

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-029**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, OPPOSING ACTION BY THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND JEA WHICH WOULD CAUSE UTILITY RATES IN NASSAU COUNTY TO BE SET IN A MANNER AND AT A LEVEL NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE COST OF PROVISION OF UTILITY SERVICE TO NASSAU COUNTY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.**

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County granted, in the year 2001, an exclusive monopoly franchise to JEA (Jacksonville Electric Authority) for the provision of certain utility services in vast areas of Nassau County; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of Nassau County residents and businesses receive utility service from JEA vis à vis this franchise; and

**WHEREAS**, public reports have recently indicated that the City of Jacksonville, which owns and controls JEA, has economic and budget challenges unrelated to the cost of provision of utility service; and

**WHEREAS**, the law and common sense indicate that monopoly utility providers like JEA should set their rates based upon the actual cost for providing utility service; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida and its constituent counties are bound to uphold our laws and traditions of transparency and openness which require that government charges be clear and easily understood by citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, responsible public officials recognize that when utility rates are set in a way other than based on cost of service, they are really just a hidden tax; and


**WHEREAS**, to require Nassau County residents and businesses to pay utility rates which are calculated to remedy Jacksonville's financial challenges rather than set based upon the cost of providing utility service would be fundamentally unfair and legally unsound.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

The Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, does hereby request that Mayor Alvin Brown, the City Council of Jacksonville, and the leadership of JEA refrain from any action which would cause utility rates in Nassau County to be set in a manner and at a level to include costs not directly related to the provision of utility service to Nassau County residents and businesses.

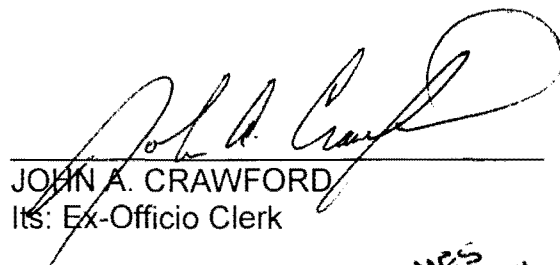
**DULY ADOPTED** in Regular Session this 19th day of March, 2014.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



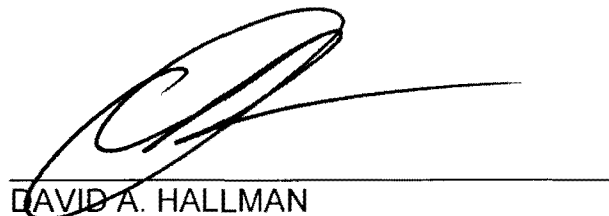
BARRY V. HOLLOWAY  
Its: Chairman

ATTEST AS TO CHAIRMAN'S  
SIGNATURE:



JOHN A. CRAWFORD  
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY THE NASSAU  
COUNTY ATTORNEY



DAVID A. HALLMAN

MES  
03-19-14