Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of

June 03, 2004

The Board of County Commissioners met in a Regular Meeting at the School Board Administration Office at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner James Montgomery opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

Chairman George Skinner called the meeting to order.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Ronald Williams, Jennifer Flinn, James Montgomery, Dewey Weaver and George Skinner.

Others: County Manager Dale Williams, County Attorney Marlin Feagle, Asst. County Manager Lisa Roberts, and Deputy Clerk Sandy A. Markham.

I. Mr. Frank Darabi of Darabi & Associates explained that he has continued to work with the Department of Transportation regarding the Ellisville Utilities, but has not been successful. He provided an updated cost estimate of $70,000 for the utilities, assuming the county is successful in their 60/40 grant loan. Mr. Darabi explained that he has done all he can do and that the county is now at a point that they should seek a financial advisor for cost confirmation and to assist the county with funding applications. Commissioner Flinn recommended staff seek funding. Regarding Storm Water Utilities, a working budget of $50,000 was suggested and split 50/50 with the City of Lake City. Mr. Darabi said that unless the County is truly interested in pursuing this plan, they shouldn't proceed. When asked what this study would do that hasn't already been done, the response was "It will be used to set boundaries, and to establish sources of possible funding." The Plan will also address maintenance. The commissioners were steadfast that they could not afford to provide the maintenance, and asked that a plan not be drafted that give maintenance responsibility to them.

Motion by Commissioner Montgomery to contribute $25,000 toward the needed budget. Second by Commissioner Williams. Mr. Dale Williams told the Board that their money must come from a shared revenue to avoid double taxation issues. The motion carried unanimously.
II. Regarding the Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the Consent Agenda with exception to items #29-31 and #36. Second by Commissioner Flinn.

There was a public call for clarification on items #5 and #33. Mr. Dale Williams assisted with clarification.

Mr. Dale Williams pulled item #36 for discussion

The motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

Regarding items #29-31. Motion by Commissioner Weaver to approve. Second by Commissioner Flinn. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining. See Form 8-B attached.

Regarding item #36. This is the fourth Phase of the Bascom Norris Bypass. With the county's fair date approaching, this phase must be complete by the end of September 2004. Liquidation damages were strongly suggested.

Motion by Commissioner Montgomery to approve item #36, with the understanding they will have 100 days from the date of the "Notice to Proceed" to complete the project. If the 100 days pass and the project is not complete, there will be liquidated damages of $5,000 per day. If by October 1, 2004 the project is not complete, liquidated damages will be $10,000 per day until complete. The motion carried unanimously.

(1) Invoice – Florida Association of Counties Trust $398.93
(2) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Consulting Engineering – Winfield Cell III Construction $49,200.00
(4) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Closed Landfill Inspection $1,375.53
(5) Invoice – Clemons, Rutherford & Associates, Inc. – Professional Services for Columbia County Jail $92,079.00
(6) Invoice – Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc. – Engineering $7,680.00
(7) Invoice – Donald F. Lee 7 Associates, Inc. – Hope Henry/Callahan $1,427.50
(8) Invoice – Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc. – Boone Road $3,800.00
(9) Invoice – Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc. – Cumorah Hill Street $75.00
(12) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  Bypass Project  $6,457.90
(13) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  SW Thomas Terrace
$1,395.00
(14) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  Leisure Lane  $554.38
(15) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  SW Dairy Street  $2,316.60
(16) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  Herlong Road  $65.00
(17) Invoice Donald F. Lee & Associates, Inc.  Columbia County Recreation Complex  $252.50
(18) Utility Permit Bell South Telecommunications  SW Tustenuggee Avenue
(19) Utility Permit Bell South Telecommunications  County Road 131
(20) Jurisdictional Task Force Grant  $8,820.00
(21) External Budget Amendment Sheriff’s Office #19  BA# 03 32  DOT Traffic Enforcement Grant  $3,973.37
(22) External Budget Amendment Sheriff’s Office #20  BA# 03 33  COPS in School Grant  $46,958.94
(23) Indigent Burial Combs Funeral Home  Willie Earl James, Deceased  $500.00
(24) Florida Department of Law Enforcement’s Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Grant Program Application  Fiscal Year 2004  $167,368.00
(25) Columbia County Health Department Revised Fee Schedule Resolution No. 2004R 5.  See attached resolution.
(26) Tourist Development Council Local Option Tourist Development Tax Refund Request to Six Continents Hotels, Inc.  $517.16
(27) Public Library Funds for West Branch Library Operations  $100.00
(28) Industrial Development Authority Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2003
(29) Invoice Anderson Columbia Company, Inc.  Pay Request No. #2 Hunter Panels  Access Road  $96,770.33
(30) Invoice Anderson Columbia Company, Inc.  Pay Request No. #4 County Road 131  $513,310.20
(31) Invoice Anderson Columbia Company, Inc.  Pay Request No. #2 County Road 18  $54,535.31
(32) Indigent Burial Dees Family Funeral Home  Mrs. Elizabeth H. Clampet, Deceased  $500.00
(34) 911 Addressing Naming of Found Unnamed Roads  SW Jackson Court
(35) BCC Approval to Transfer Annual Contract Funds from Lake City Jaycees to Downtown Action Corporation for July 4th Fireworks Celebration  $5,000.00
(36) Bid Award Anderson Columbia  Phase 4 Bascom Norris Drive  $333,879.62
(37) BCC Approval to establish Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates for FY 2004-2005 at the Same Rate as FY 2003-2004
III. The Commercial Waste Collection Franchise was discussed. Mr. Dale Williams told the Board that the disposal contract for commercial waste pickup will expire on September 30, 2004. Southland Waste would like an opportunity to try to save the county money. Therefore, they asked that the contract be put out for bid. The Board discussed this and decided it would be easier for the county, and may possibly give them more bargaining strength to wait until the disposal contract for residential waste pickup expires on September 30, 2006. At that time they could run both contracts concurrent.

