

November 27, 2018 - Regular Meeting  
Agenda Item #90

Confirmed in Open Session 11/27/18  
Manatee County  
Board of County Commissioners

Subject

Confirmation of Neighborhood Services Department Director

Briefings

All

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator

Action Requested

Confirm appointment of Ava Ehde as the Neighborhood Services Department Director effective November 27, 2018.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Florida Statutes, Chapter 125.74 (k)

Manatee County Code, Section 2-2-23(a)(12)

Background Discussion

Ms. Ehde has been serving as the Interim Director of the Neighborhood Services Department since January of 2018. Her experience as the Library Services Division Manager, the largest Division of the Neighborhood Services Department, provided a basis for the knowledge she had acquired to lead all aspects of the department.

As the Library Services Division Manager since 2011, she oversees all library services within six libraries that served over 380,000 residents. Ava received her Master's degree in Information and Library Studies from SUNY Buffalo in 1997. Her professional career began as a local history librarian in Niagara Falls Public Library where she helped researchers with local history including history of "stunters" who attempted to defy Niagara Falls.

Her career then moved into Academic Libraries and to work as adjunct faculty for SUNY at Buffalo. In 2002, she decided it was a time for a change of scenery (and weather) and moved from blustery New York to the Sunshine State where she began her career with Manatee County libraries.

In 2017 Ava was named the Florida Library Association, Librarian of the Year. During her tenure, the Library has received numerous awards including: eight Florida Library Association awards, Library of the year in 2016, Library Innovation 2013 & 2018, and Youth Services 2013 & 2016, Libraries Change People's Lives 2015 and Libraries Mean Business 2018, Keep Manatee Beautiful Award 2015, Manatee County Employee of the Month May 2014, and D'Youville College Faculty of the Year 2001.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

N/A **Sent to E. Maholtz, 1/30/19, RT**

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

Budgeted position within allocated positions

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

N/A