

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
FY 2022/2023 Strategic Planning Retreat
Parkview at Cascades
January 23, 2023**

The Leon County Board of County Commissioners met for its FY 2022-2023 Annual Board Retreat at the Parkview Cascades on January 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Present were Chairman Nick Maddox presiding. Present were Vice Chairman Carolyn Cummings and Commissioners Christian Caban, Brian Welch, David T. O’Keefe, Bill Proctor, and Rick Minor. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Chasity O’Steen, and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

The meeting began at 9:10 a.m., which included County Department Heads and other leaders around the County.

1. Welcome

Chairman Nick Maddox welcomed the Board to the FY 2022-2023 Annual Board Retreat. He shared the ground rules for the Retreat. The Retreat provides the Board with an annual opportunity to assess our progress and identify new opportunities in our continuous efforts to make Leon County a special place to live, work and play. He welcomed the two new Commissioners and announced the following ground rules that have been identified to help ensure the Retreat was both positive and productive:

- Be aware of time limits.
- Be courteous and respectful towards each other.
- Seek out differences of opinion – it is okay to disagree. Do not react in a way that may be perceived as judgmental.
- Listen carefully to each other’s contributions. Be open to new ideas. Avoid thinking about how to express your own response or concerns while someone else is sharing.
- Everyone participates. No one dominates. Be patient and do not interrupt others.

Chairman Maddox invited each Commissioner for opening remarks.

Commissioner Minor shared how he loved the venue and welcomed the two new Commissioners to their first Retreat. He thanked staff for the agenda and follow-up.

Commissioner Welch echoed what Commissioner Minor has stated. He thanked staff and leadership for the great job and how efficient they all are. He shared he is looking forward to robust discussion.

Commissioner O’Keefe shared his appreciation for taking the time for this discussion. He stated these strategic plans are measurable. He shared that he is looking forward to bringing items forward for discussion that will maximize the impact on some of the biggest crises faced in our community.

Commissioner Caban thanked staff for putting the retreat together. He praised the staff for the agenda and looks forward to the meeting and discussions regarding the improvement of the quality of life within in his district.

Chairman Maddox announced that Commissioner Proctor was in route and would be present soon.

Vice-Chair Cummings thanked staff for the summary of the progress that has been made. She recalled that even though we are in our first year of our five-year plan, we have completed 49% of the initiatives that were projected at the retreat last year and thanked all for that accomplishment. She shared her focus and concern for healthcare in Leon County. She thanked all the healthcare providers for all that they do in Leon County. She mentioned that the healthcare of our citizens is far below the state average.

Chairman Maddox shared his interest in expanding the overall sports tourism infrastructure to make Leon County more marketable. He shared that he would like to have discussions with Kerri Post on building and updating facilities to meet the needs.

Commissioner Proctor thanked staff for a great retreat. Commissioner Proctor raised concerns in regard to the fairgrounds, Woodville Highway, Adams Street roundabout, Crawfordville Road down to the Wakulla County line. He hopes that Leon County can tackle these areas.

Chairman Maddox thanked Commissioner Proctor for longstanding leadership. He discussed Public Safety professionals and that he is looking to have a discussion regarding their pay structure and looking into competitive pay. He mentioned that he is looking into Orange Avenue apartments and overall affordable and inclusionary housing, as well as mixed housing. He mentioned that during the pandemic, our nonprofit organizations were a tremendous help, and the Chairman stressed that our outcome measures have to be fair to the community and that we are maximizing every dollar that comes out of our CHP spending.

Section I: Strategic Plan Overview

Retreat Overview:

County Administrator Long provided the Retreat overview history and how the day and the agenda will flow. He shared that they like to pause and be informal to exercise the Board Strategic Priorities. In addition, County Administrator Long stated that Kerri Post will be speaking later on the history and relevance of the venue to this special occasion.

Analysis

The FY 2022-2023 Retreat marks the first “Update Year” in the County’s five-year Strategic Plan. The Board has traditionally utilized update years to reaffirm the Mission, Vision, and Strategic Priorities that form the basis of the Strategic Plan; review progress made on Targets and Bold Goals; and adopt new Strategic Initiatives to reflect changing conditions as well as new challenges and opportunities. Administrator Long stated that the main focus of the strategic plan is how the County aligns their efforts as far as how

we align our resources as conditions change. County Administrator Long presented the complete LEADS cycle which guides the County’s continued alignment of our strategic processes and optimization of limited resources to address our community’s most pressing issues and achieve the County’s top priorities.

