

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2021**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Rick Minor presiding. Present were Vice-Chairman Bill Proctor and Commissioners Nick Maddox, Brian Welch, Kristin Dozier, Carolyn Cummings, and Jimbo Jackson. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Chasity O'Steen, and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

Chairman Minor called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were provided by Vice-Chairman Bill Proctor.

County Attorney O'Steen announced that the Assistant County Attorney will use a yellow card to indicate that a Commissioner has used the allotted debate time.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update**
 - Vincent Long, County Administrator, reported that the U.S. Senate has passed a COVID Relief bill which will be voted on by the U.S. House of Representatives later in the week. The bill includes stimulus checks, funding for cities and counties, and rental assistance.
 - Chairman Minor asked if it would be possible to use COVID Relief funding to help with the homeless population in the County. County Administrator Long stated that the Board could use the funds for that issue.
 - Vice-Chairman Proctor asked for a workshop to look into different manners in which the relief funding could be spent before an agenda item is brought before the Board.
 - Commissioner Dozier appreciates the microloan program that has been set up in partnership with FAMU and would like for the County to research ways to create reoccurring aid with the relief funds. County Administrator Long stated that the funds are meant to last many fiscal years as the support will not expire until 2024. She thanked Deputy County Administrator Alan Rosenzweig for his hard work in the past with federal funds.
 - Claudia Blackburn, Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in Leon County, reported that as of March 8, there has been a decline in the positivity rates and the average in daily cases. She provided an updated on COVID-19 positivity rates and number of daily cases, as well as the vaccine administration. She provided an overview of the efforts underway to increase immunizations in minority communities and of the CDC guidance for those who are fully vaccinated. Cases are disproportionately affecting the 18-40 age group in contrast to the older populations. Additionally, 31% of the cases have been found in African Americans and about 48% of the hospitalizations are African Americans. Efforts are underway to raise awareness of the vaccine in the minority communities. The FAMU Al Lawson Center has been open as a vaccination site

that takes walk-ins and appointments. She believes that more people will visit the Center as it becomes more known that they are giving out the COVID 19 vaccine.

- Commissioner Welch stated that he has heard from his constituents about the mask mandate now that vaccinations are rolling out and numbers are down. He asked when the Health Department may see the mask mandate be repealed. Ms. Blackburn stated that she cannot answer at this point because it is based on the day-to-day numbers. Commissioner Welch also asked for clarification on whether the County will continue to follow the CDC as some believe that it does not cover enough. Ms. Blackburn stated that the policy decisions are up to the Board. Commissioner Welch asked if the Governor may change the state executive order regarding vaccine sites to match the federal guidelines.
- Commissioner Jackson noted that the Health Department website is incredibly informational, however, he believes that the information is not reaching the target audience. He asked if there was an effort taking place to reach the minority communities with information about the vaccine in a different manner. Ms. Blackburn reported that the Task Force for Community Education has been planning a door-to-door initiative to spread information about the vaccine to dodge the digital divide.
- Chairman Minor stated that the County Administrator's office has been working on this issue. County Administrator Long relayed the initiative that the Board approved at a previous meeting that focuses on the issue of vaccine hesitancy. Mathieu Cavell, Assistant to the County Administrator, stated that there is a meeting later today with the City and community leaders to address this issue. They are focusing on a grassroots campaign to share this information with the underrepresented communities.
- Commissioner Jackson stated that there isn't any time for complacency when addressing the needs of the African American and Hispanic communities as they face the brunt of COVID.
- Vice-Chairman Proctor thanked staff for its hard work. He is grateful that the County has provided the leadership needed for the pandemic in contrast to the state government and the previous presidential administration. He noted that the closure of African American churches in the past year has added to the miscommunication regarding COVID-19 and the vaccine. He asked if there was any data from the vaccination centers about the number of needles in arms. Ms. Blackburn stated that she will investigate those numbers. Vice-Chairman Proctor also asked if the prisoners in the Leon County jail who are 65 and up have been vaccinated or if there is a plan in place to vaccinate them. Ms. Blackburn stated that the Department is working with Bond Medical Center to vaccinate the prisoners. Vice-Chairman Proctor asked why the Leon County Health Department is not the primary group in charge of the prison vaccinations. Ms. Blackburn stated that she understands Vice-Chairman Proctor's concerns about the prisoners who qualify for the vaccination. Vice-Chairman Proctor asked if it was possible to use the relief funding to put together a mobile vaccination site. Ms. Blackburn stated that the Department worked with current mobile sites, and she does not believe another mobile site is needed as it requires planning and manpower.
- Commissioner Dozier acknowledged the hard work by Ms. Blackburn's department during the pandemic. She asked if the County is informing

