

Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

August 15th 2024

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, Ron Williams

Commissioner, Robby Hollingsworth

Commissioner, Tim Murphy

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:

Addition

1.) Request for aerial mosquito spray.

Deletions

None

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

Presentation to Board:

Powell and Jones, Certified Public Accountants

A presentation was made by Mr. Kaleb Parlo (Powell and Jones CPA). The summary was a review of the recent audit performed by Powell and Jones Firm. See attached PowerPoint.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

Motion to receive 2023-24 Audit as presented by Powell and Jones by Commissioner Hollingsworth. **Seconded** by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings:

Louie Goodin, County Planner

1.) Special Event Permit Request (Paper Lanterns for October 19th 2024)

Jeff Crawford, Columbia Fire Rescue, spoke in opposition of this event. Mr. Crawford stated, “potential fire and property damage is not worth the risk taken to host this event.”

Discussion ensued.

Collin Macky, Lights Festival

Spoke in support the event permit request. Mr. Macky informed the Commission that the Company would work in correlation with the Local Fire Departments, to ensure the safety of Citizens in Columbia County. Mr. Macky gave references of other Counties in the State that have utilized this Company and hosted events.

Mr. Michael Foreman, spoke in opposition of the event permit. Mr. Foreman is a resident of Columbia and lives in a neighbor located near where the event was scheduled to take place.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips to deny special event permit. **Seconded** by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried unanimously.

2.) Special Event Permit Request (Corn Maze Aug 31st-Nov. 3rd)

Motion by Commissioner Ford to approve special event permit. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Discussion and Action Items:

Joel Foreman, County Attorney

1.) Campground Moratorium

Mr. Foreman updated the Commission as to what codes are currently in place pertaining to Campgrounds/RV Parks and the changes that he feels should be made. Until, more in depth guidelines have been established, Mr. Foreman has advised the Commission to implement a 100-day Camp Ground Moratorium.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024R-30 for Camp Ground Moratorium by Commissioner Murphy. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

2.) Sweetwater Apartments (Phase II)

This is a request to change the duration of financing contract from 15 years to a term of 20 years.

Motion by Commissioner Ford to approve Resolution No. 2024R-31. **Seconded** by Commissioner Phillips. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

3.) FDOT Agreement Heirlong/Ellisville

Motion by Commissioner Phillips to approve Resolution No. 2024R-29 for operational improvements. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

David Kraus, County Manager

4.) Resilient Florida Program

Columbia County has received grant funding from the Office of Resilience & Coastal Protection in the amount of \$450,000.00. Environmental Protection Agency funding will be used to create a comprehensive vulnerability assessment project, which will include a vulnerability assessment.

Motion by Commissioner Ford to approve BA 24-52 and grant award. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

5.) Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. Opioid Settlement Amendment 100

Presented for approval, the agreement with Lutheran Services of Florida, Inc. This contract is a duplicate from the prior year, this is a housekeeping issue. The total amount of the grant will be \$552,443 and will be used by the Para medicine program.

Motion by Commissioner Phillips to approve agreement. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

6.) Aerial Mosquito Spraying Post Hurricane Debbie

Members of the Commission received a letter from the Department of Health in support of aerial mosquito spraying in an effort to cut down on the insect. Excessive standing water due to Hurricane Debbie, has created a need for additional intervention.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Ford to authorize Chairman Williams to sign letter, granting permission for aerial mosquito spraying in Columbia County. **Seconded** by Commissioner Hollingsworth. Motion carried unanimously.

There are tablets available to County residents at the County landfill, to help with mosquito control. These are to be used in STANDING water only.

Discussion ensued.

Open Comment:

Barbra Limley - Fairway Drive, Lake City, FL

Ms. Limley addressed the Commission about flooding in her subdivision due to retention pond overflow and other standing water areas without proper drainage.

Ms. Limley also spoke on behalf of the dissolution of the Lake Shore Hospital Authority Board.

Staff Comments:

None.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

ATTEST:

Chairman, Ron Williams

Columbia County Commissioner

James M. Swisher, Jr

Clerk of Court & County Comptroller

