

Columbia County  
BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioner met in a regularly scheduled meeting on **October 04, 2007** in the School Board Administration Building at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Ronald Williams	District 1
Dewey Weaver	District 2
George Skinner	District 3
Stephen Bailey	District 4
Elizabeth Porter	District 5

Others in Attendance:

Asst. County Manager Lisa Roberts  
Mark Feagle, Attorney  
Sandy Markham, Deputy Clerk  
Carolyn Baker, BCC Secretary

Absent:

County Manager Dale Williams

County Attorney Marlin Feagle

Commissioner Williams opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

**PURCHASE CARD AGREEMENT**

The County would like to apply for a State of Florida Bank of America Visa Purchasing Card through piggybacking on an agreement already approved by the State Department of Management Services. There will be no annual fee. The card would be paid in full each month. The maximum card limit would be \$1000 per card. Cards are being requested for the Purchasing Director to use when vendors will not accept purchase orders, and the other card is for the Human Resource Director to pay for employee background checks through FDLE. The cards may also be used during a declared emergency if needed.

*Motion* by Commissioner Williams to apply for cards for the purpose stated. Second by Commissioner Skinner. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- (1) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Closed Landfill Monitoring - \$17,617.71
- (2) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Engineering Services – Winfield Landfill - \$19,083.27
- (3) Invoice – Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. – School Impact Fees - \$6,000.00
- (4) Invoice – Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. – Annual Solid Waste and Local Roads Improvement Assessment Programs - \$5,000.00
- (5) Indigent Burial – Combs Funeral Home – Jacquelyn Marie Wright, Deceased - \$500.00
- (6) Acknowledgement of Receipt - Columbia County, Florida Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2006
- (7) Acknowledgement of Receipt - Columbia County Industrial Development Authority Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2006
- (8) Sheriff's Office – Request for Release of Funds – Contraband Forfeiture Trust Funds – Educational Video - \$500.00

- (9) Resolution – Approving State of Florida, Department of Transportation – Reimbursement Agreement with Columbia County, Florida to Facilitate Widening and Resurfacing of County Road 349 from County Road 131 to County Road 245
- (10) Resolution – Approving State of Florida, Department of Transportation – Reimbursement Agreement with Columbia County, Florida to Facilitate Resurfacing of County Road 238/Elim Church Road from State Road 47 to County Road 131
- (11) Florida Department of Law Enforcement – Awarded the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to the Columbia County Drug Task Force - \$40,016.00
- (12) Utility Permit – Windstream Florida, Inc. – County Road 246 (Cornith Road)
- (13) Proclamation – Declaring the Month of November 2007 as Epilepsy Awareness Month
- (14) Resolution – Designating October 10, 2007 as “PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES DAY” in Columbia County, Florida
- (15) Agreement – Public Works/Florida Department of Corrections Interagency Agreement - Fiscal Year 2007-2008 – Inmate Crews – Columbia Correctional Institution Work Camp
- (16) Agreement – North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Inc. /Columbia County – Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services – Fiscal Year 2008 - \$76,000.00
- (17) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Workshop Meeting – September 13, 2007
- (18) Invoice – National Association of Counties – Membership Dues from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 - \$1,077.00
- (19) Indigent Burial – Cooper Funeral Home - Graylin Wayne McKellum, Deceased - \$500.00
- (20) External Budget Amendment – #07-03 - General Funds – Upgrades to the South Columbia Sports Park and Equipment Maintenance – \$15,267.00
- (21) External Budget Amendment – #07-01 - MSBU Funds – Software Installation for Code Enforcement Department - \$11,937.00
- (22) External Budget Amendment – #07-02 - Landfill Funds – Installation of New Off-Site Well & Pipeline for Landfill
- (23) Columbia County Emergency Medical Services – Refund Request – Blue Cross and Blue Shield - \$490.25
- (24) Agreement – State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management – State and Federally-Funded Subgrant Agreement - \$102,959.00
- (25) Agreement – Cooperative Service Agreement between Columbia County/United State Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services - \$46,213.00
- (26) Agreement – Florida Department of Transportation – Bridge Replacement of Bridge #290042 – County Road 245 at Olustee Creek
- (27) Donald F. Lee & Associates – Surveying and Engineering Services – Professional Fee Increase Request - Professional Surveyor -\$100.00 per hour, Survey Crew (3 Man) - \$90.00 per hour, Survey Technician - \$45.00 per hour, Professional Engineer - \$111.00 per hour
- (28) 9-1-1 Addressing – Request for Approval of Street/Road Name – NW Charlie Horse Drive
- (29) Utility Permit – Greater Lake City Regional Utility Authority Gas Division – Bascom Norris Drive
- (30) Lease Agreement – Columbia County Resources, Inc. - \$800.00 per month – Rent With 5% Increase Annually

Motion by Commissioner Williams to adopt the consent agenda. Second by Commissioner Bailey.

