



Board of County Commissioners
Leon County, Florida
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Agenda Item
Executive Summary

December 14, 2010

Title:

Approval of Resolution Increasing Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority and Approval of Resolution Appointing Members to the Authority

Staff:

Parwez Alam, County Administrator *PA*
Vincent S. Long, Deputy County Administrator *VSL*
Kim Dressel, Senior Assistant to the County Administrator
Christine Coble, Agenda Coordinator *CC*

Issue Briefing:

This agenda item requests the Board's approval of: (1) a Resolution that increases membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority (LCRDA) to eleven members (Attachment #1), and (2) a Resolution that sets forth the appointment of members who are to be appointed by a majority vote of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, including the appointment of a County Commissioner (Attachment #2).

Fiscal Impact:

This item has no fiscal impact to the County.

Staff Recommendation:

- Option #1: Approve "Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth the Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing for Bylaws; Providing an Effective Date", and appoint David Ramsay to the Leon County Research and Development Authority.
- Option #2: Appoint a member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners to the Leon County Research and Development Authority.
- Option #3: Approve "Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth Appointments of Membership to the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing an Effective Date", as amended to reflect the Board's appointments.

Title: Approval of Resolution Increasing Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority and Approval of Resolution Appointing Members to the Authority.
December 14, 2010
Page 2

Report and Discussion

Background:

The LCRDA is currently composed of nine members, as defined by Board Resolution R05-15:

1. Four of the members (the Mayor and the Presidents of FSU, FAMU, and TCC) are appointed by virtue of the positions they hold; are considered to serve in an ex officio capacity; and, by statute, have no specific term of service.
2. One member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners to be appointed by the full Board of County Commissioners to serve a four-year term.
3. Four members appointed by the Board of County Board of County Commissioners to each serve four-year terms (a nominating committee process is to be utilized for the appointment of these four members, as described below).

Ordinance No. 05-29 provides in part the following: "Membership to the authority shall be upon designation of the Board of County Commissioners by a duly enacted resolution of the Board. A nominating committee, composed of the County Administrator or his designee, who shall act as the committee's chairperson, the President of the Tallahassee/Leon County Economic Development Council, the Director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory at Innovation Park, the President of the Capital City Chamber of Commerce and the Director of the Florida State University/Florida A & M University College of Engineering, shall make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for appointment of members to the Authority."

During its November 16, 2010 Board meeting, the Board of County Commissioners considered an agenda item that recommended revisions to Policy No. 98-6, "Membership on Boards, Committees, Councils, and Authorities" (Attachment #3), and the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted proposed Policy No. 98-6, which made the policy consistent with the Membership Statute (Florida Statutes at Section 159.703(3)) and the Membership Code (Leon County Code at Section 2-57) relative to the appointment of a member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners to the LCRDA Board for a four-year term; and
2. Directed staff to prepare a resolution that increases membership of the LCRDA Board from nine (9) to eleven (11) members.

Two Resolutions have been prepared, for the Board's consideration, which implement the Board's November 16, 2010 actions regarding the LCRDA:

1. Membership Resolution - "Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth the Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing for Bylaws; Providing an Effective Date" (the "Membership Resolution"), which sets forth the membership structure of the eleven-member LCRDA; and

Title: Approval of Resolution Increasing Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority and Approval of Resolution Appointing Members to the Authority
December 14, 2010
Page 3

2. Appointment Resolution – “Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth Appointments of Membership to the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing an Effective Date (the “Appointment Resolution”), which sets forth the appointment of a Leon County Commissioner and other LCRDA Board members appointed by a majority vote of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners.

Analysis:

Membership Structure of the LCRDA - On November 16, 2010, the Board directed staff to prepare a resolution that increases membership of the LCRDA from nine to eleven members. The proposed Membership Resolution accomplishes this increase by increasing the number of members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners from four to six members.

The following table provides a summary of the current LCRDA membership structure, and the structure provided by the proposed Membership Resolution.

