



Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board, 400 South Street • P.O. Box 999, Titusville, Florida 32781-0999

Telephone: (321) 637-2001

Fax: (321) 264-6972

Kimberly.Powell@brevardclerk.us

February 21, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1, Chair

**RE:** Authorization for the Chair to Negotiate with the County Manager

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on January 24, 2023, authorized you to negotiate with the County Manager to continue his position with the County, and to bring a work product back to the Board for its consideration.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/tr

cc: Each Commissioner  
County Manager

Verbatim on County Manager's Employment Contract from January 24, 2023 Board of County  
Commissioner Meeting

Pritchett - We are gonna move to Public Comment in just a minute, but before we do we're going to have break in a second. But Commissioners we have, Commissioner Zonka has to leave for an important appointment. She is a doctor so we have things we have to let her go and take care of. Before we do though, I wanted her in on this discussion. Yeah. We um, we are looking soon, um, with our County Manager, we're going to have to, either go out and look or, or find a way to keep Mr. Abbate. And from the process we've been through since I've been on this Board of trying to ascertain the right person and not have more expenses come up, Commission I'd like to see what your thoughts are. I would love to negotiate something with him past the time period. What this means is he would have to come out of DROP and lose a whole bunch of money. But I talked to him earlier and he loves our County enough, he would be willing to negotiate some ideas. So, I want to get y'all's thoughts, if you'd be willing to allow him to come back with some, some ideas of, of...I know it's going to cost him more money down the road, but um, ways that we could negotiate with him to keep him past the amount of time with the DROP. He'd have to lose a lot of money dropping out of it, lose money dropping out of DROP, but I um, want to see what your thoughts are. Commissioner Zonka is that a new light?

Zonka – I think that's an old light, but I'll just comment...

Pritchett – Okay.

Zonka – And I've had a chance, the opportunity to talk to Mr. Abbate about this as well and I know he was not seeking a higher salary or any, there's no um, secret trick or anything like that. I think he's committed to our County, so I, I would be amicable to that. I'd be open to that.

Pritchett – Okay, Commissioner Tobia.

Tobia – Thank you, Madam Chair. I would like to make a motion to give the Chair authority, probably a lot easier than having all of us negotiate with him, for you to negotiate with him and bring a work product back to the, the Board to look at it.

Pritchett – Okay.

Feltner – I second that.

Pritchett – I got a motion and a second. All in favor say aye.

Pritchett, Zonka, Goodson, Feltner, Tobia – Aye.

Pritchett – Commissioner Goodson, you trying to say something?

Goodson – I was just going to ask um, does anybody have a time period of this? I mean like how much longer do you wish him, or we wish him?

Pritchett – Oh, I keep him through the time period I'm here, I don't know about you guys, but It'd be a strong advantage to keep him as long as he would work, he's that good. So, it's up to y'all. Again, down the road, as Commissioner Zonka always said, this one time you're always three votes away from being unemployed. So it's the County Manager's job to really serve the Commission and what we're trying to

do as elected officials. So um, did that answer any of your questions, sir? But, did you have someone else?

Goodson – (Inaudible).

Pritchett – Okay, I have a motion and second, all in favor say aye.

All – Aye.

Pritchett – Opposed? Passes 5:0. County Manager looking forward to what you can come back with for us. And thank you for being willing to, to make that sacrifice, we truly appreciate it.