Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
August 20, 2015

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 Rusty DePratter, Scarlet Frisina, Ronald Williams, Bucky Nash and Everett Phillips.
Others in Attendance:	County Manager Dale Williams ("CM") County Manager Ben Scott ("CM") Assistant County Manager Scott Ward ("ACM") Safety Manager David Kraus ("SM") Operations Manager Kevin Kirby ("OM") County Attorney Joel Foreman Deputy Clerk Katrina Vercher

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:

- Economic Development Agreement
- County Manager Contract

Deletions:

- Bid 2015-9 Myrtis Road Project

MOTION by Commissioner Frisina to approve the agenda as amended. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Ministerial Matters

<u>Suwannee River Water Management District</u>
Presentation of Payment in Lieu of Taxes by Carlos Herd, Interim Executive Director

Director Carlos Herd gave a PowerPoint presentation depicting the progress and accomplishments that Suwannee River Water Management has achieved this year.

His associate presented the Board of County Commissioners with a check for $37,726.21 as payment in lieu of taxes.

Public Hearings: (Adoption Hearings)

Ordinance No. 2015-15
Code Enforcement Special Magistrate

This ordinance would dissolve the Code Enforcement Board and replace it with a Special Magistrate.

The public hearing opened.

Code Enforcement member Toby Strawder spoke against the new ordinance.

The following citizens also spoke in opposition:

Stewart Lilker
Sandra Buck-Camp
Trisha Christison

Attorney Forman addressed their concerns.

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-15. SECOND by Commissioner Frisina.

There was a roll call vote. The motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-19
Amending Ordinance No. 84-1-Tourist Development Tax

The proposed ordinance would amend the existing ordinance which would impose an additional one percent Tourist Development Tax.

The public hearing opened.

Citizen Sandra Buck-Camp requested that she be provided with the projected amount of revenue from the Tourist Development Tax and the Communication Services Tax. CM Scott gave those figures.

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Frisina to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-19, amending Ordinance No. 84-1. SECOND by Commissioner Nash.

There was a roll call vote. The motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-20
Communication Services Tax

Columbia County currently levies a communications services tax of 1.3 percent; this ordinance would increase the tax to 5.22 percent. This revenue would be used to fund the Libraries and future Capital Fund projects.

The public hearing opened.

Citizens Stewart Lilker and Ralph Kitchens spoke in opposition.

The public hearing closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-20. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips for discussion.

Discussion ensued.

There was a roll call vote. The motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment on Discussion and Action Items:

Citizen Stewart Lilker spoke in opposition to the Economic Development Agreement and expressed his disapproval of the County Manager's Contract.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the consent agenda as amended. SECOND by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

(1) External Budget Amendment – Administration – BA # 15-70 – SHIP Program Revenue and Expenditures - $31,263.00

(2) External Budget Amendment – Administration – BA #15-71 – Trade-in Value Received for Equipment - $198,000.00

(3) External Budget Amendment – Operations – BA #15-73 – Transfer Proceeds from Auction - $68,607.00

(4) External Budget Amendment – Operations – BA # 15-74 – Transfer Proceeds from Auction - $31,500.00

(5) Purchasing - External Budget Amendment, Bid Award and Contract – BA # 15-75 Anderson Columbia Company – Bid No. 2015-9 Myrtis Road Project $609,145.12

(6) Purchasing – Requesting Approval of Contract with Cintas for Uniform Services

(7) Operations – Requesting Approval to Enter Private Property – Florida Gateway College – Drainage Maintenance

(8) Operations – Utility Permit – AT&T Authorized Agent Rebecka Bonts – SW Ring Court

(9) Operations – Utility Permit – Windstream Florida, Inc. – SW Cumorah Hill Street

(10) Administration – Requesting Approval of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. – SHIP Annual Reports and Certifications

(11) Economic Development – Requesting Approval of Resolution No. 2015R-16 – Supporting Efforts to Implement Rural Legislation

(12) University of Florida – Preliminary Population Estimate for April 1, 2015

(13) County Attorney – Revised County Manager, Ben Scott's, Employment Contract

(14) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – August 6, 2015

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

Discussion and Action Items:

Economic Development Agreement,
By Director Glenn Hunter

Director Hunter presented the Commission an agreement involving an undisclosed company, along with a recommendation from the Economic Development Board that the Commission approve the agreement.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to approve the Economic Development Agreement. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Contract (Prior Consent Agenda Item #13)

Attorney Foreman detailed the changes that were made to the contract, and pointed out that the September 9 effective date was mistakenly left in; that date should read October 1, 2015.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the County Manager Contract with the date change of October 1, 2015. SECOND by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Comments:

Citizen Stewart Lilker expressed concerns with the drafting of the County Manager Contract. Attorney Foreman, Commissioner DePratter and CM Scott addressed his concerns.

Staff Comments:

The Planning and Zoning Board needs new members. Attorney Foreman asked the Commissioners to submit recommendations for citizens within their own districts to serve.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Williams requested approval to enter private property on Cripple Creek Street in order to repair a driveway that was damaged by storm water run-off. The Clerk was not provided with a property owner's name or the address.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to correct a water problem on private property on Cripple Creek Street; this is contingent on the citizen's name and address being provided to the Board. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips.

Citizen Ralph Kitchens offered comment.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Rusty DePratter, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

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P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court