

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014 AT 6:00 P.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 Monday, September 22, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Donna Storter Long, Chairman  
Tim Stanley, Vice Chairman  
Paul Beck  
Russell Echols  
Crystal Drake

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Dale Milita, CAS Governmental Services  
Connie Vanassche, CAS Governmental Services  
Terri Anascavage, E911 Coordinator/County Manager Office  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Missie Barletto, AIM Engineering  
Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Sheriff  
Mary Ann Whitney, Human Resources/SHIP Director  
Gary Ritter, South Florida Water Management District  
James Hull, AIM Engineering  
5 citizens

Chairman Storter Long called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PRAYER**

Chairman Storter Long gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Commissioner Drake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

There were none.

**PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

There were none.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There was none.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Approved Payment of County Warrants. (Exhibit A)**  
**General Fund: 74305 – 74450**  
**Intergovernmental Radio : 10252 – 10253**  
**Courthouse Facilities Grant: 1435**  
**EMS Award Grant: 1915**  
**SHIP: 1596 - 1598**
2. **Authorized the Chairman to Sign Year-End County Warrants.**
3. **Approved the minutes of the April 19, 2013 Workshop.**
4. **Approved the Minutes of the September 9, 2014 Regular Meeting.**

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

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

5. **Resolution to Authorize the Interlocal Agreement between Glades County and the Administrative Office of the Courts for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit for Probation Services.**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was the interlocal agreement that would place the Probation Department under the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). He stated there had been some revisions regarding sovereign immunity. He stated the Commissioners should have a red line copy attached to back of the interlocal agreement. He stated this language would allow the County to maintain its sovereign immunity and the AOC to maintain theirs. He stated this language also clarified that there would be one employee paid for by the County unless the agreement was revised.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved Resolution 2014-25, approving the Interlocal Agreement between Glades County and the Administrative Office of the Courts for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit; authorized the Chairman and County staff to complete the negotiations of the Interlocal Agreement terms; and authorized the Chairman to execute the Interlocal Agreement upon completion of the negotiations.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

6. **Florida Forest Service's Cooperative Equipment Loan Agreement**

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated this agreement was for the equipment that the Division of Forestry loaned the County. He stated the Forest Service was simply updating their paperwork. He stated all of this equipment was already covered under the County's insurance.

Commissioner Beck asked if the County maintained any deficiencies that the Division may find when they performed their annual inspection.

Mr. Jones stated this was correct. He stated if there was a maintenance issue with the equipment the County had the option of repairing it at its own expense or turning the equipment back in and get another.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board approved the Cooperative Equipment Loan Agreement between the State of Florida, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service, and the Glades County Board of County Commissioners. (See Exhibit B)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

#### **7. Remove and Replace Two Windows at the Jail Building**

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board had recently discussed with Sheriff Whiddon the possibility of moving back into the old jail building. He stated the Board had directed him to look into items that needed to be fixed and get them repaired. He stated one of the outstanding items was window repair. He stated there were two windows that were leaking. He stated he had obtained a quote from Wright Construction for their repair. He requested that the Board authorize the transfer of funds into an account so that he could pay for the replacement of the windows.

Commissioner Echols asked what else would need to be done at the jail so that it could be occupied again.

County Manager Carlisle stated there were significant issues with the epoxy and cracks in the flooring. He stated he had met today with the contractor that had done the seal coat work on the courthouse and done a walk thru. He stated there was moisture infiltration coming from the fluted block that was causing the epoxy coatings to separate from the existing block wall. He stated he was getting the manufacturer of the existing epoxy to give him some recommendations and specifications so that the job could be bid out. He stated the cracks that had formed in the flooring were causing moisture and allowing that epoxy to separate from the block. He stated this would have to be ground out and sealed. He stated the issue was that he did not know what the total gravity of that would be. He stated there may still be moisture migrating up through the floor.

Commissioner Echols stated it was imperative that the building be ready to occupy if needed.

County Manager Carlisle stated he was addressing the issues.

Chairman Storter Long asked if these issues were because the building was old. She asked why these issues were not addressed when the building was renovated several years ago.

County Manager Carlisle stated he was not sure if these issues existed at that time.

Commissioner Echols stated the worst thing for a building was to sit empty. He suggested transferring enough money into the account to address all of the issues. He stated the building needed to be ready to go.

County Carlisle Manager stated he was gathering all of the specs so that he could right and bid and get the project bid awarded.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the transfer of \$4,645.00 from the Public Works Account Line Item Number 301-535-500-000-500-630 to the Jail Building Account Line Item Number 301-519-600-500-620 to pay for the removal and replacement of two windows in the Jail Building. (Amended below.)

County Manager Carlisle stated the next transfer he requested would be for the finishing of the epoxy work, the painting, and the sealing of the outside of the building. He suggested that the air conditioning remain on in the building even if the thermostat was set at 80 degrees. He stated this would keep some of the humidity out of the building. He stated when he brought back the next budget transfer it would be enough to cover the rest of repairs and make the building sound.

