

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 15, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the School Board Administration Office. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Jody DuPree (Chairman), Stephen Bailey, Russell “Rusty” DePratter, Scarlet Frisina, and Ronald Williams.

Others in Attendance:

County Manager Dale Williams, Senior Staff Assistant David Kraus, Asst. County Manager Lisa Roberts, and Deputy Clerk Sandy Markham.

Additions to the Agenda:

- Certifying and extending the 2011 tax rolls prior to completion of the VAB hearings
- E911 Rural County Grant

MOTION: By Commissioner Bailey to adopt the agenda additions. Second Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – None.

Infrastructure Corporation of America (“ICA”)

Ms. Sheree Vann, consultant for ICA, introduced Robert Little, C.B.I., P.E. Mr. Little developed and manages a web based management system for bridges; a system that is geared to meeting the needs of county governments. A brief presentation was provided. There was discussion that the county needs to, through the budgetary process, begin having an active bridge maintenance program within the county in an effort to defer the expensive costs of bridge maintenance and replacement.

MOTION: By Commissioner Williams for BridgeWeb to bring a proposal to the Board on how they are able to assist Columbia County with handling bridge maintenance and replacement costs. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Machines

The Board listened to a presentation by Dominion Sales where they were introduced new voting equipment that will be required by the year 2016. Because the county’s voting equipment is becoming outdated, Supervisor of Elections Elizabeth Horne asked the Board to purchase forty

units at a total cost of \$343,584. The Board was not inclined to make the purchase, because the machines presented have not yet been certified for the state of Florida. Also, the Board would like to wait to see if the state comes through with funds to assist with the purchase, and wait to see what other machines may be developed between now and 2016.

MOTION: By Commissioner Williams to do nothing at this time. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

Firearms and Ammunition Preemption - Ordinance No. 2011-20

The Board considered an ordinance that would assure compliance with new Florida law. An ordinance was proposed recognizing that the legislature has preempted the regulation of firearms and ammunition to the State; repealing and declaring void all ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations which may attempt to regulate firearms and/or ammunition. A public hearing was opened and closed with no public comments.

MOTION: By Commissioner Bailey to adopt. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: by Commissioner Frisina to adopt unless there are items to be pulled. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

- (1) Solid Waste Department – FY 11-12 Consolidated Small County Grant Agreement - \$70,588.00
- (2) Solid Waste Department – FY 11-12 Mosquito Control Contractual Services Agreement between Columbia County Board of County Commission/Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - \$18,500.00 (\$16,500.00 reduction from last year)
- (3) External Budget Amendment – Fire Department – BA #10-50 – Fire Prevention Education - \$610.00
- (4) External Budget Amendment – Sheriff's Office - #15 – BA # 10-51 – Unbudgeted Leave Payouts - \$33,671.78 and Collected Restitution Money - \$22,011.43 –Total of \$55,683.21
- (5) External Budget Amendment – Mitigation Credits – BA #10-52 - \$1,519,600.00
- (6) External Budget Amendment – Sheriff's Office # 16 – BA #10-53 – Subsistence Costs Generated at the Detention Center – August 2011 - \$7,727.45
- (7) External Budget Amendment – Recreation Department – BA # 10-54 – Summer Camp Expenditures - \$1,175.
- (8) External Budget Amendment – Recreation Department – BA # 10-55 – Donations Revenue Account - \$1,851.
- (9) Re-appointment – WellFlorida Board – Jack Berry – Two Year Term Ending 9/2013
- (10) Utility Permit – AT&T SE Florida – County Road 242

- (11) Utility Permit – Comcast Cable – SW English Road
- (12) Utility Permit – AT&T SE Florida – County Road 252 & Birley Avenue
- (13) Agreement - North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Inc./Columbia County Board of County Commissioners – FY 2012 – Annual Monitoring of Hazardous Waste Generators
- (14) Agreement – North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Inc./Columbia County Board of County Commissioners – FY 2012 – Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services
- (15) Public Library –Revised Library Behavior Policy – New State Laws Effective October 1, 2011
- (16) Public Library – New Holiday Closing Request
- (17) Fire Department – Declaration of Junk Property – (List attached to agenda)
- (18) Fire Department – Property Transfer – EMS to Fire Department – (List attached to agenda)
- (19) Fire Department – Declaration of Junk Equipment – (List attached to agenda)
- (20) Agreement Renewal – Johnson Controls/Columbia County Board of County Commissioners – HVAC Equipment Services for Courthouse and Annex - \$47,495.00 annually
- (21) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – August 4, 2011
- (22) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Budget Workshop – August 11, 2011

Transition of EMS

Division Chief Jeffery Crawford presented an update on the EMS transition. Along with other things, he discussed calls received, a deployment model which reduces wait times, the number of ambulances in use and where they are situated, CAD System and CAD records, EMS billing, etc.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding EMS billing, outstanding and unaccounted for Patient Run Reports, uncollected/outstanding patient invoices totaling approximately \$1,500,000, and unbilled patient invoices. Along with billing, there was discussion that there are approximately 116 Patient Run Reports that are unaccounted for since January 2011. Efforts to reconstruct the missing run reports and possible liabilities were also discussed. Within approximately a week the unbilled invoices should be processed. The County may consider an outside collection agency to assist with outstanding patient invoices; proposals will be sought. The County Manager said that this is something that needs to be disclosed in the pre-audit conference. The external auditor can determine whether the corrective action the County is taking is appropriate.

