AT A MEETING OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 2, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present:

Tonjii Wiggins-McGriff
Reginald A. Cunningham
David Clay
Octavious Jackson
Antonio Jefferson
Robert Presnell
Kendrah Wilkerson
Mike Mason
Dr. Willie C. Green
Tracey Stallworth
Kendra Williams
Joe Parramore

Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk Leann Jinks, Assistant BOCC Secretary

Absent:

Juliette Fisher Jackson

Opening

Interim County Attorney, Louis Baptiste, opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. He stated he gave the board an update regarding concerns expressed to him from this committee. He received feedback from the board and the board will call a special meeting.

Mr. Baptiste stated Antonio Jefferson was nominated as Chairman for this committee; they need a formal motion and second to appoint Mr. Jefferson as Chair.

JOE PARRAMORE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT ANTONIO JEFFERSON AS CHAIRMAN AND KENDRAH WILKERSON MADE THE SECOND. THE COMMITTEE VOTED 12-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Antonio Jefferson, Chair, took over the meeting and stated to begin with introductions.

Mr. Jefferson asked if anyone could come up with their top 10 applicants that would be ideal for the board to consider. Mr. Stallworth stated he could not move with any top 10; they were dealing with a volatile board and the person could be removed within 6 months. They need to find someone that will be there long term.

Mr. Cunningham stated he did not think they could get to a top 10 and asked if they would accept a lesser number. Mr. Mason agreed that they did not have a top 10 and Mr. Paramore stated they could maybe get one or two applicants qualified.

Dr. Green stated his concern was that they did not have enough information to make a decision and he thought they needed to start over and re-advertise this position. He stated they should not be broad about this; the applicant needs specific skills and they need to be more specific when they advertise.

Mr. Clay stated that the board wanted to know what they think about regarding applications they review and how many interviews would be possible in a reasonable time.

Ms. Wilkerson stated 0she could not get to a top 5 with the candidates she saw and did not feel comfortable putting names forward. She also thought that they need to re-advertise. Ms. Wiggins-McGriff stated she did see a couple qualified applicants and she was able to come up with like 5.

Mr. Paramore stated they would be settling and has great heartburns on that; they should readvertise. Mr. Stallworth mentioned headhunters and asked if it was an option. Mr. Cunningham stated that was a board decision to not use it.

Mr. Jefferson mentioned Mr. Presnell having experience as a County Administrator and asked if he saw any possibilities in this pool. Presnell stated pool of candidates he reviewed, could not get ten that could adequately do job; recommends to re-advertise. They should focus on experience mainly.

Mr. Baptiste read aloud the top 10 applicants in no ranked order. Mr. Clay stated maybe it should be a weighted score instead of a total score. Mr. Jefferson stated the top 10 was based on a weighted score.

Mr. Jefferson stated there is a serious consideration of re-advertising this position. maybe allow 3 or 4 to advance, but still re-advertise.

Dr. Green stated the process needs to be more specific; mixing applicants could be confusing. Mr. Mason stated there may be 3 to agree on and they could submit to the board. Previous applicants need not to re-apply. Mr. Parramore stated the board was willing to entertain some changes in the process.

Mr. Baptiste stated the board is focused on the next County Administrator and they were willing to take any advice this committee gave.

Mr. Williams stated they can go through it and narrow it down and recommend that it would be a better pool of people if they re-advertise.

DR. GREEN MADE A MOTION TO WITHOLD NAMES, SUGGEST TO RE-ADVERTISE, AND APPLICANTS NEED NOT TO RE-APPLY. MS. WIGGINS MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 12-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Chair Jefferson suggested for them to each identify 3 – 5 applicants. Mr. Cunningham suggested that they each list their top names and Mr. Green suggested to identify one person each. Mr. Clay suggested to eliminate people and see who was left. Ms. Wilkerson asked if they were talking about the top 10 applicants already established and Mr. Jefferson stated yes.

Roosevelt Griffin, 280 Blvd Quincy, FL made a public comment regarding the interview process.

The committee listed their top choices through the applicants assigned number:

Mr. Cunningham: 2,9, 15, 17, 20

Mr. Presnell: 9,4, 20

Mr. Stalllworth: 4, 5, 15, 16 Mr. Jackson: 17,2, 4, 9, 15, 1

Mr. Clay: 2,3,17,19, 20 Mr. Parramore: 4,17,19 Ms. Williams: 15,16,17, 20 Ms. Wilkerson: 2,9,20,3, 4 Mr. Green: 2,4,9,15,17

Ms. Wiggins-McGriff: 9,15,16,17,20

Mr. Mason: 17,19,20 Mr. Jefferson: 2

Mr. Baptiste stated the top 4 applicants: 2,4,20,17.

Adjournment

Chair Jefferson adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.