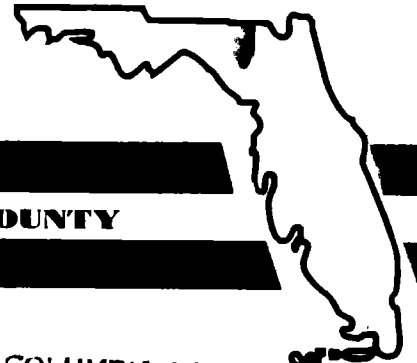


District No. 1 - Ronald Williams
District No. 2 - Dewey Weaver
District No. 3 - Jody DuPree
District No. 4 - Stephen E. Bailey
District No. 5 - Scarlet P. Frisina



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS • COLUMBIA COUNTY

MEMORANDUM

To: Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

From: David Kraus, Senior Staff Assistant

Date: August 26, 2010

RE: Recommendations of the Columbia County Utilities Committee

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CHAIRMAN

BCC APPROVED

DATE

9-2-10

The Columbia County Utility Committee met on August 24, 2010 and made two recommendations for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners:

- 1) **Policy on Payment of 2007, 2008 and 2009 Regulatory Assessment Fees.** The County staff notified the privately owned utilities to remind them of the need to file annual reports and pay regulatory assessment fees. Several of these utilities stated that during the transition from regulation by the Public Service Commission to Columbia County, they were unsure of the process or the correct contact. Therefore they did not pay the regulatory assessment fee. Two private utilities have asked for assistance on paying their past due Regulatory Assessment Fees. The Columbia County Utility Committee recommended adopting a policy:

Private water, wastewater and effluent utilities regulated by Columbia County under the Columbia County Utilities Regulatory Ordinance may pay their regulatory assessment fees owed for the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 over a 12 month period beginning October 1, 2010 without interest or penalty provided that payments are made on a quarterly basis and the regulatory assessment fees are received and paid in full by September 30, 2011. Should the utility fail to make the quarterly payments or fail to completely pay all fees owed for 2007, 2008 and 2009; then the utility will incur all penalties and late charges calculated from the date the regulatory assessment fees were originally due.

BOARD MEETS FIRST THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M.
AND THIRD THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

- 2) **Policy on Payment of Past Due Wastewater Treatment Fees.** The County has not billed the customers of the wastewater treatment plant in Ellisville while waiting for the adoption of sewerage rates and the resolution of legal issues. Utility bills will be distributed in September. The Columbia County Utility Committee recommends a policy similar to the above policy on Regulatory Assessment Fees for the payment of current past due balances:

Customers of the Ellisville Wastewater Treatment Facility may pay their monthly usage charges that have been incurred prior to their initial billing over a 12 month period beginning October 1, 2010 without interest or penalty provided that payments are made on a quarterly basis and that the prior usage charges are received and paid in full by September 30, 2011. Should the customer fail to make the quarterly payments or fail to completely pay all fees owed by September 30, 2011, then late fees will be assessed from the date the balances were originally due.