

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
February 7, 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:

Amendment to Resolution No. 2019R-5
Florida Power and Light Update

Deletions:

Cannon Creek Project

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

Ministerial Matters

Florida Power & Light Solar Update

Jim Bush with Florida Power & Light updated the Board on the solar site close to Interstate 10 and invited them to a commission ceremony.

Proclamation 2019P-3

Commissioner Murphy read the Proclamation designating the week of February 16-23, 2019, as National Future Farmers of America Organization week in Columbia County.

FFA student Kaelynn Dees thanked the Commission for the Proclamation and spoke briefly. She also requested permission to fly the FFA Flag at the Courthouse during FFA Week.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve Proclamation 2019P-3. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to allow the FFA Flag to fly during FFA Week. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

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

- (1) BCC Administration - Annual Contract Renewal - Current Problems 2018-2019 - \$10,000
- (2) BCC Administration - Columbia High School Graduation Fireworks - May 31, 2019
- (3) BCC Administration - Florida Park Service Request to Provide Firewood for Olustee Battle Reenactment
- (4) BCC Administration - FY 2018-2019 Contract - Board of County Commissioners/Columbia County Health Department - Operation of the Health Department - \$153,784
- (5) BCC Administration - Minutes - Board of County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - September 6, 2018
- (6) BCC Administration - Minutes - Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting - December 20, 2018
- (7) Building and Zoning - Special Family Lot Permit #1901 - Corrana Cook, Daughter - Mary Kari, Property Owner - Lot 7 Mauldin Farms, SW County Road 240
- (8) Building and Zoning - Special Family Lot Permit #1903 - David Joseph Waites, Grandson - Shirley E. Bozzuto, Property Owner - 10015 SW County Road 240
- (9) Building and Zoning - Special Family Lot Permit #1904 - Summer McKenzie, Daughter - Arick McKenzie, Property Owner - 725 SW Spirit Ave., Ft. White, FL
- (10) Clerk to Board Finance - Approval of Vouchers and Bills - \$2,546,846

- (11) Library - Comcast Agreement - Internet Service for Main and West Branch Libraries - \$950.00 per month
- (12) Library - BA 19-29 - Awarded NEFLIN Innovation Project Agreement - \$9,650
- (13) Library - BA 19-27 - Library Donation by Friends of the Library - \$600
- (14) Library - BA 19-28 - 2018-19 Library Services and Technology Act Innovation Grant Agreement - \$4,000
- (15) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - Bascom Norris Drive
- (16) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - Brown Road
- (17) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - Double Run and Tammy Lane
- (18) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - NW Guerdon Road
- (19) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - NW Guerdon Road(splice boxes)
- (20) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - Price Creek Road
- (21) Public Works - Utility Permit - FP&L Co. - Tammy Lane
- (22) Purchasing - Bid Award No. 2019-A - Power Station, Inc. - Waste Tire Disposal - \$460 per load
- (23) Purchasing - Request to Re-Advertise - Bid No. 2018-Q - Design/Build of a Modular Engineering Office

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

Discussion and Action Items:

Interlocal Agreement - Wastewater Collections System

Staff recommended approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lake City for a Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant to study the City's Wastewater Collection System. The Florida Department of Economic Development has tentatively approved the study contingent upon a Interlocal agreement between the County and the City.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lake City on the study of the City Wastewater Collections System. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

Interlocal Agreement – Bell Road Utilities

The County has received notification from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity of a Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant award in the amount of \$100,000 to complete the design, engineering and permitting of the utilities for the Bell Road Corridor.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lake City for Bell Road Utilities in the amount of \$100,000. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2019R-2 – Employee Recognition Program

A resolution establishing an employee recognition awards program to recognize those employees that have demonstrated their commitment to the citizens of Columbia County through their service tenure, exemplary actions over and beyond their normal duties or their substantial contributions to our community.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve Resolution No. 2019R-2. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

BA 19-31 – Bid No. 2018-6 – High Falls Road Bridge

CDM Contracting of Lake Butler was the low bidder at \$328,713.32, however, Curt's Construction formally requested Local Preference under our Purchasing Policy. The request meets the guidelines set forth in the policy therefore; staff recommended awarding the bid to Curt's Construction in the amount of \$333,123.60.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve BA 19-31- Bid NO. 2018-6 High Falls Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$333,123.60 to Curt's Construction. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Fort White and Heavenly Rest Cemetery

Mayor Frazier from the Town of Fort White is asking the County for assistance in cleaning the Fort White and Heavenly Rest Cemeteries.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve assisting the Town of Fort White by cleaning the cemeteries utilizing County forces with the stipulation that the Town is

responsible for any damage to grave sites. SECOND by Commissioner Nash The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2019R-5 – Eminent Domain for Bell Road Project

County Attorney Foreman requested authorization to proceed with eminent domain of four (4) parcels on the Bell Road Project; parcels 201, 204, 210 and 211 as described in the resolution.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to adopt Resolution No. 2019R-5, authorizing eminent domain of parcels 201, 204, 210 and 211 of the Bell Road Project. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Code Enforcement in Town of Fort White

The Town of Fort White has requested that the County perform code enforcement duties in the Town.

County Attorney Foreman suggested a board be formed to explore the issues associated with the County providing this service.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to appoint Commissioner Ford to lead a committee to explore the issues associated with providing Code Enforcement for the Town of Fort White and to bring recommendations back to the Board of County Commissioners within sixty days. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy.

Citizen Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson offered comment.

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

South Columbia Sports Park

Staff recommended approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners and the Columbia County School Board for the continuing use of the South Columbia Sports Park.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the School District for the continuing use of the South Columbia Sports Park. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

BA 19-30 – Equipment Purchases

A budget amendment is required for the 2019 fiscal years equipment purchases in the amount of \$592,810.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve BA 19-30. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

Right-Of-Way Acquisition Agent Agreement

CM Scott recommended approval of the Professional Services Agreement with Sandy Kishton.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve Professional Services Agreement with Sandy Kishton DBA ReMax Professionals to represent Columbia County for right-of-way acquisitions. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. 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:

Deborah Scott on the road construction on Herlong Road.

David Scott on the road construction on Herlong Road.

Stewart Lilker on the idea of a Citizen Budget Advisory Task Force; the lack of reports on committees, court cases and such.

Jeffery Hill on the court case against his son.

Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson on CR 138 construction and the congestion at Highway 441 and I10.

Barbara Lemley on the congestion on US 90 and the use of the bed tax.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Murphy spoke of the homeless issue.

Discussion ensued.

The following citizens spoke on the homeless issue:

Barbara Lemley Sandra Buck-Camp Sandra Smith Bruce Border

Commissioner Witt on the City's issue with the communication system.

Public Comment:

Citizen Bruce Border addressed the Board concerning Fort White Middle School losing the championship. He would like the Board to raise money to purchase trophies and championship rings for the team.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
