RESOLUTION
of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
regarding
THE VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTHCARE CENTER AT
BALDWIN PARK

Resolution No. 2014-M-21

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is home to the second largest veteran population in the
nation; and

WHEREAS, Central Florida is home to more than 400,000 veterans and it is anticipated
that these numbers will dramatically increase in the coming decades; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) desires to ensure that military
veterans, their families, and survivors living in this area receive high quality benefits and services;
and

WHEREAS, to provide for the future care of service men and women, the U.S.
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is slated to open a new medical center at Lake Nona; and

WHEREAS, with the scheduled opening of the Lake Nona medical center, the future of
the existing Veterans Affairs Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park has become uncertain; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Affairs Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park is a valuable federal
asset and is necessary to ensure the increasing number of veterans receive timely and appropriate
health services; and

WHEREAS, in recent months, members of the Florida Congressional Delegation for the
central Florida area, including U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, and U.S. Representatives John Mica,
Daniel Webster, Corrine Brown, and Alan Grayson, have sent letters to the VA urging the VA to
keep the Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park open for use by Central Florida’s veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Congressional Delegation has requested the Board support its
efforts to keep the Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park open; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby expresses its support of the efforts of the Florida
Congressional Delegation to keep the Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park open and in service to
veterans.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board hereby affirms its support for and commitment to keeping the Veterans Affairs Healthcare Center at Baldwin Park open and in service to Orange County veterans and other veterans living in the area and hereby urges the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to not close this facility.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Adopted this ___ day of MAY 13 2014, 2014.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

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

By: Teresa Jacobs
Orange County Mayor

By: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk