

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
September 7, 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 Katrina Vercher

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:

- Resolution 2017R-45

Deletions:

- Item # 1 on the consent agenda

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

Ministerial Matters

Proclamation No. 2017P-9

Commissioner DePratter read the Proclamation recognizing James H. Montgomery for twenty-four years of dedicated service to the Board of County Commissioners and the citizens of Columbia County and designating September, 24, 2017, as James H. Montgomery appreciation day in Columbia County.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to approve Proclamation 2017P-9.
SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of the Board not Requiring Board Vote or Action

Curbside Recycling

Christa Pribble gave a presentation on the benefits of recycling and requested a special committee be appointed to investigate the benefits.

Commissioner Williams requested that County Attorney Foreman prepare a resolution to form a special committee for Board approval.

Public Hearings

Resolution No. 2017R – 35 – Fire Protection Services Assessment

A Resolution reimposing Fire Protection Assessments against assessable property within the Columbia County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Louis Munoz	Brian Kroll	Nader Vakili
James Parnell	Lucy Smith	Lucy Smith
Stewart Lilker	Barbara Lemley	Kathryn Gray

Mark Snook with HAECO offered comment.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-35 with the amendment of the square footage cap for commercial industrial/warehouse and institutional to 300,000 square feet. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips.

Discussion ensued.

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

Resolution No. 2017R – 36 – Solid Waste Service Assessment

A Resolution reimposing Solid Waste Assessments against assessable property within the Columbia County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Louis Munoz	Stewart Lilker	Nader Vakili
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The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-36. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017R – 37 – Emerald Lakes Street Lighting Services Assessment

A Resolution reimposing Emerald Lakes Street Lighting Services Assessments against assessable property, pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2016R-37. SECOND by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017R – 38 – Spring Hollow Street Lighting Services Assessment

A Resolution reimposing Spring Hollow Street Lighting Services Assessments against assessable property within the Columbia County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-38. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017R – 39 – Carolyn Heights Street Lighting Services Assessment

A Resolution imposing Carolyn Heights Street Lighting Services Assessments against assessable property within the Columbia County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. This is a new assessment.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-39. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017R – 40 – Pine Ridge Court Road Improvement Project

A Resolution reimposing Pine Ridge Court Maintenance Services and Road Improvement Project Assessments against assessable property, pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017.

The public hearing opened.

Citizen Louis Munoz offered comment.

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-40.
SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017R – 41 – Rolling Oaks Paving Project

A Resolution reimposing Rolling Oaks Paving Project Assessments against assessable property, within the Columbia County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2017R-41. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

First Budget Hearing:

CM Scott briefly explained the County's budget process.

Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

CM Scott announced that for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners Millage rate to be levied is 8.015 mills which is .80% higher than the rolled back rate of 7.9504.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Louis Munoz Lane Watkins Crista Pribble Nader Vakili

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt and set tentative millage rate of 8.0150 mills for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year which is .81% higher than the rolled back rate of 7.9504. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

CM Scott listed the offices and departments that are funded from the General Fund and announced that the total proposed budget for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year is \$43,024,405.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Louis Munoz Stewart Lilker

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt a tentative general fund budget, appropriations and reserves budget at \$43, 024,405. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Funds not Levying Ad-Valorem Budgets for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

CM Scott listed the funds that do not levy Ad-Valorem taxes.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Stewart Lilker Crista Pribble Barbara Lemley
Louis Munoz Lucy Smith

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt tentative budgets for the following funds:

Transportation Trust	\$ 13,575,080
Municipal Services Fund	15,216,117
Sheriff	18,007,200
Court Services	1,316,750
Landfill Enterprise	4,116,864
Library Fund	2,178,849
Special Law Enforcement	55,100
Tourist Development Tax-Operating	3,745,900
Local Housing Assistance	370,000
Economic Development	1,754,100
Utilities	2,067,595
CDBG	750,000
Road Improvement	15,826,824
Capital Projects	21,510,000
Jail Construction	2,200,000
Road Improvement Debt Service	745,750
Administration Building Debt Service	700,000

SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Final Budget Hearing Notice

The Final Budget Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget will be held on September 21, 2017 at the regular scheduled meeting.

