

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
March 2, 2017

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regular meeting at the auditorium of the School Board Administrative Complex at 5:30 p.m. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chairman Ronald Williams, Rusty DePratter, Tim Murphy, Bucky Nash and Everett Phillips.

Others in Attendance: County Manager Ben Scott ("CM")
Assistant County Manager Scott Ward ("ACM")
Assistant County Manager Kevin Kirby ("ACM")
County Attorney Joel Foreman
Deputy Clerk Susan Weeks

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:
None

Deletions:
Special Meeting Request

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve the agenda with deletion. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Ministerial Matters

Healthy Weight Community Champion 2017

Brenda Brown, Representative for the Healthiest Weight Florida with the Florida Department of Health, presented the Commission with a certificate in recognition of the County's effort to promote healthy weight in our communities.

Blessing Box Project

Citizen Kyle Green explained the Blessing Box Project and requested permission to place a blessing box at the Public Library downtown.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comment on Discussion and Action Items:

An unidentified citizen offered comment on ethics.

Citizen Karen Mullins offered comment on chicken farms.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve the consent agenda. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- (1) BCC Administration - Approval of Friday, December 22, 2017 - Alternate Day to Observed Christmas Eve Holiday
- (2) Building & Zoning - Special Family Lot Permit (SFLP 17 30) - Gary W. Laxton, Jr.
- (3) Emergency Communications Center - Request to Apply Spring 2017 E-911 Board Rural Grant - 911 Support & Maintenance - \$67,210
- (4) Emergency Management - Approve Lease Agreement - Marcotek - Upgrade Xerox Copy Machine - \$190 Monthly
- (5) Human Resources - Worxtime Amendment - Service Agreement - Estimated Cost \$1,000
- (6) Operations Department - Utility Permit - AT&T - SW Tustenuggee Ave and SW Bedenbaugh Ln - Placement of Buried Fiber Cable
- (7) Operations Department - Utility Permit - Florida Power and Light - NW Moore Farm Rd - Installing Directional Bore
- (8) Operations Department - Permission to Enter Private Property - SW Bunn Drive - Tree Removal
- (9) Operations Department - Permission to Enter Private Property - Parcel #09068-000 – Tree Removal
- (10) Operations Department - Permission to Enter Private Property - 1152 SW Little Road – Tree Removal

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to adopt the consent agenda. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action Items:

Project 16-15

Economic Development Director Glenn Hunter presented the Board with an Economic Development Agreement for Project 16-15 that was approved by the Economic Development Advisory Board (“EDAB”) on February 1, 2017. The agreement is for a 75% tax rebate for six (6) years. The Economic Development Department is recommending approval.

Discussion ensued.

The following changes to be made to the agreement:

Pro Rata removed, company receives zero incentive in years minimums not met
Sheriff portion to be pulled out of the incentive
Audit expense paid by company, County selects auditor
Certificate of Occupancy issued by 2018

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to approve with changes. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Nature Source Mulch

Nature Source has approximately four thousand cubic yards of mulch available for donation to the County. The County would be responsible for transporting the material at a cost of \$45.00 per load. There are approximately three hundred loads for a total of \$13,500. The same amount of cover purchased would cost \$37,500. The acceptance of the mulch from Nature Source would save the County approximately \$24,000. Staff recommended approval.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to take staff recommendation. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017-CA -2 – Animal Control

ACM Ward outlined the amendments to the Animal Control Ordinance and recommended approval.

Discussion ensued.

County Attorney Foreman to work on changes to the verbiage in #9.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to take staff recommendation with the change. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips.

Discussion ensued.

The Chairman called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017-CA -1-Ellisville Utility Services

County Attorney Foreman presented the Board with a recommendation from the EDAB to suspend water and sewer capacity fees for utility services in the Ellisville area and requested authorization to prepare an ordinance and set an adoption hearing.

Discussion ensued.

County Attorney Foreman will make suggested changes and bring this back before the Board.

County Manager Recommendations (PowerPoint Presentation Attached)

(1) Supervisor of Elections Office Lease

Recommending approval of a two year extension of the lease with a month to month option for an additional five years. Either party may cancel after the first two years by providing ninety days written notice.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to take staff recommendation. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

(2) Lease for County Extension, Tourist Development, Code Enforcement and the Veterans Services offices.

Recommending approval of a two year extension of the lease with a month to month option for an additional five years. Either party may cancel after the first two years by providing ninety days written notice.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to take staff recommendation.. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

(3) Property Acquisition Guidelines

Recommending approval of the changes to the Right-of-Way Acquisition Guidelines; now known as the Property Acquisition Guidelines.

Staff to develop a pricing schedule and bring this back before the board

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Comments:

Citizen Stewart Lilker offered comment on Suwannee Valley Transit, City Hall and a heroin problem in Columbia County. Commissioners Williams and DePratter, CM Scott, Attorney Foreman and Sheriff Hunter responded.

Citizen Sandra Smith passed on a message from the owner of the Blanche.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court