Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
December 22, 2022

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regular scheduled meeting in 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 followed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chairman Robby Hollingsworth, Timothy Murphy, Everett Phillips, 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 James M. Swisher Jr.

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions:

1) Leary Firefighters Foundation Grant - $13,996

2) Emergency Storm Expenses

3) Emergency Repair - Well at Southside

Deletions:

Consent Agenda Item (1) BCC Administration - Columbia County Aquatic Complex - Solar Heating for Pool – TDC - $10,000 (Duplicate of Item (18)

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

Public Hearings

Connie Brecheen, Community Development Coordinator

(1) SD 0200 - A Request by James Smith, North Florida Professional Services, Agent for Daniel Crapps, Owner for Final Plat Approval for Windswept Industrial Subdivision, Unit 7 (p.1)

The public hearing opened and closed without comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve the final plat for Windswept Industrial Subdivision, unit 7. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

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

(1) BCC Administration - Columbia County Aquatic Complex - Solar Heating for Pool – TDC - $10,000 (pg. 1)

(2) BCC Administration - Courthouse Security - $27,855 (pg. 2)

(3) BCC Administration - Minutes - Regular Meeting - 10/20/2022 (pg. 5)

(4) BCC Administration - Minutes - Regular Meeting - 11/17/2022 (pg. 17)

(5) BCC Administration - Revised Job Description - Lead Permit Specialist (pg. 26)

(6) BCC Administration - Revised Job Description - Permit Specialist (pg. 30)

(7) BCC Finance - BA 23-13 - To Appropriate LATCF Grant Funds - $729,853.00 (pg. 34)

(8) BCC Finance - BA 23-14 - Allocate Grant Funds for Water Meter Installation and Equipment (pg. 35)

(9) BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 11/23/2022 - $2,529,941.00 (pg. 36)

(10) Building Department - Special Family Lot Permit Application - SFLP 22 29– Frances Leroy and Brenda Meads Deeding 1.0 Acre to Their Son, Chad Meads. (pg. 50)

(11) Building Department - Special Family Lot Permit Application - SFLP #221-30 A Request from Betty Powell to her Sister Sandra Powell on parcel #03265-225 zoned Agriculture - 3 AKA/ 448 SW Madewood Drive, Lake City, FL 32024 (pg. 66)

(12) Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 11/28/2022 - $25,298 (pg. 78)

(13) Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 12/07/2022 - $1,064,251 (pg. 81)

(14) Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 12/13/22 - $6,851 (pg. 94)

(15) Public Works - Parade Float Supplies - $466.37 (pg. 97)

(16) Public Works - Utility Permit (pg. 99)

(17) Public Works - Utility Permit (pg. 108)

(18) Tourist Development - BA 23-17 Columbia County School Board Pool - $10,000 (pg.112)

(19) Tourist Development - BA 23-16 - Rollover Funds for Professional Services for 500 Acre Park - $72,000 (pg. 114)

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

Discussion and action items

Joel Foreman, County Attorney

(1) Approval of Release and Satisfaction - Mayo Fertilizer Sale of 6.5-acre Tract to New Millennium

New Millennium has renewed interest in making the purchase on the terms of the 2017 Economic Development Agreement, and Mayo has signed a release and satisfaction as a way of amending the agreement to allow for New Millennium to proceed with the purchase. Given the orientation of the land, it is unlikely to have value to anyone other than an adjacent owner. New Millennium intends to use the additional acreage to expand its laydown capacity at the facility.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the release and satisfaction as to Mayo and approve sale to New Millennium, pursuant to the Project 17-8 Economic Development Agreement. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

(2) Bid No. 2022-B - Fencing - North Florida Fence Co., Inc.

Bid No. 2022-B allows for annual renewals up to 4 years for the contract for fencing. The above referenced bid was awarded on January 20, 2022: This item provides for a one-year extension at the same unit prices. The first renewal will begin January 20, 2023.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve annual 1-year extension for Fencing contract with North Florida Fence Co., Inc. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The vote carried unanimously.

(3) Bid No. 2022-F - Corrugated Pipe - Metal Culverts, Inc.

