

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
January 3, 2019

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, Rocky Ford,
Timothy Murphy, Bucky Nash and Toby Witt.

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

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:
Project 18-6
Request for Public Hearing

Deletions:
None

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

Consent Agenda:

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve the consent agenda. SECOND
by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

- (1) Clerk to Board Finance - Approval of Bills and Vouchers - \$2,051,606
- (2) Fire Department - BA 19-21 - Fire Prevention Funds - \$1,600
- (3) Public Works - Request to Install Speed Humps - NE Derby Terrace
- (4) Tourist Development Council - BA 19-15 - Purchase New Golf Cart - \$6,300

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

Discussion and Action Items:

BA 19-19 – Waste Water Treatment Plant

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has awarded Columbia County a Florida Jobs Growth Grant in the amount of \$10,200,000 for the construction of a waste water treatment plant.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to execute a Florida Jobs Growth Grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and approve BA 19-19. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy.

Citizen Stewart Lilker posed a question. Commissioners Williams and Murphy responded.

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

BA 19-22 – Hurricane Irma Road Repairs

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) has awarded Columbia County a subgrant to reimburse the County for road repair expenditures in the amount of \$219,777 related to Hurricane Irma.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve BA 19-22 and accept the FEMA Subaward and Grant Agreement for Hurricane Irma Road Repairs. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Project 18-6

The owners of the company named in Project 18-6 asked for something assuring them that the road and the infrastructure on Bell Road would be brought up to the level of their needs. A letter doing so was presented to the Board for approval.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve the letter to the owners and project manager of Project 18-6. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Public Hearing

A citizen has requested closure of a utility easement. County Attorney Foreman requested the Boards approval to set the hearing on January 17, 2019.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to set the public hearing for January 17, 2019. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.
Florida Jobs Growth Grants

ACM Kraus gave an update on the Florida Jobs Growth Grants that have been awarded to the County.

Open Public Comments and/or Questions:

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

Sammy Dunn - condition of Bascom Norris and Troy roads.

Stewart Lilker – the waste water treatment agreement resolution, the charter commission review and a citizen budget advisory task force.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Nash requested a report on tournaments held in the County and asked about work on Demas Road.

Commissioner Murphy also asked questions about Demas Road. ACM Kirby and Mr. Foreman responded.

Commissioner Witt commented on the Bell Road project and the Mega Industrial site.

Commissioner Williams stated that a list of committee assignments will be at the next scheduled meeting.

Commissioner Murphy asked Dan Hartley with Representative Brannon’s office to address the Board. Mr. Harley introduced himself and spoke briefly.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court