

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE,  
MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA

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The Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Donna Storter Long, Chairman  
Paul Beckoo9  
Tim Stanley  
Russell Echols

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court  
Richard Pringle, County Attorney  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Terri Anascavage, E911 Coordinator  
Alexis Crespo, Planner – Waldrop Engineering, P.A.  
Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Sheriff  
Avant Brown, Road Superintendent  
Gary Ritter, South Florida Water Management District  
James Hull, AIM Engineering  
Matthew Howard, Johnson Engineering  
Tosha Reiss, Emergency Management  
Nancy Ashley, Community Development  
Michelle Lanier, Probation Officer  
Angela Snow-Colegrove, Director -Emergency Management  
Gail Jones, Glades County Tax Collector  
Tommy Perry, Johnson – Prewitt and Associates, Inc.  
Laura Mathis, Tax Collector's Office  
Beth Griffin, Wife of the late Dennis Griffin  
Tracy Whirls, Executive Director – Glades EDC  
Charlie Murphy, Okeechobee Radio  
9 citizens

Chairman Storter Long called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PRAYER**

Chairman Storter Long gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Commissioner Beck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

There were none.

**PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

**Nancy Ashley – In Memory of Commissioner Dennis Griffin**

Nancy Ashley, daughter of the late Mr. Dennis Griffin, gave a heartfelt presentation to the Board regarding her father's recent death. Vice Chairman Griffin passed away on Monday, February 3, 2014 and will be missed by all who knew him.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There was none.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**1. Case Number COMP 14-01SS – Steven G. Witter**

Attorney Pringle swore in the following witnesses: Andy Pritchett, Carter-Pritchett Advertising, and Alexis Crespo, Planner - Waldrop Engineering, P.A.

Mrs. Crespo asked that the staff report and application be entered into the record. She stated the Community Development Department had received a request from Steve G. Witter to change approximately 1.2 acres from the existing Future Land Use classification of Transitional to Commercial. She stated the property had approximately 434 lineal feet of frontage on US Hwy 27 and approximately 200 lineal feet of frontage on SR 78. She stated both of these highways were classified as arterial roadways. She stated the property was listed as vacant residential; however, the surrounding land use pattern was a mix of vacant lands zoned for commercial and industrial uses. She stated the requested FLUM designation of Commercial was not inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and was compatible with the existing uses in the surrounding areas, as well as the Future Land Uses in the vicinity. She stated the request represented a logical extension of the Commercial Future Land Use designation that currently existed to the east and would direct new non-residential uses to an area of the County supported by adequate public infrastructure and adjacent to arterial roadways. She stated staff had recommended to the Planning and Zoning Board that they recommend approval to the Board.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board adopted Glades County Ordinance 2014-2 approving the request of Case Number COMP14-01SS Steen G. Witter for transmittal to the Department of Economic Opportunity to reclassify 1.2 acres more or less from the present land use classification of Transitional to Commercial.

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**2. Case Number RZ14-01 – Joe Marlin Hilliard**

Attorney Pringle reminded the Board that they would need to disclose any ex parte communication regarding this rezoning matter. He swore in the following witnesses: Alexis Crespo, Planner - Waldrop Engineering, P.A. and Tommy Perry, Johnson Pruitt.

Chairman Storter Long called for ex parte disclosure. There was none.

Mrs. Crespo requested that the staff report and application be entered into the record. She stated the Community Development Department had received a request from Joe Marlin Hilliard, Trustee, property owner and applicant, Tommy Perry of Johnson Prewitt agent for owner. She stated the request was to change the zoning classification of approximately 235 acres from Open Use Agriculture (OUA) to Industrial Heavy (ID-2). She stated the property contained approximately 1,200 lineal feet of frontage on CR 720 and was bisected by South Central Florida Express railroad lines. She stated the existing use of the property was active agriculture (sugar cane) and the surrounding land use pattern was predominantly active agricultural. She stated the property was adequately serviced by surrounding roadway networks. She stated there was also industrial zoning districts within approximately ¼ - ½ mile from the subject property. She stated this request was consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and compatible with surrounding land use patterns. She stated staff had reviewed the application and had found it to be consistent with the Land Development Code and COMP Plan. She stated staff had recommended approval to the Board.