Bid No. 2022-F was awarded on January 19, 2022. The bid provides for a one-year extension at the same unit prices.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve one-year extension of contract with Metal Culverts, Inc. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(4) Lease Motor Graders (4) - Ring Power/Ring Investment - $203,649

The Lease for four (4) John Deere motor graders expire in July/August 2023. Based on current lead times for replacements, orders need to be in place at this time. Staff recommends 5-year lease of 4 Caterpillar 120 motor graders.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve 5-year lease from Ring Power/ Ring Investment. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(5) FDOT Submissions for SCRAP, SCOP, CIGP and TAP

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve FDOT submissions for SCRAP, SCOP and TAP funding projects: County Road 250 (Gum Swamp), Arlington Road, County Road 18, Bascom Norris Sidewalk. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(6) Resolution No. 2022R-71 – Dortch Street Road Reconstruction – Fort White

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to approve and execute reimbursement agreement and Resolution 2022R-71 for the reconstruction of Dortch St. in Ft. White. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. See attached Resolution.

(7) FDOT and Columbia County Partnership – SR 247 at Bascom Norris and US 41 at SR 238

FDOT asked the County for consideration relative to increasing the total contribution from $1.65 million to $2.5 million.

MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to approve FDOT request to increase total contribution from $1.65M to $2.5M. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The vote carried unanimously.

(8) Emergency Storm Expenses

In preparation of the icy winter storm predicted for Columbia County during the Christmas holidays, Assistant County Manager Kevin Kirby is making preparations for roadway/bridges that may be impacted by icy conditions. The current contract (RFP 2020-M) for Post-Storm repairs does not include equipment needed in advance of expected icy conditions on roadways/bridges.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve to enter an agreement with Anderson Columbia Company for $185 per hour for the Sand distributer with a driver and $500 per hour with Acme for the truck. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

<u>David Kraus, County Manager</u>

(9) Memorandum of Agreement - Suwannee River Water Management District - $2,960,000

FDEP will be providing funding in the amount of $2,960,000 to Suwannee River Water Management which will be paid to Columbia County on a reimbursement basis for upgrading the design of the WWTF at the North Florida Mega Industrial Park ("NFIMP") to meet the updated Santa Fe River Basin Management Action Plan ("BMAP") requirements for Advanced Water Treatment ("AWT").

MOTION by Commissioner Phillips to approve Memorandum of Agreement with Suwannee River Water Management District. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(10) Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with the City of Lake City for Emergency Home Repair Program - $250,000

On November 21, 2022, the City Council for Lake City approved Resolution 2022-127, authorizing an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between Columbia County and the City of Lake City for the Emergency Home Repair program. The County administers the Emergency Home Repair Program for the City. The Amendment would approve an additional $250,000 of City funds with an additional $250,000 when City ARPA funds become available.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the amendment. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The vote carried unanimously.

(11) Bid No. 2022-HH - Group 3 Emergency Home Repair Program – Patriot Response Group

The County's consultant for the housing program, Guardian CRM, Inc. has provided a detailed Bid Tabulation for each of six (6) projects in Group 3 of the ARPA Housing Rehab Program. There were three (3) pre-qualified contractors, one of which offered no submission. The low bidder for all six homes was from Patriot Response Group, each one falling within the estimated project cost estimate. Two of the projects will be jointly funded with the CDBG Housing program.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the award of all six projects to Patriot Response Group. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The vote carried unanimously.

(12) BA 23-18 - Carpet Replacement - $86,602

When the Tax Collector and the Property Appraiser returned their year-end funds to the Board, they requested the Board use a portion of these funds to replace the carpet in their offices. The Clerk of Courts also requested replacing the carpet in the offices. The carpet was originally installed when the Courthouse was remodeled around 2002.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve BA- 23-18 and the replacement of the carpet. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The vote carried unanimously.

(13) Renewal of Lease with Stanley Crawford - Office space for Guardian AD Litem - $44,457

The Board previously approved a 3-year lease with Stanley Crawford to provide office space for Guardian AD Litem. The current lease expired September 30, 2022 and allows for a one-year extension subject to an adjustment in the rate. The lease will increase from $3,325 to $3831.33 beginning January 1, 2023 and will end on September 30, 2023.

