RESOLUTION

of the

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

regarding

THE ORANGE COUNTY DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

Resolution No. 2014-M-15

WHEREAS, on October 10, 1995, the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") created the Orange County Disability Advisory Board ("Advisory Board") by Resolution 95-M-95; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2008, the Board approved Resolution 2008-M-36 to amend certain Advisory Board functions; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to make further revisions to Advisory Board functions; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board is still dedicated to providing advice for improving the life conditions of people with disabilities through community awareness, communication, activities, representation and by identifying resources and agencies that may provide services to ensure that individuals with disabilities have a better quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2, Article VI, Orange County Code, provides standards for the creation, operation and review of advisory boards.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

Section 1. Purpose of the Advisory Board.

a. Pursuant to the terms and conditions contained in Chapter 2, Article VI, Orange County Code, the Advisory Board is hereby authorized for the purpose of continuing and providing citizen input to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff about related living conditions that will improve the quality of life and living conditions of its citizens with disabilities, their families, and their care givers within unincorporated Orange County.
To accomplish this endeavor, the Advisory Board shall continue:

1. To provide advice to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff through the Advisory Board’s dedication for helping citizens with disabilities.

2. To find inclusion through the support services systems provided through the areas’ local agencies, organizations, for profit and not-for-profit entities and government agencies to coordinate services for citizens with disabilities.

3. To focus on the public and private available resources that provide disability services for the advancement of the disability communities’ concerns of its citizens by serving as a catalyst for coordinated community response through public forum meetings.

4. To collaborate with disability organizations including federal and state governments, philanthropic organizations and various sectors of the community in providing the special services sorely needed by citizens with disabilities.

5. To provide advice to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff where needed to further the advancement, inclusion, and independence for citizens with disabilities.

6. To provide monthly Advisory Board meetings that will serve as an opportunity for citizens with disabilities to make their needs known.

Section 2. Definition of Disability.

Definitions. The term “disability” shall be defined as provided in the American with Disabilities Act, codified in 42 USC §12102(2), as amended or replaced from time to time.

Section 3. Advisory Board Functions.

a. The Advisory Board shall have the following functions.
1. Identify areas for collaboration and partnership for the delivery of services to citizens with disabilities, making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff, as needed.

2. Continue to provide community education forums related to the abilities and needs of its citizens with disabilities.

3. Address concerns of citizens with disabilities that relate to personal care, communication, emergency preparedness, transportation, healthcare, accessibility, education, employment and housing with designated County staff.

4. Positively encourage the hiring of citizens with disabilities who meet and demonstrate the job skills, training and experience for gainful employment in the community as required under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

5. Encourage the modification of County facilities to meet the accessibility needs of citizens with disabilities as required under Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Florida Americans with Disabilities Accessibility Implementation Act (Sections 553.501 - 553.513, Florida Statutes).

6. Provide input to the Board of County Commissioners and County staff on concerns that affect the life and living conditions of persons with disabilities throughout unincorporated Orange County.
   a) Serve as advisors and resources within the disability community to ensure that the needs of citizens with disabilities are addressed.
   b) Encourage providers with a focus on disability services and programs to participate on the ad hoc working committees of the Advisory Board.
Section 4. Number of Members, Appointments and Qualifications. The Disability Advisory Board shall consist of nine (9) members. In order to promote awareness and greater objectivity in the performance of Advisory Board member duties, the Advisory Board shall not include Orange County employees, but may include, whenever possible, at least five (5) persons living with a disability and one (1) individual who is a care giver to a family member with a disability. The Advisory Board shall also include three (3) individuals who are professionals providing direct services to the disabled from areas within transportation, healthcare, consumer services, or any state or local agency.

Section 5. Meetings.

a. The Advisory Board shall meet at least once each month. Special meetings of the Advisory Board may be held upon the call of the Chair or four (4) members of the Advisory Board providing proper notice under the Orange County Administrative Regulations.

1. The Advisory Board shall fix a definite date, time and place for regular meetings. A majority of Advisory Board members shall constitute a quorum.

2. A quorum shall be five (5) members.

3. All meetings shall be open to the public.

4. The Advisory Board may adopt proceedings and procedures as deemed necessary to ensure effectiveness and continuity at all gatherings.

Section 6. Terms, Removal, Vacancies, Attendance, etc.

a. Except as noted, the Advisory Board shall comply with and be governed by Chapter 2, Article VI, Orange County Code, as it may be amended or revised from time to time:
1. Advisory Board members shall serve for terms of two (2) years each to expire on June 30.

2. In addition to a Chair and Vice Chair, the Advisory Board shall elect a Liaison to the Orange County Community Action Board from its members who shall represent the Advisory Board at community meetings held by the Orange County Community Action Board.

3. Advisory Board members may be requested to attend community meetings to communicate the special needs of the disability community in an advisory capacity.

4. The members of the Advisory Board shall be volunteers and shall serve without compensation.

5. Members of the Advisory Board serve in an advisory capacity and shall not make County policy. Any recommendations made on behalf of the Advisory Board shall promulgate through internal protocols and processes as may be necessary to conduct the business and affairs of the Advisory Board within the County’s Family Services Department.

6. Attendance requirements shall be directed by Section 2-208(2) of the Orange County Code, except that consideration shall be given for excused absences.

7. Members must be in compliance with the Florida Public Records laws, Sunshine laws and Section 2.06 of the Orange County Administrative Regulations.

Section 7. Staff Support. The County’s Family Services Department shall provide County staff support to the Advisory Board for the coordination of meetings, recording of minutes and handling of Advisory Board correspondence and protocols.
Section 8. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF MAY 06 2014, 2014.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

By: Teresa Jacobs
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, Orange County Comptroller
as Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: Deputy Clerk