Section II: Evaluating Our Progress & Executing Our Plan

First Year Strategic Plan Highlights

Table #1: Five-Year Planning Cycle for the FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan:

Plan Year	Action	Board Retreat	Plan Adoption by the Board
n/a	Renewal Year	January 2022	Adoption anticipated in February 2022
1	Update Year	January 2023	Revised in February 2023
2	Update Year	January 2024	Revised in February 2024
3	Update Year	January 2025	Revised in February 2025
4	Update Year	January 2026	Revised in February 2026
5	Renewal Year	January 2027	Adoption anticipated in February 2027

As reflected above, the January 24, 2022, Board Retreat served as a “Renewal Year” to both close out the FY 2017 – FY 2021 Strategic Plan and establish the baseline for the new FY2022 – FY2026 Strategic Plan. During the January 2022 Retreat, the Board was presented with the results of a community-wide survey, environmental scan, and a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis. As part of the planning process, the Board reestablished the Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Strategic Priorities in addition to establishing new Strategic Initiatives for each priority area (Economy, Environment, Quality of Life, and Governance). The new five-year Strategic Plan also includes specific five-year Targets and Bold Goals for each priority area. The Board formally adopted the FY2022 – FY2026 Strategic Plan on February 8, 2022.

2. Evaluating Our Progress & Executing Our Plan

County Administrator Long stated with the formal adoption of the FY2022 –FY2026 Strategic Plan, the Board approved a total of 43 Strategic Initiatives. By comparison, the County’s FY 2017-2021 Strategic Plan included 104 Strategic Initiatives, 100 (96%) of which were completed between FY 2017 and FY 2021. The remaining four Initiatives still in progress were included as part of the current five-year plan. As of January 1, 2023, the County has demonstrated continued progress in implementation of the new five-year strategic plan with several Strategic Initiatives already completed across each priority area (Economy, Environment, Quality of Life, or Governance). A total of 22 (49%) of the Strategic Initiatives have been completed in the first year of the County’s new five-year Strategic Plan, with the remaining 21 (51%) in progress. With significant progress made over the past year, the County remains on track in implementing the FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.

- **Economy – Keith Bowers (Office of Economic Vitality) and Kerri Post (Tourism)**

Keith Bowers discussed Strategic Initiative #4 and how they would continue to support the Magnetic Technologies Task Force in growing the cluster of research and businesses in the magnetic technologies industry. He shared they are trying to make Tallahassee the technology capital of the world.

Kerri Post, highlighted one of her initiatives and gave an overview of the marketing arena. She highlighted strategic Initiative #6 to continue to build upon the reputation of Apalachee Regional Park (ARK) as a destination venue for cross country athletes by securing state, regional and national competitions. She discussed the hosting of events that they have held and those to come, including the SWAC. Capital of Cross – Country. She also noted they are spearheading the Bi-Centennial Event for Leon County and shared that the Tourism Department would be moving into the restored Amtrak Center.

Chairman Maddox requested if Kerri Post could speak on any other potential huge sporting events that could happen in Leon County moving forward.

Kerri Post explained that sports facilities are being built all over Florida. The number one question that is asked when bidding is if the event has an indoor or outdoor facility. The tourism team believes they've done a good job leveraging the resources and the partners that they have. Ms. Post commented on a market analysis on tourism and commented on Leon County's reputation in the market for hosting quality events.

Chairman Maddox stated that tourism is a huge priority of his and he wants to look into giving the tourism team a bigger budget. He stated that we are losing a large stream of revenue by not having the right infrastructure in place to work with.

Commissioner Welch commended both Ms. Post and Mr. Bowers for the work that they do and stated that he is joining Chairman Maddox in giving the tourism division a bigger budget as well. He believes the Northeast Park is a potential area for events. He also approves of economy focusing on the Magnetic Task Force.

Chairman Maddox asked if the landscape has changed to the point where Ms. Post would need to conduct another study.

