



CITIZENS' FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

For the School District of Manatee County

Committee Notes / Minutes

Meeting Date	August 4, 2021
Meeting Time	2:00 p.m.
Meeting Location	School Support Center – Conference Room 203
Committee Chairman	David Ballard
Committee Note Taker	Amanda Means
Attendance	<p>Committee Members: Pat Barber Deanna Howell Cindy Spray Sandra Holley Bruce Stamm Tom Ehren Cynthia Howard W. Russell Andersen Donna Fredricksen David Ballard Susan Harrigan</p> <p>Board Members: Mary Foreman Charlie Kennedy</p> <p>Staff: Cynthia Saunders, Superintendent Tim Bargerion, Associate Superintendent of Finance Ryan Juengling, Fiscal Assistant Tammy Taylor, Finance Director Kelly Collins, Executive Assistant Amanda Means, Agency Clerk</p>
Opening	<p>Call to Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Ballard called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. <p>Audio Recording</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Ballard announced the meeting was being audio recorded. <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Motion: Motion to approve the July 13, 2021 Minutes was made by Mr. Stamm and seconded by Ms. Barber. Motion was approved 11-0.</p>
Public Comment	<p>Notes: Public comment as follows:</p> <p><u>Glen Gibellina</u> – spoke regarding the millage referendum. <u>Andra Griffin</u> – stated she had no comments regarding the millage.</p> <p>Following Public Comment, the Committee addressed Public Comments and spoke regarding the purview of the Committee and the millage funds.</p>
New Business	<p>Review of CFOC Information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Millage Overview b. Charter & Referendum Language c. CFOC Website & Dashboard d. Past Reports e. District Information f. Salary Information

g. Sunshine & Public Records

Notes: Chair Ballard led a discussion covering the items in the agenda.

Chair Ballard expressed concerns and stated that there were outstanding requests for data that he would like addressed. The Committee discussed data retrieval.

Mr. Bargeron spoke regarding efforts to retrieve data from the system and the work done with the former Chair of the Committee.

Ms. Fredricksen suggested reviewing the Committee Report as a Committee. She also requested meeting with a representative of Finance to come up with reports and data. Chair Ballard stated that the Committee has been working on that and is in a much better place than previously.

The Committee held discussion regarding the Citizens' Financial Oversight Committee Report that would be presented to the Board on August 11, 2021. Following a question, Mr. Ballard confirmed that the Committee had voted and approved of sending the report forward to the Board.

Ms. Barber stated that the Committee has accepted and validated the information in the report. She expressed appreciation for Mr. Bargeron's efforts to fulfill data requests.

Chair Ballard asked if any staff members or the Board Liaison would like to provide an overview of the millage. Mrs. Foreman suggested Ms. Barber provide a brief history of the millage. Ms. Barber requested clarification on the request. Chair Ballard requested the new members bring forward any questions regarding the millage.

Following a question, Mr. Bargeron provided the definition of millage and offered to share historical data that was presented during the July 29, 2021 Workshop. Mr. Bargeron also provided an overview of the required local effort.

Chair Ballard made a motion for the Committee to review Vice-Chair Spray's concerns regarding millage funds and allocations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stamm.

Ms. Barber asked how the expenditure of the general funds helps the Committee track the expenses of the referendum. Chair Ballard discussed the purpose of the referendum.

Ms. Barber discussed the charge of the Committee.

Chair Ballard asked if the Vice-Chair would mind if he tabled his motion.

Motion: Mr. Andersen motioned to table the item. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fredricksen.

The motion was approved 11-0.

Chair Ballard clarified that it is not the Committee's role to determine allocations or the millage amount. Ms. Barber stated that the allocations serve as a roadmap of the Board's intentions for the purpose of making voters aware.

The Committee continued discussion regarding the referendum.

Chair Ballard moved forward to the discussion of the proposed revisions to the CFOC Charter.

Mrs. Foreman stated that the Board tabled the item on July 27, 2021 and would be reviewing the revisions in August.

Vice-Chair Spray discussed the revisions to the CFOC Charter. Mrs. Foreman updated the Committee on the Board's discussion of the revisions. She stated that the Board reached consensus to cap the membership for the Committee at 12 and shared additional changes the Board discussed.

Superintendent Saunders added that the Board was also discussing a supermajority of the Committee for votes for items recommended to the Board.

