

Columbia County

Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
August 17, 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
State Attorney Jeff Siegmeister
Sheriff Mark Hunter
Deputy Clerk Katrina Vercher

Agenda Additions/Deletions

There were no additions or deletions.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve the agenda as presented.
SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Consent Agenda:

- (1) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Resolution No. 2017R-32 - 2017 Assessment Rolls
- (2) Human Resources - Requesting Unpaid Leave - Ronald Snelgrove
- (3) Library - Requesting Approval of State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement for 2017-18
- (4) Landscape - Requesting Additional Funds for Updated Roadside Mowing and Litter Removal Contracts - BA 17-64 - \$130,000

- (5) Operations - Requesting Permission to Enter Private Property - 375 Fett Way – Drainage Maintenance
- (6) Operations - Requesting Approval of Road Construction Supervisor Pay Adjustment – Corey McRae - \$33.72 per hour
- (7) Operations - Requesting Approval of Resolution No. 2017R-34 - FDOT Reimbursement Agreement - Croft Street Bridge
- (8) Operations - Utility Permit - Florida Power & Light - NW Lake Jeffery Road
- (9) Operations - Utility Permit - Florida Power & Light - Sisters Welcome Road, Sandlin Road, and CR 341
- (10) Purchasing - Requesting Approval of Bid No. 2017-T - North Florida Septic Tank - \$31,815
- (11) Solid Waste - Requesting Approval of Contract Renewal 2016-J - Quest Liner, Inc. – Leachate Hauling - \$.055 per gallon
- (12) Tourist Development - Reclassify Sports Marketing Director Salary

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

Public Hearings

Building and Zoning Hearings:

Large Scale Comprehensive Plan (“LSCPA”) Amendment

CPA 0224 -To amend the future land use plan map, from highway interchange to agriculture for tax parcels 00109-000 & 00111-001 and a portion of tax parcels 00115-000 & 00098-000. [Ordinance No. 2017-11]

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to approve CPA 0224, Ordinance No. 2017-11. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action Items:

Internet Casinos

Dennille Decker, Executive Director of the Lake City Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Board and urged them to enact an ordinance prohibiting internet casinos in Columbia County.

Jeff Siegmeister, State Attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit, addressed the Board. His office has plans to investigate to determine if the internet casinos are in violation of Florida Statute 849.

Sheriff Hunter addressed the Board.

Discussion ensued.

The following members of the public addressed the Board with their comments and/or questions:

Sara Babcock
Linda Carter
Lori Hewett
Linda Russell

Shawn Vaughn
Nicholas Wellborn
William Russell
Mark Davis

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter for the County Attorney to prepare an ordinance for a six (6) month moratorium on issuing any permits for these businesses. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Ordinances

County Attorney Forman requested approval to set an adoption hearing on September 7, 2017 for the proposed Animal Control Ordinance Amendments.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve setting an adoption hearing. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Repeal Medical Marijuana Moratorium

County Attorney Forman requested approval to set an adoption hearing on September 7, 2017, for an ordinance lifting the moratorium on permitting, licensing and other activities within the County regarding medical marijuana dispensaries.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve setting the adoption hearing. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Utility Easement

Mr. Ronald A. Robbins, owner of the Marion Street Deli and Pub is requesting approval of a utility easement across county property between East Veterans Street and the rear of his establishment, in order to install a dedicated four (4) inch water line for a required fire protection sprinkler system.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Sandra Smith offered comment.

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

Resolution No. 2017R-33 – Ellisville Tax Increment Area

On June 15, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners approved Ordinance No. 2016-24, establishing the “Ellisville Overlay District”. In order to establish a dedicated funding source to provide improvements for future roadway, water, and wastewater facilities or for economic development purposes we are proposing the Board approve Resolution No 2017R-33. The Resolution establishes the Ellisville Tax Increment Area geographical boundaries, provides for the calculation of the tax increment, establishes the Ellisville Reserve Account, and authorizes the pledge and appropriation of reserve funds.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to approve Resolution 2017R-33, Ellisville Tax Increment Area. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff Comments:

CM Scott requested the Chairman set a workshop concerning an issue with the business tax receipts. The Chairman directed CM Scott to do so.

Open Public Comments and/or Questions:

Members of the public addressed the Board with their comments and/or questions regarding the following items:

Mr. Steven Dicks on the Herlong Road Project. Commissioners Phillips and Nash, County Attorney Foreman and ACM Kirby responded. Mr. Foreman was directed to look into reopening negotiations with Mr. Mann with the possibility of changing the path of the road project.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court