educators and first responders of all ages that they are eligible to be vaccinated. Ms. Blackburn stated that most teachers who are eligible at state sites have been vaccinated if they would like the vaccine. There have been sites specifically for first responders. Commissioner Dozier asked if vaccinating law enforcement will help lower transmission rates in the jails. Ms. Blackburn stated that the medical staff has been vaccinated.

- County Administrator Long provided clarification on the support for minorities regarding COVID. The majority of relief funds have been allocated to communities of color.
- Commissioner Maddox thanked the County Administrator for the report on the outreach to communities of color. He stated that he understood Vice-Chairman Proctor's sentiments towards vaccinating people in jails and asked for more information on that issue. Ms. Blackburn stated that the Department will find a way to vaccinate those in jail who are eligible and would like to be vaccinated. Commissioner Maddox is proud of the initiatives taken to help communities of color handle the pandemic, but he would like to see new initiatives for these communities to be vaccinated. He asked if the new CDC guidelines are more of an incentive to vaccinate people. Ms. Blackburn stated that the CDC does not publish guidelines as incentives without testing the safety.
- Commissioner Cummings shared her appreciation for the County Health Department and Ms. Blackburn. She asked if there was a date for the meeting with the faith-based community. Ms. Blackburn stated that there have been many meetings with these community leaders, and the next meeting is tomorrow. Commissioner Cummings asked if the Department would provide data in the future to reflect on the efficacy of the vaccine roll out in the community.
- Chairman Minor thanked Ms. Blackburn for her work. He noted that the CDC stated that now is not the time to stop wearing a mask. If the community is committed to following the CDC guidelines in the next several months, the County may be able to drop some of the stricter guidelines in the summer.

CONSENT

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to approve of consent except for items 11 and 13. The motion carried 7-0.

1. Minutes: February October 27, 2020 Legislative Workshop and December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of October 27, 2020, Legislative Workshop and December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting.

2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for March 9, 2021 and pre-approve the payment of bills and vouchers for the period of March 10, 2021 through April 12, 2021.

3. Commissioner Appointments to the Contractors Licensing Board

The Board approved Option 1: Ratify the individual Commissioner appointments of citizens to the Contractors Licensing Board:

- a. *Vice-Chairman Proctor reappoints Cheryl Clark for a three-year term ending March 31, 2024.*
- b. *Commissioner Cummings appoints Paul McManus for a three-year term ending March 31, 2024*

4. Resolution in Support of Regional Planning Councils

The Board approved Option 1: Adopt the proposed Resolution expressing support of Regional Planning Councils (Attachment #1) in response to legislation filed in the Florida Legislature seeking to limit, reduce, or eliminate the statutory roles and responsibilities of Regional Planning Councils in Florida.

5. Status Report on Legal Resources Available to Assist Low-Income Minorities with Resolving Real Property Title Issues and Identifying Options for Developing or Conveying Their Property

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the status report on legal resources available to assist low-income minorities with clearing real property title issues and identifying options for developing or conveying their property.

6. Amendments to the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Commission Bylaws

The Board approved Option 1: Approve amendments to the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Commission Bylaws (Attachment #1).

7. Indemnification Agreement with K and S Food Mart, Inc., for Inland Food Store #386 Site Conditional Closure

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Indemnification Agreement with K and S Food Mart, Inc. (Attachment #1), authorize the Chairman to execute the Indemnification Agreement, and authorize the County Administrator, or designee, to send a letter of no objection to K and S Food Mart, Inc.

8. Status Report on Updates to the Temporary Cold Night Shelter Activation Process Codified in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the County's status report on updates to the temporary cold night shelter activation process codified in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

9. Agreement for Acquisition and Full Compensation in the Eminent Domain Acquisition of Parcel 100, 4256 Maylor Road, for the Maylor Road Accessibility and Drainage Improvement Project.