Motion: Mr. Stamm made a motion to include the following language in the CFOC Charter to state: "Consistent with the pledge to voters of Manatee County, and given the Committee's objective, the Committee will have the independence necessary to pursue its mission". The motion was seconded by Ms. Fredricksen and approved 11-0.

Following a question by Chair Ballard, Superintendent Saunders stated that Mrs. Foreman would be able to convey the recommendation to the Board.

Mrs. Foreman continued to inform the Committee of the Board's proposed revisions to the Charter. The Committee held discussion regarding the proposed revisions.

Mr. Stamm made a motion that the Committee support striking the language specifying names of subcommittees in the Charter. Motion failed for lack of a second.

The Committee held discussion regarding the language of the Charter and the language relating to subcommittees.

Ms. Howard recommended stating that there may be subcommittees to divide the workflow from time to time at the discretion of the Committee.

Superintendent Saunders offered to provide the legal language from the School Board Attorney, Mr. Stephen Dye. At the request of the Committee, she read the legal guidance previously provided by Mr. Dye, and suggested that the best approach would be to take it back before the Board.

Chair Ballard recommended the following language: "the Committee, by a majority vote, may establish subcommittees to divide the workload of the entire Committee".

The Committee further discussed the language.

Mrs. Amanda Ballard, Community Member, asked if it would be helpful to add language to allow the Committee to form and dissolve subcommittees.

Ms. Howell spoke regarding the need for subcommittees.

Superintendent Saunders noted the Sunshine requirements.

Chair Ballard requested to include the language specifying that subcommittees would be subject to Sunshine laws. Mrs. Foreman suggested the following language: "there may be subcommittees. The Committee, by a majority vote, may establish and dissolve subcommittees to facilitate the work of the Committee. Members of the CFOC will be appointed to these Committees. The subcommittees will operate under the Sunshine laws".

Chair Ballard stated that subcommittees shall operate in the Sunshine.

The Committee continued discussion regarding subcommittees and Sunshine law.

Vice-Chair Spray spoke in support of Mrs. Foreman's suggested language.

Chair Ballard recommended to include the following language in the Charter: "the Committee, by a majority vote, may establish or dissolve subcommittees to facilitate the work of the full Committee. Members shall be appointed by the Chair. Such subcommittees must operate within the Sunshine".

Motion: Mr. Ehren made a motion to adopt Chair Ballard's language and recommend it to the Board. Ms. Holley seconded the motion.

The Committee discussed the motion. Ms. Fredricksen requested to revise the language slightly to read: "in compliance with Sunshine Law".

The Committee reached consensus to use "such subcommittees must be compliant with Florida Sunshine Law".

Chair Ballard repeated the motion as follows: "the Committee, by a majority vote, may establish or dissolve subcommittees to facilitate the work of the Committee. Members will be appointed by the Chair. Such subcommittees must be compliant with Florida Sunshine Law".

The motion was approved 9-0. Mr. Andersen and Ms. Harrigan were not present for the vote.

Chair Ballard stated that the former Chair of the Committee would be presenting the Committee's Report to the Board.

Vice-Chair Spray encouraged the new Members to attend the CFOC presentation to the Board on August 11, 2021 at 10:00 AM.

Chair Ballard advised Committee Members to reach out to the Agency Clerk with any questions, noting Sunshine Law requirements. He also requested Members utilize their District email addresses.

Vice-Chair Spray revisited her previous request to review documents in the packet regarding yearly termination of other School Districts and discussed teacher retention and salaries. She clarified that she did not have a motion and wanted to make a statement. She rescinded her original motion.

Administrative Matters	<p>Date of Next Committee Meeting – October 6, 2021 Motion: Vice-Chair Spry made a motion to approve October 6, 2021 as the next Committee Meeting. Ms. Fredricksen seconded. The motion was approved 9-0. Mr. Andersen and Ms. Harrigan were not present for the vote.</p> <p>Agenda Items for Next Committee Meeting Notes: Ms. Fredricksen requested updates regarding the Board's action about the CFOC Report and the Charter.</p> <p>Chair Ballard stated he would include the updates with the next agenda.</p>
Comments from Committee Members, Board Members, and Staff	<p>Notes: No additional comments.</p>
Adjournment	<p>Motion: Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Barber and seconded by Mr. Stamm. The motion passed 9-0. Ms. Harrigan and Mr. Andersen were not present for the vote.</p> <p>Notes: Chair Ballard adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.</p>

Chairman, Committee

Note Taker, Committee