Public Hearings

Moratorium on Cannabis Dispensing – Ordinance 2017-15

This ordinance is to repeal Ordinance 2016-31 and to lift the moratorium on Cannabis Dispensing Businesses.

The public hearing opened.

Citizen Louis Munoz offered comment.

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-15. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Abolish Animal Control Board – Ordinance 2017-16

This ordinance is to amend chapter 18 or the County Code of Ordinances to repeal article II and abolish the Animal Control Board and provide for the enforcement of animal control violations through the Special Magistrate.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-16 amending Chapter 18. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to strike Section 9 from the Ordinance. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Consent Agenda:

- (1) ~~911 Addressing – Requesting Approval of Private Road Name – NW Dicks Lake Court – District 1~~
- (2) 911 Communications Center - Request to Apply for Fall 2017 Rural E-911 Grant for Exacom Recorder Maintenance & Support

- (3) BCC Administration - Suwannee River Economic Council (SHIP) - Release of Lien Agreement - Michael and Jill Childs
- (4) BCC Administration - Suwannee River Economic Council (SHIP) - Release of Lien Agreement - Thyron & Lateri Taylor
- (5) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of the Columbia County SHIP Annual Report for Fiscal Years 2014-2015 (close out year), 2015-2016 (interim year 1) and 2016-2017 (interim year 2)
- (6) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Contract between Columbia County/State of Florida Department of Health for Operations of the Columbia County Health Department – FY 2017-2018
- (7) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Agreement - Columbia County/North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services - FY 2018
- (8) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Agreement - Columbia County/North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - Annual Monitoring of Hazardous Waste Generators – FY 2018
- (9) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - August 3, 2017
- (10) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Special Meeting/Budget Workshop - August 17, 2017
- (11) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - August 17, 2017
- (12) BCC Administration- Requesting Approval for Florida Power and Light Company – Easement to Montgomery Building
- (13) BCC Administration - Requesting Approval of the Preliminary Estimate of the Permanent Population of Columbia County as of April 1, 2017
- (14) Building and Zoning - Requesting Approval for Special Family Lot Permit (SFLP 17-41) - Jeffrey Scott Thomas, Son - Michael and Catherine Thomas, Property Owners
- (15) Fire Department - Requesting Approval of 50/50 Grant to Purchase Equipment - Two New Brush Trucks - \$4,971
- (16) Maintenance - Contract Renewal for Otis Elevator Company - \$10,560

- (17) Maintenance - Contract Renewal for Jacksonville Sound for Fire Alarm Monitoring - Courthouse, Annex, Emergency Operations Center and Columbia County Detention Center - \$4,120
- (18) Maintenance - Contract Renewal with Premier Water for Courthouse and Columbia County Detention Center - \$7,176
- (19) Maintenance - Requesting Approval for One Year Contract Renewal for Johnson Controls - \$50,388
- (20) Library - Distribute Donated Funds to the Appropriate Lines in the Library's Budget - BA 17- 67 - \$350
- (21) Library - Requesting Approval to Submit Letter Requesting \$5,000 in Grant Funds – Dorothy Louise Kyler Foundation - Purchase Children's Materials
- (22) Library - Requesting Permission for the Libraries to Close on November 11, Veterans Day Holiday, In Addition to the County Holiday of November 10
- (23) Public Works - Utility Permit - AT&T - SW Gables Glen
- (24) Public Works - Utility Permit - AT&T - County Road 242
- (25) Public Works - Utility Permit - AT&T - Giles Martin Avenue
- (26) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - NW Spring Hollow Boulevard
- (27) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Marvin Burnett Road
- (28) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Deanna Terrace
- (29) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Sisters Welcome Road
- (30) Public Works - Requesting Approval of Resolution 2017R-42 - Town of Fort White FDOT SCOP Project - BA 17-68 - \$351,678
- (31) Public Works - Requesting Approval to Perform Work on Private Property - Clint Dicks, Property Owner - 609 SW Deanna Street - Metal Hit the House and Damaged the Trim and Siding - \$90
- (32) Public Works - Requesting Approval to Enter Private Property - David & Debra Scott, Property Owner - 246 Crocket Way - Drainage Repair
- (33) Public Works - Requesting Approval to Enter Private Property - Lola Monroe, Property Owner - 3056 Washington Street - Repair Driveway Washout Caused by Runoff from County Road

- (34) Sheriff's Office - Request to Allocate Revenue in the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund - Annual Harmony In The Streets Youth Camps - BA 17-65 - \$14,000
- (35) Solid Waste - Requesting Approval for Mosquito Control Budget Amendment - BA 17-66 - \$18,393

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

Discussion and Action Items:

Economic Development Business Incentive Guideline

Economic Development Director Hunter presented the Board with the new Business Incentive Guideline that is to be used as a basis for determining what financial incentives new and expanding industry and new retail development qualify to receive.

Citizens Louis Munoz and Stewart Lilker offered comment.

Discussion ensued.

RFP 2017-S Architectural Services for Jail Project

The Evaluation Committee met and ranked the firms for RFP 2017-S for architectural design for a new jail. The committee recommended approval to begin negotiations with the number one ranked firm, Dewberry Architects, Inc.

Discussion ensued.

Citizen Nader Vakili offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to accept the rankings. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Southside Recreation Improvements

Staff is recommending the following capital improvements to be funded from the approximately \$600,000 in the Southside Recreation Reserve:

Batting Cages	\$23,000
Privacy Fence Slats	35,000
Protective Netting	21,000
Soft Surface on Playground	50,000
Coach's Building Repairs	45,000
RC Track Pavilion	40,000
RC Track Restroom	<u>70,000</u>

Total \$284,000

Discussion ensued.

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

Resolution 2017R-45- Declaration of State of Emergency

Hurricane Irma will affect the entire State of Florida. A declaration of a state of emergency is necessary to allow staff to quickly respond to the storm.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve Resolution 2017R-45. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Property Acquisition Guidelines Review

CM Scott reviewed the Property Acquisition guidelines.

Discussion ensued.

Citizens Louis Munoz and Nador Vakili offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to cease all negotiations and start following this policy. SECOND by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

Herlong Road Project

County Attorney Foreman presented the Board with a settlement agreement with David Mann on Herlong Road parcels 68, 68A and 69 of \$130,000.

Citizen Stephen Dicks offered comment.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to counter \$100,000 with a five day deadline, we will put the S curve in the road. SECOND by Commissioner Nash.

Discussion ensued.

AMENDED MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to offer seven days to accept the \$100,000 and do away with the \$130,000. SECOND by Commissioner Nash.

Discussion ensued.

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

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter that is we acquire the Mann property we move forward with the road. SECOND by Commissioner Nash.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioners DePratter and Nash withdrew their motion.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to offer Mr. Farnell two times the appraised value plus the fence with the same seven day deadline. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioners Nash and Phillips withdrew their motion.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to contact Mr. Farnell the seventh day after the Mann deadline. If Mr. Mann doesn't accept his offer then we don't negotiate with Mr. Farnell. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff Comments:

ACM Kirby gave an update on Hurricane Irma.

Open Public Comments and/or Questions:

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

Barbara Lemley on the Olustee Festival, the sales tax and the Lake Shore Hospital Authority.

Louis Munoz on the Herlong Road Project and recycling.

Lucy Smith on Tunsil Lane.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioners Nash and DePratter offered comment on the land policy.

Commissioner Murphy announced that he will be absent from the September 21 meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court