

Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of:

July 17, 2014

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

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

Others in Attendance: County Manager Dale Williams ("CM"), Asst. County Manager Ben Scott ("ACM"), Operations Manager Kevin Kirby ("OM"), Safety Manager David Kraus ("SM"), County Attorney Marlin Feagle, and Deputy Clerk Sandy A. Markham.

Agenda Adoption

Additions:

- Ball Team's request for funding
- Mediation Settlement Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Frisina to approve. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

None.

Preliminary Rate Resolutions

- a. Resolution No. 2014R-16; Fire Protection Services.

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

- b. Resolution No. 2014R-17; Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services.

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

c. Resolution No. 2014R-18; Emerald Lakes Subdivision Street Lighting Service.

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

Consent Agenda

- (1) External Budget Amendment – Operations Department – BA # 14-62 – Clean Up of Cheryl Glen Property - \$25,000.00
- (2) External Budget Amendment – Public Library – BA # 14-66 – Request that Funds be Forwarded from Virginia Bishop Reserve and Bernhardt Trust Fund – Purchasing of Library Materials - \$22,043.99
- (3) External Budget Amendment – 911 Combined Communications – BA #14- 72 – Unanticipated Turnover of Telecommunicators - \$117,000.00
- (4) External Budget Amendment – Administration – BA # 14-74 – Computer for New Finance Office Position - \$ 1,202.00
- (5) External Budget Amendment – Operations Department – BA #14-77 – Purchase 10 Tablet Computers and Cases - \$7,700.00
- (6) External Budget Amendment – Emergency Management – BA # 14-79 – Approve Two (2) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Modifications - Erin Glen (106,000.00) & US27/SR47 (\$125,500.00)
- (7) Request to Approve Contract With the Columbia High School Dugout Club – \$32,000.00 – Approval of BA # 14-80
- (8) Building and Zoning – Special Family Lot Permits – Kelsee King – Jeanne Lott, Property Owner and James L. Shaw – John E. Shaw, Property Owner
- (9) Operations Department – FY 14/15 Mosquito Control Work Plan - \$34,150.00
- (10) Administration – Agreement with Metropolitan Systems, Inc./Kiwanis Club of Lake City – Placement of Benches Upon County Right-of-Way
- (11) Administration – Interlocal Agreement – Columbia County Board of County Commissioners/Columbia County School Board District – Use of Board Owned Equipment

- (12) Operations Department – Approval of FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement & Resolution No. 2014R-15 – Various Signing & Pavement Markings
- (13) Operations Department – Renewal of Contract – Darabi & Associates, Inc./Columbia County Board of County Commissioners – Engineering Services
- (14) Operations Department – Approval of FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement & Resolution No. 2014R-12 – Bridge Replacement on Olustee Creek/CR 241
- (15) Emergency Management – Requesting Approval of Contract – Disaster Resistant Communities Group – Training Exercise Under State Homeland Security Grant Program - \$9,500.00
- (16) Emergency Management – Contract to Update the Local Mitigation Strategy - Management Experts - \$5,500.00
- (17) Fire Rescue/EMS/911 – Requesting Approval of Contract Agreement – Medical Director Kim Landry, M.D. - \$45,000.00 per year
- (18) Sheriff's Office – 2014-2015 Florida Crime Stoppers Trust Fund Grant - \$17,637.56
- (19) Landscaping and Parks Department – River Rise Boat Ramp Sublease Agreement – State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection/Columbia County Board of County Commissioners
- (20) Resolution No. 2014R-14 – Providing the Extension of the 2014 Assessment Rolls
- (21) Resolution No. 2014R-13 (Landfill Tipping Fees) – Amended to Include Mobile Home Disposal
- (22) Resolution No. 2014R-19 – Establishing the 2014 Price Index for Investor- Owned Water, Wastewater and Effluent Re-Use Systems
- (23) Tourist Development – Requesting Approval to Reimburse Babe Ruth Baseball – Two (2) Golf Carts used at Tournaments and Special Events - \$7,834.00
- (24) Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. – (S.H.I.P.) – FY 2014-2015 Funding Certificate - \$354,491.00
- (25) Tax Collector – Requesting Approval 2013 Recapitulation of Errors and Insolvencies - \$2,079,433.00

- (26) Columbia County Resources, Inc. – Requesting Surplus Bleachers from Columbia County
- (27) Public Library – Declaration of Junk Property – (see attached list)
- (28) Landscape & Parks – Requesting Approval to Waive Field Fees – Charity (Guardian Ad Litem) Baseball Tournament – August 9-10, 2014 – Southside Sports Complex
- (29) Utility Permit – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – CR 133 (Country Club Road)
- (30) Administration – Revised Job Description for Human Resources/Community Service Director and Reclassification to Senior Management for the Florida Retirement System
- (31) Request for Annual Leave – Dale Williams, County Manager – July 18-25, 2014
- (32) Administration - FDOT – Small County Outreach Program Agreement Addendum – Construction of Real Road from US 90 and Bascom Norris Drive
- (33) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Workshop/Special Meeting - May 27, 2014
- (34) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – June 5, 2014
- (35) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – June 23, 2014

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

Republic Service Inc. (“RSI”)

RSI has requested Columbia County accept out of county waste disposal from Pilgrim’s Pride located in Suwannee County. Specifically, the waste would be approximately 300 tons of Class I garbage at \$54 per ton and 20 tons of Class III garbage at \$37 per ton for a total approximate revenue of \$196,000 annually.