Ms. Post stated that the destination has changed in regard to the evolution of our tourism product and amenities, as well as the competitive landscape of sports, which are recognizing the economic opportunity of hosting sporting events.

Commissioner O'Keefe states that four years ago Greg Norman designed FSU's golf course with the goal to increase the number of tournaments hosted there. He questioned if we have received any successful results from that.

Ms. Post noted while it is a private course that is membership based, they are working to broaden that relationship. She stated they are limited on what they can do there and they are working to arrange events, which include hosting a LPGA tournament.

Commissioner Minor thanked Commissioners Maddox and Welch for mentioning sports tourism. He stated he wanted to emphasize that the public needs an increase of high-wage jobs within the technology fields, which would benefit the community. He asked if Mr. Keith Bowers could go into more detail regarding Phillips and the two other companies he brought up in his presentation. He also asked Mr. Bowers to discuss the status of those efforts in greater detail on cultivating opportunities within the industry.

Keith Bowers discussed the Mag Lab, which is housed at Innovation Park, as well as current and pending projects.

County Administrator Long stated that the reason the County is excited about the researchers and their projects is due to increase in job opportunities for the community.

Commissioner Minor agreed that there are two aspects to take into consideration, which are successful research as well as commercializing the research into something that is profitable.

Mr. Bowers stated there is an upcoming worldwide magnetism conference next month in Orlando, where we will be taking the opportunity to market the Mag Lab.

Vice-Chair Cummings commended both Mr. Bowers and Ms. Post for their presentations and work within their areas of expertise. She echoed the sentiments of her peers regarding the Mag Lab.

Commissioner Proctor discussed his support for building or updating buildings and parks. He suggested visiting Memphis to tour their sports center. He shared his disappointment in not having a Bi-Centennial report. He suggested having a Bi-Centennial Golf Tournament and a Bi-Centennial Cruise to jump start the celebration or some other way to recognize the Bi-Centennial celebration. He also suggested recognizing 200 family reunions or events that occurred monthly to recognize old families within the community.

County Administrator Long shared they had just started the discussion on the Bi-Centennial and gave Ms. Post the go-ahead to get started with the approval process for year-long events.

Chairman Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Proctor, to have staff bring back an agenda item looking at a new study of the market and feasibility within the past 5 to 7 years.

Commissioner Caban moved to look into ways to maximize the partnership with universities and schools for ways to use their facilities to make things more cost-effective moving forward.

Vice-Chair Cummings asked for clarification regarding the motion and whether it includes the possibility of a facility or location and suggested the Fairgrounds be included as part of that study and analysis.

Motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Proctor discussed the integration of robotics in public schools/universities in relation to Amazon and 32304 and stated that their presence would add value to community.

Commissioner O'Keefe discussed his interest in the impact of childcare and the workforce and expanding the availability of such could provide multiple benefits.

Commissioner Cummings shared that Cecka Rose Greene, Executive Director of CSC, may be able to share about the initiative already being reviewed.

Chairman asked that they amend to allow the CSC to take the lead and come back with report rather than County staff conducting the study, if the CSC is already in the process of completing this study and if the CSC can prepare a presentation regarding the results.

Commissioner O'Keefe would like to narrow the scope and requested staff bringing back an item

focusing on working with area employers to help provide childcare to determine if there is interest from their prospective.

Cecka Rose Greene, Executive Director of the Children Services Council of Leon County, commented that the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend has a better handle on childcare issues and access to childcare, and the CSC is currently looking into partnership with them; Florida Alliance of Children's Councils and Trusts are working with legislators and looking at developing a child tax credit for businesses to incentivize funding for employees to offset the cost of childcare. There is work happening on the state level. The CSC is working with the ELC on a partnership, which is looking to supply funding to two families that are at an income level that would qualify them for school readiness. It would be a pilot program that would cost \$250,000 of initial investment. They are looking at a \$2.8 million return on investment. Ms. Green suggested holding off on a study until they have the results of their pilot program.

Chairman Maddox liked the initiative; however, he couldn't support the motion due to the CSC being in place. He emphasized he does like the partnership.

