



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: 3/13/2025 Meeting Date: 4/3/2025

Department: BCC Administration

1. Nature and purpose of agenda item:

Regular Meeting Minutes - 03/06/2025

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

March 06, 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

Assistant County Manager, Kevin Kirby

County Attorney, Joel Foreman

Deputy Clerk, Amber Taylor

Additions or Deletions:

None

Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda as presented by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations:

Clint Pittman, Landscaping & Parks Director (Temporary Tourist Development Director)

1.) Adrian Award presented through the Tourism Development Council

Mr. Pittman provided information to the Commission pertaining to the Adrian Award. This is the second consecutive year; this award has been presented to Columbia County. Members of this department were

mentioned and congratulated. Paradise Advertising representative addressed the Board to confirm what an honor this award is, especially to be received back to back.

Chairman, Tim Murphy

2.) Government Finance Professionals Week – Proclamation No. 2025-06

Mr. Murphy read Proclamation No. 2025-06 aloud, into the record. This proclamation declares the week of March 17th-21st 2025, Government Finance Week in Columbia County. Staff was present to receive the award, and take pictures.

Motion to adopt Proclamation No. 2025-06 by Commissioner Phillips. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney, Joel Foreman

3.) National Athletic Training Day – Proclamation No. 2025P-05

Attorney Foreman, read Proclamation No. 2025P-05 aloud, into the record. This proclamation declares the month of March 2025, National Athletic Training Month in Columbia County.

Motion to adopt Proclamation No. 2025P-05 by Commissioner Phillips, **Seconded** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation Not Requiring Action:

Katelyn Barrington, Suwannee Valley Electric Company

1.) Columbia County Rapid Fiber Internet Update

Ms. Barrington reviewed handout (see attached) with Commission and highlighted up to date information, concerning the Columbia County customers of Suwannee Valley Electric Company. All of the Columbia County customers having SVES now have access to Rapid Fiber Internet Services. Making Columbia County, the first county to have reached completion in this endeavor. Ms. Barrington gave further information on the conversion process, as well as current projects underway with SVES.

Commissioner Ford & Commissioner Murphy asked if service to the Columbia City area of Columbia County could possibly have access to these services, in the future. Ms. Barrington agreed to get more information, and report back.

Chairman, Tim Murphy

2.) Confirmation of Existing Representative or Appointment of New Representative for Suwannee River Economic Council Inc.

Commissioner Hollingsworth has agreed to stay on as Columbia County Representative for the Suwannee River Economic Council Inc.

Public Hearings:

Louie Goodin, County Planner

- 1.) Request for final plat approval – zoning application. SD241202

Motion by Commissioner Parnell to approve SD241202. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

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

- 1) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting - 7/18/2024](#)
- 2) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting - 8/15/2024](#)
- 3) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Special Meeting - 8/22/2024](#)
- 4) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Emergency Meeting - 9/27/2024](#)
- 5) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Emergency Meeting - 10/1/2024](#)
- 6) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Emergency Meeting - 10/1/2024](#)
- 7) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting - 10/3/2024](#)
- 8) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Emergency Meeting - 10/9/2024](#)
- 9) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Emergency Meeting - 10/10/2024](#)
- 10) [BCC Administration - Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting - 2/20/2025](#)
- 11) [BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 2/18/25 - \\$189,577](#)
- 12) [BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 2/26/25 - \\$4,630,468.56](#)

- 13) [Zoning Department - SFLP250202 - Special Family Lot Permit Request by Gary Gerke - District 5](#)
- 14) [Zoning Department - SFLP250204 - Special Family Lot Request by Billy Maxwell - District 1](#)
- 15) [Zoning Department - SFLP250205 - Special Family Lot Permit Request by Billy Maxwell - District 1](#)
- 16) [Zoning Department - SFLP250203 - Special Family Lot Permit Request from Ronald Feagle - District 4](#)
- 17) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Herlong, SW Junction, SW Collins, SW Centerville, and SW Elim Church Road](#)
- 18) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Skyline Lp.](#)
- 19) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Hollingsworth, SW Bluff, SW Longhorn, SW Columbia Blvd.](#)
- 20) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Nebraska, SW Bumble, SW Santa Fe, SW Central Ter.](#)
- 21) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Jordan, SW Plymouth, SW Wilson Springs Road](#)
- 22) [Public Works - Utility Permit - Windstream Requesting to Install a Cable at SW Treasure, SW Jewell, SW Drew Feagle, SW Quarter](#)
- 23) [Public Works - Resolution 2025R-08 - Rest Area Force Main and Resolution 2025R-09 - Transportation Improvements in Ellisville](#)

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was temporarily adjourned, in order to host scheduled workshop at 10:00AM concerning Ordinance No. 2025-04 Amending County's Land Development Regulations relating to Campgrounds & RV Parks

Meeting was reinstated and called to order at 11:57 AM by Chairman Murphy.

Discussion & Action Items:

Joel Foreman, County Attorney

1.) Park and recreational Rules & Fee Schedule Resolution No. 2025R-10

Mr. Foreman gave overview of cost incurred by Columbia County in order to maintain & repair ball fields. Because of this added expense, it is necessary to now implement a fee for usage of fields. Mr. Forman offered several examples of surrounding Counties, and how they conduct fees & scheduling for field usage.

Mr. Clint Pittman echoed Attorney Foreman's sentiments.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2025R-10 by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

2.) Potential donation of land from Suwannee River Water Management District – Buck Glen & Lance Water Utility

This property was previously owned by Mr. Jeffery Hill, is adjoining Buck Glen and serving Lance Water Utility. Attorney Forman provided the parameters of property to the Commission, for clarification. The process is underway to negate the receivership of the Lance Water Utility. Until so, Attorney Foreman advised the Board that it is in the best interest of Columbia County to maintain access to well. Accepting this donation, would enable Columbia to do so. Attorney Forman addressed the Board, as to direction on this matter.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Murphy "to make proposal to Suwannee River Water Management, that we will take the property in question, as a donation. In addition to the property to the South and the property to the North to the newly dedicated property line as the fence allows around the pond known as Hill pond." **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Foreman will relay the wishes of the Board to the District.

3.) Rebidding County Contracts – Policy No. 2025-01

Attorney Forman presented the Commission with proposed new County bidding policy. County staff have reviewed current policy/contracts and suggested some alterations in an attempt to provide the most financially beneficial options for the needs of Columbia County.

Motion by Commissioner Parnell to approve Policy No. 2025-01. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

4.) Capital Project Update to Board

Mr. Kirby went over all current Capital Projects within Columbia County. (See Attached)

Mr. Kirby also provided a detailed explanation on each Capital project, listing percentage complete and expected completion dates. Budgetary impact of Capital projects, were also presented to the Commission, as well as upcoming Projects.

David Kraus, County Manager

5.) Update on Columbia EMS – Lance Hill

Mr. Hill updated the Commission with current response times that are a requirement, per contract. The stipulations are to be achieved at a 90% rate. Mr. Hill provided the Board with report on response times, and stated that these will become more accurate once current technical issues with live data access have been resolved.

Motion to approve explanation from Mr. Lance Hill on EMS data & grant permission for County Attorney to create contract addendum to be presented to the Board. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

6.) Spring 2025 Emergency Communications Board Rural Grant for 911 Maintenance and Support

Motion to approve application for grant by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

7.) Annual Fire Protection, Solid Waste, Roads and Street Lighting Assessment Programs – Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA

Motion to approve proposal for Legal services from Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA for Annual Fire Protection, Solid Waste, Roads & Street Lighting Assessment Programs by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

8.) Santec Consulting Services, Inc. for solid waste and Fire Assessment Services RFP 2025-A

Motion by commissioner Hollingsworth to approve RFP 2025-A. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

9.) First Baptist Church of Lake City, lease of vacant lot for parking, in the amount of \$18,000

Motion to approve contract presented by First Baptist Church of Lake City, for the use of vacant lot, for purposes of parking by Commissioner Ford. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

10.) Request for start-up fund of \$3,000 from Bethlehem Community Center

Motion by Commissioner Phillips to approve request of Bethlehem Community Center, start-up fund. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

11.) Capital Projects Fund – BA 25-27 Adjustment Cash Balance Forward

Mr. Kraus (CM) informed the Commission of a change in bookkeeping, requested by Clerk of Court.

Motion to approve BA 25-27 by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

12.) Relocate Road Construction Projects to Road Construction Fund – BA 25-28

Motion to approve BA 25-28 by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Second** by Commissioner Parnell. Motion carried unanimously.

13.) Creating the Budget for the FDOT LAP Agreement BA 25-30 – CR 240 from SR 247 to CR 131

Motion to approve BA 25-30 by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

14.) Dortch Street Reconstruction – DOT SCOP Grant – BA 25-29

Motion by Commissioner Hollingsworth to approve BA 25-30. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Comment:

None

Staff Comments:

Mr. Kraus informed the Board of Ribbon Cutting of Bethlehem Community Center on April 1st 2025 4:30 PM, hosted by Chamber of Commerce.

Attorney Foreman offered gratitude to Board for their efforts in workshop, held earlier.

Commissioner Comments:

None

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:24.

ATTEST:

James M. Swisher, JR
Clerk of Court & County Comptroller

Chairman, Tim Murphy
Columbia County Commissioner