

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: December 2, 2014

Date Submitted: November 17, 2014

To: Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Board

From: Robert M. Presnell, County Administrator

Subject: Appointments/Reappointments to the Small County Coalition
Board of Directors

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item seeks Board approval to appoint/reappoint two representatives from the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners to the Small County Coalition Board of Directors and also identify a County staff person to serve as the County liaison.

Background:

The purpose of the Small County Coalition is to give increased visibility and support to issues of primary concern to small counties and rural communities. The Coalition was initiated in 1991 to represent the interests of small and rural counties in the State of Florida. A County Commission with a population of 150,000 or less is eligible to be a regular member; the Coalition has a membership of 36 counties. Each member county has two designated Commissioner Representatives that are members of the Small County Coalition Board of Directors. The Commissioners selected have voting authority at Coalition meetings.

Analysis:

In the past, Commissioner Holt has served as the County's representative, Commissioner Hinson as the alternate and Robert Presnell as the County Liaison.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Option(s):

1. Board Direction

County Administrator's Recommendation:

Option 1

Attachments:

1. Small County Coalition Board of Director's Designations Form
2. Small County Coalition Planning Calendar 14/15
3. Small County Coalition Information Packet



Small County Coalition

Designated Commission Representatives and Staff Liaison for FY 14-15

- Each member county is allocated two votes at Board of Director meetings.
- The individuals designated by the commission will be recognized as the credentialed representatives from each county regarding Small County Coalition voting procedures.
- If the designated commissioners are not able to attend meetings other Commissioners in attendance will be recognized as having voting privileges.
- IMPORTANT - Only Individuals listed as Commission Representatives are eligible to be nominated for SCC Officer and Executive Committee when election occur at the Annual Meeting after the legislative session.
- All commission members can attend any meeting that is held by the Small County Coalition.

ACTION REQUESTED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE

1. **Each Board of County Commissioner that is a regular member of the Small County Coalition is requested to appoint two designated Commissioner Representatives to serve as the Board of County Commission representatives on the Small County Coalition Board of Directors.**
2. **Each regular member is also requested to identify a county staff person to serve as the county liaison with the Coalition office.**

Please send the Small County Coalition Office by FAX - Email or by some other means the names of the two commissioners that will be recognized by the Small County Coalition for FY08-09.

SMALL COUNTY COALITION BOARD OF DIRECTOR DESIGNATIONS

Name of County - _____

Name of Commissioners designated

Commissioner _____

Telephone - _____ E-mail _____

Commissioner _____

Telephone - _____ E-mail _____

Staff Liaison Designated: _____

Title - _____

Telephone - _____ E-mail _____

FAX - 850-222-3663/E-MAIL - cdoolin@nettally.com



SCC Planning Calendar

2014

- November 4 - General Election
- November 5-7 Rural Economic Development Conference –
St. Augustine – World Golf Resort Village
- November 18 - Organizational Session of Florida Legislature
- November 19-21 – FAC Legislative Conference – Tampa, Florida
- November 19 - FAC Rural Caucus Meeting – Florida I-III
- November 20- Small County Coalition Breakfast – Tampa, Florida

2015

- January/February- Legislative Committee Dates Not Yet Scheduled
- March 3 - 2015 Regular Legislative Session Convenes
- March 25 - Small County Coalition Briefing**
- March 26 - Small County Coalition Lunch – Governor’s Club**
- March 26-27 - FAC Legislative Conference
- May 1 - 2015 Regular Legislative Session Adjourns
- June 16-19 - FAC Annual Meeting – Sawgrass Marriott – Ponte Vedra
- June - Small County Coalition Annual Business Meeting**

Small County Coalition Board of Directors and Staff Liaison

Each member county has two designated Commissioner Representatives that are members of the Small County Coalition Board of Directors. Member counties can change designated board members at any time. The commissioners selected have voting authority at Coalition meetings. Alternate Commissioners can vote at a Coalition meeting in the absence of the designated the Board member. Individuals listed are eligible to serve as an Officer or on Executive Committee

