



COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

The Board of County Commissioners meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Columbia County School Board Administrative Complex Auditorium, 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida 32055. The first meeting of every month is at 9:30AM while the second meeting of every month takes place at 5:30PM. All agenda items are due in the Board's office one week prior to the meeting date.

Today's Date: 2/12/2025 Meeting Date: 2/20/2025

Department: BCC Administration

1. Nature and purpose of agenda item:

Meeting Minutes - 2/6/25 - Regular Meeting

2. Recommended Motion/Action:

Approve

3. Fiscal impact on current budget.

This item has no effect on the current budget.

Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

February 6, 2025 9:30 AM

Meeting Minutes

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting in the School Board Administrative Complex. The meeting opened with invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chairman, Tim Murphy

Commissioner, Robby Hollingsworth

Commissioner, Kevin Parnell

Commissioner, Rocky Ford

Commissioner, Everett Phillips

Others in Attendance: County Manager, David Kraus (CM)

Assistant County Manager, Kevin Kirby (ACM)

County Attorney, Joel Foreman

Deputy Clerk, Amber Taylor

Additions or Deletions:

Addition

- 1.) DOT Contract Amendment – Mosquito Control Budget
- 2.) Modification of Grant Florida Commerce –Extension Housing Program
- 3.) Elimination of the Local State of Emergencies
- 4.) Contract Modification for Department of Transportation

Deletions

None.

Motion by Commissioner Hollingsworth to approve the Agenda as presented. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation No. 2025P-04

This Proclamation designates the week of February 17th-22nd 2025, FFA Week. The Proclamation was read into the record, by Commissioner Murphy.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips to allow the FFA Flag to be flown during the week February 17th 2025. **Seconded** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Proclamation N0. 2025P-04 as read, by Commissioner Phillips. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action Items:

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

- 1.) The University of Florida has requested permission to conduct a survey at Rum Island Park. This will gather information on traffic patterns, as well as, spending habits and preferences, relating to the Park. The survey will be of no cost to Columbia County, and information obtained from survey, will be shared with appropriate County Officials.

Motion by Commissioner Hollingsworth to approve request for permission allowing University of Florida to conduct survey at Rum Island. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2.) Due to the termination of the Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Ft. White and Columbia County, which went into effect September 2024, Franchising Fees are no longer applicable.

Motion to eliminate the Franchising Fees as a result of cancelation of Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Ft. White and Columbia County. **Seconded** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

- 3.) Resurfacing Bascom Norris Road - Bid No. 2024-07

Motion to approve Bid No. 2024-07 from Anderson and Columbia in the amount of \$2,750,404.09 and to approve the Construction agreement by Commissioner Murphy. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

- 4.) Mr. Kirby presented the Commission with an update on the Tourist Development Department. A Marketing position within this Department was recently filled and the process of filling the Office Manager for this Department is currently underway. Mr. Clint Dicks will remain interim Director until this position is filled. Mr. Kirby made mention of a developing position, Public Information Officer. This person would be responsible to relaying important information to the Public from the 17 County Departments.

Emergency Management update from Mr. Kirby was presented to the Board. Mr. Kirby referenced an extensive workshop planned for this spring, to go over in depth storm preparedness and clean-up.

Motion for Emergency Management Director Position to be assigned to Columbia County Fire & Rescue, to operate under the Columbia County Fire Chief, by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

Columbia County is in possession of a large amount of ice, that is currently being stored for storm preparedness. If stored properly, much of this ice can be used for the next Hurricane season. In addition, the ice may be donated to other non-profit organizations.

Motion to donate one load of ice, valued at \$12,800 to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch in Suwannee County, and donate ice to Baker County for the Battle of Olustee Festival, by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kirby (CM) brought a time sensitive matter before the Commission, pertaining to Mosquito Control in Columbia County. The Department of Agriculture has \$1,984 .67 allotted towards Mosquito Control efforts.

Motion by Commissioner Hollingsworth to accept \$1,984.67 from the Department of Agriculture for the Mosquito Control efforts in Columbia County. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

David Kraus, County Manager

5.) County Contract Reimbursement Revision

Department of Transportation Grant Agreement for improvements to the Ellisville, has been titled incorrectly. This agreement as a State Funded Grant Agreement and will now be titled as a State Funded Reimbursement Agreement. The proposed Amendment would change the title, so that it would be correct.

