

Columbia County  
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of  
**April 4, 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 Kevin Kirby ("ACM")  
County Attorney Joel Foreman  
Deputy Clerk Katrina Vercher

**Agenda Additions/Deletions**

Additions:  
BA 19-42 Welcome Center Renovations

Deletions:  
Consent Item No. 5

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

**Ministerial Matters**

Proclamation No. 2019P-6

A proclamation declaring May 7, 2019 as North Central Florida Regional Planning Council day.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve Proclamation No. 2019P-6.  
SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation No. 2019P-8

A proclamation declaring the County's appreciation to Lt David Bickel for his service to the Town of Fort White and our residents.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve Proclamation No. 2019P-8.  
SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation No. 2019P-2

A proclamation designating the week of April 14-20, 2019 as Public Safety Telecommunicator's week.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve Proclamation No. 2019P-2. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation No. 2019P-7

A proclamation designating April 2019 as Water Conservation month.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve Proclamation No. 2019P-7. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:**

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve the consent agenda with item # 5 pulled for discussion. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

- (1) BCC Administration - Welcome Center Renovations - Change Order 2 - (\$131,607)
- (2) BCC Administration - CDBG Interlocal Agreement with City of Lake City - Bell Road Corridor Utilities
- (3) Clerk to Board Finance - Approval of Bills and Vouchers - \$4,261,451
- (4) County Extension - BA 19-41 - University of Florida Weight Management Educational Program Donation - \$1,000
- ~~(5) Public Works - Residency Requirement Waiver - Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager - Operations~~
- (6) Purchasing - Bid No. 2017-B - Bubba's Site Prep - Sand Loading and Hauling

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

**Discussion and Action Items:**

Residency Requirement Waiver – Consent Item No. 5

ACM Kirby has requested permission to reside in Suwannee County at some point in the future.

Discussion ensued.

Citizens Barbara Lemley and Stewart Lilker offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve request. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Commercial Solid Waste Collection

A dispute has arisen with a County franchisee and the County's contracted waste collector, Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. for commercial roll-off dumpster services within the County.

Citizen Robert Sheppard addressed the Board concerning his new franchise.

Kerri Bernhard and Robert Lisben, with Champion Homes addressed the Board with concerns about Waste Pro.

Frank Kramer with Waste Pro addressed the Board.

Discussion ensued. No Board action taken.

#### Closure of Unnamed Road

Request by the County Attorney to set a hearing on the petition by Hercules Maxwell to close an unopened, unnamed road north of NE Track Drive.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve setting hearing on petition to vacate for May 2, 2019. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Rum Island Park

Staff requested that Rum Island Park be closed until renovations are complete due to vandalism and safety.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to do some renovations to the docks to make them safe for the public and to wait until after Labor Day to close the park for the other renovations. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Old Bellamy Road

A request by several property owners was made for the realignment of SW Old Bellamy Road.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to relocate Old Bellamy Road. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion failed by a vote of 3 to 2 with Commissioners Murphy, Williams and Witt voting in opposition.

#### Intersection of Pinemount and Birley Road

Concept Development, Inc. has applied for a special exception for tax parcel 02778-002. There are concerns of traffic safety at the intersection of Pinemount and Birley roads. The developer has offered to pay for signalization at the intersection at a cost of \$153,822 and the County will be responsible for installing turning lanes at a cost of \$261,926.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve development agreement with Concept Development Inc. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Zola Henry offered comment.

#### Engineering Office

After a review of the RFP's received, staff recommended awarding the project to Swartz Building Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$95,744.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve staff recommendation. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried by a vote of 3 to 2 with Commissioners Ford and Williams voting in opposition.

#### Resolution No. 2019R-8

A resolution approving State of Florida, Department of Transportation, supplemental reimbursement agreement with Columbia County Florida to facilitate construction of Bell Road in Columbia County.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve Resolution No. 2019R-8. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

### Richardson Recreation Center

Staff recommended awarding Bid No. 2018-5 for the Richardson Recreation Center court renovation to the low bidder, Live Oak Management Group in the amount of \$52,871.50.

Commissioner Witt declared a conflict.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to award Bid No. 2018-5 to Live Oak Management Group. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0 with Commissioner Witt abstaining.

### City/County Planning Committee

The City and the County agreed to a cooperative planning committee. Staff is recommending the following positions for that committee:

Chair of County Commission  
County Manager  
Assistant County Manager  
County Engineer  
Building and Zoning Director  
Other Employees as Needed

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve joint City-County Cooperative Planning Committee. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

### Alligator Lake Public Small Game Hunting Area

Staff is recommending approval of a request to include the Alligator Lake Public Small Game Hunting Area in alligator hunting this fall for persons possessing a Columbia County Alligator Harvest Unit and increasing the number of permits from four (4) to six (6).

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

### BA 19-42 Welcome Center Renovations

Staff requested approval to allocate funds to cover removing the decorative steel from the roof of the building and installing coping to prevent rain leaking into the building.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve BA 19-42. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. 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:

Sandra Buck-Camp on the homeless population.

Sandra Smith on DBI spraying the County right of ways.  
Discussion ensued. Steve Scott offered comment.

Lester McKellum with The Greater Lake City Community Development Corporation addressed the Board concerning the new affordable housing development they are trying to build.

Barbara Lemley on parking at the Courthouse.

Steve Scott with Friends of Rum Island announced cleanup at Alligator Lake.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Ford on the lack of public parking around the Courthouse.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ronald Williams, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

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P. DeWitt Cason  
Clerk of Circuit Court