Commissioner O'Keefe amended the motion to have staff invite the ELC and CSC to come and give an update on this issue when they are ready. Commissioner Welch accepted the amendment.

Commissioner Cummings commended Cecka Rose Greene for the impromptu report.

Chairman Maddox thanked staff for having the management team present, but also for inviting community partners to be present.

Commissioner Minor commented on the importance of childcare and he too wanted to see the report and update from CSC.

Commissioner Proctor asked if there will be a cost analysis as to what daycare currently costs.

Commissioner O'Keefe stated that would be an issue addressed in the future only if the issue is not addressed in the CSC's report.

Commissioner Caban recalled having a job fair for Amazon with the 32304 at the Woodville Community Center and asked Keith Bowers to give a short update on that job fair as Commissioner Proctor would like to see job fairs at universities.

Chairman Maddox asked for a modification of the agenda to move the community health update earlier than originally planned.

Mr. Bowers stated that Sam Black, the representative from Amazon, met with Commissioners and a common theme to those conversations was hosting job fairs. He stated that OEV will take lead and is coordinating those efforts.

Commissioner O'Keefe moved, seconded by Commissioner Welch, in regard to bringing updates from partners ELC and CLC, who are already experts in the field of childcare and can provide more information for the Board.

The motion carried 7-0.

The Board recessed at 10:45 -10:55 am

Community Health Update – Shington Lamy (HSCP)

County Administrator Long stated that one of the County's longest standing priorities is to promote a healthier community through providing access to healthcare through community-based human services providers.

Shington Lamy gave the community health update and stated that Brandy Knight, Dr. Temple Robinson, Jay Reeve, Pam Irwin, Diana Bixler, and Gervin Robertson provide healthcare to low-income residents. He noted they provide Primary Care, Dental, Mental Health, Specialty Care, and Pharmaceuticals. He shared the partners of Healthcare: Bond Community Health Center, Inc., Florida Department of Health, Capital Medical Society, Neighborhood Medical Center, Apalachee Center, and Florida A&M University. He invited them to discuss their individual programs.

Brandy Knight, Leon County Health Department, highlighted data shared and provided an overview of what they offer at the Health Department to the community in an effort to provide healthcare to low-income families.

Dr. Temple Robinson, Bond Community Health Center, Inc., CEO, gave an overview of the Bond Center. She discussed the many partners. They have 3 brick and mortar sites and a mobile unit. Robinson stated that Bond will see anyone in need of healthcare. In Leon County, only 8% are uninsured, 31% of the patients they serve are uninsured, 90% live below poverty line. Robinson discussed early entry into prenatal care and stated that only about 50% of the women get service in the first trimester. Bond is not the Health Department. Robinson explained the challenges Bond has faced. She cited issues with the current state of Leon County's workforce and cited the cost of care is an average of \$125 for medical and \$80 for mental healthcare. She thanked the Board for providing payments. She spoke on the WeCare Network and advocated for more support services for men in healthcare. She invited the Board to visit at any time and how they could better serve Leon County.

Jeanne Freeman, Neighborhood Medical Center, thanked the Board for the partnership and support from the Commission. She gave an overview of their organization. They currently operate out of six locations between Leon and Gadsden Counties. She gave statistics. She outlined the requirements for service and outlined some of the frequent challenges faced when handling the insured and uninsured, including proof of identity, proof of residence, and proof of income challenges. Some of the medical challenges Freeman highlighted are: lab testing, primary care, preventative care and treatments, lack of access, and diabetic medical exams. Freeman highlighted that pregnant women typically enter care during the 2nd trimester. She presented the Maternal Health Program – a partnership with Healthy Start – and gave numbers. Freeman discussed the improvement in 2022. She thanked the Board for its support. Freeman stated that there will be a soft opening on South Monroe Street in 3 weeks with an onsite pharmacy and dental lab that will produce dentures.

Jay Reeve, CEO of Apalachee Center, Inc., an independent 501(c)(3) organization, gave an overview of the largest behavioral program in the area. He stated that Apalachee partners with many agencies to serve the community. He gave statistics of the achievements of the Apalachee Center. Reeve noted that the biggest challenges are cost of care and the current state of the workforce.