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Agreement for Acquisition and Full Compensation with William Carlos Martinez to acquire the property located at 4526 Maylor Road, in the amount of \$400,000, inclusive of all fees and cost, and authorize the County Administrator or designee to execute any and all documents necessary to effect the

settlement of the eminent domain proceeding in a manner deemed legally sufficient by the County Attorney (Attachment # 1).

10. Florida Department of Environmental Protection Waste Tire Amnesty Event Grant

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Waste Tire Amnesty Events grant in the amount of \$15,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute any associated grant documents, subject to legal review by the County Attorney; and

Option #2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing the \$15,000 into the FY 2021 budget (Attachment # 1).

11. Second Performance Agreement and Surety Device for Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase 1 – PULLED

12. Memorandum of Understanding with the Tallahassee Mountain Bike Association for Maintenance of Trails

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Tallahassee Mountain Bike Association for the maintenance of trails (Attachment # 1) and authorize the County Administrator to execute.

STATUS REPORTS: (THESE ITEMS ARE INCLUDED UNDER CONSENT).

13. Status Report on Broadband Access in Rural Communities -PULLED

14. Annual 2020 Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the 2020 Annual Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals Report (Attachment # 1).

15. Annual 2020 Supervised Pretrial Release Program Report

Option # 1: Accept the 2020 Annual Supervised Pretrial Release Program Report (Attachment # 1) and authorize staff to submit the report to the Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller for Leon County.

CONSENT ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

Item 11. Second Performance Agreement and Surety Device for Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase 1 – PULLED

The item was pulled by Chairman Minor. He stated that his wife is involved with the brokerage firms that work with the Fletcher Oaks Subdivision. As such, he would abstain from the vote because of the perception of a conflict.

Commissioner Maddox moved to approve Option 1, seconded by Commissioner Dozier. The motion carried 6-0. (Chairman Minor in abstention.)

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Second Performance Agreement and Surety Device for Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase I (Attachment # 1).

Item 13. Status Report on Broadband Access in Rural Communities -PULLED

This item was pulled by Commissioner Dozier. She noted that there is nuance in the issue of broadband in underserved areas. She would like to see a community response to the state and federal initiative for broadband access. She believes that it is an issue that all districts face.

Commissioner Dozier moved to extend her debate time, seconded by Commissioner Maddox. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Jackson commended staff for its hard work for extending broadband access to students in need in partnership with Leon County schools.

Vice-Chairman Proctor spoke on the inaccessibility that Commissioner Dozier highlighted through the example of Innovation Park's broadband access and the lack of access to the internet by the communities next to the Park. Areas that face issues with access to broadband also face other inaccessibility issues, such as voter polling places. Focusing on the broadband issue is a good starting point to make change.

Vice Chairman Proctor moved to extend his debate time, seconded by Commissioner Dozier. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Welch agreed with Commissioner Dozier's statements. His district includes a large rural area.

Commissioner Dozier noted that the basic utilities are required by the county and now communication should be considered as a basic utility.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to accept Options 1 and 2. The motion carried 7-0.

The Board approved Option # 1: Accept the status report on broadband access in rural communities; and

Option #2: Adopt the Florida Association of Counties Resolution supporting affordable and reliable high-speed internet throughout Florida (Attachment # 1).

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER; THERE WILL NOT BE ANY DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION)

- NONE

GENERAL BUSINESS

16. Leon County Sheriff's Office Real Time Crime Center Project

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item provides an overview of the Leon County Sheriff's Office Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) project proposal for

the development of a joint and centralized criminal intelligence information sharing center in partnership with the County, City of Tallahassee, and Florida State University and seeks Board consideration to fund an equal portion of the RTCC as part of the FY 2022 budget process.

Commissioner Welch asked for clarification on the options as there was a typo in his packet.

Vice-Chairman Proctor asked what source of funding the United States Department of Justice will provide for this project. County Administrator Long believes that FDLE will provide state funding for this project, and the Sheriff also already has operating funds. If the agenda item passes, staff will provide more information at the budget workshop. Vice-Chairman Proctor asked why this center is needed when there is a dispatch center already in operation. County Administrator Long answered that the dispatch center is currently at capacity, and FSU would like to step in and help. Vice-Chairman Proctor would like to see an inclusion of FAMU and TCC.

Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, approval of Option 1: Direct the County Administrator to prepare a budget discussion item for the implementation of the Real Time Crime Center project for the April 27, 2021 Budget Policy Workshop. The motion carried 6-1. (Vice-Chairman Proctor in opposition.)

17. Setting of the FY Maximum Discretionary Funding Levels for Outside Agencies Including the Community Human Services Partnership

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated that, pursuant to the County's Discretionary Funding Ordinance and Policy No. 93-44 "Fiscal Planning", this item seeks Board consideration to approve the FY 2022 maximum discretionary funding levels for outside agencies including the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) and special events.

Citizen Comments Received:

- Amber Tynan, 2477 Tim Gamble Place, Suite 200, Executive Director of United Partners for Human Services, submitted an online comment recalling a letter she had written to each of the Commissioners concerning UPHS requesting that the Commission continue funding for FY21-22.

Virtual Public Speaker:

- Courtney Atkins, 1126 Lee Avenue, Executive Director of Whole Child Leon, thanked the Board for its support in supporting the children of Leon County. Her organization, Whole Child Leon, helps connect parents and guardians to resources in the County.

In Person Speakers:

- Stanley Sims, 1320 Avondale Way, spoke on the trust issues within Commissioner Jackson's District. He has been working with Mr. Shington Lamy to create innovative solutions to financial problems in these underserved communities. He stated that it's easier for people in the communities to trust community leaders instead of the County Commissioners.
- Leslie Powell-Boudreaux, Legal Services of North Florida, spoke in support of funding to Legal Services and provided an overview of its services.

Commissioner Dozier suggested separating Option #1 from Options #2-#6, and Chairman Minor concurred.

Commissioner Dozier made a motion for Options #2-#6, seconded by Commissioner Maddox. She confirmed with the County Administrator that the County will reach out to the City to align the CHSP metrics with the Big Bend Continuum of Care metrics for homelessness and transitional housing moving forward into 2022.

Commissioner Cummings commended the direct services provided by the Legal Services of North Florida. She disclosed that she is on the Board for Legal Services of North Florida and recused herself from voting on Option #6.

County Attorney O'Steen advised Commissioner Cummings that she would not receive any financial benefit by voting on this item, and therefore there is no conflict, but she could abstain due to the appearance of a conflict if she desired.

Chairman Minor commended the recent Dancing with the Stars benefit for Legal Services of North Florida and noted his participation.

Vice-Chairman Proctor confirmed with the County Administrator that the County would facilitate a partnership with the City to align the CHSP metrics with the Big Bend Continuum of Care metrics. He reflected on the need to increase the funding to these agencies.

Commissioner Welch reflected on his tour of Disc Village and the value of the program.

County Administrator Long noted that CHSP funding was increased in previous years, and many agencies received additional funds through the Leon CARES program. He explained that the County is in the second year of the two-year funding award of the CHSP process, and that is why the proposed funding level remained the same. He stated that the Board could provide additional funding with the new federal relief funding, if allowed.

Chairman Minor reflected on the flexibility of spreading out the new federal relief funding.

During the discussion on this item a motion was unanimously approved for additional time for Vice-Chairman Proctor.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to approve:

Option #2: Approve the non-departmental maximum discretionary funding level for FY 2022 at \$37,000 for special events funding.

Option #3: Maintain the Commissioner Office Budgets at \$12,500.

Option #4: Maintain the Kearney Center Capital Funding at \$100,000.

Option #5: Authorize the County Administrator to execute the Kearney Center Assignment Agreement with CESC Inc., Beatitude Partners LLC and The Beatitude Foundation Inc., subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

Option #6: Approve the following annual outside agency contracts:

- *Apalachee Regional Planning Council: \$8,800*
- *DISC Village: \$222,759*
- *Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: \$25,000*
- *Legal Services of North Florida: \$125,000*
- *Oasis Center: \$20,000*
- *St. Francis Wildlife Association: \$71,250*
- *Tallahassee Senior Citizens Foundation: \$179,000*
- *Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation: \$63,175*
- *United Partners for Human Services: \$23,750*
- *Whole Child Leon: \$38,000*

The motion passed 6-0 with Commissioner Cummings abstaining.

Commissioner Maddox disclosed a conflict of interest due to his employment and stated he would abstain from voting on Option #1.

