

Board of County Commissioners

January 27, 2000 5:30 P.M.

The Board of County Commissioners met this day in special meeting.

Present were: Chairman - Zimmie Petty, Commissioners - Dewey Weaver, Ronald Williams, James Montgomery and Kenneth Witt.

Also present were: County Coordinator - Dale Williams, Assistant County Coordinator - Lisa Roberts and Deputy Clerk - Sandy A. Markham. (Marlin Feagle was not present).

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The invocation and the pledge of allegiance followed.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the pros and cons of bringing the Sykes Company to Columbia County.

Jim Poole gave an overview of the Sykes Project. He also advised that he had been furnished with an article relating to a sharp drop in stock prices of Sykes. He explained that Sykes is a technology company, and like many technology companies, has shown great increases in value over the past year. Sykes' stock dropped close to 50% due to an expected report that earnings would be less than projected for the last quarter of the year. The earnings report will be released on January 31, 2000. The stock has rebounded and closed this day at \$28.375 per share.

Dick Powell gave an update on the incentive cost of locating Sykes in Columbia County. The revised costs were based on meetings and additional support received from the State of Florida, City of Lake City and Columbia County School Board. See the attached Sykes Incentive Project.

Other advantages discussed to bringing the Skyes Company to Columbia County

were:

1. 432 new jobs .
2. 42,000 S.F. facility
3. One mile of property available for commercial and industrial growth.
4. Utilities to S.R. 47 and I -75 area
5. Columbia County will be recognized as a county that is progressive in economic development.
6. New annual payroll of \$7 million plus benefits.

Glenell Presley and William Whitely spoke in favor of the Sykes Company being situated in Columbia County while George Alford adamantly opposed it.

Motion by Ronald William to accept proposal to begin the work to bring Sykes to Columbia County, contingent upon a complete legal review. Second by Dewey Weaver. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

ATTEST:

Zimmie Petty, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

P. DeWitt Cason, Clerk