Pam Irwin, Executive Director of Capital Medical Society, We Care Network, gave an overview of the organization. She stated their primary mission is to be a safety net for low-income, uninsured adults in the community to help provide access to specialty care. 65% of the care they provide is within Leon County.

Diana Bixler, Program Coordinator, We Care Network, gave an overview of the organization and all the services they currently provide. She shared that they heavily rely on partners. The care

their patients receive is 100% covered through their program. Bixler stressed that We Care Network tries to keep people out of the emergency rooms.

Gervin Robertson, FAMU College of Pharmacy, discussed that they are leaders in providing pharmacy care and education. He shared their current partners. He gave an overview and discussed how they help reduce the costs of medications or help provide alternative medicines for low-income patients.

Chris Szorcsik, Executive Director, Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition, gave an overview of initiatives that involve working with moms and children. Szorcsik stated they are responsible for the development of prenatal healthcare services and delivery plans. She discussed their key partners and plans to expand the program.

Commissioner Proctor moved Option #1: Adopt the following FY 2022 – FY 2026 strategic initiative: Evaluate the reimbursement structure of the Leon County Health Care Program to better reflect the cost for diagnostic and ancillary cost such as laboratory and X-ray services and ensure continued access to affordable health care for low-income individuals and families, and Option #2 Adopt the following FY 2022 – FY 2026 strategic initiative: Enhance the partnership with Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. to implement its services delivery plan to improve women and children’s health and health care access in Leon County and to include a review of a \$100 increase to the reimbursement for medical and mental health.

Chairman Maddox addressed Commissioner Proctor’s issue with Option #1 regarding Bond Community Health Center not being included and clarified that they are included in that option.

Staff clarified that Option #1 specifically speaks to the Leon County Healthcare Program.

Chairman Maddox then specified he meant to ask for clarification on Option #2 and asked staff to speak to both options.

Shington Lamy stated that these initiatives were developed in partnership with the partners present at the meeting to address the needs and challenges that have been presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Proctor stated that it was asked would this include all of the partners and organizations even though it is not spelled out in the options presented. County Administrator Long replied and clarified that, it will include all of the partners at the table.

Chairman Maddox asked if the language could be modified to capture the fact that we are already working on the enhancements and adding Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition with Bond and Neighborhood to the strategic initiative and enhancing the partnership with them.

Mr. Lamy confirmed that yes, they could be added, and greater detail is included in the item.

Commissioner Proctor discussed these organizations need more money and asked for staff to come back with additional funds in the budget. He stated all should be inclusive.

Vice-Chair Cummings shared support for Options #1 and #2. She would like to continue partnerships with all. She wanted to go beyond to help reduce health disparities.

Commissioner O’Keefe shared support for the option recommendations. He asked for clarification as to whether the specific dollar amounts were specified by staff or if the recommendation to analyze and report back.

County Administrator Long confirmed that the recommendations would give the recommendation from the Commission to continue to work with providers to confirm accuracy to bring back to the Board at the budget workshop.

Commissioner Welch thanked the medical presenters for such detailed presentations.

Commissioner Minor thanked the medical presenters for their efforts during the pandemic.

Commissioner Proctor asked why this area only encompasses Leon and Wakulla Counties. Chris Szorcik stressed that there are 32 Coalitions in the state of Florida. Gadsden and Madison Counties have stand-alone coalitions, and they are sister coalitions.

Commissioner Proctor inquired on the statistics on breastfeeding and how they measure increases of it.

Brandy Smith stated that breastfeeding initiating rates are a part of the WIC program and the data is captured through this program.

Commissioner Proctor thanked them for their hard work and stated that Gadsden County should not be a standalone coalition. He requested that they include these other counties in the same coalition.

Chairman Proctor asked for clarification regarding the coalitions and whether it is a legislative issue.

Ms. Smith stated they cover Gadsden County, but they are also covered by the Health Department on a regional basis.

Chairman Maddox asked for methodology from the state for Capital Health Start.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Cummings, for Option #1 and Option #2 as amended to include a review regarding a \$100 increase to the reimbursement for medical and mental health.

The motion carried 7-0.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:30 and returned at 12:49 pm.

