

Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera, FL 32940

Consent

F.34,	8/25/2020
.54,	0/25/2020

Subject:

Appointment(s) / Reappointment(s)

Fiscal Impact:

n/a

Dept/Office:

County Manager's Office

Requested Action:

It is requested the Board of County Commissioners approve the District appointment(s) / reappointment(s).

Summary Explanation and Background:

Clerk to the Board Instructions:



FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST

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



August 26, 2020

Rebecca Shireman Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex Mail code: DNPS Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899

Dear Ms. Shireman:

Re: Appointment to Tourist Development Council

On the recommendation of Commissioner Bryan Andrew Lober, the Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on August 25, 2020, acknowledged your appointment to the Tourist Development Council, replacing Laurent Rawlings. Said term of appointment expires December 31, 2022. Enclosed are memorandums explaining the Sunshine Law and 2019 changes to the Voting Conflict Law for your information.

Your willingness to serve the citizens of Brevard County in this capacity is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/dt

Encls. (2)

cc: Commissioner Lober

Tourist Development Director



COMMISSIONER BRYAN LOBER, DISTRICT 2

Merritt Island Service Complex
2725 North Courtenay Parkway Suite 200

Merritt Island, FL 32953

District 2 Commission Office

Advisory Committee Appointment Candidate

Name of Committee:	Tourism Development Council			
Name of Appointee:	Rebecca Shireman			
Home Address:	Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex			
	Mail Code: DNPS			
	Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899			
Cell Number:	(321) 213-5926			
Home Phone Number:	(321) 449-4273 (office)			
Email Address:	rshireman@delawarenorth.com			
Reappointment:	YES NO I			
Replacing:	Laurent Rawlings (resigned)			
Term of Appointment:	08/26/2020 - 12/31/2022			
Office Contact:	Fritz VanVolkenburgh			
Date of Request:	08/25/2020			
A waiver of the term l appointment? YES	imit is requested due to difficulty to fill the or NO			



FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST

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



August 26. 2020

Alison Colvard 420 Snug Harbor Drive Merritt Island, FL 32953

Dear Ms. Colvard:

Re: Appointment to Housing Finance Authority

On the recommendation of Commissioner Bryan A. Lober, the Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on August 25, 2020, acknowledged your appointment to the Housing Finance Authority, replacing John Newton. Said term of appointment expires December 31, 2022.

Florida Statutes, Section 112.3145(5), requires the County Commission to provide forms and notices to each local officer required to file statements of financial disclosure. The term "local officer" is defined in Florida Statutes 112.3145(1)(a). Enclosed for your necessary action is the <u>Statement of Financial Interests</u> and Instructions for Completing. Please file same with the <u>Supervisor of Elections</u>, 400 South Street, Titusville FL 32780. Also enclosed for your information are memorandums explaining the Sunshine Law and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, and 2019 changes to the Voting Conflict Law.

Your willingness to serve the citizens of Brevard County in this capacity is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/dt

Encls. (3)

cc: Commissioner Lober

County Manager

Angela Abbott, Esquire

revard BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONER BRYAN LOBER, DISTRICT 2

Merritt Island Service Complex 2725 North Courtenay Parkway Suite 200 Merritt Island, FL 32953

District 2 Commission Office Advisory Committee Appointment Candidate

Name of Committee:	Brevard County Housing Finance Authority			
Name of Appointee:	Alison Colvard			
Home Address:	420 Snug Harbor Drive			
	Merritt Island, FL 32953			
Cell Number:	(321) 626-8040			
Home Phone Number:	(321) 452-8845			
Email Address:	corplady21@aol.com			
Reappointment:	YES NO I			
Replacing:	John Newton (resigned)			
Term of Appointment:	08/26/2020 - 12/31/2022			
Office Contact:	Fritz VanVolkenburgh			
Date of Request:	08/25/2020			
A waiver of the term appointment? YES	imit is requested due to difficulty to fill the or NO			

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME MAILING ADDRESS		NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF:		
		NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:		
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED				
		MY POSITION IS	S: LI ELECTIVE	□ APPOINTIVE

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filling the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office MUST ABSTAIN from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also MUST ABSTAIN from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; and

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112,3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the
minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- · A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- · The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- · You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the
 meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the
 agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST
, hereby disclose that on, 20
(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more) inured to my special private gain or loss;
inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate,
inured to the special gain or loss of my relative,
inured to the special gain or loss of, by whom I am retained; or
inured to the special gain or loss of, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.
(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:
If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.
Date Filed Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County Attorney's Office 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building C, Room 308

Viera, Florida 32940

Inter-Office Memo

TO

Members of the

FROM:

Shannon Wilson, County Attorney Office

Melissa H. Powers, Assistant County Attorney

DATE:

January 1, 2020

SUBJ:

Government in the Sunshine/Florida's Public Meetings Law

Florida's Government-in-the Sunshine Law provides a right of access to governmental proceedings. The public policy behind the Sunshine Law is to have all deliberations by a public body conducted in public meetings of which the public and the media have received advance notice.

1. What are the requirements of the Sunshine Law?

The Florida Government in the Sunshine Law, Section 286.011, Florida Statutes, contains three basic requirements:

- meetings of public boards or commissions must be open to the public; a.
- b. reasonable notice of such meetings must be given; and
- minutes of the meeting must be taken. c.

2. Who does it apply to?

All boards or commissions of Brevard County are subject to the Sunshine Law. The law is equally applicable to advisory boards such as this Committee.

3. What is a "meeting" which is subject to the Sunshine Law?

Florida courts have repeatedly stated that it is the entire decision-making process to which the Sunshine Law applies and not merely to a formal assemblage of a public body at which voting to ratify an official decision is carried out. Thus, the statute extends to "discussions and deliberations" as well as to formal action taken by a public body. Therefore, the law is generally applicable to any gathering where two or more members of a public board or commission discuss some matter on which foreseeable action will be taken by the board, commission or committee. The term "meeting" has been found to include briefing sessions, workshop meetings, informal discussion and other meetings of the public body where no formal vote is taken

4. Public Meetings

a. Notice and Recording:

Procedurally, the Sunshine Law requires the giving of notice to members of the public as to the time and place of the proposed meeting of a public entity, such as yours, and the subject matter to be discussed. The notice should include, among other things, the time, place, and if available, an agenda of the subject matter. Section 286.011(2), Florida Statutes, states that all public meetings must be "recorded" and the record made available for public inspection. The recording need not be a tape or verbatim transcript, but must be minutes accurately reflecting actions taken at the meeting.

b. Voting:

The use of secret ballot at public meetings is not acceptable. If a vote is required by the council members then a vote must be made by each member <u>unless</u> there is a bona fide conflict of interest.

c. Voting Conflicts of Interest:

As an appointed member of this Committee, the State's conflict of interest laws apply to you. All members must keep in mind the possibility of a voting conflict of interest arising as to any items that might come before the Board based not only on their employment relationship, but upon other situations.

Section 112.3143(3), Florida Statutes, provides that:

No...local public officer shall vote in his official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his special private gain; which he knows would inure to the special private gain of any principal by whom he is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which he is retained, other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2); or which he knows would inure to the special private gain of a relative or business associate of the public officer.

For a voting conflict to arise, "special private gain" must inure to the council member, a principal or parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by whom he/she is retained, a relative, or a business associate. The test formulated by the Commission on Ethics is based in part on the size of the class of persons who stand to benefit from the measure and also based upon the remote and speculative test. Where the class of persons is large, a special gain will result only if there are circumstances unique to the member to gain more than the other members of the class. Where the class of person benefitting from the measure is extremely small, the possibility of special gain is much more likely. Additionally, if the gain is of a questionable nature or magnitude, or is too remote or speculative, then there may not be "special private gain."

In addition to abstaining from the vote, if the member intends to "participate" in the decision prior to the meeting, the appointed board member should file a memo stating the conflict prior to the meeting, Section 112.3143(4), Florida Statutes. "Participate" means "any attempt to influence the decision by oral or written communication, whether made by the officer or at his direction." The memo shall be incorporated into the minutes of the meeting and read publicly at the meeting. If the member is only

participating in the discussion at the meeting, then the conflict should be disclosed orally at the meeting before participating, and a memo should be filed within fifteen (15) days after the vote. No member may participate (attempt to influence the vote) without making this disclosure <u>prior</u> to the discussion on the issue.

d. Public Participation:

This committee is required to allow for public comment to assist in the decision-making process in accordance with Section 2-214, Brevard County Code of Ordinances. This body shall establish procedures for taking public comment at all committee meetings. Two kinds of public comment shall be taken:

- 1. Relevant comment when the committee discusses a particular issue or takes a final vote on any given issue; and
- 2. Comment which brings new business or issues before the committee.

Each speaker shall be given at least three minutes to speak, with provision for an extension of time by the chairman or majority vote of the committee. Speakers may be required to give their names and addresses for the record, however, social security numbers shall not be required.

Additionally, effective October 1, 2013, the State Legislature implemented legislation that provides for the public to be heard at public meetings which are not specifically exempted by the statute. This law requires that members of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a board or commission. The opportunity to comment does not have to occur at the same meeting at which official action is taken if the opportunity:

- 1. Occurs at a meeting that is during the decision-making process; and
- 2. Is within reasonable proximity in time before the meeting at which the board or commission takes official action.

Per the Florida statute, the opportunity to be heard is subject to limited rules or policies adopted by the board/commission. The rules/procedures are limited, per the statute, to the following: guidelines regarding the amount of time an individual has to address the board or commission; procedures for allowing representatives of groups or factions on a proposition to address the board or commission (rather than all members of such groups or factions) at meetings in which a large number of individuals wish to be heard; procedures or forms for an individual to use in order to inform the board or commission of a desire to be heard to indicate his or her support, opposition, or neutrality on a proposition and to indicate his or her designation of a representative to speak for him or her or his or her group on a proposition if he or she so chooses; or designate a specified period of time for public comment. Failure to comply with this state statute is subject to injunctive relief and assessment of attorney's fees. Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes.

Given the County Code requires the opportunity for comment at <u>all</u> committee meetings, you should provide for public comment at all your meetings.

5. Does this mean we can't have lunch?

The Attorney General's Office urges public boards or commissions to avoid the use of "luncheon meetings" to discuss board or commission business. These meetings may have a "chilling" effect upon the public's willingness or desire to attend. People who would otherwise attend such a meeting may be unwilling or reluctant to enter a public dining room without purchasing a meal and may be financially or personally unwilling to do so. Discussions at such meetings by members of the board or commission which are audible only to those seated at the table may violate the "openness" requirement of the law. Public boards or commissions are, therefore, advised to avoid meetings at which the public and the press are effectively excluded.

Members of a public board or commission are not, however, prohibited under the Sunshine Law from meeting together socially provided that matters which may come before the board or commission are not discussed at such gatherings.

Members of a public board or commission are also not prohibited under the Sunshine Law from conducting inspection trips. However, if discussions relating to the business of the board will occur between board members, advance notice must be given; the public must be afforded a reasonable opportunity to attend, and minutes must be promptly recorded and made available for inspection. In some cases, it may not be possible to invite the general public to attend such trips. In these instances, inspection trips made by members of a public board, together with staff and officials of other organizations and members of the press, are not secret meetings in violation of section 286.011 even though the general public is not invited to participate. However, members of the public board should avoid discussions with fellow board members regarding public business while on such trips.

6. Beware of the Consequences!

Section 286.011(3), Florida Statutes, provides that any person knowingly violating the Sunshine Law by attending a meeting not held in accordance with the meetings requirements may be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by up to sixty (60) days in jail and/or a \$500 fine. All other violations are subject to a \$500 fine. In addition, attorneys' fees may be assessed against a party found in violation if a civil action is brought to enforce the law.

7. Conclusion.

In summary, Board members should not discuss with each other, directly or indirectly, items that will or could foreseeably be discussed and acted on at the board's/committee's public meeting. This is only a brief summary of the Sunshine Law. It is not inclusive of the areas when the law applies. If you have questions concerning specific application, please seek guidance from the County Attorney's Office. If you know of a particular factual situation that may constitute a conflict of interest and some doubt exists whether the conflict exists, an advisory opinion from the Commission on Ethics can be obtained.

Reference: A valuable source in this area is the Government in the Sunshine Manual – new editions issued annually.

