

# Board of County Commissioners

## Agenda Request

**Date of Meeting:** February 2, 2016  
**Date Submitted:** January 20, 2016  
**To:** Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Board  
**From:** Robert M. Presnell, County Administrator  
**Subject:** Proclamations and Resolutions-Ceremonial Recognition Policy

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### **Statement of Issue:**

At the December 15, 2015 Board meeting, staff was directed to bring back a draft policy regarding the issuance of Resolutions and Proclamations.

### **Background:**

The intent and purpose of this Policy is to establish guidelines to govern the issuance of formal recognition in support of a particular event, program, or cause, or recognition of a particular individual, the recognition and celebration of extraordinary achievements of individuals or organizations that directly impact the County, and the honoring or recognition of important and significant occasions to increase public awareness of issues that will help to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Gadsden County.

### **Analysis:**

The attached draft policy will ensure that all Proclamations and Resolutions issued by the Board of County Commissioners have been approved by the Board and obtain the appropriate signatures.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

### **Options:**

1. Approve Policy 16-1: Proclamations and Resolutions – Ceremonial Recognition Policy.
2. Board Direction.

### **County Administrator's Recommendation:**

Option 2

**Attachment(s):**

1. (Draft) Policy 16-1: Proclamations and Resolutions – Ceremonial Recognition Policy

COMMISSIONERS:

- ERIC F. HINSON  
District 1
- ANTHONY O. VIEGBESIE, PH.D.  
District 2
- GENE MORGAN  
District 3
- BRENDA A. HOLT  
District 4
- SHERRIE D. TAYLOR  
District 5



ROBERT M. PRESNELL  
County Administrator

DAVID J. WEISS  
County Attorney

**GADSDEN COUNTY**  
**Board of County Commissioners**  
 EDWARD J. BUTLER  
 GADSDEN COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX

***Policy 16-1***

***Title: Proclamations and Resolutions – Ceremonial Recognition Policy***

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***Article 1: Intent, Purpose, and Scope***

- A. The intent and purpose of this Policy is to establish guidelines to govern the issuance of formal recognition in support of a particular event, program, or cause, or recognition of a particular individual, the recognition and celebration of extraordinary achievements of individuals or organizations that directly impact the County, and the honoring or recognition of important and significant occasions to increase public awareness of issues that will help to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Gadsden County.
- B. This Policy applies to the Board’s issuance and presentation of all Proclamations and Resolutions, as those terms are herein defined. Furthermore, this Policy shall provide the exclusive policy and procedure for presenting any Proclamation or Resolution.
- C. Requests for Proclamations and Resolutions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the Board reserves the right to decline any request, as well as the right to make exceptions to this Policy and its procedures.

***Article 2: Definitions***

- A. Board: the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners.
- B. County: Gadsden County, Florida.
- C. Proclamation: the formal recognition, support, and celebration of a particular event, occasion, program, or cause; a particular individual: or an extraordinary or significant achievement of an individual or organization that directly impacts the County.

- D. Resolution: a formal expression of opinion, intention, or support declared by the Board by a majority vote after consideration of the matter as presented by County staff in an agenda request.

*Article 3: Criteria*

- A. Requests for a Proclamation or Resolution will be considered by the Board only if its recognition, support, or celebration will result in the promotion of positive quality-of-life activities taking place in the County or will increase public awareness of issues that will help to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County. Examples of such activities and issues may include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - 1. extraordinary or significant achievements of individuals or organizations that directly impact the County;
  - 2. honoring occasions of importance and significance to the citizens of the County; and
  - 3. matters with widespread community interest or concern;
- B. Proclamations and Resolutions shall not be issued or adopted unless specifically approved by the Board. However, the Proclamation for qualifying events, programs, or occasions, may be approved by the Chairperson during periods of time when no Commission meeting is timely scheduled. Furthermore, no Resolutions shall be adopted unless it has been considered in an agenda request at a regular meeting of the Board.
- C. Requests for Proclamations or Resolutions that are similar to those that have already been issued during the same calendar year may be declined.
- D. Requests for Proclamations or Resolutions may be declined if such request would result in the issuance or adoption by the Board of more than one Proclamation or Resolution per calendar year for the same individual or organization, or for the same event, occasion, program, or cause.
- E. Proclamations and Resolutions for an annually occurring event, occasion, program, or cause shall not be automatically issued or adopted each year. Requests for such Proclamations and Resolutions will be required each year and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- F. Proclamations shall not be issued for:
  - 1. individuals, organizations, or events that do not directly impact the County;

2. campaigns, organizations, individuals, or events inconsistent with or contrary to County policies, ordinances, or laws;
  3. events, occasions, programs, or causes that occur outside the boundaries of the County; or
  4. events, occasions, programs, or causes sponsored by for-profit organizations, except when such sponsorship is for a charitable purpose.
- G. No Proclamation or Resolution shall be used by the recipient as part of an advertisement or commercial promotion.
- H. Requests for Proclamations or Resolutions from national or international organizations must originate from an individual or organization located in the County; requesting proclamations must have an in-County sponsor.

#### *Article 4: Procedure*

- A. A County Commissioner may, under Commissioner Comments at any regular Board meeting, request a Proclamation or Resolution:
1. With regard to a request for a Proclamation, such requests should include whether the Proclamation, if approved, would be presented at a Board meeting, mailed to an outside party, or presented at an outside special event. Absent any objections, the request for a Proclamation shall be considered approved by the Board.
  2. With regard to a request for a Resolution, such request shall require a proper motion to present the request on the agenda of a subsequent Board meeting, and shall require a favorable majority vote for approval.
  3. Proclamations for qualifying events, programs, or occasions, may be approved by the Chairperson during periods of time when no Board meeting is timely rescheduled.
- B. The Board may authorize the Chairperson to sign an approved Proclamation, attested to by the County Administrator, or a Commissioner may request that an approved Proclamation be signed by all members of the Board, attested to by the County Administrator. All Proclamations shall bear the official seal of the Board.
- C. The number of Proclamations to be issued at any one Board meeting shall be at the Chairperson's discretion; provided, however, the number of Proclamations issued at any one meeting shall not exceed five.