

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
September 6, 2018

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 Timothy Murphy, Rusty DePratter, Bucky Nash, Everett Phillips and Ronald Williams.

Others in Attendance: County Manager Ben Scott ("CM")
Assistant County Manager David Kraus ("ACM")
Assistant County Manager Kevin Kirby ("ACM")
County Attorney Joel Foreman
BOCC Finance Director Danielle Beard
Deputy Clerk Katrina Vercher

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:

- Mosquito Control Budget
- Handicap door at Fort White Sub Station

Deletions:

None

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve the agenda with additions.
SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Ministerial Matters

Proclamation No. 2018P-6

Commissioner Murphy read the Proclamation recognizing the Impact Baseball Team for their hard work, dedication, sportsmanship and teamwork.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to approve Proclamation 2018P-6.
SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Century Ambulance 2017 Emergency Medical Services Report

Steven Stith, Regional Director for Century Ambulance, presented the Board with the 2017 Columbia County EMS Report.

Public Hearings

Country Lakes in Woodborough, Phase 5

SD 0181 – A request for approval of a minor subdivision plat for tax parcel 02267-135.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve SD 0181. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”)

ACM Kraus would like to apply for the CDBG grant to help fund the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant in Ellisville. The plant is operating at around 75% capacity and additional growth in the area will require an expansion to the plant. This is the first of two required public hearings. Staff would like to receive comment on the needs of that community.

Discussion ensued.

Ordinance No. 2018-15 – Aloe Court and Merrimack Place

An ordinance amending the County Code of Ordinances to add Aloe Court and Merrimack Place to the list of County roads which allow the operation of golf carts.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-15. SECOND by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2018-16 – Court Costs

An ordinance amending chapter 38, article II, division 7 of the county code of ordinances to conform the count’s code with state law.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-16. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Final Rate Hearings:

Resolution No. 2018R – 32 – 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, 2018.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-32. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried 4 to 1 with Commissioner Williams voting in opposition.

Resolution No. 2018R – 33 – 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, 2018. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-33. SECOND by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018R – 34 – 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, 2018. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-34. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018R – 35 – 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, 2018. There are no rate changes.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-35. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018R – 36 – 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, 2018. This is a new assessment.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-36 with a notation that staff is going to reimburse those residents from last year where we did not have the full lighting service in place and they still paid that assessment. It will be prorated out from the time it went online and those customers paid their money back. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips.

Discussion ensued.

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

Resolution No. 2018R – 37 – 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 and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-37. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018R – 38 – 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, 2018.

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2018R-38. 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 2018-2019

CM Scott presented a budget comparison for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, using two different millage rates; 8.8700 and 8.0150.

Discussion ensued.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Louis Munoz	Bonnie Foster	Bruce Borders
Sherry Justin	Barbara Lemley	Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson
James Parnell	Stewart Lilker	

The public hearing closed.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt and set tentative millage rate of 8.0150 mills for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. SECOND by Commissioner Williams.

AMENDED MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt and set tentative millage rate of 8.0150 mills for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year which is 3.4% higher than the rolled back rate of 7.7511. AMENDED SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

CM Scott listed the offices and departments that are funded from the General Fund and announced that the total proposed budget for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year is \$39,884,181.

The public hearing opened.

The following citizens offered comment or asked questions:

Crista Pribble	Louis Munoz	Stewart Lilker
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The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt a tentative general fund budget, appropriations and reserves budget at \$39,884,181. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Funds not Levying Ad-Valorem Budgets for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

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

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to adopt tentative budgets, appropriations and reserves budget for the following funds:

Transportation Trust	\$ 12,616,935
Municipal Services Fund	15,039,142
Sheriff	19,231,267
Court Services	979,350
Landfill Enterprise	9,525,839
Library Enhancement	2,299,630
Special Law Enforcement	21,300
Tourist Development Tax-Operating	4,293,750
Local Housing Assistance	370,000
Economic Development	1,280,425
Utilities	391,310
CDBG	750,000
Paving Assessment	192,340
Road Improvement	13,233,263
Capital Projects	10,560,000
Jail Construction	11,435,000
Road Improvement Debt Service	782,750
Jail Debt Service	977,450

SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Final Budget Hearing Notice

The Final Budget Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget will be held on September 20, 2018 at the regular scheduled meeting.

