusion of the agenda)**

4. Public comments

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Hear Public Comments.

## **Regular Matters**

5. Truth and Reconciliation Discussion

**Fiscal Consideration:** TBD based on the following:

1. If County supports National History Day process with school board there may be costs;
2. Costs for Outreach/Meetings; Print information, etc.
3. Donate funds to complete fundraising for State Historic Marker on Newberry Six history. Marker written by Dr. Tricia Hilliard Nunn to be placed between the Pleasant Plain Church and Cemetery in vicinity of Jonesville. Community fundraising now has \$900. Additional \$1,220

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needed for a doubled sided marker. State Marker Council did review in Spring 2018 and final revisions should be complete soon.

**Recommended Action:** Provide direction to staff for the process to continue with County Advisory Boards and the larger community, including addressing issues identified by Staff

County Manager Lieberman presented the above item.

Commissioner Hutchinson presented comments.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved** the following:

1. The County Commission hereby initiates its Truth and Reconciliation process, the goal of which is to set an example for how local government can recall its role in our history of racial injustice, and repair what it can through official apologies and appropriate reparations.
2. The County will research its history of voter suppression, segregation in housing and public accommodations, discrimination in hiring and economic opportunity, participation in leased prison labor to fund county government and build/maintain public facilities, differences in the provision of government services, and any other government actions or inactions that deserve to be remembered.
3. The County will cooperate in and co-sponsor one or more symposiums or conferences where “truth and reconciliation” is the topic, and where experts with experience in similar processes are invited to provide insights.
4. The County will facilitate town hall meetings where people can tell their story and react to historical findings.
5. The County will co-sponsor and assist in one or more public reading projects, such as the Gainesville Mayor’s Book Club.
6. The County will create an online archive of documents, images and recordings, related to this project. This may be done in cooperation with the county’s constitutional officers, the Library District, the University of Florida, and local historic museums. As much as possible, original documents and interviews with those directly affected will be collected rather than relying on secondhand accounts and historical interpretations. The County website will provide the County’s role but should provide hyperlinks to the other resources from the other entities participating in the process.

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7. By letter from the Chair, other public and private institutions will be invited to participate in a similar process for their organization, with a goal to complete the research phase by 2020.
8. The County will formally request that the memorial slab of Alachua County victims of lynching be transferred to County government ~~when we have:~~  
a) ~~substantially completed~~ As soon as the EGI requirements have been met for this truth and reconciliation process; b) determined through a public process where and how the monument will be displayed; and c) have raised sufficient public and private funds required to properly display and interpret the monument. d) Explore how those names not on the EGI Memorial will be properly memorialized in Alachua County and Montgomery Alabama. e) Explore the possibility of collecting jars of soil from or near the lynching sites as well as providing some to the display in Montgomery Alabama. f) Explore the possibility of road signs near the sites that would direct those interested in the matter to the information. g) Explore how those names not on the EGI Memorial will be properly memorialized in Alachua County and Montgomery Alabama.
9. This motion will be provided as a referral to all County advisory boards, with a request for them to provide a short written recommendation for the scope of their participation, any areas of inquiry that they believe should be included, or any proposed revisions to this process.
10. The County Manager and Attorney are requested to return with their analysis of the public and private resources needed to complete the tasks suggested in this motion, and any further revisions including legal liabilities, for further consideration by the Board of County Commissioners as an item on a regular agenda during an evening meeting. The County Manager will discuss with the University of Florida their willingness to participate in the process and any cost associated with their efforts. The County Manager shall explore how to send County Employees on a trip to view the EGI Museum in Alabama and report back to the Board with how that would work. There should be an interim report in January informing the Board of the Manager's efforts and suggestions.

Chair Chestnut, Commissioner Cornell, Kali Blount, Kathleen Pagan, Paula Staymer, Sonya Rudenstine, Brenda Stroud, Jackie Davis, Jenny Hill, City of Gainesville Commissioner Helen Warren, Florence Turcotte, Evelyn Fox, Nkwanda Jah, Pastor Gerard Duncan, Susan Cary, Robin Newsome, Mary Fukuyama, and Commissioner Hutchinson, County Manager Lieberman and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

**The motion carried 5-0.**

**ADDED ITEM:**

Union County Mining Matter

County Manager Lieberman provided the Board's previous motions that the Board gave direction to assist Union County. She stated that \$25,000.00 was set aside from County Reserves to provide environmental consulting if need. She stated that she does not believe those funds were expended but she will check and provide a response by email to the Board.

Commissioner Byerly County Attorney Sylvia Torres Commissioner Cornell

By consensus, the Board authorized the County Manager/Attorney contact Union County to determine if there is a role for the County to assist Union County in their legal challenge and report back to the Board with the findings. Union County should be informed that Alachua County is open to a discussion to assist financially in their legal defense. Staff can respond to the Board by email with the findings. Staff should further have a proposed Chair Letter for the next meeting.

**Closing Comments**

7. Closing comments from the public

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Hear closing comments from the public.

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

8. Closing comments from Commissioners

**Fiscal Consideration:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Hear closing comments from Commissioners.

**Commissioner Hutchinson moved** to defer the November 15, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. meeting is deferred due to scheduling conflicts with mediation meetings and canvassing board meetings. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the Board needs to do a better job of preparing for the Canvassing Board responsibilities. He stated that it is very intensive work and depending on volunteers to provide the time involved without compensation needs to be considered. The Board either needs to have members clear their schedule and not be involved in the elections or have a list of qualified candidates prepared to fulfill the commitment.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.