Commissioner Echols stated the County had experienced trouble with hauling cane on CR 720 for years. He expressed concern with weight limits on the road.

Tommy Perry, Johnson Prewitt, stated any weight restrictions on the road would apply to this project also. He stated the project was not located on the bad part of the road but rather on the Moore Haven end where the base was a little better.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board adopted Glades County Ordinance 2014-3, rezoning approximately 235 acres from Open Use Agriculture to Industrial Heavy based on the contents of the application, Planning Commission recommendation, Staff report, and testimony presented during the public hearing Case No. RZ14-01 – Joe Marlin Hilliard.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**3. Banning all Outdoor Burning**

County Manager Carlisle stated because of the dry conditions and numerous freezes there had been a concern about the potential for wildfires; however, there had been significant rainfall recently. He requested that the Board continue this item to a date certain so that it would not require re-advertisement. He asked that the Board consider the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting date.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board continued Item #3 – Banning all Outdoor Burning to the March 11, 2014 day meeting.

**4. Road Impact Fees**

County Manager Carlisle stated the next four items would extend the delay of the collection of impact fees. He stated the Board would have an opportunity to re-evaluate the fees, if needed, and a study would be required.

Attorney Pringle explained that there were several blanks within the Ordinances. He stated these were on pages 4 and 5 in Section 6. He stated the Board would need to fill in these dates and make them a part of their motion. He asked that the Board choose a date far enough out in the future so that there would be sufficient time to prepare reports/studies that would be needed to re-establish the fees in the future, if the Board wished.

Commissioner Beck suggested January 1, 2016 for a termination date.

Commissioner Echols stated he felt a year would be sufficient because of the potential growth that was expected in the County.

Commissioner Stanley questioned rescinding at any time.

Attorney Pringle stated this was correct. He stated there would be some expectation in the community that if the Board extended the suspension for a 1 or 2 year period of time, the citizens would count on this. He stated the Board would give plenty of notice if they wished to terminate or rescind the suspension of collection early. He reminded the Board that a study would be required prior to reimplementation.

Commissioner Beck explained his reasoning for suggesting a 2 year extension. He stated the County was anticipating some growth within the next year. He stated if the suspension was only extended for a year only it may give pause to some of the new businesses that would be coming into the County. He stated there would be a lot of

construction at first and a lot of the growth would depend on the opening of the Panama Canal zone, which would be at least another 18 months.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board adopted Ordinance 2014-4, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to amend the Glades County Impact Fee Ordinance as to extend the suspension of the collection of Road Impact Fees until February 9, 2016.

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

#### **5. Impact Fees - Emergency Medical Services**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board adopted Ordinance 2014-5, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to amend the Glades County Impact Fee Ordinance as to extend the suspension of the collection of Emergency Medical Service Impact Fees until February 9, 2016.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

#### **6. Impact Fees – Park**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board adopted Ordinance 2014-6, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to amend the Glades County Impact Fee Ordinance as to extend the suspension of the collection of Park Impact Fees until February 9, 2016.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**7. Impact Fees – Public Education**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Ordinance into the record.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board adopted Ordinance 2014-7, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to amend the Glades County Impact Fee as to extend the suspension of the collection of Public Educational Impact Fees until February 9, 2016.

Roll call was taken – all Commissioners voted “yea”.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**8. State of Florida Small Cities CDBG Application**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was a continuation of the waiver letter that the Board had approved at the last meeting. He stated this application was for a grant in an amount up to \$3 million. He stated there were 4 areas where the funds could be spent and Fred Fox, Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. was present to guide the Board through the process.