There was a public request for clarification on items #5, #19, #9, #10, #21, #27.

Item #5 and #19 are both requests to pay for indigent burials. Per Florida Statutes, the county can provide indigent burials. The County pays a maximum of \$500 per indigent burial. Asst. County Manager Roberts said this can happen when the deceased and family have no assets, and when the deceased and family has no life insurance on the deceased.

Item #9 is Resolution 2007R-35. This authorizes the county to enter into a Reimbursement Agreement with the Department of Transportation to facilitate widening and resurfacing of County Road 349, from CR 131 to 245. This resolution is required in accordance with the Small County Outreach Program Agreement. This agreement was approved on September 20, 2007.

Item #10 is Resolution 2007R-36. This authorizes the county to enter into a Reimbursement Agreement with the Department of Transportation to facilitate resurfacing of County Road 238 a/k/a Elim Church Road from State Road 47 to CR 131. This resolution is required in accordance with the Small County Road Assistance Program. This agreement was approved on September 20, 2007.

Item #21 is a budget amendment bringing the cash balance from MSBU forward from fiscal year 06-07 to *Equipment Purchases* for fiscal year 07-08. This provides for software installation for the Code Enforcement Department, which due to constraints the consultant was not able to perform prior to year end. Citizen Stew Lilker asked if that was not a duplicate of the GIS the Board already has in place. The Asst. County Manager said that it is not a duplicate service, but is simply extending the services to the Code Enforcement Department. She said this will also track all of the department's complaints and make it possible for the department to pull reports.

Item #27 is a request to increase the hourly pay of Donald F. Lee & Associates' surveyor, crew, technician, and engineer. Asst. County Manager reviewed the current and proposed hourly rates:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Professional Surveyor	\$35	\$100
Survey Crew (3 man)	\$75	\$90
Survey Technician	\$32.50	\$45
Professional Engineer	\$90	\$111

Citizen Stewart Lilker said the numbers he has is obviously not the same numbers. The Asst. County Manager explained that comparables from Bailey, Bishop & Lane, a local engineering company's prices are more than the prices being proposed. Donald F. Lee & Associates fees through a contract with Department of Transportation are lower, except for the survey crew (3 man) fee, and EarthTech's fees are also higher than the proposed hourly fees.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **BUILDING & ZONING by Brian Kepner**

Subdivision Variance 07-01 Request by Russell Depratter for a reduction in the lot width requirement from 330 feet to 317 feet. The property is located on the East side of SE County Road 241 just South of Lulu. The Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval.

*Motion* by Commissioner Bailey to approve. Second by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Preliminary Subdivision:**

SD 0221 – Forest View, Unit 1 (District 4). The developer is Russell Depratter. There are four lots, each being 5.03 acres in size. The property is located on the East side of SE County Road 241 just South of Lulu.

*Motion* by Commissioner Bailey to approve. Second by Commissioner Skinner. The motion carried unanimously.

SD 0228 – Meadow View (District 2). The developer Pete Giebeig. There are twenty-four lots ranging in size from 5 acres to 5.04 acres. The property is located on the South side of County Road 240, approximately ½ mile West of SW Carpenter Road.

*Motion* by Commissioner Weaver to approve. *Second* by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Bailey declared a conflict stating the developer is his father-in-law.

### **Final Plat Plan:**

Z 0458 – The Oaks of Lake City, Phase 1 (District 5). The developer is Surbrandy. There are fifty-six lots ranging in size from 1 acre to 6.4 acres. The property is located on the West side of SW Tustenuggee Avenue.

*Motion* by Commissioner Williams to approve. Second by Commissioner Weaver. The motion carried unanimously.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS –Another Way**

Another Way has requested discretionary funding to correct security and other issues at the Shelter. Quotes have been provided to repair front and back entry doors and locks, drainage correction, installation of security lighting, removal of trees, and purchase of field dirt for leveling of ground. Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5 would like to contribute \$2,893.83 each from their discretionary funds.

