

County manager, attorney well-liked by bosses

By Cleveland Tinker

The Alachua County Attorney and manager both fared well in their annual job evaluations from Alachua County commissioners.

County Manager Lee Niblock [**placed by Colin Baenziger & Associates in 2014**] and County Attorney Michele Lieberman received marks of "outstanding," the highest ranking, from four of the five commissioners. Commission Chairman Ken Cornell gave an "exceeds job standards" to Niblock, and Commissioner Lee Pinkoson marked the same on Lieberman's evaluation.

The annual performance review of the two high-ranking Alachua County officials was presented Tuesday during a regular county commission meeting. The review included a list of their accomplishments during the past fiscal year.

Lieberman's work included creating new full-time positions for an assistant attorney and a legal secretary, and drawing up fire service agreements with the cities of High Springs, LaCrosse, Newberry and Windsor.

Items on Niblock's list included implementing a requirement that vendors who do work for the county pay their employees comparable wages to those of county employees, changed the county budget to add \$450,000 to improve county roads, found funds to increase RTS bus routes for holidays and weekends and helped procure \$456,000 for the Newnans Lake Improvement Initiative.

Lieberman was hired as county attorney in March 2014 and will earn \$162,221 this year. Niblock was hired as county manager in October 2014, and will earn \$178,426 this year.