Fred Fox, Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. passed around a sign in sheet that would be submitted with the application. He stated the funding for CDBG came from Federal HUD. He stated this funding was divided into 2 categories: one for larger counties over 200,000 and one for cities over 50,000, which received entitlements annually. He stated Glades County would have to compete for this funding. He stated Glades County was eligible to apply for an amount up to \$700,000.00. He stated this figure was based on the low to moderate income population as of the 2000 census information. He stated there were 4 categories that Glades County could apply in: Housing and Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Economic Development. He stated Glades County was eligible for all 4 categories this year. He stated once the County was funded in a category, with the exception of Economic Development, the county could not apply again until the project was closed out. He stated currently Glades County had no open grants. He stated Economic Development required a developer to work with the County to create jobs and commit “x” number of dollars. He stated the cost that the Developer had to build or expand his facility was used as the match. He stated the match would not be any local money. He stated the County could use Economic Development funds for infrastructure improvements associated with that business. He stated the Engineer for the project would include an affidavit with the application stating the minimum needed for that business. He stated this was approximately a 60 day process and the County could not submit their application until they had approval of the waiver. He stated the State had 3 different definitions regarding income thresholds: extremely low income (30% of median), very low income (50% of median), and low income (80% of median). He stated for Economic

Development at least 51% of the jobs needed to be picked up by people that were part of low income families in the year prior to them being employed by the developer. He stated there would be 2 thresholds. He stated the one in the beginning would be that at least 51% of the jobs being created at the facility could be filled with people requiring no more than a high school education. He stated the threshold on the backend would be that 51% of the people that get the jobs have to be from a household that was low moderate income in the year before they are hired. He stated the process for submitting the application would begin with today's public hearing where the Board would formally decide what type of projects to pursue and which categories the Board wished to apply for. He stated there were 2 Fair Housing Workshops that were required for points. He reminded the Board that this was a competitive selection process. He stated the Board would have to appoint a Citizens Advisory Group and this group would have to meet and come back to the Board with a recommendation for the project. He stated there would then be a final public hearing held where the project would be discussed. He explained that this group could consist of an odd number of individuals. He stated the restrictions were that no Board member could serve, only one County employee could serve, and all members had to reside in the unincorporated areas of the County. He stated the application was due by March 12<sup>th</sup> for all 4 categories. He stated the County's application would be scored and ranked. He stated the Economic Development category was a little different. He stated since the County had to have a developer on board with them, these applications had been historically received after March 12<sup>th</sup>. He stated these applications were taken on a first come first serve basis. He reminded the Board that they would need to call for public input.

Attorney Pringle clarified with Mr. Fox that the Board would need to adopt a Resolution and approve a CATF at today's hearing.

Mr. Fox stated the Resolution would be adopted at the next public hearing. He stated if the Board was ready they could appoint the CATF today.

Chairman Storter Long asked if the Board had to choose just one of the categories. She stated the Board's goal was economic development.

Mr. Fox stated this was correct but the Board would choose the category after the public hearing.

Commissioner Stanley asked who was responsible for appointing the members of the CATF.

Mr. Fox stated the County Manager could recommend the members; however, the Board would have to appoint the members.

Chairman Storter Long stated if anyone in the audience was interested in serving there were applications in the County Manager's office. She asked if she should call for public input on this matter.

Attorney Pringle stated she could; however, he did not believe the Board needed to adopt a Resolution today. He asked if the Board did not have enough names for the appointment of at least 3 of the CATF members could the public hearing be continued to a date certain.

Mr. Fox stated the appointment of the members could be a separate item.

Attorney Pringle requested that the appointment of the members to CATF be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. He explained that if the Board chose Housing and Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization, or Neighborhood Revitalization they would be done until the project was closed out. He stated with Economic Development the County could have the Housing and Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization, or Neighborhood Revitalization and apply for Economic Development each year as long as the other projects were on schedule.

Chairman Storter Long questioned the waiver.

Mr. Fox stated there was no waiver for the Housing and Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization, or Neighborhood Revitalization categories.

Attorney Pringle asked if the CATF was appointed as an agenda item at the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting and the second public hearing occurred at the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting would it be possible to get the application to the State by March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fox stated the committee would need to be appointed and meet prior to the second public hearing. He stated there needed to be at least 7 days between the day the advertisement ran and the second public hearing.

Attorney Pringle asked if it was imperative that the Board have the second public hearing before the March 12<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Mr. Fox stated he did not believe that the County would get their waiver approved prior to March 12<sup>th</sup>. He stated this was typically a 6 – 8 week process.

Attorney Pringle suggested that the next public hearing be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fox stated he would attend this meeting or have a representative present to answer any questions. He stated the CATF typically only met once per cycle.

Commissioner Beck asked how long this grant application had been open and why it was just being presented to the Board.

Mr. Fox stated he was not sure why this had not come before the Board. He stated had been doing this process since 1984 and dealt with about 50 local governments. He stated he was not sure why this had been delayed.

Chairman Storter Long stated she believed the County had not received a final commitment from the Developer until recently.

Attorney Pringle stated this was correct. He stated the County had not begun the waiver process until last month.

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had previously applied for an EDA grant and had been turned down.

Chairman Storter Long called for public input. There was none.

Chairman Storter Long requested that the Board be prepared to appoint at least 3 citizens to the CATF at the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Echols asked that the record reflect that he did not comment on any of these proceedings.

Attorney Pringle clarified that no official action was required or taken today.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

9.

A. **Approve County Warrants. (See Exhibit A)**

**General Fund: 72773 – 72897**

**SHIP : 1577 – 1578**

**Intergovernmental Radio: 10229 – 10231**

**Courthouse Facilities Grant: 1375 – 1379**

**EMS Award Grant: 1913 - 1914**

B. **Approve the Minutes of the January 27, 2014 Regular Meeting.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

### **BUSINESS AGENDA**

10. **Selection of Vice Chairman**

Chairman Storter Long that as a result of the passing of Commissioner Dennis Griffin the position of Vice Chairman was currently vacant. She stated the Board would need to fill the Vice Chairman seat at a time they deemed appropriate.

Commissioner Beck requested that this item be placed on the night meeting agenda.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board continued Item #10 – Selection of Vice Chairman to the February 24, 2014 meeting.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**11. Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agreement LP 22021 Wastewater Improvements Project**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Resolution into the record.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved Resolution 2014-3, approving Agreement No. LP22021 with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection which will provide funds for the use of wastewater improvements in Glades County.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**12. State of Florida Department of Transportation Small County Road Assistance Agreement for Resurfacing of CR 720 (Canal Road)**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved Resolution 2014-4, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to accept the agreement under Financial Management No. 430210 1 58 01 for the resurfacing of CR 720 (Canal Road).

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Resolution into the record.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**13. State of Florida Department of Transportation Small County Road Assistance Agreement for Resurfacing of CR 721 (Loop Road)**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Resolution into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved Resolution 2014-5, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to accept the agreement under Financial Management No. 430211 1 58 01 for the resurfacing of CR 721 (Loop Road).

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**14. State of Florida Department of Transportation Small County Road Assistance Agreement for Resurfacing of Old Lakeport Road**

Chairman Storter Long read the title of the Resolution into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved Resolution 2014-6, authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to accept the agreement under Financial Management No. 431885 1 58 01 for the resurfacing of Old Lakeport Road.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**15. Approve Item to Item Transfer in the Budget**

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated these were Item to Item Transfer to move the funds into the appropriate line item with the exception of the \$1,231.00 for the Public Defender. She stated the Public Defender's Office had requested an additional \$1,231.00 to cover the cost of a server. She stated the Board had agreed during budget hearings to reserve \$150,000.00 for Technology and requested that these funds be transferred to a line item where the expenditures will be made from.

Chairman Storter Long asked for a motion to transfer the \$150,000.00 to a fund so that it could be expended.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved the transfer of \$150,000.00 to a line item so that the funds could be expended on Technology, as needed.

Motion carried by 4- 0 vote.

