

I. **Intent.** Create, empower, staff and fund a strong Utility Board to act as professional advisor to the City Commission and to GRU General Manager. Similar to the City's Plan Board.

II. Composition of Board.

A. The goal is to appoint a diverse Utility Board representing all rate classes of utility consumers both inside City limits and within unincorporated Alachua County.

B. Nine members:

1. Six appointed by City Commission to include:

a. Residential class consumer

b. General services (commercial) class consumer

c. Representative of low income users

d. No expertise qualifications requirement written into ordinance, but could be considered by appointing body.

2. Three appointed by County Commission.

a. County and City enter into a Memorandum of Understanding

b. County would not be required to appoint any particular composition of county Utility Board members

III. Utility Board Responsibilities – all current and proposed city utility boards combined into this one Utility Board which would have the following duties and functions:

A. All functions of the proposed Rate advisory board

B. All functions of the RUC Board

C. All functions of the Gainesville Energy Advisory Board (GEAC)

D. Participate with City Commission in Strategic Planning Process

E. Receive referrals from City Commission (current function of RUC)

F. Initiate items for City Commission and General Manager's consideration (current function of GEAC)

G. Make audit requests of the City Internal Auditor

H. Review and make recommendations to City Commission regarding the GRU budget

- I. Review and make recommendations to City Commission regarding Utility rates (function of proposed rate advisory board)

IV. City Commission Responsibilities

- A. Defer all final City Commission decisions regarding GRU until Utility Board provides recommendation, unless emergency or exigent circumstances.
- B. Fund the Utility Board
 - 1. To provide adequate training opportunities
 - 2. To provide resources
- C. Adequately staff Utility Board

V. Procedural

- A. Meetings once a month, more if needed
- B. Meets separately from City Commission
- C. Time meetings so that Utility Board recommendation quickly received by City Commission

VI. Long-range Goal

- A. Add value to GRU through use of community in-put and resources
- B. Building community consensus regarding governance of utility