Motion by Commissioner Williams to extend Waste Control's contract for commercial waste pickup for a period of two years. At the end of the two years, both commercial and residential waste pickup can be bid out together. Second by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. By the year 2006 all polling places must have ADA compatible voting equipment. The county's present voting equipment (Diebold) is certified in the State of Florida. Diebold has offered Florida counties the ADA touch screen units for $2,850 each, instead of the regular price of $5,000 each, with the option to pay later. The Supervisor of Elections submitted a proposed contract for consideration that would allow for the purchase of 35 new units at the special rate, with payment deferred until federal state funding is allocated. The purchase will be made with the understanding that if federal state funding is not allocated, the County will be responsible for the payment in full. The purchase is approved as a sole source.

Motion by Commissioner Weaver to approve the contract. Second by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously. See attached contract.

V. The Board discussed and agreed to submit to the Department of Transportation the following list for consideration of funding through the Small County Outreach Program (SCOP), and the Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP). The projects submitted for consideration of funding for fiscal year 2005 are:

SCOP Priority #1 - County road 252A a/k/a Koonville Road.  
From CR 252 to US 90 (2.8 miles).

SCRAP Priority #1 - CR 242.  
From SR 247 to SR 47 (4.37 miles).

SCRAP Priority #2 - CR 133 Extension.  
From SR25 to SE CR 252 (3.16 miles)
Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve priority list. Second by Commissioner Flinn. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. The Florida Department of Transportation submitted a proposed **Five-Year Work Program** for Fiscal Year 2005-2009 at the May 06, 2004 Board meeting. At that meeting, the Board was advised that the statutory deadline for project priority list submission to the FDOT would be October 1, 2004, but was asked to provide the list by July 1, 2004.

The Board discussed and concurred with the projects stipulated within the Five-Year Work Program, and requested continued funding of projects submitted last fiscal year.

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve work program as submitted. Second by Commissioner Montgomery. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. The Public Works Director has asked the Board to consider approving a **pay increase** for the position of **Mechanic II**, from $8.50 per hour to $9.60 per hour. The Director performed a salary analysis of the Mechanic II positions currently filled and believe the minimum salary increase is in line with other Mechanic II employees’ salaries. The department feels the increase is necessary due to the difficulties they have in recruiting for this position.

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve recommendation. Second by Commissioner Weaver. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Flinn voting in opposition.

VIII. Mr. Marlin Feagle called for a public hearing for the purpose of adopting two ordinances. The first ordinance will impose a **$15 surcharge** on **criminal and non-criminal traffic violations**. The revenue will be used to fund court facilities per F.S. 318.18. The second ordinance, per F.S. 939.185, authorizes counties to impose a **$65 optional court cost**. The law states the revenue must be divided equally to fund state court innovations, legal aide, law libraries, teen court, juvenile assessment centers, and juvenile alternative programs.

Motion by Commissioner Montgomery, "I move we set a public hearing on the 17th at 7:05 p.m.” Second by Commissioner Flinn. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. Public Input.

Mr. **Ricky Kennington** of CR 133 a/k/a **Racetrack Road** told the Board that there seems to be a reoccurring dilemma with the **racetrack** operating at all hours of the night and early morning. He said there has been several times that he had had to call the sheriff’s department for relief. He explained that he wants to be good neighbors with the racetrack, but asked that they operate during the hours outlined by the courts.

Mr. Feagle said that the racetrack now has new owners. Therefore, if the owners will not cooperate, the county will have to file another lawsuit to have hours of operation
restricted. Commissioner Flinn asked that a meeting be held with all parties in an effort to reach an amicable solution.

Ms. Roxanne Broaden, the new owner of the track spoke, explaining there was one uncontrollable occurrence that caused the track to operate between 12:30 and 1:00 a.m., but that a situation like that is rare. She said she was agreeable to meet to reach a solution. Mr. Feagle will schedule the appointment.

Mr. David Rountree asked for the status of the $750,000 Community Development Block Grant and the status of the Sheriff's 911 proposal. The response was the State has not yet scored the Block Grant, and there is a City/County meeting Tuesday night regarding the 911 proposal. He asked about the Workmans' Compensation issue with Dr. Jacobus. The response was that a workshop to discuss the matter is being scheduled. He inquired as to the status of the "rest" of the bypass. Mr. Williams responded with an update. He also wanted to know when the Jail Committee will meet again. Commissioner Williams explained the committee will meet again when there are issues to address. He asked for plans for this year's paving in District III. The reply was, Hope Henry will be contracted out, Brook Loop will done internally, and there are several retention ponds to be constructed. Finally, he asked about the penalties Anderson Columbia will face if they do not meet the deadlines on the bypass at the fairgrounds. He asked, "Will that money actually cover the cost of damaged incurred?" Mr. Williams responded that it was hard to know, but with the amounts set, it makes a statement to Anderson Columbia that it is absolutely essential to be through at the end of the 100 days allotted for the project.

X. Commissioners.

Commissioner Flinn informed the Board that Pinellas County has adopted a resolution agreeing to adopt Columbia County.

Commissioner Montgomery told the Board that he saw a Shands Emergency Unit in Lake City. He asked if Columbia County gets help from them. The response was, "Yes, but we have limits."

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Chairman Ronald Williams

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Board of County Commissioners

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P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court

Clerk's Note: The conversion of these minutes to the internet may result in what appears to be minor typographical errors. The "original" minutes are maintained at your Clerk of Courts Office and are available for viewing and/or copying.