County	Commissioner	Commissioner	Staff Liaison
Baker County	Jimmy Anderson		C.J. Thompson
Bradford County	Ross Chandler	Lila Sellars	Brad Carter
Citrus County	Scott Adams		Brad Thorpe
Columbia County	Ronald Williams	Scarlet Frisina	Dale Williams
Clay County			Stephanie Kopelousos
DeSoto County	Buddy Mansfield	Elton Langford	Mandy Hines
Dixie County	Gene Higginbotham	Jody Robson	Mike Cassidy
Flagler County	George Hanns	Charles Ericksen	Craig Coffey
Franklin County	Cheryl Sanders	Pinki Jackel	Alan Pierce
Gadsden County	Brenda Holt	Eric Hinson	Robert Presnell
Gilchrist County	D. Ray Harrison	Todd Gray	Bobby Crosby
Glades County	Paul Beck	Tim Stanley	Paul Carlisle
Gulf County	Warren Yeager	Ward McDaniel	Don Butler
Hamilton County	Randy Ogburn	Josh Smith	
Hardee County	Sue Birge	Rick Knight	Lex Albritton
Hendry County	Karson Turner		Charles Chapman
Highlands County	Jack Richie	Donald Elwell	June Fisher
Holmes County			Sherry Snell
Jackson County	Chuck Lockey		Ted Lakey
Jefferson County	Hines Boyd		Parrish Barwick
Lafayette County		Earnest Jones	Ricky Lyons
Levy County		John Meeks	Fred Moody
Liberty County			Kathy Brown
Madison County	Ronnie Moore	Justin Hamrick	Allen Cherry
Martin County	Sarah Heard	Ed Fielding	Taryn Kryzda
Monroe County	George Neugent	David Rice	Roman Gastesi
Nassau County	Danny Leeper	Walter "Junior" Boatright	Ted Selby
Okeechobee County		Margaret Helton	Robbie Chartier
Putnam County	Karl Flagg	Walton Pellicer	Rick Leary
Santa Rosa County	Bob Cole		Hunter Walker
Suwannee County	Ricky Gamble		Randy Harris
Taylor County	Patricia Patterson	Jody DeVane	Dustin Hinkel
Union County	Wayne Smith		Michael Thurmon
Wakulla County	Ralph Thomas	Jerry Moore	David Edwards
Walton County	Cindy Meadows	Sara Comander	Larry Jones
Washington County			Steve Joyner

Overview of the Small County Coalition

“Addressing Issues at the State Level”

The Small County Coalition

The purpose of the Small County Coalition is to give increased visibility and support to issues of primary concern to small counties and rural communities.

The Coalition was initiated in 1991 to represent the interests of small and rural counties in the State of Florida. A county commission with a population of 150,000 or less is eligible to be a Regular member. The Coalition has a membership of 36 counties.

Officers and Executive Committee Members

Officers consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair, and a Secretary and are elected by the Board at the annual meeting held during the summer. The Executive Committee consists of the Officers, the Past Chair and two representatives from each of the five regions established by the board.

Board of Directors

The powers of the Coalition shall be vested in and exercised by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of two commissioners from each regular member. Directors are selected annually by each regular member. Each regular member shall notify the Coalition office of the individuals elected to serve as the board member from each member.

Small County Coalition Lobbyists

The Coalition retains the governmental relations consulting firm of Robert P. Jones & Associates to represent the interests of the Small County Coalition in Tallahassee. Robert P. Jones & Associates is based in Tallahassee. Lobbyists Bob Jones and Chris Doolin are experts in governmental relations with extensive experience in governmental funding and programs.

- *Assists in Identifying and Developing Information on Key Issues*
- *Coordinates and Executes the Legislative Strategy*
- *Promotes Agency Relationships*
- *Provides News Clips – Almost daily*
- *Forwards Reports and Opportunities*
 - *Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations*
 - *Floridian’s For Better Transportation - Weekly Newsletter*
 - *American Planning Association-Florida Chapter -Monthly Newsletter*
 - *Council on Foreign Relations - State and Local Officials*
- *Prepares and Provides Legislative Reports*
- *Provides Small County Advisories*
- *Responds to Questions and Provides General Governmental Advice*
- *Assists in Securing Data and Information*



General Legislative Protocols

- Focus on issues that will have highest impact on small counties
- Foster collaborative commissioner/legislator relationships in promoting support for small county and local community priorities
- Assist small county legislators promote issues and foster support for small county priorities.
- Work in collaboration with FAC while maintaining focus on small county agenda.
- Foster alliances with traditional rural supporters and advocates.
- Be conscious of impact of legislative actions on rural economic base and small county priorities.
- Attempt to limit conflicts where issues are broader than the small county agenda or that might undermine or create opposition to small county priorities.

Florida Statutes Applicable to Small Counties and Rural Communities

Section 218.075 - Reduction or Waiver of Permit Processing Fees
Section 218.503 - Determination of Financial Emergency
Section 218.65 - Emergency Distribution
Section 218.67 - Distribution for Fiscally Constrained Counties
Section 288.018 - Regional Rural Development Grants Program
Section 288.019 - Rural Considerations in Grant Review and Evaluation Processes
Section 288.065 - Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund
Section 288.0655 - Rural Infrastructure Fund
Section 218.0656 - Rural Economic Development Initiative
Section 218.06561 - Reduction or Waiver of Financial Match Requirements
Section 218.0657 - Florida Rural Economic Development Strategy Grants
Section 218.67 - Distribution for fiscally constrained counties.
Section 259.032(12) - Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; Payment In Lieu of Taxes
Section 373.59(10) - Water Management Lands Trust Fund; Payment In Lieu of Taxes
Section 339.2816 - Small County Road Assistance Program
Section 339.2818 - Small County Outreach Program
Section 905.2155 - Department of Juvenile Justice – Cost Shift
Section 985.686 - Shared county and state responsibility for juvenile detention.