Workers Compensation Insurance Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Staff recommended that Bid No. 2011-R be awarded to the low bidder, Brown & Brown for a fully insured program [\$404,900]. Four responses were received. A self insured program will be

given consideration in the future. A workshop will be scheduled to learn more about self insured programs.

MOTION: By Commissioner Williams to approve. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

Library Assistant II

Staff requested authorization to recruit for the Library Assistant II vacancy at the Fort White Public Library.

MOTION: by Commissioner Frisina to approve. Second by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

RACEC Site - Cultural Resources Proposal

On the Catalyst/RACEC site, as part of the permitting process, DCA requested the County do a Cultural and Historical Survey of the property. Economic partner Plum Creek would like for this survey to be conducted, though it is not legally required. The survey would qualify for payment from the Rural Economic Incentive Development Grant (REDI) that was received for this project.

MOTION: By Commissioner DePratter to enter into an agreement with Southeast Archeological in the amount of \$36,200. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

Soccer Fields - Additional Funding Request

A request was made for additional funding for the refurbishment of two soccer fields at the Columbia Youth Soccer Association Complex. The original request was approved in 2010 at a cost of \$16,000. The project will now cost an additional \$19,000. There was discussion.

Chairman DuPree will oppose the motion, because he'd like to see how much money CYSA has and why they are not participating in the cost, and if need be laying the sod can be postponed until temperatures go down. He said that TDC has also directed that certain issues be worked out as it relates to Southside Recreation Complex and those items are still on the table.

MOTION: By Commissioner Frisina to approve the request. Second by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner DuPree opposing the motion.

Columbia County Industrial Development Authority Insurance Policies

Attorney Feagle reviewed whether the county has the appropriate insurances to cover the Industrial Development Authority, which now has a sole function of issuing industrial revenue bonds. In reviewing this, it was brought to staff's attention that approximately two years ago the County voted to transfer a parcel of land in the Industrial Development Park adjacent to Hunter Panels to the IDA for the purposes of the IDA negotiating a sale of that property to Cherokee Brick

Company. Staff and counsel agree that it was the intent of the Board that the County did not want the deed recorded actually transferring title to the property until such time as the Cherokee Brick contract had been agreed upon and the sale was completed. This transaction never closed. Therefore, if the County never intended to deliver the deed to consummate the transaction to the IDA until the contract and closing were in place, it is doubtful that the IDA technically and legally own this parcel. Staff believes it was the intent of the Board that the deed reverts back to the county if the project was never complete.

MOTION: By Commissioner Williams to revoke the deed [from the Board to the IDA] for the piece of land adjacent to Hunter Panels that was to be used for Cherokee Brick Company, conditioned on the fact that Cherokee Brick does not wish to proceed with the contract with IDA. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

Tax Collectors - Resolution #2011R-40

Because of the statutory requirements that the Value Adjustment Board must follow, the VAB hearings are not expected to conclude until after November 01, which is after the date the tax bills are generally mailed out. The Commission has the authority to authorize the VAB and the Property Appraiser to make a first certification and extension of the 2011 tax rolls prior to the completion of the VAB hearings so that tax notices can be timely issued by November 1. The Tax Collector is requesting a resolution be adopted authorizing and directing the VAB and the Property Appraiser to certify and extend the 2011 tax rolls prior to completion of the VAB hearing.

MOTON: By Commissioner Williams to approve the resolution. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

E911 Rural County Grant

This grant opportunity would be used to apply for monies to replace recording equipment. The grant would be in the amount of \$34,265. The application must be submitted by October 01st.

MOTION by Commissioner Bailey to approve the submission of the E911 Grant. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

County Manager's Annual Report

The County Manager gave his annual report. The report is attached to the original minutes.

Waste Pro

Chairman DePratter advised a local business owner reported Waste Pro offered to handle their waste collection for a price cheaper than the county's current waste hauler, Veolia Environmental Services. There was discussion that when Waste Pro first became the county's waste hauler they complained against Waste Management, who was then the outgoing hauler for doing the same thing. It was agreed that Waste Pro can no longer provide this service to Columbia

County. Attorney Feagle and County Manager Williams will look into a resolution and report.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court

Jody Dupree, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners