

Columbia County  
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of  
**May 5, 2022**

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regular meeting at the auditorium of the School Board Administrative Complex at 9:30 a.m. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chairman Robby Hollingsworth, Timothy Murphy, Toby Witt, Rocky Ford and Ronald Williams

Others in Attendance: County Manager David Kraus ("CM")  
Assistant County Manager Kevin Kirby ("ACM")  
County Attorney Joel Foreman  
Deputy Clerk Susan Heimer

**Agenda Additions/Deletions**

Additions:

CM Kraus - City Resolution, and contract from for the Florida Crown relating to the Summer Youth Program.

Deletions: None

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

**Consent Agenda:**

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

- 1) BCC Administration - Asset Disposal Request. See attached list.
- 2) BCC Administration - Amendment to Individual Assistance Program - Catholic Charities and United Way of Suwannee Valley
- 3) BCC Administration - BA 22-61 Lulu Community Center Pressure Wash
- 4) BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 4/28/2022 - \$20,187.00

- 5) BCC Finance - BA 22-58 Repairs and Renovations of the Watertown Building for Supervisor of Elections
- 6) BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 4/27/22 - \$2,823,122.
- 7) Building Department - Special Family Lot Permit Application - SFLP 22 12 – Kenneth Sr. and Wanda Williams - Deeding 5 Acres to their Son Kenneth Williams, Jr.
- 8) Economic Development - BA 22-62 - EFI Site Readiness Grant
- 9) Public Works - Utility Permit - City of Lake City - NW Lake Jeffery Road
- 10) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SE CR 252

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

### **Discussion and action items**

#### Joel Foreman, County Attorney

- (1) Resolution 2022R-22 – Changes to Economic Development Advisory Board

County Attorney Foreman presented proposed changes to the Economic Development Advisory Board Bi-laws, including reserving a seat for a representative of the Chamber of Commerce; applying the six-year term limit to the Chamber of Commerce and Florida Gateway College appointees; removal of mandatory attendance for the county attorney, and clarification of expense reimbursements.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to adopt Resolution 2022R-22. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The Motion carried unanimously. See attached resolution.

- (2) Request for an adoption hearing; Ordinance prohibiting solicitation and loitering in and around county buildings

Commissioners and County staff have recently received more frequent complaints concerning solicitation activities outside of county buildings, such as the County Annex and libraries.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to set a hearing to consider adoption of the ordinance on May 19, 2022, and direct the County Manager to reconstitute the House

Committee pursuant to Section 2-434 of the Code of Ordinances. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously. See attached ordinance.

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

- (1) Resolution 2022R-21 – SE Charles Terrace - Small County Outreach Program Grant Agreement

ACM Kirby presented the grant agreement from FDOT for the road reconstruction on SW Charles Terrace from Cypress Lake Road to County Road 242.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve and execute SCOP Grant Agreement for SW Charles Terrace along with Resolution 2022R-21. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously. See attached Resolution.

- (2) Amendment to county purchasing policies

This amendment will update the County's purchasing policy to reflect and to be in compliance with the state statute. The county's policy requires FDOT pre-qualification for a road projects in excess of \$150,000 while the State statute, F.S. 337.14(1), sets the amount at \$250,000.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt the proposed Policy Amendment that reflects the amount of \$250,000. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

David Kraus, County Manager

- (1) County Manager's annual performance review

Per the Columbia County Charter, the Board of County Commissioners is required to conduct an annual review of the performance of the County Manager at the first regular meeting in May.

Commissioner Ford commented on the great advancements that have been made in in the past year.

Commissioner Williams commented on the great leadership that CM Kraus has shown.

No action was taken.

- (2) BA 22-59 Extrication equipment from Firehouse Subs - \$35,030

Columbia County Fire Rescue applied for a grant from Firehouse Subs for the purchase of extrication equipment such as cutters, spreaders, etc. The county has been awarded the grant in the amount of \$35,030 to buy Hurst Saltwater Cutters, spreaders, ram & accessories.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to approve BA 22-59 in the amount of \$35,030. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

- (3) E-911 Board Spring 2022 rural grants totaling \$187,235.3 - E911 system annual maintenance and support – GIS data hub and GIS services and support comprehensive review and correct of GIS data and support

The following State E-911 Board Rural Grants were awarded to Columbia County.

- a. Grant #20-04-02 regarding System Maintenance & Support for 911 in the amount of \$104,336.21
- b. Grant #20-04-0 GIS regarding data hub & GIS Services and support in the amount of \$4,341.09.
- c. Grant #22-04-04 GIS regarding professional services with GeoComm in the amount of \$78,001.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the acceptance for the three (3) E-911 grants. SECOND by Commissioner Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

- (4) RFP 2022-T – Disaster recovery consultant

Columbia County sought Disaster Recovery Consultants through an RFP to assist with preparing and overseeing the public assistance paperwork required during a qualifying, declared, state of emergency. The evaluation committee recommends approving the ranking for consultants, and pursuing a contract with Synergy Disaster Recovery.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve final ranking and authorize staff to conduct negotiations with Synergy Disaster Recovery. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

- (5) A City Council Resolution, Florida Crown Summer Youth Program

This resolution supports the Florida Crown Summer Youth Program by giving teenagers work experience by placing them in areas like the public library or public works.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve the Florida Crown Summer Youth Program. SECOND by Commissioner Witt. The motion carried unanimously.

**Open Public Comments and/or Questions:**

None.

**Staff Comments:**

ACM Kirby gave an update on roadside mowing with Rural Mowing.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Witt offered comment on the upcoming Lulu Day, May 7, 2022.

MOTION by Commissioner Witt to issue \$1,000 check to the president work group for Lulu Day for prize money. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Witt also offered comment on “Next Move” seminar for economic development and infrastructure.

Commissioner Murphy offered comment on wanting a total outlay of CARES and ARPA money balances for the next meeting.

Commissioner Williams asked Jennifer Dubose to give an update on project WAVE.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

ATTEST:

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Robby Hollingsworth, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

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James M. Swisher, Jr.  
Clerk of Circuit Court