Funding Programs for Small Counties and Rural Communities

- Small County Courthouse Renovation Grants
- Small County Resurface Assistance Program Funding
- Small County Outreach Program Funding
- Fiscally Constrained County Revenue Sharing
- Fiscally Constrained Juvenile Detention Offset
- Fiscally Constrained Amendment 1 Offset
- Emergency Distribution Revenue Sharing
- Inmate Supplemental Revenue Sharing
- Payment In Lieu of Taxes
- Water Project Funding
- Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program
- Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness
- Transportation Disadvantaged
- Solid Waste Management Grant Funding
- Small County Wastewater Treatment Grants
- County Health Departments - Primary Care funding
- Rural Hospital Financial Assistance Program
- Rural Health Services
- Rural Community Development
- Rural Infrastructure Projects
- Library Funding
- Affordable House and State Housing Improvement Program (SHIP)

Small County Coalition

State Advocacy Entities and Alignments

Florida Association of Counties
Florida Regional Councils Association
Florida Farm Bureau
Florida Sheriffs Association
Florida Clerks Association
Florida Property Appraisers Association
Florida Emergency Preparedness Association
Florida Library Association
Florida Realtors Association

Key Agencies

State Agencies – DOT, DEO, DEP, FWC, DOC, EFI, etc.
REDI – Rural Economic Development Initiative Agencies

Key Regional Assets

RPC's - Regional Planning Councils
WMD's - Water Management Districts
RAO's – Rural Areas of Opportunity

Key Websites for Information

Small County Coalition
www.smallcountycoalition.org

Additional County Info
[Florida Association of Counties](#)

Elected Officials
[Rick Scott - Executive Office of the Governor](#)
[Florida Senate](#)
[Florida House of Representatives](#)
[United States Congress](#)
[United States Senate](#)



OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Small County Coalition Officers for 2014-15

Chairperson – Commissioner Karson Turner, Hendry County
Vice-Chairperson – Commissioner Scarlet Frisina, Columbia County
Secretary – Vacant
Past- Chairperson - Commissioner Warren Yeager, Gulf County

Executive Committee Members

Northern Gulf Region

(Wakulla, Franklin, Gulf, Walton, Jefferson, and Santa Rosa)

Commissioner Sara Comander (Walton County) – 2015
Commissioner Cheryl Sanders (Franklin County) – 2016

North Central Region

(Hamilton, Gadsden, Jackson, Liberty, Madison, Washington, Holmes and Calhoun)

Commissioner Ronnie Moore (Madison County) – 2015
Commissioner Chuck Lockey (Jackson County) – 2016

North East Region

(Bradford, Columbia, Union, Baker, Nassau, Flagler, and Putnam)

Commissioner Ron Williams (Columbia County) – 2015
Commissioner Danny Leeper (Nassau County) - 2016

Central Florida Region

(Gilchrist, Lafayette, Dixie, Levy, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Citrus and Hernando)

Commissioner D. Ray Harrison (Gilchrist County) – 2015
Commissioner Patricia Patterson (Taylor) - 2016

South Region

(DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Hardee, Highlands, Indian River, Okeechobee, Martin, and Monroe)

Commissioner Buddy Mansfield (DeSoto County) – 2015
Commissioner Sue Birge (Hardee County) – 2016



Small County Coalition Members

Baker County Commission
Bradford County Commission
Citrus County Commission
Clay County Commission
Columbia County Commission
Dixie County Commission
DeSoto County Commission
Flagler County Commission
Franklin County Commission
Gadsden County Commission
Gilchrist County Commission
Glades County Commission
Gulf County Commission
Hamilton County Commission
Hardee County Commission
Hendry County Commission
Highlands County Commission
Holmes County Commission
Jackson County Commission
Jefferson County Commission
Lafayette County Commission
Levy County Commission
Liberty County Commission
Madison County Commission
Martin County Commission
Monroe County Commission
Nassau County Commission
Okeechobee County Commission
Putnam County Commission
Santa Rosa County Commission
Suwannee County Commission
Taylor County Commission
Union County Commission
Wakulla County Commission
Walton County Commission
Washington County Commission