

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
February 12, 2019**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Jimbo Jackson presiding. Present were Vice Chairman Bryan Desloge and Commissioners Bill Proctor, Kristin Dozier, Mary Ann Lindley, Nick Maddox and Rick Minor. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Herb Thiele, and Clerk to the Board Rebecca Lynn.

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was provided by Pastor Mike Fordham of Killearn United Methodist Church. Commissioner Lindley then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Supervisor of Elections Earley read into the record a Presentation on an “Update on the 2018 Election and Possible Recommendations for 2019 Legislative Priorities for the Supervisor of Elections Office”
 - Supervisor Earley presented on the 2018 election cycle, focusing on the record midterm turnout, recount process, the County’s performance in implementing and further developing Spanish language election materials, Hurricane Michael relief voting assistance to surrounding counties, and early voting expansion and turnout. Regarding the recount, Supervisor Earley noted that both older recount tabulators malfunctioned, and he expressed hopes of purchasing a replacement to assist in recounts and Vote-by-Mail processing. Supervisor Early concluded his presentation with a discussion on the current priorities and upcoming preparations of the Supervisor of Elections Office, emphasizing continuing lobbying efforts to support legislation to use the existing certified audit system in recounts, as well as the implementation of Amendment 4 as a priority for the Election Office, specifically rectifying the language surrounding restoration and what constitutes satisfaction of sentence terms.
 - Commissioner Maddox commended Supervisor Earley on how streamlined and efficient the voting, audit, and recount process is in Leon County and proclaimed it as a model for the state. Commissioner Maddox asked for clarification on what type of support is needed for the Election Office’s continued lobbying efforts regarding using the audit system in recounts.
 - Supervisor Earley answered that a statement of support, especially given Commissioner Maddox’s personal experience with the audit process, or any kind of words of endorsement would “go a long way.”
 - Commissioner Maddox further commended Supervisor Earley on his Amendment 4 implementation. He then asked if the Elections office had it in their budget to purchase the high-speed tabulator.
 - Supervisor Early replied that he believed the tabulator was included in the budget and additionally there may be remaining funds from this year (to be used by October 1) that could be used for the purchase.
 - Commissioner Maddox noted that the extra tabulator is a necessity as it finds the machine to be a good expenditure on the Election Office’s part.

- Commissioner Maddox requested a resolution supporting the use of the existing certified auditing system for the Election Office’s lobbying efforts.
 - Commissioner Lindley seconded.
 - Administrator Long noted that the first General Business on the agenda item proposes the adoption of the Supervisor of Elections request for supporting legislation that would allow the use of the audit system as a recount tool.
 - Commissioner Maddox noted that he would also like a resolution on the matter.
 - Commissioner Minor asked for a discussion before bringing the motion to vote, noted how impressive the audit system is, and asked Supervisor Earley what the state certification of the audit system entails.
 - Supervisor Earley explained that certification entailed putting the machine through the “same testing and rigors” as a standard vote tabulation system, though without the precinct-based tabulation component.
- Chairman Jackson dispensed with the motion until the remaining commissioners in the queue to speak had made their pronouncements.
- Commissioner Proctor complimented Supervisor Earley on being an outstanding Supervisor of Elections and noted that early voting measures undertaken by the Elections Office have proven spectacularly successful. Commissioner Proctor prompted Supervisor Earley to expand on the specific performance of each of the early voting sites and also inquired whether Supervisor Earley believed the audit system would be a “windfall” for the Elections Office if approved.
 - Supervisor Earley explained that in the initial phase, the use of the audit system during recounts is envisioned as an optional method, and he believes that once the method is seen in action, it will become apparent that the system has even more usability, as well as money-saving potential: “to have better elections in a more cost-effective manner.”
 - Commissioner Proctor also expressed his appreciation for Supervisor Earley regarding implementation of Amendment 4 and probed for further expansion on the term “automatic” within the legislation, whether the former felon would receive a voting card without any further steps or that without any further ado, felons can register to vote.
 - Supervisor Earley confirmed “automatic” is being used with the later connotation – that once a felon completes their sentencing, their eligibility to register to vote is automatically reinstated.
 - Commissioner Proctor then questioned if any legislation had been filed to challenge the position of the Amendment as it appeared on the ballot.
 - Supervisor Earley explained there had been no legislation, though he had heard quandaries concerning the confirmation of registration on the state level when compared to the felony record due to uncertainty surrounding whether financial obligations imposed by a court would be considered part of sentencing terms, referencing probation statutes which define probation through both “terms” and “obligations,” with financial obligations being considered as “obligations,” not “terms.” Supervisor Earley stated that he believes the legislation will have a role in determining how the investigation into these quandaries will be conducted.
 - Commissioner Proctor also asked Supervisor Earley to inform the Board on the process for having referendum items placed on the 2020 ballot pertaining to the City of Tallahassee, regarding fostering a referendum on a police review board and a city utility review board of citizens.

