

RESOLUTION 09-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE WILD SPACES & PUBLIC PLACES CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING A SUNSET DATE; ESTABLISHING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR THE TERM OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF MEETINGS AND OPERATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2008 the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County adopted Ordinance 08-17 to impose a voter approved local government infrastructure surtax to be utilized by Alachua County and the municipalities within Alachua County to acquire and improve conservation lands and create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities within Alachua County; and

WHEREAS, a referendum on said surtax was held on November 4, 2008, and the voters of Alachua County approved said surtax; and

WHEREAS, the ballot language for the referendum calls for 'Citizen Oversight'; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County wishes to establish a Citizen Oversight Committee to ensure that Wild Spaces & Public Places infrastructure surtax revenues are expended consistent with the ballot language approved by the voters;

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Section 1. Advisory Board Established. The Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida (Board) hereby establishes the Wild Spaces & Public Places Citizen Oversight Committee (Advisory Committee).

Section 2. Designated Special Committee. This Advisory Committee is designated as a Special Committee. The sunset date for this Advisory Committee will be on or before December 31, 2012.

Section 3. Membership and Qualifications. The Advisory Committee shall consist of no more than five (5) voting members plus three (3) alternate members. All members must be residents of Alachua County. Two (2) of the members plus one (1) alternate will be appointed by the County, two (2)

of the members plus one (1) alternate shall reside within the Gainesville city limits and will be appointed by the City of Gainesville, and one (1) of the members plus one (1) alternate will be appointed by the Alachua County League of Cities. Members may not be county or municipal elected officials or employees. All members shall be appointed for terms that expire on the Advisory Committee's sunset date of December 31, 2012.

Section 4. Responsibilities and Duties. The responsibility of the Advisory Committee shall be to:

1. Assure citizens and elected officials that funds approved through the referendum are expended only for:
 - a. parks and recreation facilities that were on approved project lists attached to the Sales Surtax Ordinance approved by the Alachua County Commission and
 - b. conservation land purchases consistent with referendum language.
2. Track overall expenditure of one-half percent sales tax revenues.

Section 5. Operations. The Advisory Committee shall be guided by the by-laws approved by the Advisory Board and the Alachua County Commission's Rules of Procedure. The by-laws shall include the following provisions and such other provisions as the Advisory Board may deem appropriate:

1) Elections. The Advisory Board shall annually elect one of its members as Chair, and such other officers as the Advisory Board deems necessary to meet its needs. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting following the date the vacancy occurred.

2) Meetings. Meetings of the Advisory Committee or any subcommittee thereof, shall be open to the public and the media and shall be conducted in compliance with the Sunshine Law, Section 286.011, Florida Statutes. The County Manager or his or her designee shall produce minutes of the meetings which shall be submitted to the Advisory Committee for approval. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.

The Chair shall preside and conduct meetings of the Advisory Board according to the most recent edition of Alice Sturgis' Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by any three (3) members of the Advisory Board upon forty-eight (48) hours written notice to all members and to the County Manager or his or her designee.

3) Agenda. The Chair shall be responsible for the meeting agenda. The County Manager or designee shall serve as staff liaison to the Advisory Committee and shall aid in preparing and distributing the agenda prior to the meeting. The County Manager or designee, or any

member of the Advisory Committee may place an item on the agenda by notifying the Chair prior to the preparation of the agenda.

4) Subcommittees. Subcommittees comprised of members of the Advisory Committee may be appointed by the Chair.

5) Quorum. A quorum will consist of no less than three members, where one is a member appointed by the County, one is a member appointed by the City of Gainesville, and one is a member appointed by the Alachua County League of Cities. Recommendations and decisions of the Advisory Board must be made by a majority vote of those present and voting.

6) Attendance. The attendance policy for the Advisory Board shall be in accordance with the attendance policy for boards and committees set forth in the Alachua County Commission's Rules of Procedure.

7) Compensation. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties and responsibilities.

8) Reports. The Advisory Committee will compile information received from the county and municipalities and provide quarterly reports to the County Commission and each City Commission consistent with its mission. The Committee will provide a final report prior to ceasing operations. The Advisory Committee shall copy all reports and communications to the County Manager or designee for forwarding to the Chair of the County Commission. Any Advisory Committee reports required by the Alachua County Commission's Rules of Procedure shall be submitted in accordance with said Rules.

Section 6. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED in regular session, this 24th day of March, A.D., 2009.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Mike Byerly
Mike Byerly, Chair

ATTEST:

J. K. "Buddy" Irby
J. K. "Buddy" Irby, Clerk (SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Wagoner
Alachua County Attorney