MOTION by Commissioner Hollingsworth to approve renewal of lease with Stanley Crawford. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The vote carried unanimously.

(14) BA 23-15 - Central Communications Emergency Tower Repairs and Upgrades to the Service Monitor

The Navigation and Obstruction Lighting beacon control module located on the communication tower at CCSO failed. The control module is responsible for day/night light intensity, flash sequence and course code frequency. Essentially the brains of the system. The lighting system on this tower is very important due to the tower proximity to LCA. Additionally, upgrades are needed for service monitor unexpended funds from FY

2021-2022 Motorola Service Contract rolled to fund balance at end of year will provide funding for the repairs.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve BA 23-15. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(15) Tourist Development Council Reappointment - Chris Candler

Staff asked the Board to reappoint Chris Candler to the TDC for a 4-year terms.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to reappoint Chris Candler to the TDC for a 4-year term. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The vote carried unanimously.

(16) Cold Storage Economic Development Incentive

On December 14, 2022, EDAB recommended approval of a tax abatement for US Cold Storage as is authorized under Florida Statute 196.1995. The recommendation is for an abatement of 75% of New Property tax and 50% of Tangible Property tax for eight (8) years. The EDAB made the recommendation based on the Economic Development Incentive Guidelines and the consideration that USCS has always over delivered on past commitments to the County.

Paul Boartfield offered a comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve an abatement of 75% of New Property tax and 50% of Tangible Property tax for eight (8) years for Cold Storage. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The vote carried unanimously.

(17) Sheriff - Annual Financial Report and Reversion FY 2021-2022 - $667,251

The Sheriff has submitted the Annual Financial Report and Reversion for FY 2021-2022 that returned $667,250.74. The Sheriff has requested the Board to return $367,000 for the construction and outfitting of the Evidence/Crime Scene/Maintenance building. The remaining $300,250.74 is recommended to be appropriated in the Board's budget for unforeseen expenditures, such as in the Animal Control program. In addition, the Sheriff has requested a budget amendment for $88,000 for personnel for Animal Control.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to set aside the $367,000 for the evidence crime scene building and continue with the $980,000 legislative request. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The vote carried unanimously. No action was taken on the Sheriff’s request of an additional $88,000 for animal control position.

(18) Emergency Repair - Well at Southside

The well system is imperative to maintain proper irrigation of the soccer fields in order to preserve the turf. The previous well system collapsed and is no longer in operation meaning that replacement is a priority. The complex is busy with recreation teams practicing, local schools using fields for practice and games. The soccer complex is a high traffic area and it is vital that the turf is irrigated on a regular schedule.

MOTION by Commissioner Ford to release the money and the check for the emergency repair. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The vote carried unanimously.

(19) Leary Firefighters Foundation Grant - $13,996

The Leary Firefighters Foundation Grant is to purchase thermal imaging cameras for the Fire Department.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve grant agreement and execution. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The vote carried unanimously.

(20) Richardson Center Update

Staff is currently recruiting Gym Attendants and a Center Program Coordinator. The County is also opening registration for the Basketball League play in January. Also, The City has not provided written response to Chairman Hollingsworth to indicate support with the Richardson Center.

TEAMS meeting was held on December 16 with DEO and City to discuss CDBG-CV grant. The City plans to approve Grant agreement at the January 23, 2023 City Council meeting. The Grant will include HVAC and touchless fixtures at the Center. Most of the funds would be to improve access to the Center. The grant is a HUD funded grant that will be required to meet all CDBG requirements.

MOTION by Commissioner Hollingsworth to have Chairman Ford send a letter advising the City to Deed the Community Center to the County. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The vote carried unanimously.

Public Comments and/or Questions

Comments and/or input was offered by the following citizens:

- River Dana
- Stephanie McDonald
- Lance McDonald
- Stuart Soft
- Rick Cabrera
- Tammy Magstade

- Stew Lilker
- Frank Osteen

Staff Comments

None.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Murphy offered comment on a meeting he attended in Tallahassee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

_____
Rocky Ford, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

_____
James M. Swisher, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court