- **Environment - Brent Pell (Public Works Director) and Maggie Theriot (Office of Resource Stewardship)**

Mr. Pell discussed Strategic Initiative #11: Continue to work with the state to seek matching grants to convert septic to sewer systems. He gave an overview of the department and its programs as well as the initiatives.

Ms. Theriot discussed Strategic Initiative #15: Enact the County's Integrated Sustainability Action Plan to further reduce the County Government's carbon footprint. She thanked the Board for its support and gave an overview of the department (ORS) and strategic plan. She commented on solid waste and the pilot program, which will help reduce greenhouse gases associated with yard debris. This program will use a baking process to turn yard debris into a charcoal-like substance and provided a sample to the Board. This will be the first biochar facility in the nation to utilize yard debris as a fuel source. She explained the steps they are taking to rid misconceptions of electric vehicles.

Commissioner Welch commented on the Primary Springs Sewer to Septic Zone and asked for an update on CARES Act funds marked for the Primary Springs Protection Zone.

Mr. Pell replied yes, they are still under the protection of the state in regard to the Primary Springs Protection Zone but as of today, they don't have a timeline.

Commissioner Proctor inquired about the total need for sewer updates or conversions in the area.

Mr. Pell stated every septic system in the zone would be in need.

Commissioner Proctor asked if there is room to readjust and target areas that were not previously included and whether or not discussions have been had with the City in that regard.

Deputy County Administrator Alan Rosenzweig stated that the areas the City is addressing are not part of Leon County's plan.

Commissioner Proctor stated he would appreciate knowing the City's timeline.

Commissioner Caban thanked staff for continuously moving forward with this project.

- **Quality of Life – Pamela Monroe (Director of Library Services) and Chad Abrams (EMS)**

Pamela Monroe commented on Strategic Initiative #21: Implement the Leon County Essential Libraries Initiatives. She declared that 1.3 million items were circulated through the library last year. She shared that Leon County has a total number of 146,000 card holders. She explained the FSU Florida Center for Reading Research partnership and discussed the different types of story times. She highlighted that the library currently offers yoga and meditation, and it's all free. She went into detail regarding the health literacy fair. She highlighted the FAMU Trio Program partnership. She praised the work that the Community Resource Specialist/Social Worker has done in regard to the library program.

Chad Abrams commented on Strategic Initiative #22: Continue to evaluate emergency medical response strategies to improve medical outcomes and survival rates. Chief Abrams discussed cardiac arrest training (Press the Chest) and that we have approximately 1,300 AED devices and training on how to use them, pediatric care, and the Social Service Referral Program. He discussed helping with the vulnerable populations as well as the results we can achieve by advancing the strategic initiative.

Commissioner Proctor thanked County Administrator Long and shared his stance on the library social worker and EMS taking note of where they are going and shared his excitement that they are going in a great direction. He thanked staff for their leadership. He gave additional ideas such as making the library information center central and suggested special reading sessions to help celebrate the Bi-Centennial celebration and other events.

Commissioner O'Keefe thanked Chief Abrams for going above and beyond and mentioned they received an award for their response to heart attack victims. He congratulated Ms. Monroe on what she is doing at the library.

Commissioner Minor commented on the variety of things available to do at the library. He commended Chief Abrams. He thanked Shington for the work done on the food insecurity effort and thanked the Board for their support.

Commissioner Proctor commented on the number of residents who have library cards.

Commissioner Welch thanked Ms. Monroe and Chief Abrams for all they do.

Vice-Chair Cummings dittoed the comments and compliments. She thanked them both for their excellent work.

- **Governance - Matt Cavell (Community Relations and Resilience) and Candice Wilson (Human Resources)**

Matt Cavell shared how they have generated more than 10 million contacts with people. He highlighted that earned media has greatly increased. He commented on Strategic Initiative #32: Alongside the Village.

Candice Wilson commented on Strategic Initiative #38: Continue to invest in the professional development of County staff, including participation in Certified Public Manager Training and enhancements to the County's Management Training. She gave an overview of HR's role and discussed benefits available to staff. She stated that the CPM program helps to develop next-level leadership and is a two-year commitment. 18 employees have completed the program. She highlighted the many personal development training courses they currently offer to employees.

Commissioner Proctor thanked them both for their commitment to Leon County.