Consent Agenda:

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

- (1) BCC Administration - BA 18-65 - Transfer Reserves from Sheriff's Special Revenue Fund for Mandated School Resource Officer Deputy Program - \$225,000

- (2) BCC Administration - BA 18-66 - Clerk's Record Storage \$20,000
- (3) BCC Administration - Fort White High School - Fireworks Display - November 1, 2018
- (4) BCC Administration - Pinemount Elementary School - Westside Community Center as Evacuation Site
- (5) BCC Administration - University of Florida - Notice of the Preliminary Estimate of the Permanent Population
- (6) BCC Administration - Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - August 16, 2018
- (7) BCC Administration - Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Special Meeting - August 23, 2018
- (8) BCC Administration - North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - FY 2019 Agreement - Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services - \$35,000
- (9) BCC Administration - North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - FY 2019 - Agreement - Annual Monitoring of Hazardous Waste Generators - \$9,731
- (10) Building And Zoning - Special Family Lot Permit (SFLP 18-30) Joseph Harris, Grandson - Earnest Brown, Property Owner - 1135 SW Scrubtown Road
- (11) Clerk to Board Finance - Payment of Bills and Vouchers - \$1,220,677
- (12) Information Technology - Comcast Contract - Fire Station 51 - 36 months at \$125 per month
- (13) Library - Certification of Credentials - Single Library Administrative Head
- (14) Library - Annual Plan of Service - Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019
- (15) Public Works - Utility Permit - AT&T - Suwannee Valley Road
- (16) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Paloma Court
- (17) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - Gull Drive
- (18) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - Bascom Norris Drive
- (19) Public Works - Enter Private Property - 1475 Sebastian Circle - John Robertson, Property Owner - Driveway Repair

- (20) Public Works - Cardboard Recycling Bin - Columbia County Fair Grounds - \$1,441
- (21) Solid Waste - BA 18-67 - Mosquito Control Budget Amendment

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

Discussion and Action Items:

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Mosquito Control Budget

Mosquito Control is requesting approval of the 2018-2019 budget. They must have an approved budget to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by September 15, 2018.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the Mosquito Control budget .
SECOND by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

BA 18-64 Sports Feasibility Study Contract

A flat field feasibility study was recommended in the strategic plan. The project was put out to bid and the Sports Marketing Director, Alden Rosner, is requesting approval of the contract with Sports Facility Advisory in the amount of \$42,850 and a budget amendment to move the money from reserves to Sports Marketing/Professional Services to pay the contract.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve BA 18-64 in the amount of \$42,850. SECOND by Commissioner Nash.

Discussion ensued.

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

BOCC/CCSO Interlocal Agreement

This Board (“BOCC”) and the Columbia County Sheriff’s Office (“CCSO”) have been attempting to reach an Interlocal Agreement for the continued operation of the Combined Communications Center. Sheriff Hunter requested the help of the County Attorney. Because it is a negotiation between the Board and the Sheriff, it would be a conflict of interest for Mr. Foreman without the Board and the Sheriff execute a joint waiver of conflict and allow Mr. Foreman to mediate.

Discussion ensued.

Citizens Stewart Lilker and Louis Munoz offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to have Mr. Foreman mediate. SECOND by Commissioner Williams.

Discussion ensued.

Sheriff Hunter addressed the Board.

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

Realignment of Union Park Road

Staff received a request from Citizen Thomas Demas that a portion of Union Park Road be abandoned and realigned. Mr. Demas has been in contact with the other property owners that would be affected and he is willing to pay the construction costs associated with the road realignment. Board gave staff direction for Mr. Demas to pay all costs associated with road realignment and future road closure.

Discussion ensued.

Storm Debris Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide the citizens and taxpayers of Columbia County with an equal opportunity of access to County services, and to avoid duplicative and often costly return trips to retrieve storm debris deposited into the right-of-way.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt the organic storm debris policy. SECOND by Commissioner DePratter.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Foreman was directed to prepare an ordinance outlining the penalties for violation of this policy to bring back to this Board for approval.

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

Handicap Door at Fort White Sub Station

Commissioner DePratter received a letter from Ronnie Brannon, Columbia County Tax Collector, concerning the lack of an automatic door for the handicap at the Fort White Sub-Station.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to install the automatic door. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

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 concerning recycling.
Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson concerning flooding at Buzzards Roost.
Stewart Lilker concerning flooding.

Staff Comments:

County Attorney Foreman addressed the memo he drafted concerning motions as laid out in the Board policy.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Phillips congratulated Commissioners Elect Toby Witt and Rocky Ford.

Commissioner Murphy spoke about the Infrastructure Tax. He also addressed the monies that were approved for an engineering office. Staff was directed to research the purchase of a modular to fill that need and prepare an RFP for Board approval.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Timothy Murphy, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court