

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of:
August 01, 2013

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regular meeting at the School Board Administrative Complex at 5:30 p.m. The meeting opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Stephen Bailey, Rusty DePratter, Scarlet Frisina, Ronald Williams and Bucky Nash.

Others in Attendance: County Manager Dale Williams
Safety Manager David Kraus, (“S.M.”)
Operations Manager Kevin Kirby (“O.M.”)
Administrative Manager Lisa Roberts (“A.M.”), and
Deputy Clerk Sandy A. Markham
Heather Encinosa, Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson, P.A.

Public Comment

Citizen Stewart Lilker commended Commissioner Nash for his leadership at the Suwannee Valley Transit Authority. He commented on salaries of firemen, the fire assessments and the over 180% increase in the fire assessment.

Agenda

Addition: Falling Creek Bridge/Road Project change order.

Deletion: Consent Agenda item #20.

MOTION by Commissioner Frisina to approve the consent agenda with requested changes. Second by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Citizen Stewart Lilker offered comment relating to the order of public speaking. He also commented on fire rates and salaries. He also thanked Commissioner Nash for his work and leadership with SVTA.

Citizen Barbara Lemley asked the Commissioners to please consistently speak into the microphones. Ms. Lemley also addressed fire rates.

Citizen Maceba Murphy, owner of Party Time Bounce House addressed the use of bounce houses in Columbia County. She offered to assist the county in reaching a resolution to issues they may have with bounce house operations.

Citizen Jerry Albritton addressed ball field accessibility.

Excelsior Ambulance Service

James A. Graham, M.D. requested a COPCN from the County for the purpose of providing transport to patients of the Lake City V.A. Medical Center and the V.A. Nursing Home Unit. The Board requested additional information and supporting documents from Dr. Graham.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to table the matter until the next meeting. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Williams voting in opposition.

Consent Agenda

Item #20 was removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve items on the Consent Agenda except for item #20. Second by Commissioner Frisina.

There was a call for clarification on items #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #13 and #19. County Manager Williams assisted with clarification.

The motion carried unanimously.

- (1) External Budget Amendment – Facilities/Operations Department – BA # 13-88 – Transfer Funding to Sheriff’s Administration for Air Conditioning Repair - \$12,000.00(This amendment was suggested during the FY 13-14 Budget Review Process)
- (2) External Budget Amendment – Facilities/Operations Department – BA #13-87 – Purchase a Truck to Replace 1996 Dodge(continual maintenance problems) - \$25,630.00 (This amendment was suggested during the FY 13-14 Budget Review Process)
- (3) External Budget Amendment – Central Communications – BA # 13-91 – Requesting Approval of Contract with RCC Consultants, Inc. – Needs Assessment for the Communications Tower at the Detention Facility - \$52,500
- (4) External Budget Amendment – Operations Manager – BA #13-73 – Purchase Equipment (see attached list) - \$364,754.00
- (5) External Budget Amendment – County Manager – BA # 13-90 – Bring Forward Cash Balances of Special Law Enforcement Fund - \$31,100.00
- (6) Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. – (S.H.I.P.) – Release of Lien – Monta M. Poitevint - \$2,000.00

- (7) Operations Manager – Change Order Request - Resurfacing the Health Department Parking Lot - \$16,000
- (8) Operations Manager – Requesting Approval – Enter Private Property – Peggy Sandlin, Parcel #03209-000 – Repair a Sinkhole on Private Property and Located Within 5’ of County Right-of-Way
- (9) Operations Manager – Requesting Approval – Enter Private Property – Trinity United Methodist Church, Parcel #11206-001 – Drainage Maintenance
- (10) Operations Manager – Requesting Approval – Enter Private Property – Don & Bonita Mosley, Parcel #00374-001 – Repair Driveway from Drainage Runoff
- (11) Operations Manager – Requesting Approval – Enter Private Property – Sandra Gail & Robert Lee Moore, Parcel # 07476-000 –Drainage Ditch Maintenance
- (12) Operations Manager – Requesting Approval – Enter Private Property – William and Deborah French, Property Owner – 4973 Tustenuggee – Removal of Tree from County Right-of-Way that Fell onto Owner’s Property
- (13) Operations Manager – HVAC Controls Repair – Courthouse/Annex - Request to Use Unexpended Coping Repairs Project Balance - \$53,986.00
- (14) Proclamation No. 2013P-12 – Memorial of FHP Sergeant George “Andy” Brown – Dedicating Sisters Welcome Road in Remembrance of Our Fallen Hero
- (15) Annual Leave Request – Dale Williams – August 15, 2013 through August 23, 2013
- (16) Utility Permit – Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC – SE Zeigler Terrace
- (17) Utility Permit – New Generation Christian Ministries – SW Marvin Burnett Road
- (18) Utility Permit – AT&T SE Florida – NW Lake Jeffery Road
- (19) Safety Manager – Requesting Approval to Purchase 2 Replacement Class A Apparatus and Purchase of 1 Additional Class A Apparatus - \$582,358.17 (this amendment was suggested during the FY 13-14 Budget Review Process) – External Budget Amendment – Fire Department – BA # 13-92
- ~~(20) Safety Manager – Requesting Approval of the Acquisition and Contract for a Utility Easement – Witt Land Trust – \$35,000 plus fees to be funded from LP 6025~~
- (21) Sheriff’s Office – Amended County-Wide Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)/County Distribution \$33,763 – City Distribution \$22,509 - Total Allocation \$56,272 – Increase in Funds for County (\$1,827) and City (\$1,218) – BCC Previously Approved Grant on July 18, 2013