*Motion* by Commissioner Weaver to approve. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS – Annie Mattox**

Annie Mattox is requesting discretionary funding to purchase an ice machine, concession door, and fencing at the recreation facility. District 1 would like to contribute \$12,000.

Commissioner Williams noted there are items that are being paid for that the County needs to bill the City for reimbursement. [Clerk's Note: The Commissioner did not say which items or state the amount of money.]

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve request. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC INPUT:**

Citizen Stewart Lilker asked if there is a hiring freeze, why the Human Resource Director needs a card to do background searches. The answer was that firefighters have to be hired and background checks are required.

Mr. Lilker addressed the surveying fee issue listed as Consent Agenda item #27. Mr. Lilker provided the Clerk with a copy of hourly wages for this profession as was reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1999 for Orlando, Florida. He noted that the figures are a few years old, and that the CPI has been approximately 3% per year. He said even if the CPI was 50%, the Board of County Commissioners is still very generous in giving away the tax payers' money. He reviewed

the following amounts with the Board:

	Current <u>Hourly Rate</u>	Proposed Increase <u>in Hourly Rate</u>	Bureau of Labor Statistics <u>Hourly Rate (1999)</u>
Surveyors	\$35	\$100	\$17.69
Civil Engineers	\$90	\$111	\$25.93
Surveying Techs (3)	\$32.50	\$45	\$11.50

He told the Board this proposed increase is the most irresponsible things he has seen the Board do with the taxpayer's money. Ms. Roberts provided the Board's comparables to Mr. Lilker.

Regarding consent agenda items #5 and #19. The Clerk was provided a copy of Florida Session Laws that setup the Lake Shore Hospital Authority. He said that according to Chapter 2005-315(8) (a) the Lake Shore Hospital Authority is to bury the deceased indigent of Columbia County and provide cemeteries for that service. Mr. Lilker said that often he notices the consent agenda has indigent burials at \$500 each. He asked if the County is billing Lake Shore Hospital Authority for reimbursements of the indigent burials, since the citizens have already paid the authority to provide that service.

Commissioner Williams replied the statute does not say anything about burial. Mr. Lilker passed a copy of Chapter 2005-315(8) (a) and read, "...and to bury the indigent dead of Columbia County and provide cemeteries for that purpose." Commissioner Williams explained the reason the County took on indigent burial was because during discussions many years ago it was determined the hospital writes off more than they collect on indigence. Commissioner Williams said the LSHA asked the County several years ago if the county would assist with indigent burials. Mr. Lilker responded that everyone pays taxes to the Lake Shore Hospital Authority, and indigent burial is one of the purposes of that tax. He told Commissioner Williams that the problem is not that the County made a deal with the LSHA to bury the indigent; the problem is the taxpayers are paying for the indigent burial service twice.

Commissioner Williams explained that in Florida Statutes that the County is responsible for the indigent. He said if Lake Shore writes off \$300,000 in indigent care, once written off, the Board should pay for it, not Lake Shore Hospital. Mr. Lilker concluded by asking the Board to begin sending statements for reimbursement to the LSHA for the indigent burials, because the citizens are paying a tax to the LSHA to handle the indigent burials, and then are being charged again through county funds.

Citizen Barbara Lemley pointed out Lake Shore Hospital Authority has recently invested in substantial pieces of downtown property and has also donated a significant amount of money to the Life Style Enrichment Center. She suggested that perhaps the Board should investigate the further, and that perhaps they will find that Lake Shore Hospital Authority should be paying for indigent burial. On another matter she asked if the Law Library is a line item in the budget and if the County is suppose to have a law library. Ms. Lemley was advised that a law library is at the discretion of the Judicial Committee, which is made up of the judges and the Clerk of Courts. Ms. Lemley offered for thought that she had an opportunity to visit the Alachua County Law Library recently and spoke with Alachua's Clerk of Courts. According to Ms. Lemley, that Clerk believes funds allocated for the law library should be used on the law library. Alachua County's law library was once handled by the county commissioners, but is now handled by a separate board.

## VII. Adjournment

There was no further business coming before the Board. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Board of County Commissioners

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P. DeWitt Cason  
Clerk of Circuit Court