- Supervisor Earley confirmed that the process would be handled according to provisions within the city charter, as well as some overlying statutes that govern the process at the state level, and he noted that he would need to review the process in order to provide a full report to the Board.
 - Commissioner Desloge congratulated Supervisor Earley on an efficient election and thanked him for his efforts.
 - Commissioner Dozier gave her commendations as well as proffered exploring ways to assist the Elections Office in spreading communication among young potential voters through civics expansion via the library system, a topic discussed during the recent BOCC Retreat
 - Commissioner Minor inquired as to the breakdown of voters by voting method statewide, and Supervisor Earley announced that voting by mail was more popular than early voting. Commissioner Minor also thanked Supervisor Earley on his leadership on Amendment 4.
 - Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Lindley, for a Resolution in support of legislation to support using the state-certified audit system during election recounts. The motion carried 7-0.
- Commissioner Maddox read into the record a Proclamation recognizing the “Designation of the County’s Segment of the County’s Segment of Orange Avenue to Honor C.K. Steele”.
 - Derek Steele thanked the Board on behalf of the Steele family for the tribute and memorial, professing that C. K. Steele would be championing the 4th Amendment and encouraging the community to register as many voters as possible. He further expressed that the tribute is an extreme honor and joy for the family.

CONSENT:

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

1. Domi Education Entrepreneurial Community Impact Report for FY 2018

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Domi Education Entrepreneurial Community Impact Report for FY 2018.

Antonio Montoya, Executive Director of Domi Station, read into the record a Presentation on “Domi: Our Vision for Entrepreneurial Growth and Sustainability,” providing an overview of Domi’s annual report and upcoming initiatives.

- The mission continues to be to maximize the human potential of Domi members and the people who seek their services through entrepreneurship and innovation
- Domi members represent over 50 companies and organizations – national and local
 - 123 active coworking members
 - Mid-2018: Domi at full capacity. Some members left due to Domi being unable to support growth of company or didn’t have office spaces
- Domi becoming “community of communities,” serving as a platform for many different initiatives – including community projects and events – in the city. FY 2019 Plan is to continue community building initiatives/campaigns.

- Growing incubation – Domi has helped 130 entrepreneurs over the last five years.
 - Currently 33 companies reporting data
 - 2018 Impact (through September) – 46 jobs in the city; \$4M+ yearly revenue; \$2M+ invested capital
- FY 2019: focus more on soft-landing, getting startups moving from high-rent areas; scale up; manage city-wide mentor network; engage alumni for continued network building; achieve sustainability through growth and securing leases, grants, and sponsors.
 - Commissioner Lindley gave thanks to Commissioner Dozier for her leading the charge with Domi and then asked Director Montoya if retaining people over the last five years was a good thing – or was it not the intention to launch people and have them move on.
 - Director Montoya explained that the city does not yet have the infrastructure for startups to move out like other cities do, where they move but remain near their core.
 - Commissioner Lindley further posited that part of the interest in more space for Domi is to create more of a district to accommodate both senior members of Domi as well as new-comers, which Director Montoya confirmed.
 - Commissioner Lindley noted her appreciation for Domi’s outreach efforts to create more diversity in the community and questioned if the County was still covering the costs for Domi’s high speed internet access.
 - Director Montoya explained that the cost had decreased to \$12K for the year (\$1K per month), but the County was still contributing to that cost. Commissioner Lindley asked if Domi’s sustainability efforts would lead to Domi breaking loose from county budgeting responsibilities, and Director Montoya explained that Domi’s hopes are to grow and create an incubator building that becomes the organization’s endowment, through which they can secure leases to cover costs such as the internet bill.
 - Commissioner Dozier thanked Director Montoya for his robust report and surmised that Domi’s first five years have been focused on refining and finding their niche as an entrepreneurial startup and define the needs of the community, which Director Montoya confirmed and further added that Domi began as a starting point and has developed into more of a landing pad, where startups are not necessarily starting with Domi, but come to Domi after the initial startup, which is fueling Domi’s need to expand.
 - Commissioner Dozier addressed County Administrator Long and inquired about any opportunity to get into a general conversation regarding Domi’s current facility and space needs, which Administrator Long confirmed.
 - Commissioner Proctor noted the need for a parking facility in the area of Domi that would accommodate the nearby hotel as well as the new hotel that is to be built in the area and suggested modernizing the buildings in the area. Regarding Domi’s achieving sustainability, specifically revenue over time, Commissioner Proctor drew attention to FAMU’s investment and pondered if that would not be a basis to encourage other institutions to “step up” relatively.
 - Director Montoya agreed, but further clarified that the building endowment/lease option for sustainability is preferable because these institutions have limited funding and also are building their own capacity and no longer need the use of a facility like Domi. He also further noted that Domi should attempt to stay as independent from grants as possible so that the facility can focus on meeting the needs of the community rather than meeting the requirements of a grant.

2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for February 12, 2019, and pre-approve the payment of bills and vouchers for the period of February 13, 2019 through February 25, 2019.

3. Commissioner Appointment to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

The Board approved Option 1: Ratify Commissioner Maddox's appointment of a citizen, Carla Laroche, to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls for the remainder of the unexpired term, ending September 30, 2019.

4. Proposed Revision to Policy No. 11-2 "Membership on Boards, Committees, Councils, and Authorities"

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the proposed revisions to the Policy No. 11-2 eliminating the appointment of a Commissioner to the Downtown Business Association of Tallahassee.

5. Reject all Bids for Library Card Application Digitization Program

The Board approved Option 1: Reject all bids in response to the Request for Proposals BC-10-09-18-54 for Library Card Application Digitization.

6. Reject all Bids for Solicitation BC-10-23-18-01, Solar Array Inspection and Cleaning

The Board approved Option 1: Reject all bids in response to the Request for Proposal BC-10-23-18-01, Solar Array Inspection and Cleaning.

7. Lease Agreement Between Leon County and the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc. for a Portion of Apalachee Regional Park

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Renewal of a Lease Agreement between Leon County and the Seminole Radio Control Club, Inc. and authorize the County Administrator to execute.

8. Keystone Court Maintenance Map

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Keystone Court Maintenance Map for filing with the Clerk of Court.

9. Status Update on the Federal Government Shutdown

The Board approved Options 1: Approve the status update on the federal government shutdown and take no further action.

10. Agreement Between Leon County and BMG Money, Inc. for the Loans At Work Program

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the piggybacking of the City of Miami's contract (RFP-727382(23)), with BMG Money, Inc. for the Loans at Work program and authorize the County Administrator to execute the corresponding Agreement between Leon County and BMG Money, Inc.

11. Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals 2018 Annual Report

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals 2018 Annual Report.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-minute limit per speaker; there will not be any discussion by the Commission)

- Jean Kellum, 2691 Mission Road, representing It's Meow or Never, introduced the very active local animal welfare group and its mission to reduce the feral cat population by TNR (trap, neuter/spay, return). Since 2012, It's Meow or Never has neutered/spayed over 4,000, given them rabies shot, and provided them with additional needed medical treatment, free of charge, funded through fundraising and partnerships with other animal welfare groups. It's Meow or Never's efforts have dramatically reduced shelter euthanization and the organization hosts a successful adoption program for kittens. Ms. Kellum, on behalf of It's Meow or Never, asked the commissioners to look through land holdings for 10-15 acres for a sanctuary so that cats do not have to be returned to the neighborhoods where they were trapped, as residents of those neighborhoods do not want them returned. Ms. Kellum notes that Brevard, Orange, and Duval counties all have such designated sanctuaries.
- Bart Bibler, 3673 Mossy Creek Lane, informed the commissioners that positive events have improved race relations and crime prevention in the 32304 zip code and throughout Leon County. He thanked the Tallahassee Democrat for a recent article on the subject, thanked Administrator Long for sending correspondence to the commissioners regarding deeper investigation of the statistics behind the 32304 problems of poverty and illiteracy, and thanked the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce for prioritizing addressing economic segregation, job growth, crime and corruption, and the creation of a vision of growth that is widely accepted by the community, a plan that is not about redistribution but rather about actual economic growth.
- Carla Laroche, 1800 Miccosukee Commons Drive, thanked the Board for appointing her to the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (Consent Item #3). She discussed her work as the Director of the Gender and Family Justice Clinic at the at the FSU Law School.

GENERAL BUSINESS

12. Status Report on the 2019 Florida Legislative Session

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that the item seeks acceptance of a status report on the 2019 Florida Legislative Session, including the addition of one legislative issue as requested by Supervisor of Elections, Mark Earley, earlier in the meeting.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge approval of Options 1, & 2: 1) Accept the status report on the 2019 Florida Legislative Session; 2) Approve the addition of a policy priority in the Board's 2019 State Legislative Priorities to

support legislation allowing the use of state-certified automated independent election audit systems as an optional election recount tool. The motion carried 7-0.

13. Third Amendment to the Agreement for Solid Waste Management Services

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that the item seeks the approval of the Third Amendment to the Agreement with Waste Management for the hauling and disposal of waste from the Leon County Transfer Station to Springhill Landfill to ensure long term disposal of solid waste at competitive cost. He explained that this item was consistent with the Board's previous direction from December and reflects all terms and conditions brought at that time.

Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox approval of Options 1: 1) Authorize the County Administrator to approve the Third Amendment to the Agreement for Solid Waste Management Services with Waste Management of Leon County, Inc. The motion carried 7-0.

14. Request for Proposals for the Division of Tourism's Contracted Marketing, Public Relations, and Research Services

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that the item seeks Board authorization for staff to issue Requests for Proposals for marketing advertisement, public relations, and research services to be contracted through the Division of Tourism. He noted that the current contracts are set to expire in September 2019.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Options 1, 2 & 3: 1) Approve the scope of services and authorize the issuance of Request for Proposals for Tourism Marketing/Advertising Services; 2) Approve the scope of services and authorize the issuance of Request for Proposals for Tourism Public Relations Services; and 3) Approve the scope of services and authorize the issuance of Request for Proposals for Tourism Research Services. The motion carried 7-0.

15. Voluntary Annexation Proposal from St. Peter's Anglican Church, Inc., to Annex Property Located at 4742 Thomasville Road

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that this item seeks approval of a voluntary annexation from St. Peter's Anglican Church to annex their property on Thomasville Road. He noted that County staff has reviewed the request, consistent with policy.

Commissioner Desloge moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Options 1: 1) Do not object to the proposed voluntary annexation of property located at 4742 Thomasville Road. The motion carried 7-0.

16. Full Board Appointment to the Tourism Development Council

County Administrator Long introduced the item.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Minor, approval of Options 1: 1) The full Board to confirm the appointment of City Commissioner Elaine Bryant to the Tourist Development Council for the remainder of the unexpired term ending December 31, 2020. The motion carried 7-0.

Chairman Jackson recessed the Board at 5:19 PM and advised that it would reconvene at 6:00 PM to conduct the scheduled public hearings.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

17. First and Only Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Amending Chapter 5, Building and Construction Regulation, to Address the Requirements for Tiny Houses

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, approval of Options 1: 1) Conduct the first and only Public Hearing and adopt the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 5, Building and Construction Regulation, to address the requirement for tiny houses. The motion carried 7-0.

18. First and Only Public Hearing to Consider a Proposed Resolution Renouncing and Disclaiming any Right of the County in a Portion of Gaines Street Right-of-Way Encroached Upon by Waterworks Property

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, approval of Options 1: 1) Conduct the first and only public hearing and adopt the Resolution renouncing and disclaiming any right of the County in and to a portion of Gaines Street right-of-way encroached by the Waterworks property. The motion carried 7-0.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-minute limit per speaker; Commission may discuss issues that are brought forth by speakers.)

- Chairman Jackson confirmed there were no citizens to be heard on Non-Agendaed Items.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney Thiele:

- Nothing.

County Administrator Long:

- Nothing.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Dozier:

- Requested a proclamation recognizing March as Women’s History Month to be presented at the Oasis Center for Women and Girl’s Women’s History Month Luncheon.
 - *Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, to present a proclamation recognizing March as Women’s History Month. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Requested a proclamation recognizing March as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month, to be presented at the Board’s February 26, 2019 meeting.
 - *Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to present a proclamation recognizing March as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Noted she attended the recovery summit in Marianna, attended by representatives of counties effected by Hurricane Michael, and received feedback expressing appreciation that the after-action report reflected the way in which Leon County supported other counties and areas where Leon County could improve.

Commissioner Maddox:

- Thanked Mr. Bibler for his efforts with the 32304 summit and reflected on recent discussions of the 32304 zip code and ongoing County initiatives to analyze and address the community's needs.
 - *Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, to direct the County Administrator to send a letter to the CSC Planning Committee and CHSP Needs Assessment consultant asking for their evaluations to include specific analysis of and recommendations to address poverty and illiteracy in the 32304 zip code. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Reflected on Dr. Audra Pittman stepping down as director of COCA.
 - *Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Minor, to present a proclamation recognizing Dr. Audra Pittman and her accomplishments. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Requested a proclamation declaring April as National Crime Victim's Awareness Month, to be presented at the Board's March 12, 2019 meeting.
 - *Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to present a proclamation declaring April as National Crime Victim's Awareness Month. The motion carried 7-0.*

Commissioner Proctor:

- Expressed gratitude regarding the 32304 zip code research efforts, reflected on the upcoming 32304 Zip Code Summit, and requested funding for a series of three to four subsequent meetings.
 - Commissioner Dozer noted that Leon County is currently funding several initiatives to evaluate and address the issue of poverty and illiteracy throughout the County and that more data analysis and discussion would be required before addressing additional funding.
 - *Commissioner Proctor moved to allocate \$10,000.00 for the 32304 Zip Code Summit. The motion died for lack of a second.*
- Announced that he sent a letter to the City Commission requesting they rescind building a police headquarters on the Southside, as he believes there was not adequate public input, and notes that the City will host listening session seeking public input on the matter on February 18 and 19.
- Requested for County Administration to provide direction on placing a marker inside the roundabout on Oak Ridge Road and Highway 61 to commemorate the history of that community. The action will be brought back on a subsequent Board meeting.

Commissioner Lindley:

- Recounted her recent conversation with a veterinarian consultant with from the University of Florida about best practices that could assist both the City and the County with animal shelters and animal services and voiced an interest in discussing these best practices further.
 - Commissioner Dozier noted that the consultants may have met with all or some of the Board and recommended waiting for the consultants' final report before bringing the agenda item before the Board.
 - *Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozier, to direct staff to bring back an agenda item to review best practices proposals and suggestions to work together with animal welfare/services groups. The motion carried 7-0.*

Commissioner Minor:

- Reflected on the difficulty in assessing poverty in areas where there is a large number of college students, such as the 32304 zip code, and suggested that the SCS Planning Committee and CHSP Needs Assessment consultant look at ways to best factor in the student population when analyzing poverty throughout the county.
- Reflected on the recent USA Track and Field event at the Apalachee Regional Park and shared comments about the cross country course being one of the best in the nation.

Vice-Chairman Desloge

- Reported that he has been appointed to the FEMA National Advisory Board representing local government, a three-year term.

Chairman Jackson:

- Expressed appreciation for Commissioner Maddox’s motion to ask the CSC Planning Committee and HSCP Needs Assessment consultant to analyze issues of poverty and literacy in the 32304 zip code.

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- Leon County Educational Facilities Authority 2018-2019 Budget, and Financial Statement for years ending September 30, 2017 and 2016 with Report of Independent Auditors
- Capital Region Community Development District Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2018

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



BY: *Jimbo Jackson*
Jimbo Jackson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Gwendolyn Marshall*
Gwendolyn Marshall, Clerk of Court
& Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