Vice-Chair Cummings commended the two for their professionalism.

Commissioner Minor echoed the statements made by Commissioner Proctor and Vice-Chair Cummings.

County Administrator Long commented on the awesome staff and noted that there were so many more departments and highlighted some of their work.

Commissioner Proctor commented on revisiting the paving of private roads policy.

County Administrator Long replied that they have this as an item that will come to the Board at the next meeting.

Commissioner Proctor encouraged an increase of economic growth and financial stability. He requests that this includes a partnership with City of Tallahassee and Chamber for Economic Development. This also includes Bank of Tallahassee.

- ❖ *Partner City of Tallahassee and Chamber for economic development – to include bank of Tallahassee*
- ❖ *Passenger Rails*
- ❖ *North Monroe Task Force – Economy*
- ❖ *Partner with CSC Children Services Council*
- ❖ *Engage in industry experts to identify*
- ❖ *Develop touch screen kiosk*
- ❖ *Work with the City of Tallahassee*
- ❖ *Through Blueprint*
- ❖ *Continue to leverage county funding and relationships with local service providers*
- ❖ *Continue efforts to promote opportunities for youth training and development with the county*

❖ *Support the Sheriff*

Commissioner Minor encouraged restoration of passenger rail service. He encouraged working with the Governor and State. He proposed the development of an interactive web-based tool that documents planned improvements, tracks investments, and identities enhancement strategies for the North Monroe Corridor Area. He encourages building upon the North Monroe Task Force report.

Vice-Chair Cummings wanted to propose that the Board partner with CSC by coordinating and sharing data and resources to improve the health outcomes of African American women and children.

Commissioner Welch asked to create an initiative to design and construct the Northeast Park. He mentioned the idea of a touch-screen kiosk to be placed in the Courthouse to outline the Bi-Centennial celebration and provide a historical overview of Leon County.

Commissioner Caban encouraged working through the Blueprint Agency to evaluate and identify ways to advance the construction on the Tharpe Street project. He encouraged working with the City of Tallahassee and Big Bend Continuum of Care outreach teams to develop corridor plans for Pensacola Street, North Monroe Street, and Downtown for outreach to shelter homeless individuals and to engage residents with community aesthetics and safety along those corridors and to improve the quality of life.

Commissioner O'Keefe proposed three quality-of-life requests. He encouraged collaborating with regional partners to insure state and federal funding to build affordable rental housing for low-income families. He encouraged increasing state and federal funding to increase the number of temporary and transitional housing beds for the homeless. He proposed collaboration with regional partners to increase apprenticeship opportunities with immediate on-the-job training to increase job growth.

Commissioner Proctor commented on the summer youth program. He supports the initiative of more transitional beds for mental health patients and families.

Chair Maddox reaffirmed his support of the Sheriff's Department in implementing a plan for sworn officers to achieve and maintain retention. He proposed to continue looking into options regarding affordable housing. He encouraged working with the City of Tallahassee and the Askew School at FSU to refine the CHSP measure to ensure that CHSP continues to address the highest needs in the community.

Commissioner Proctor asked as a point of information if FSU still assesses, reviews and assists with the County's with the tourism numbers. Staff replied yes.

County Administrator Long stated that staff will prepare the retreat agenda and items for ratification at a future meeting and corrections can be made if needed.

Chairman Maddox clarified that staff would review the need for the requested additional \$100 for reimbursement for medical and mental health and return a good number and requested an amendment just to allow staff the time to get the information back to the Board.

Commissioner Proctor agreed to that amendment.

Commissioner Minor, seconded by Commissioner Welch, for support of the recommended and added initiatives.

The Motion carried 7-0.

3. Closing Comments and Adjournment *(County Administrator and Chairman)*

Chairman Maddox thanked staff for the materials and thanked all for their patience in working through all issues and having meaningful conversations.

County Administrator Long thanked the staff for their work and the Board for its direction. He acknowledged Nikki Paden and CSMR for their work on the retreat and stated that we look forward to another great year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Maddox adjourned the meeting at 2:20pm.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Maddox", is written above a horizontal line.

BY: Nick Maddox, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gwen Marshall Knight", is written above a horizontal line.

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