Commissioner Echols asked if one cent money was covering these renovations.

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated this was correct. She stated these funds could only be used for renovations or something that would increase the capital asset value of the building.

Commissioner Echols stated he would amend his motion on the floor to transfer \$50,000.00 into the Jail Building Account Line Item so that all of the renovations could be completed.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Works Account Line Item Number 301-535-000-500-630 to the Jail Building Account Line Item Number 301-519-600-500-620 to pay for the removal and replacement of two windows in the Jail Building and for any other renovations needed to make the building ready for occupancy.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**8. Transfer of Funds from Fire Department to EMS**

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated this was an item transfer from the Fire Department over to EMS to cover funds for a mattress purchase for EMS.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the transfer of \$765.86 from the Fire Department Line Item Number 001-522-001-500-643 to the EMS Account Line Item Number 001-525-200-500-643.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**9. Annual Report Certification for State Housing Initiatives Partnership**

Mary Ann Whitney, Human Resources/SHIP Director, requested that the Board approve the SHIP Annual Report and the Certification for Regulatory Reform Implementation.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved the SHIP Annual Report, authorized the Chairman to sign the Annual Report Certification, and the Certification for Regulatory Reform Implementation.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**10. South Glades Community Center/West Glades VFD Facility in Indian Hills**

Chairman Storter Long stated the South Glades Community Center which was the West Glades Volunteer Fire Department facility in Indian Hills was in need of renovation. She stated the Board had discussed this issue and received prices for the work back in 2012. She stated a permit was never pulled and the work was never done. She stated the work had been approved but never completed. She asked how the Board wished to proceed.

Commissioner Beck stated this had been an ongoing issue for approximately 6 years. He stated he felt the project needed to be completed. He stated the building needed to be insulated and an air conditioning unit put in so that the building could be used as a community meeting place.

Commissioner Echols stated the renovations had been drawn up and bid out in 2012. He stated Jack Wilson and several others had bid on the project.

Chairman Storter Long stated several bids ranging from \$14,600.00 to \$17,360.00 had been received. She suggested if the Board moved forward that Bob Jones, Public

Safety Director, be directly involved in the planning of the renovations. She stated the building may be needed as a fire station again in the future.

Commissioner Beck made a motion to move forward with the renovation of South Glades Community Center/West Glades VFD Facility in Indian Hills.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Board wanted to insulate one bay and install an air conditioning unit in it.

Commissioner Beck stated the original plan was to turn the building back into a Community Association building.

Mr. Jones stated rest rooms had been installed and were ADA compliant.

Commissioner Echols stated a 20' x 30' room would be sufficient. He stated the construction needed to be planned so that the building could be used again as a fire station in the event it was needed in the future.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had looked at the building and had some ideas on how the construction should be done.

County Manager Carlisle cautioned the Board about the need for fire separation if the building was used again as a fire station in the future.

Chairman Storter Long stated she did not believe the Board needed to make a motion on this item, just consensus to go on and do what they had already approved.

Commissioner Beck withdrew his motion on the floor.

Commissioner Echols stated the funds had been set aside from the one cent funds. He suggested that any money left over be transferred back to the one cent fund.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the renovation of the South Glades Community Center/West Glades VFD Facility in Indian Hills.

#### **11. Agreement with State Attorney's Office to Prosecute Violations of County Ordinances**

County Manager Carlisle stated this had been brought to the Board's attention by Sheriff Whiddon during the adoption of a Noise Ordinance. He stated the County did not have an agreement with the State Attorney's Office to prosecute County Ordinances. He stated Attorney Pringle had reviewed the agreement and approved it.

Vice Chairman Stanley expressed concern with having to pay \$50/hour for the State Attorney to prosecute. He stated the fine needed to be higher enough so that it was not costing the County money to prosecute violations.

County Manager Carlisle explained that not every violation would be prosecuted by the State Attorney's Office.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board approved the Agreement for Professional Services between Glades County and the Office of the State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida as presented and authorized the Chairman to execute the same. (See Exhibit C)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

## **12. Legislative Delegation Packet**

County Manager Carlisle stated the Legislative Delegation would meet on October 3, 2014. He stated these were the issues that the Board would put before the delegation for consideration. He asked that if the Commission had any issues to add or delete from the list that they do so now. He stated the list had to be delivered to the delegation by September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Storter Long commented on the removal of the requirement to be paid by reimbursement for the SCOP and SCRAP projects.

Commissioner Echols stated cash flow would be an issue for fiscally constrained counties and should be addressed.

Commissioner Drake asked if anyone knew what the Glades County School District legislative issues were.

County Manager Carlisle stated he was not.