Motion to approve amendment by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

6.) Site Access Agreement with Cox Communication. LLC for Terminal Hub for Fiber Operations located on County Road 18, by Columbia County Fire Station. Cox Communications has requested an agreement allowing permission to enter property prior to final execution of lease, to complete due diligence.

Motion to approve agreement with Cox Communication LLC by Commissioner Hollingsworth.
Seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

7.) Public Internet Service Agreement

Mr. Kraus (CM) request permission to switch internet provider services, to AT&T. This request is in response to a more cost effective option. AT&T were able to offer lower rate.

Motion to approve Agreement with AT&T for Public Internet Services by Commissioner Hollingsworth.
Seconded by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place.

8.) Interlocal Agreement with City of Lake City for Operations of North Florida Mega Industrial Parks Wastewater Treatment Plant. Verbiage was incorrect on original incorrect.

Motion to correct verbiage on Interlocal Agreement with City of Lake City for the Operations of Wastewater Treatment Plant by Commissioner Phillips. **Second** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kraus (CM) offered further updates on the Wastewater Treatment Plant, to be located at the North Florida Industrial Park.

9.) City of Lake City Annexation of County Property

Motion to proceed with voluntary annexation, subject to installation of Master Meter on Highway 90 by Commissioner Phillips. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

10.) Agreement with City of Lake City relating to Emergency Home Repairs

Motion to approve BA 25-23 with City of Lake City Resolution 2025-004 for Emergency Home Repairs by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

11.) Columbia County School District has requested a Memorandum of Understanding to conduct a work based leaning program. This program would consist of apprenticeships, internships and job shadowing positions to assist students in learning job skills in the workplace.

Jennifer Daniels informed the Commission of a tour of the classrooms referenced in this program, later in the month. This tour would allow the Commissioners to see firsthand the benifit these programs offer to the students of Columbia County.

Motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Columbia County School District by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

- 12.) HCA Hospital has requested Certificate of Public Need and Necessity in-order to operate an ambulatory service between Live Oak HCA location, Lake City HCA location and Gainesville HCA location. This would strictly be an internal transport service between HCA Facilities.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2025R-05 HCA Florida Request for COPCN by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

- 13.) Economic Development Advisory Board Appointments (two vacancies)

Commissioner Parnell asked for clarification as to the position responsibilities and qualifications.

Discussion ensued.

Motion to appoint Ron Williams and Angela Coppack to Economic Development Advisory Board by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion failed for lack of vote.

3/2 Vote

Motion to appoint Angela Coppack and Jeff Simmons to Economic Development Advisory Board by Commissioner Parnell. **Seconded** by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried unanimously.

- 14.) Amendment to Housing CBDG Grant with Department of Commerce. This modification would extend the grant for one year, allowing the completion of all homes effected.

Motion to approve modification number two, to the sub grant agreement between Department of Commerce and Columbia County by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried unanimously.

- 15.) Ending of Local States of Emergency Resolution No. 2025R-06 for storms Debbie, Helene, & Milton. Attorney Foreman read resolution aloud.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2025R-06 ending local states of emergency by Commissioner Phillips. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

- 16.) Vacancy on Board of Middle & Lower Suwannee Withlacoochee River Organization

Attorney Forman made suggestion of Commissioner serving on North Florida Water Utilities Authority Board as member.

Commissioner Rocky Ford will assume position of Board Member for Middle & Lower Suwannee Withlacoochee River Organization.

Public Comments:

Mr. Wayne Widden 536 SW Ward St Ft. White, FL requested letter of support for grant application through Clay Electric Corp. under operation roundup.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

Consensus was made among Commission to permit letter of support in the process of Grant Application to Clay Electric Corp.

Mr. Ryan Taylor 974 SE Adams St. addressed Commission concerning neighbor and code violations of said neighbors current yard conditions. This issue began September 2021, and been ongoing.

Code enforcement, as well as Magistrate have been involved and do not deem this situation, code violations.

Staff Comments:

None

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Phillips wanted to recognize the Road Department in the expeditious nature of which they cleared recent winter storm debris.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:43.

ATTEST:

Chairman, Tim Murphy

Columbia County Commissioner

James M. Swisher, JR.

Clerk of Court & County Comptroller