Bounce Houses

Staff reported that issues have surfaced with the rental of bounce houses, which would require the County to take a look at regulating usage. There was discussion. The Commission agreed that fair and reasonable guidelines are needed for owners and renters of the bounce houses. Staff will draft suggested guidelines for the Board's consideration.

Preliminary Rate Resolution #2013R-26; Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services and Setting the Public Hearing

County Manager Williams read the preamble of the resolution and stated the rate is \$193 annually. The resolution reflects the public hearing will be scheduled for September 05, 2013.

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

Preliminary Rate Resolution 2013R-25; Fire Protection and Setting Public Hearing

Amended & Restated Initial Assessment Resolution for Fire Protection Services. Attorney Encinosa reviewed the rates with the Board. She noted a typo; the "1,600" acres should read "160" acres. The resolution reflects the public hearing will be scheduled for September 05, 2013.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

CSX Railroad Crossing

Commissioner Williams discussed the need to have repairs made at the railroad tracks in the area of Washington Street/Bascom Norris. The repair has been reported to CSX, but they have no idea when they may be able to make the needed repairs. Commissioner Williams is concerned that the repairs present a safety issue.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to have Attorney Feagle contact CSX by way of a written letter regarding the repair. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Bridge at Falling Creek Road - Moore Farms Road Project

This project includes a **bridge upgrade** and resurfacing on **Moore Farms Road**. Because the bridge portion of the project cost more than anticipated and budgeted, there is not sufficient funds to resurface the road. Staff requested the Board approve a **change order** in the amount of \$65,000 in order to complete the road portion of the project.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve the change order. Second by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners' Non Agenda Items

Commissioner Williams reported the need, and requested **permission to enter two pieces of private property** in order to correct flooding and erosion caused by storm-water runoff.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to enter the property of **Tim Thrift** at 212 NW **Nye Hunter Road** for the purpose of dumping lime rock and “making a small curve” that will divert water, which will help prevent erosion and flooding. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to correct driveway issues on Paul Lewinsky’s Driveway; Property Appraiser Parcel #04633-003. This will require three loads of lime rock and cutting a ditch. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Soccer Field Access

The issue of whether the Columbia Youth Soccer Association has the right to close the fields and not allow public access was discussed. While the opinions were varied among the commission, there was a consensus that everyone needed to be working toward reaching a middle ground to resolve the issues. Citizen Pamela Hartopp offered input regarding the matter.

Citizen Input

Citizen Keith Robinson discussed that a position needs to be taken by the County as it relates to Pondview Mobile Home Park. He said the rundown, deteriorated park is an eyesore that needs to be cleaned up. He reported the owners recently gave **Pondview Mobile Home Park** a new name [**Edgewater**], but not a new look. He encouraged the Board to continue their efforts in making the mobile home park a part of **Alligator Lake Park** in the future.

Citizen Stewart Lilker addressed the need for the county to advertise for a qualified Assistant County Manager. He also discussed public speaking at the meetings, and the Field of Dreams for the handicapped children.

Citizen Barbara Lemley asked Commissioner Williams to define what he regarded as “Ma & Pa” transport companies as stated earlier in the meeting. She also asked Attorney Feagle to look into whether there was some type of a lien that could be placed on properties of people whose garbage assessments are waived to ensure if the house sells or the homeowners dies, the county may have the ability to recoup the amount waived.

Citizen Bobby Porter addressed Fire Assessment revenues and expenditures.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:45.
p.m.

ATTEST:

Chairman Stephen Bailey
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Courts