Commissioner Echols stated the School Board and the City of Moore Haven would both present their issues to the delegation. He stated the County would support any issues they had.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the Legislative Delegation packet. (See Exhibit D)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

Sheriff Whiddon stated he had been served with a Notice of Default by the investors this past week. He stated he had only been able to make half of the principal and interest

payment for this past 6 months. He stated the next payment was due in March. He stated this meant that the investors could come in at any time and seize the facility. He stated the investors were governed by a federal board that oversees the funds. He stated the facility was paying its bills – light bill, payroll, insurances, etc. He stated it was good that the Board was moving forward on the old jail facility just in case it was needed in the near future. He reminded the Board that the old health department building would need to be renovated as well.

Chairman Storter Long asked if Sheriff Whiddon had received any response from the lobbyist that he hired.

Sheriff Whiddon deferred to Commissioner Echols.

Commissioner Echols stated the GDCD Board had met today. He stated the lobbyist would have meetings with our Congressmen's staff next week. He stated they would also be meeting with ICE. He stated a government policy was causing these problems. He stated the government was not apprehending people that were breaking the law. He stated ICE either needed to get the numbers up or change the rate per inmate. He stated they had indicated in the past that they would not enter into a contract with the GDCD; however, they had offered several months ago to give GDCD a guaranteed amount of inmates at a ridiculously low price. He stated GDCD would continue to pursue all avenues to remain open. He stated the attorney had pointed out that the Notice of Default was procedural and did not mean that GDCD was out of business. He stated GDCD was at the mercy of the bank. He stated the Board should hope for the best but be prepared to address the issue if the Sheriff needed to vacate the facility in the near future. He stated it was imperative that the old jail building be renovated and that the air conditioning remains on.

Chairman Storter Long asked if the roof was secure.

Commissioner Echols stated the roof was secure. He stated there was no kitchen or laundry in the facility but these services could be contracted out with GEO.

Commissioner Drake asked if there was ever any follow up on the housing of juveniles in the old jail facility.

Sheriff Whiddon stated GDCD had hired a lobbyist who was checking on the housing of illegal alien juveniles.

Commissioner Echols cautioned the Board about committing to housing anyone in the old jail facility until they knew for sure that the Sheriff would not need the building for jail operations.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**



There was no report.

**COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS**

County Manager Carlisle stated the bid was out for the construction of the Training Center and responses would be opened on September 29<sup>th</sup>. He stated the bids for the entrance road and the temporary access road to the lift station would be opening October 20<sup>th</sup>. He stated he would meet with FDOT on Wednesday to discuss upgrades to the entrance way. He stated he had finally received a letter from FDOT guaranteeing the entrance, which was part of the requirement for the Travel Center. He stated the final step would be getting the CDBG to fund the infrastructure. He stated he would be bringing a request for the replacement of the Animal Control vehicle. He stated the transmission had blown on the current vehicle and it had approximately 208,000 miles on it.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no comments.

**COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Beck requested that the Board agree to direct Dale Milita, GCG, to look for additional funding sources for the completion of the Harney Pond Canal park. He stated the parking lot and some roads needed to be paved and maybe some kiosk along the canal.

Chairman Storter Long agreed and asked how much he thought he would need to complete the park.

Commissioner Beck stated it would cost a couple hundred thousand to complete.

Commissioner Echols expressed concern with the Board pursuing the completion of this project when they were finally turning dirt on the Moore Haven Canal project.

Commissioner Beck stated he would be taking Representative Pigman down the Moore Haven Canal on Wednesday and would be expressing the need to complete the project. He stated he was not trying to mix and mingle the two projects. He stated both projects would add a lot to a boating/fishing experience on Lake Okeechobee. He stated both projects were equally important.

Commissioner Drake stated she had attended the South West Florida Regional Planning Council meeting last week and expressed the need for a strong presence on that board. She stated their perspective and point of view on the water issues were very different than the county's views. She stated the airport project in Hendry County was on their next agenda.

Commissioner Echols stated the county had received the Coast Guard permits for the Moore Haven Canal project and would be turning dirt in the near future. He stated he believed there was approximately \$1.1 million in the coffers that was designated from South Florida Water Management to begin this project. He stated the only hitch was that instead of the County supplying the invoices to the District and them making payment, the District has requested that the County pay and then be reimbursed. He stated this could be problematic because of the County's cash flow.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he was still in need of sidewalks in Buckhead Ridge. He stated he had patiently waited for FDOT to come through but they had not so far. He stated he would probably be requesting that the Board approve the release of some funds from the franchise fee with the utility company in Buckhead.

Chairman Storter Long stated she would be willing to get the road and parking lot paved into Harney Pond Canal with one cent monies.

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated there were a lot of projects that the County was waiting for reimbursement on right now. She stated the County had already had to cash in a CD to cover the expenditures from Capital Outlay.

Mr. Jones stated he had ordered 3 new lights for the markers in the Lake at Moore Haven Canal and Dyess Ditch. He stated he would be taking the old ones off of the poles and using them for parts, as needed.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, Chairman Storter Long adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

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Donna Storter Long, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: October 14, 2014

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