Vice-Chairman Proctor reflected on the need to provide addition funding to the human services once the new federal relief funds are available.

Chairman Minor expressed that, when the federal relief funds come down, the Board should think strategically about how the dollars can be maximized for the CHSP agencies and others.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Proctor to approve Option #1: Approve the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) funding level for FY 2022 at \$1,445,000. The motion passed 6-0 with Commissioner Maddox abstaining.

Commissioner Maddox confirmed with the County Attorney that there is no conflict of interest if a Commissioner is an unpaid board member of an organization; however, it is the Commissioner's discretion if they wish to abstain from voting due to the possible appearance of a conflict.

18. CESC Inc.- Kearney Center COVID-19 Funding Levels for Outside Agencies Including the Community Human Services Partnership

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks consideration to allow the CESC/Kearney Center to reallocate \$1.0 million previously approved by the County to pay for COVID-19 related expenses for homeless shelter services not eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

In Person Speakers

- Stanley Sims, 1320 Avondale Way, spoke in support of clear policies and procedures to address homelessness.

Commissioner Cummings commended the services provided by the Kearney Center and reflected on the need to immediately address vaccination rates among minorities.

Commissioner Cummings provided an amended motion to provide \$500,000 to Kearney Center and \$500,000 to address the urgency of vaccination hesitancy and vaccine access in communities of color. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maddox.

Commissioner Dozier confirmed with the County Administrator that funding had been allocated for targeted communication and that the proposed \$500,000 would be used for the grassroots efforts for vaccine hesitancy and vaccine access. She reflected on the importance of reopening the Kearney Center and asked if the amendment to the motion will impact the organization's timeline.

County Administrator Long clarified that the Kearney Center no longer needed the \$1M for the federal funding match, but the organization had asked if it could use the funds to pay for other non-reimbursable expenses. He explained that the Board may be able to provide future federal relief funds to the Kearney Center and added that separate federal funding would also be available to the Kearney Center through the Big Bend Continuum of Care.

Chairman Minor reflected on the immediate need for the grassroots efforts to address vaccine hesitancy and vaccine access among minority communities and stated his support of the motion.

Commissioner Jackson stated his support of the motion.

Commissioner Welch confirmed with the County Administrator that the new federal relief funds may be available for the Kearney Center. He stated his support of the motion.

Commissioner Maddox commended Commissioner Cummings' motion. He verified with the County Administrator that the Kearney Center no longer needed the \$1M for the match and stated his support for using the \$1M for the outreach instead.

Chairman Minor offered a friendly amendment that the County hold the \$1M, allot \$500,000 to the grassroots efforts, determine how much is needed for the grassroots efforts, then determine where the remaining \$500,000 is needed.

County Administrator expressed that the \$500,000 would help the Kearney Center to open quicker.

Commissioner Dozier confirmed that the Board will discuss allocating additional funds to Kearney Center once the new federal relief funding becomes available.

Vice-Chairman Proctor reflected on the need to include Dr. Temple Robinson from Bond Community Health Center in the partners working to address vaccine hesitancy and vaccine access for communities of color.

Commissioner Cummings asked that Bond Community Health Center and Jeanne Freeman, Director for Neighborhood Medical Center, be included in the grassroots efforts, as well.

During the discussion on this item a motion was unanimously approved for additional debate time for Commissioner Dozier.

Commissioner Cummings moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to approve Option #1 as amended: Authorize CESC, Inc. to utilize \$500,000 ~~\$1.0 million~~ for COVID-19 related expenses that will not be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and authorize the County Administrator to execute any necessary agreements subject to legal review by the County Attorney; and authorize the County Administrator, in working with community partners, to immediately utilize \$500,000 to address vaccine hesitancy and vaccine access for communities of color and provide the Board updates on these efforts; and include a discussion of providing the additional \$500,000 to the Kearney Center as part of a future agenda or budget discussion item on the new federal relief funding. The motion carried 7-0.

19. Agreement with Marpan Recycling, LLC for Single-Stream Recycling Services

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks Board approval of a new contract with Marpan Recycling, LLC, to ensure the continuation of the County's single-stream recycling program.

Commissioner Dozier commended staff for its hard work.

Vice-Chairman Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox, approval of Option 1: Approve the proposed contract with Marpan Recycling, LLC, for single-stream recycling services (Attachment #1) and authorize the County Administrator to execute. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Jackson out of Chambers.)

20. Funding Request from the Children's Home Society of Florida Big Bend Region, on behalf of Sabal Palm Elementary Community Partner School

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He shared as requested by the Board at the February 16th meeting, this item seeks consideration of a funding request from the Children's Home Society of Florida Big Bend Region, on behalf of Sabal Palm Elementary Community Partner School, in the amount of \$8,000 to support two full-time AmeriCorps positions.

Commissioner Dozier believes that \$8,000 will greatly benefit the school, and they may be eligible for more funds in the future.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox, for approval of Option #1: Approve the funding request and the associated Budget Amendment in the amount of \$8,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute an Agreement subject to legal review by the County Attorney. The motion carried 7-0.

21. Five-Year Maintenance Agreement for the Avaya Telephone System with Avaya Federal Solutions, Inc.

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He shared this request seeks Board approval of a five-year maintenance agreement for the Avaya Telephone System with Avaya Federal Solutions, Inc.

Vice-Chairman Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Welch, for approval of Option 1: Approve the 5-year Maintenance Agreement for the Avaya Telephone System with Avaya Federal Solutions, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$864,093 (Attachment # 1), and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney. The motion carried 7-0.

22. Full Board Appointment to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and a Status Report on the Collaboration between the County and Civil Affordable Housing Advisory Committees

County Administrator Long introduced this item. This item seeks the full Board's consideration of the appointment of a citizen to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. As requested by the Board, at its February 16th meeting, the item was continued to provide an analysis on collaboration efforts between the Leon County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and the City of Tallahassee Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Maddox reflected on the last Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) meeting. He commended Mr. Payne, the Board's representative on the AHAC, and the work of the committee. He reflected on the need for an overview of the County's funded and unfunded housing programs.

Commissioner Dozier reflected on Escambia County's contract with the Florida Housing Coalition to perform a study of their housing program and confirmed with the County Administrator that information on the study will be brought to the Board at the March 23rd Affordable Housing Workshop. Commissioner Dozier reflected on the use of Local Government Area of Opportunity Tax Credits and suggested that the application endorse two different programs to increase chances. She asked for further information at the Affordable Housing Workshop. Commissioner Dozier reflected on the need for a joint county/city workshop on homelessness, transitional housing, and housing in general.

Commissioner Cummings expressed a need for clarification on the subject matter for the joint workshop.

Chairman Minor clarified that Commissioner Maddox's motion did not include scheduling a workshop.

Vice-Chairman Proctor expressed support for a joint housing workshop.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Chairman Minor, for approval of Options 1 and 2: Option #1: Appoint one citizen, Oral Payne, to the Affordable Housing Advisory

Committee for the remainder of the unexpired term ending March 31, 2023 (Attachment # 1); and

Option #2: as amended: Accept the status report on the collaboration between the County and City Affordable Housing Advisory Committees; and include at the March 23rd Affordable Housing Workshop a review of the Florida Housing Coalition Escambia County Housing Program Study; and explore options for the Local Government Area of Opportunity Tax Credits. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Maddox noted he would like to schedule a meeting among the BOCC, the City, and the School Board to discuss the affordable housing issues as well as related issues.

Commissioner Dozier expressed the need to collaborate with the City on homelessness and community transitional housing needs.

23. Full Board Appointment to Board of Adjustments and Appeals

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks the full Board's consideration of the appointment of a citizen to the Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Proctor, for approval of Option 1: Appoint one citizen, Lamont Nelson, to the Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustments and Appeals, for the remainder of the unexpired term ending June 30, 2023. The motion carried 7-0.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

- **NONE**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER; COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS ISSUES THAT ARE BROUGHT FORTH BY SPEAKERS.)

- Chairman Minor confirmed that there were no speakers on Non-Agendaed Items.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney O'Steen:

- She has one item for the Board to consider. There has been a proposed settlement agreement for the case with Barkley Security Agency and the County.
 - *Commissioner Dozier moved to approve the settlement agreement, seconded by Commissioner Welch. The motion carried 7-0.*

County Administrator Long:

- County Administrator Long explained that, on February 16, 2021, the Board approved awarding the bid for security guard services to Moses Security Services, and that the County could not enter into the Agreement with Moses Security due to the fact that Moses

Security could not provide the required bond documents. He stated that the next lowest bidder was Barkley Security Agency, and he requested Board approval to negotiate and execute an agreement with Barkley Security Agency, Inc., an eligible vendor on the Florida State Term Contract for Security Guard Services, contingent upon settlement of pending litigation between the County and Barkley Security Agency, Inc.