Current Membership Structure	Proposed Membership Resolution
President of Florida A & M University or President’s Designee (ex officio)	Same as Current Membership Structure
President of Florida State University or President’s Designee (ex officio)	Same as Current Membership Structure
President of Tallahassee Community College or President’s Designee (ex officio)	Same as Current Membership Structure
Mayor of the City of Tallahassee or Mayor’s Designee (ex officio)	Same as Current Membership Structure
Member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners	Same as Current Membership Structure
Four members appointed by majority vote of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and by a duly enacted resolution of the Board to four-year terms. Nominating committee to make recommendations.	Six members appointed by majority vote of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and by a duly enacted resolution of the Board to four-year terms. Nominating committee to make recommendations. (An increase of two members in this category)
Total Members: 9	Total Members: 11

Title: Approval of Resolution Increasing Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority and Approval of Resolution Appointing Members to the Authority
December 14, 2010
Page 4

Appointments to the LCRDA Board – The proposed Appointment Resolution is divided into three sections, which are described as follows.

Section 1 – Sets forth the Board of County Commissioners' ratification and confirmation of past appointments of persons currently serving on the LCRDA Board (Phil Blank, Ray Eaton, Bill Hebrock, and Barney Bishop);

Section 2 – Sets forth the Board of County Commissioners' appointment of a two new LCRDA members, which will be made possible through the Board's approval of the proposed Membership Resolution; and

Section 3 – Sets forth the Board of County Commissioners' appointment of one member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, to serve a term of four years or until such time as appointee ceases to be a member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, whichever date earliest occurs.

In considering the two new appointments under Section 2 of the proposed Appointment Resolution, it is important to note that the nominating committee process is to be utilized. The nominating committee was most recently convened on September 2, 2010 to consider ten applicants to fill two vacancies that would occur on October 1, 2010, due to the expiration of two members' terms (Attachment #4).

- The applicants considered by the nominating committee were as follows: John Bell, Barney Bishop, Eric Miller, David Ramsay, Robert Newburgh, John Fleming, Tyler Gautier, Bill Hebrock, John Thomas and Thomas Allen.
- The nominating committee nominated the following four applicants to the Leon County Board of County Commissioners for its consideration: John Bell, Barney Bishop, Eric Miller, and David Ramsay.

The Board of County Commissioners considered the nominating committee's recommendations during its September 14, 2010 meeting, and appointed Barney Bishop and re-appointed Bill Hebrock, to the LCRDA Board. Additionally, the Board appointed Mr. David Ramsay to the LCRDA Board as a non-voting member.

If the proposed Membership Resolution is approved, the Board may:

1. Appoint Mr. Ramsay and appoint one additional applicant, who was also considered by the nominating committee in September, 2010, to the LCRDA Board. As previously discussed, Mr. Ramsay was recommended by the nominating committee in September for appointment. Of note, Mr. Ramsay regularly attends meetings of the LCRDA Board; or
2. Rather than appointing Mr. Ramsay, the Board may appoint two other applicants who were also considered by the nominating committee in September, 2010; or
3. The Board may direct staff to reconvene the nominating committee to consider and recommend additional applicants for the LCRDA Board.

Title: Approval of Resolution Increasing Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority and Approval of Resolution Appointing Members to the Authority
December 14, 2010

Page 5

In summary, the Board has three appointments to make to the LCRDA if the Board approves the membership resolution increasing membership to eleven members, as described: two new members whose applications have been considered by the nominating committee, and a County Commissioner.

Options:

1. Approve "Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth the Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing for Bylaws; Providing an Effective Date", and appoint David Ramsay and appoint one additional applicant to the Leon County Research and Development Authority.
2. Appoint a member of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners to the Leon County Research and Development Authority.
3. Approve "Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth Appointments of Membership to the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing an Effective Date", as amended to reflect the Board's appointments.
4. Do not approve Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth the Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing for Bylaws; Providing an Effective Date.
5. Do not appoint members to the Leon County Research and Development Authority and do not approve Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth Appointments of Membership to the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing an Effective Date.
6. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Options #1, #2, and #3.

Attachments:

1. Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth the Membership of the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing for Bylaws; Providing and Effective Date.
2. Resolution of Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, Setting Forth Appointments of Membership to the Leon County Research and Development Authority; Providing and Effective Date.
3. November 16, 2010 Agenda Item, without attachments.
4. September 14, 2010 Agenda Item, without attachments.