Chairman Storter Long asked for a motion regarding all of the item to item transfers including \$1,231.00 from the Technology Fund to cover the cost of a server for the Public Defender's Office.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved all of the item to item transfers including \$1,231.00 from the Technology Fund to cover the cost of a server for the Public Defender's Office. (See Exhibit B)

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**16. Website Development and Management**

County Manage Carlisle stated County's website was outdated and difficult to navigate. He stated the programming behind it was in such disarray the staff could not continue to us it. He stated it was making it very difficult to get information out to the public and was hindering the building permit process and inspection operations. He requested that the Board award the bid to the low bidder for website development and management. He

stated this website would be the face of Glades County and would be one of the marketing tools used to bring in businesses to the County. (See Exhibit C)

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board awarded the bid for new website development and hosting to Revize Software Systems.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**17. Consider the Purchase of the BOMA Property**

Chairman Storter Long stated in 2007 South Florida Water Management District had informed the Board that they would be purchasing approximately 1,780 acres of the BOMA property located south of the Caloosahatchee River and north of State Road 80. She stated the Board's concern at the time was the removal of more land from the tax rolls and the hindering of future development. She stated Mr. DeLisi, WMD, had met with her approximately 5 weeks ago and had offered to sell the property to the County. She stated there had been an understanding/misunderstanding that the property would be given to the County. She stated this was apparently not the case. She stated if the County chose not to buy the property, WMD would allow the County to suggest the division of the property if it was declared surplus and sold to someone else.

Commissioner Stanley declared a conflict and stated he would not be voting on this matter because he is employed with South Florida Water Management District.

Commissioner Echols stated he had conflict with Lee County going into the business of joining a State agency to purchase land in another county. He stated this was wrong. He stated if this was the case then large counties with large bank rolls could simple team up with any State agency they wanted and buy out rural counties. He stated this kind of activity should be stopped. He stated WMD purchased the 1780 acres and not accomplished anything with the property. He stated he felt that the Board should, at every given opportunity, send the message to WMD that rural counties were not being treated fairly.

Commissioner Beck agreed with Commissioner Echols. He stated Agnes Ramsey had brought this matter before the Board in 2007. He stated she no longer worked with the District but he was trying to contact her. He stated there maybe something to learn from all of this. He stated it was wrong for one county to eject money into our county to purchase property that comes off of our tax roll. He stated he did not know if WMD had ever completed any project they had started. He stated now they wished to declare this property surplus and sell it back to the county. He questioned their reasoning. He stated the County could not afford to purchase the property. He stated the County's alternative was to decide what would be done with the property if someone else purchased it. He stated WMD should take the issue back to Lee County and let them decide what to do with it.

Commissioner Echols agreed.

Chairman Storter Long stated there was some concern that if the County purchased the strip that Highway 80 would widen and part of the property would be diminished. She stated there was 237 acres in the strip. She stated she was not interested in making a decision regarding the property.

Commissioner Echols stated he would prefer to send WMD a letter telling them to let Lee County decide the future of the property.

Commissioner Beck agreed.

Chairman Storter Long asked for clarification of what the letter should include and who would be authorized to sign.

Attorney Pringle stated it would depend on the actual message that the Board wished to put down in writing. He suggested that one version of the letter could be that the Board respectfully declined to give any input regarding the property. He stated this would be less inflammatory. He stated the Board could add to that and let WMD know that they had never really consulted the County in the beginning and therefore, the County would not be willing to give any opinions regarding the property.

Commissioner Beck stated maybe this letter could be used to draw some attention to the County's plight with this issue. He stated if the Legislators in Tallahassee were made more aware of the situation maybe they would become more involved.

Attorney Pringle stated he could come up with several thoughts and versions of the letter and asked if the Board would like to consider this matter at the next meeting.

Commissioner Echols stated he believed the matter could be addressed today.

Commissioner Beck agreed.

Chairman Storter Long stated that as the Chairman she would rather not name another County; but would not mind stating that when other counties get involved problems were created for rural counties. She agreed that this maybe the County's chance to make a good declaration regarding this matter. She stated she wanted to be careful how the Board relayed their thoughts and wanted the letter to be strong enough so that WMD would get the message.

Tommy Perry, Johnson Prewitt, suggested that the County had another option on the property. He stated if the Board says "no" then it's over. If they say "yes" then the Board would have time to negotiate the issue. He stated someone may come along

that wanted to do something with it that the County could help facilitate. He stated it would not cost the County anything to say “yes”.

Commissioner Beck stated he would agree with this.

Chairman Storter Long asked if the WMD offer had been put in writing.

County Manager Carlisle stated the only information he had was that WMD wanted to sell the property to the County at fair market value. He stated all sales were negotiable.

Commissioner Echols stated the Board was not in the land buying business.

County Manager Carlisle asked the Board to keep in mind that although the Board wanted to send a strong message to the District and other counties not to come into our County and purchase lands; the Board should consider what use would create the best tax dollars if the property went back on the commercial market.

Chairman Storter Long suggested that the Board ask for an appraisal from WMD in order to help choose the layout.

Commissioner Beck stated a Developer/Expert would be needed to help in the decision making process. He stated he felt the approval of a letter should be continued until the night meeting.

Chairman Storter Long asked that a draft letter be prepared for review and that County Manager Carlisle find out more about the offer.

Attorney Pringle gave another scenario for the letter.

Commissioner Echols suggested that Mr. DeLisi be invited to attend the next meeting.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board continued Item #17 – Consider the Purchase of the BOMA Property to the night meeting (February 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.)

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Stanley abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest. (See Exhibit D)

Attorney Pringle stated he would speak with Alexis Crespo, Planner, regarding the different drawings and what options maybe better for the County.

## **18. FAC 2014 Legislative Day**

County Manager Carlisle asked that the Board members get with him regarding any matters/issues that they would like brought up at the Legislative Day.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board authorized the County Manager to attend the FAC 2014 Legislative Day Session.

Commissioner Beck stated he was glad to see County Manager Carlisle participate in events such as this. He stated he believed it was important for him to attend and believed that this was an excellent opportunity for him to meet people and get settled in.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**19. Consider Purchase of Property Placed on the List of Lands Available for Taxes**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was a continuation of one property on the List Available for Taxes that the County had considered for purchase or for waiver of purchase. He asked that the Board consider waiving their option to purchase this property.

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated the City had sent a check for the purchase of the property. She stated they had indicated that someone had informed them that they would receive a refund of the County's certificate funds. She asked for clarification.

Chairman Storter Long stated the Board had voted only to allow the City to purchase the property, not to refund any portion of the bid amount.

County Manager Carlisle stated this information had been relayed by him. He stated these funds were going to come back to the County.

Ms. Brown explained that this portion of the funds would be distributed to the School, WMD, etc. She stated Florida Department of Revenue's approval would be required in order for a Tax Certificate to be omitted.

Chairman Storter Long clarified that the property would be paid in full and there would be no understanding of any refund.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Stanley the Board waived the County's right to purchase Block A Lot 17 River Gardens on the List of Lands Available.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

Jack Lundy, County Judge, stated when he was in private practice he used a jury consulting firm on occasion. He stated he had received a call from one of the owners of the firm wanting to take photographs of the courthouse. He stated this gentleman publishes the "Courthouses of Florida" calendar every year. He stated our courthouse was featured in May and June of the calendar. He stated the description told a little of the historical significance and the work that the County Commission had approved and had done in restoring the courtroom to its current condition. He presented each of the Commissioners and County Manager with one of the calendar. He pointed out one small error. He stated his understanding was that this courthouse was under construction during the 1926 Hurricane but had not been finished. He stated the description indicated that the building had been destroyed in 1926 and had been rebuilt. He stated only 6 courthouses had made the calendar this year.

Chairman Storter Long stated the photographs were very nice and thanked Judge Lundy for his presentation.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Pringle stated he had spoken with the Army Corps of Engineers staff regarding the Alvin Ward Park lease regarding consideration of the possibility of extending the current lease for another year so that the Management Plan could be finished. He stated this was being run through their approval chain and he was waiting for an answer.

He stated there had been several versions of the Cypress Knee Museum lease with Department of Environmental Protection presented to him. He stated County Manager Carlisle had done a very good job of catching certain points within the lease that were relevant to the County. He stated these had been incorporated into a document that he and County Manager Carlisle would review as a final version of the lease to send back to DEP for review and approval.

He stated he had received a phone call yesterday from Mr. Mooney of American Earth Movers. He stated he had told Mr. Mooney that he would need to hear from him at least 10 days before a Board meeting date so that any action items could be placed on the agenda for review. He stated Mr. Mooney had submitted all of the necessary information to AIM Engineering. He stated he had also received information from AIM. He stated this item maybe on the next day meeting agenda. He stated this would include an updated figure of all fees, expenses, and cost that they had incurred on behalf of the County as a result of Mr. Mooney's failure to completely perform as required under the contract. He stated he would also provide an updated figure of all of his fees as well. He stated these items would be defined as liquidated damages that the County would be entitled to retain out of the balance of the proceeds in the contract.

He stated he was continuing to work on a Flood Plain Ordinance. He stated he had spoken several times with Daniel Fitzpatrick, Florida Division of Emergency

Management about this ordinance and the revisions that were needed. He stated this proposed Ordinance would probably come before the Board in late April or May. He stated he was hoping to be able to wait until the map changes were complete so that they could be incorporated into the Ordinance.

He stated there was mention earlier about the valuation of lands that have been purchased by Water Management District and other government agencies in Glades County along with the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and how those were valued. He stated the Board had mentioned sometime earlier the possibility of drafting a Resolution to request that a more accurate Fair Market Value of the lands be used for PILT purposes. He asked the Board if they still wished to pursue this.

Chairman Storter Long stated yes this would be a good time to draft the Resolution.

The Board agreed.

Attorney Pringle stated he would work on the Resolution.

Commissioner Echols asked when the EOC building construction would begin.

Attorney Pringle stated he was not sure. He stated he had not heard anything from Wright Construction Group.

County Manager Carlisle stated Wright Construction Group had all of their bids in and were in the process of trying to compile the information for presentation to the Board. He stated the Board should expect this presentation at their night meeting in February.

Chairman Storter Long asked if the County Manager's office had received any responses to the advertisement regarding the leasing of County property near the Health Department.

County Manager Carlisle stated the advertisement was out but no formal responses had been received yet.

### **COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS**

County Manager Carlisle stated he would be attending a meeting tomorrow with FDOT that would go right along with Americas Gateway project. He stated FDOT would be discussing freight mobility planning and where bottle necks may or may not be with that process. He stated he would also be attending a Regional Economic Development Partnership meeting on the February 12<sup>th</sup> in Bonita Springs from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. He stated he would be bringing the additional Building Inspector position before the Board for review in the near future. He stated he had worked with an individual in the past that would be willing to contract with the County as a standby. He stated this individual would not cost the County anything unless his services were used. He stated

the County had received the letters late for the 2019-2020 FDOT projects list. He stated the list was supposed to be approved by FHREDI. He stated Gina Reynolds, FHREDI, was trying to compile some information for the County regarding this list. He asked the Board to let him know if they had any projects they would like to add to the lists. He stated the pavilions at Harney Pond were now under construction. He stated the slab had also been poured for the Clerk's storage building.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There was none.

**COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Echols stated he believed he would have the final permit for the Moore Haven Canal project by the night meeting.

Commissioner Stanley stated he was very pleased with the direction that the County was headed and was sorry that Commissioner Griffin was not here to ride this through with the Board.

Chairman Storter Long agreed. She stated the vacant seat reflected a vacancy in all of the Board members and the County. She stated Commissioner Griffin went at everything 100% and wholeheartedly.

**ADJOURN**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board moved to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Storter Long adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

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Donna Storter Long, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: March 11, 2014

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM RECORD. TAPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LISTENING TO THE ENTIRE MEETING.