- Commissioner Cummings made a motion for Option #1.
 - Commissioner Dozier stated that she could not support the motion as an add-on item presented during the meeting.
- *Commissioner Cummings moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve Option #1: Authorize the County Administrator to negotiate and execute an agreement with Barkley Security Agency, Inc., an eligible vendor on the Florida State Term Contract for Security Guard Services, subject to legal review by the County Attorney and contingent upon settlement of pending litigation between the County and Barkley Security Agency, Inc. The motion carried 6-1, Commissioner Dozier in opposition.*

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Welch:

- Acknowledged the work by the County Administrator and County Attorney. He also thanked Brent Pell and the Public Works staff for projects recently completed in District 4, and thanked the County Administrator for the mobile testing in the District.

Commissioner Cummings:

- Reflected on an email received regarding designating Leon County Library as a regional library.
- *Commissioner Cummings moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Proctor to direct staff to prepare an agenda item assessing options to expand access to the Leon County Public Library for nonresidents from surrounding counties. The motion carried 7-0.*

Commissioner Dozier:

- Thanked the County Administrator for the Cold Night Sheltering agenda item. She confirmed with the County Administrator and Deputy County Administrator that an agenda item regarding coordination with the City on homeless shelter siting will come back in the summer.
- Wished students and school staff a safe Spring Break.

Commissioner Maddox:

- No comments

Commissioner Jackson:

- Announced that the first Fort Braden Community Farmers Market at Lake Talquin Baptist Church will be held this Saturday, March 13th, and noted that more information is available at fbcommunity.org. He confirmed with the County Administrator that the information could be included on the County's website.
- Reflected on the future expansion of walking trails in the Fort Braden community.
- Recognized the Homework Club through the Leon County Libraries.

Vice-Chairman Proctor:

- Highlighted the CDC's guidelines to vaccinate the prison population. The CDC encourages jurisdictions to vaccinate prison staff and prisoners at the same time due to shared increased risk of disease. He expressed his disappointment in the efforts to vaccinate Detention Center inmates.
- Expressed concern as to where the country and state were in regard to the justice policies, such as marijuana, especially as it relates to the number of people in jail.
- Congratulated the FAMU Athletic Department for its partnership with Nike and Lebron James.

Chairman Minor:

- Reflected on a December 2019 burning ordinance agenda item, and recent citizen complaints. He stated that the Florida Forest Service preempts local governments from making changes to the ordinance and is currently the enforcement entity for the state. He asked for an agenda item to explore other options to mitigate smoke issues, perhaps like a noise nuisance.
- Commissioner Dozier questioned if the County burn ordinance was invalid. She requested an analysis of the current ordinance be included.
 - County Attorney O'Steen stated that the City is addressing its ordinance as well.
- Commissioner Dozier noted that this issue is brought up every few years.
- Vice-Chairman Proctor asked if the city's ordinances are also preempted.
 - County Attorney O'Steen stated that the city was in the progress of changing its burn ordinance.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Chairman Minor to direct staff to prepare an agenda item to review the burn ordinance and explore options to mitigate nuisance smoke issues. The motion carried 7-0.

- Requested a Proclamation for the Big Bend Honor Guard that serves at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. There will be a ceremony on March 26th at the American Legion Post to honor the Honor Guard members and present them with the American Legion Presidential Medals. All Commissioners are invited.
Commissioner Welch, seconded by Commissioner Dozier, requested for a proclamation to recognize the Big Bend Honor Guard. The motion carried 7-0.
- Stated that the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce is interested in looking at the metrics used to evaluate the overall health of the community and is working with the County Administrator as well as the Office of Economic Vitality. He stated that he requested that the Greater Tallahassee Chamber reach out to the Capital City Chamber as well as the Big Bend Minority Chamber. He confirmed with the County Administrator that they have requested to do a presentation before the Board.
- Acknowledged the passing and life of Dr. Pamela Hall.

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- None.


ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



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

BY: 
Rick Minor, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners