

RESOLUTION NO. 2011- 53

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE RULES/POLICIES OF THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPTED MAY 12, 1998, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED; PROVIDING RULES OF DECORUM AND CIVILITY AS REQUIREMENTS OF BOARD/COMMITTEES THROUGH RULE 2.206; PROVIDING CERTAIN REVISIONS TO PART 4, RULES OF DECORUM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County that:

Section 1. The Rules/Policies of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, adopted May 12, 1998 as previously amended, are hereby amended by the addition of the following Rule 2.206.E:

RULE 2.206 REQUIREMENTS OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

- E. Rules of Decorum and Civility. Each Board/Committee and members thereof shall reasonably comply with Part 4 Rules of Decorum and Civility. Board/Committee members are encouraged to make constructive comments and policy recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners but shall avoid disrespectful commentary.

Section 2. The Rules/Policies of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, adopted May 12, 1998 as previously amended, are hereby amended by the revision of the following Part 4:

PART 4 RULES OF DECORUM AND CIVILITY

RULE 4.401 BOARD TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE DECORUM AND CIVILITY

The Board expressly recognizes that promoting and preserving decorum and civility best enables the Board to fairly and expeditiously conduct the business of the County.

While the Board is in session, the Chair shall preserve order and decorum. A Commissioner shall neither by conversation nor otherwise delay or interrupt the proceedings or the peace of the Board, nor disturb any Commissioner while speaking or refuse to obey the orders of the Board or its Chair.

RULE 4.402 MANNER OF SPEAKING

No Commissioner shall speak on any question or discuss any matter, nor interrupt another, nor make a motion without first being recognized by the Chair. When two or more Commissioners seek recognition by the Chair, the Chair shall name the Commissioner who is to speak first. No Commissioner shall be interrupted by another without the consent of the Commissioner who has the floor, except by rising to a question of order. A Commissioner, in speaking on any matter, shall confine him/herself to the question, or matter before the Board, shall not use unbecoming abusive or unparliamentary language and shall avoid commenting on personalities or character of other Board members, former Board members, other officials, staff, or the public.

RULE 4.403 POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS OF BOARD DISCOURSE

- A. Always focus on what's best for the County, and represent the entire County as well as your individual district.
- B. Maintain respect for the Board and its members. Visibly demonstrate respect for, and fairly represent, each other.
- C. Demonstrate that it is fine to disagree but not to be disagreeable.
- D. If reasonably possible, avoid surprising your fellow commissioners or staff; except positive surprises.

RULE 4.404 DISRUPTION OF MEETING

Any person disrupting a Board meeting by making personal, impertinent or slanderous remarks or by boisterous behavior while the Board is in session, may be removed from the meeting by the Sheriff's office. Such removal may be requested by the Chair in his/her discretion, or by consensus of the Board, or by the Sheriff's office if there is perceived to be an immediate threat to any person. No demonstrations of approval or disapproval from the audience shall be permitted; and if, after warning by the Chair, such demonstrations are made and result in a disruption of the meeting, the person(s) creating such disruption may be removed from the meeting; or the Chair may recess the meeting until order is restored. The Chair shall call upon the Sheriff's officers or other security officer who may be present during the meeting to enforce directions given by the Chair for any violation of this Rule.

RULE 4.405 PROMPTNESS OF ATTENDANCE; ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS

Board members are expected to observe timely appearance at Board of County Commission regular, workshop, special meeting, or other official Board function. Any member who is unable to timely attend any such meeting or function will notify either the Board Chair or the County Administrator, prior to the meeting, if possible so that notice may be conveyed to all Board members. Any member present at any meeting of the Board will give notice to the Chair if leaving the meeting for an extended period of time.

Rule 4.406 AUDITORIUM OFFICIAL USE ONLY AREA

To ensure the timely business of the Board proceeds with limited distractions and to respect public speakers, a certain portion of the County Auditorium is designated as "Official Use Only" as shown in Exhibit A. This Official Use Only area encompasses the dais area, including the sections designated for staff and the public speaker podiums. During public meetings, those permitted in the Official Use Only area shall be limited to the Board of County Commissioners, County staff, and members of the public expressly recognized by the Chair, such as public speakers and proclamation recipients. Unless expressly recognized by the Chair, members of the public and media shall remain in the non-designated area of the Auditorium during public meetings.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, State of Florida, this 1st day of March, 2011.

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

By: Pam Halterman
Deputy Clerk

Effective Date: 3/1/11

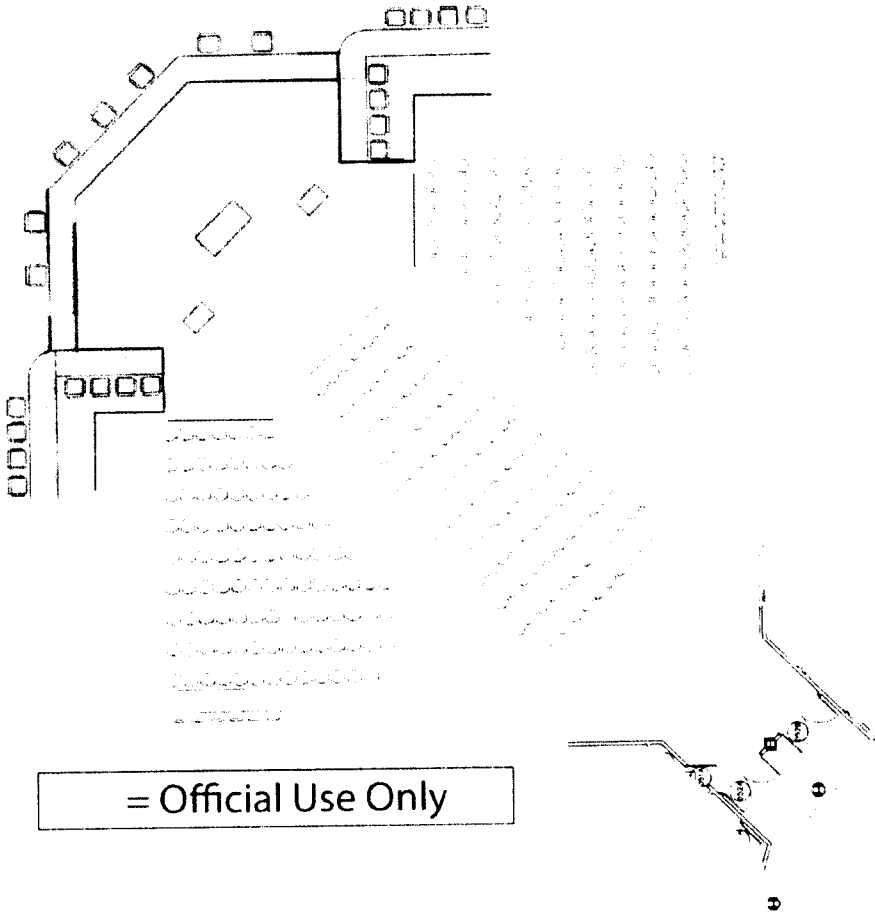
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: J. Ken Bryan
J. Ken Bryan, Chairman

Rendition Date: 3/4/11



Exhibit A - St. Johns County Auditorium



= Official Use Only