Select Year: 2019 ∨

The 2019 Florida Statutes

Title X

PUBLIC OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES,

Chapter 112

View Entire Chapter

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES: AND RECORDS GENERAL PROVISIONS

112.3143 Voting conflicts.—

- (1) As used in this section:
- (a) "Principal by whom retained" means an individual or entity, other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2), that for compensation, salary, pay, consideration, or similar thing of value, has permitted or directed another to act for the individual or entity, and includes, but is not limited to, one's client, employer, or the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of one's client or employer.
- (b) "Public officer" includes any person elected or appointed to hold office in any agency, including any person serving on an advisory body.
- (c) "Relative" means any father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-inlaw, mother-in-law, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law.
- (d) "Special private gain or loss" means an economic benefit or harm that would inure to the officer, his or her relative, business associate, or principal, unless the measure affects a class that includes the officer, his or her relative, business associate, or principal, in which case, at least the following factors must be considered when determining whether a special private gain or loss exists:
 - 1. The size of the class affected by the vote.
 - The nature of the interests involved.
 - The degree to which the interests of all members of the class are affected by the vote.
- 4. The degree to which the officer, his or her relative, business associate, or principal receives a greater benefit or harm when compared to other members of the class.

The degree to which there is uncertainty at the time of the vote as to whether there would be any economic benefit or harm to the public officer, his or her relative, business associate, or principal and, if so, the nature or degree of the economic benefit or harm must also be considered.

(2)(a) A state public officer may not vote on any matter that the officer knows would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Any state public officer who abstains from voting in an official capacity upon any measure that the officer knows would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss, or who votes in an official capacity on a measure that he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom the officer is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which the officer is retained other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2); or which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the public officer, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the state public

officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

- (b) A member of the Legislature may satisfy the disclosure requirements of this section by filing a disclosure form created pursuant to the rules of the member's respective house if the member discloses the information required by this subsection.
- (3)(a) No county, municipal, or other local public officer shall vote in an official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss; which he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2); or which he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the public officer. Such public officer shall, prior to the vote being taken, publicly state to the assembly the nature of the officer's interest in the matter from which he or she is abstaining from voting and, within 15 days after the vote occurs, disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes.
- (b) However, a commissioner of a community redevelopment agency created or designated pursuant to s. <u>163.356</u> or s. <u>163.357</u>, or an officer of an independent special tax district elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis, is not prohibited from voting, when voting in said capacity.
- (4) No appointed public officer shall participate in any matter which would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss; which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained; or which he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the public officer, without first disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter.
- (a) Such disclosure, indicating the nature of the conflict, shall be made in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, prior to the meeting in which consideration of the matter will take place, and shall be incorporated into the minutes. Any such memorandum shall become a public record upon filing, shall immediately be provided to the other members of the agency, and shall be read publicly at the next meeting held subsequent to the filing of this written memorandum.
- (b) In the event that disclosure has not been made prior to the meeting or that any conflict is unknown prior to the meeting, the disclosure shall be made orally at the meeting when it becomes known that a conflict exists. A written memorandum disclosing the nature of the conflict shall then be filed within 15 days after the oral disclosure with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting and shall be incorporated into the minutes of the meeting at which the oral disclosure was made. Any such memorandum shall become a public record upon filing, shall immediately be provided to the other members of the agency, and shall be read publicly at the next meeting held subsequent to the filing of this written memorandum.
- (c) For purposes of this subsection, the term "participate" means any attempt to influence the decision by oral or written communication, whether made by the officer or at the officer's direction.
- (5) If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

(6) Whenever a public officer or former public officer is being considered for appointment or reappointment to public office, the appointing body shall consider the number and nature of the memoranda of conflict previously filed under this section by said officer.

History.—s. 6, ch. 75-208; s. 2, ch. 84-318; s. 1, ch. 84-357; s. 2, ch. 86-148; s. 5, ch. 91-85; s. 3, ch. 94-277; s. 1408, ch. 95-147; s. 43, ch. 99-2; s. 6, ch. 2013-36.

Copyright © 1995-2020 The Florida Legislature • Privacy Statement • Contact Us