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to deny the request. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

National Fire Services

Staff discussed the need to authorize National Fire Services to conduct a 50 Year Drought Study for properties between 5 and 7 road miles from a Fire Station. The cost of this

study will be paid from the existing Fire Budget in the amount of \$17,400. Approval was requested.

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

Animal Control Services – Informational Item

The Lake City Humane Society will soon review the proposed contract between their organization and the County for animal control services. The contract proposes the County will allocate \$260,000 annually for three years.

Appreciation was expressed for the hard work and dedication that Commissioner Nash and Mr. Perley Richards, President of the Humane Society Board, put into resolving concerns between the agencies.

Tropical Storm Debby Reimbursement

Staff discussed with the Commission that Columbia County continues to struggle with the Division of Emergency Management (“DEM”) over owed FEMA reimbursements relating to work projects performed during and after Tropical Storm Debby. CM Williams requested authorization to send a letter to Governor Scott explaining the situation and requesting his assistance in resolving the matter of unnecessary reimbursement delays.

MOTION by Commissioner Frisina to approve the request. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

County Budget Update

CM Williams gave a Power Point Presentation which addressed:

- Review of the Three Pre-Budget Workshop Dates
- FY2014-2015 Budget Summary (To Date)
- Review of Budget Issues
- FY2014-2015 Budget Summary Revenue
- FY 2014-2015 Budget Calendar
- Budget Preparations (May 27, 2014 To Date)
- Review of Sheriff’s Office W-2 Wage Demographics (2013)
- Review of Sheriff’s Approved Budget for 2013-14 and the 2014-15 adjustments
- Budget Preparations Relating to the Sheriff’s Office
 - The offer made to the Sheriff’s Office regarding budget increase
 - Review of why a percentage based budget was offered

MOTION by Commissioner Nash to approve the concept of a percentage based budget agreement with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. Second by Commissioner DePratter. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to authorize the inclusion of \$545,232 in the FY 14-15 Floor Budget to fund the operations of the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner Bailey to authorize preparing the contract between the Board of County Commissioners and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office laying out the terms and conditions for a percentage based budget arrangement. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner Frisina to approve Budget Amendment #14-84, providing \$114,548 to the Sheriff's Office in 2013-2014 salary adjustments effective July 01, 2014. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

The Commission discussed with CM Williams that other employees of the County, [besides the Sheriff's Office employees] need to have similar consideration. Chairman Williams reminded CM Williams that the Clerk's Office has taken a large hit the past few years and will also need to be given consideration.

Millage Rate

It was recommended that there be no increase in the millage rate for the upcoming fiscal year.

MOTION by Commissioner DePratter to establish the maximum millage rate for FY 2014-2015 at the same millage levied for 2013-2014, which is 8.015. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

Detention Center Status

The Detention Center remains the responsibility of the Sheriff. CM Williams discussed with the Board the need to work with their legislative delegation and the Florida Association of Counties to put procedures in place for parties to opt out of managing the jail.

Ball Team's Request for Funding (Agenda Addition)

The Columbia 9-U All-Star Baseball Team has qualified to play in the regional games in West Palm Beach. The Board was asked to donate funds to help with the team's travel

expenditures.

MOTION by Commissioner Bailey to deny the request for funds. Second by Commissioner Nash. The motion carried unanimously.

Settlement Agreement (Agenda Addition)

In the case of Kurt Heinmuller vs. Rickey W. Smith; Columbia County case number 2011-360-CA. The Board's portion of the settlement will be to pay the deductible (\$10,000). A copy of that Mediation Settlement Agreement is attached to the original minutes.

MOTION by Commissioner Bailey to pay the deductible. Second by Commissioner Frisina. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments

Skunkie Acres "SA" Update. At the request of Commissioner Williams, SM Kraus provided an update on Skunkie Acres. Staff has met with regulatory agencies that have been involved with the complaints filed against SA to get a better understanding of the issues. While there has been some discussion that SA was considering a move to Texas, that move has not happened. SA is now considering other properties in the county that they may relocate on. The County continues to monitor the developments and will keep the Commission apprised.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Courts

Ronald Williams, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners