

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE,
MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA

The Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

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

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Richard Pringle, County Attorney
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Matthew Howard, Johnson Engineering
Terri Anascavage, E911 Coordinator
Tracy Whirls, EDC Director
Missie Barletto, AIM Engineering
15 citizens

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Drake gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Commissioner Echols 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. **Approve payment of County Warrants. (Exhibit A)**
General Fund: 74451 – 74602
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 193
SHIP: 1599
Intergovernmental Radio: 10254
Tourism Development: 1016
Courthouse Facilities Grant: 1436
Driver's Education: 10006
2. **Approved the Minutes of the August 30, 2013 Workshop.**
3. **Approved the Minutes of the September 8, 2014 Public Hearing and Special Meeting.**
4. **Approved the Minutes of the September 22, 2014 Regular Meeting.**
5. **Approved the Minutes of the September 23, 2014 Public Hearing and Special Meeting.**
6. **Acknowledged receipt of Port LaBelle Community Development District's Schedule of Meetings.**

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

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

BUSINESS AGENDA

7. Animal Control Truck

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated the mechanic had indicated that the transmission in the Animal Control Officer's truck was slipping and had gone out. He stated he had looked at getting a new transmission which would cost approximately \$3,100.00. He stated the truck was a 2008 with 203,000 miles on it. He stated the Kelly Blue Book price on the truck was \$5,000.00 - \$8,000.00. He stated the City of Moore Haven had indicated that they would pay ½ of the purchase price for a new truck. He stated the County's portion would be \$9,250.00. He stated the City of Moore Haven had also requested that if the County purchased the new truck that the County allow them to have the old truck.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the purchase of a new truck for the Animal Control Officer in the amount of \$18,500.00. The Glades County Board of County Commissioners will pay \$9,250.00 and the City of Moore Haven will pay \$9,250.00. It is also agreed that the 2008 Ford Animal Control Truck, Property No. 3602, will be deleted from the Property Records, declared surplus and transferred to the City of Moore Haven.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

8. Budget Transfer for 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, explained that the Clerk's Office was requesting that several budget transfers be made to the 2014-2015 Budget. She stated the General Fund transfers were to cover the costs of the new Animal Control truck, a salary increase per the Medical Director's contract, and to move funds from the \$30.00 Court Facilities Surcharge to fund Court Administration, County Judge, Circuit Judge, Probation and a portion of the Courthouse maintenance. She stated the Capital Outlay transfer would be \$50,000.00 from Public Works to the Jail Building.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board approved the following Budget Transfers for 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year: \$10,041.00 (Animal Control truck and Medical Director's salary increase) will be transferred from Contingency; \$82,007.00 will be transferred from the \$30.00 Court Facilities Surcharge (approved during the budget workshops) to fund Court Administration, the County Judge, the Circuit Judge, Probation, and a portion of the Courthouse maintenance; and the Capital Outlay transfer of \$50,000.00 from Public Works to the Jail Building. (See Exhibit B)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

9. Resolution Amending 2014 – 2015 General Operating Fund Budget

Mrs. Patterson stated the Clerk's Office was requesting that the General Operating Fund budget be amended to reflect the \$9,250.00 to be paid by the City of Moore Haven towards the purchase of a new of a new Animal Control truck.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board adopted Resolution No. 2014-26 amending the 2014 – 2015 General Operating Fund Budget by \$9,250.00 contribution from the City of Moore Haven.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

10. Audit Selection Committee

County Manager Carlisle stated the Clerk's Office was requesting that the board appoint an Audit Selection Committee as required by Statute. He stated the contract with Clifton Larson and Allen had expired. He stated the Clerk would need to go out for an RFP to solicit qualified firms. He stated the Board would need to appoint a committee to review the RFP's.

Chairman Storter Long clarified that the Committee would consist of the Sheriff, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Clerk of Court, Supervisor of Elections, and one Commissioner. She asked for volunteers.

Commissioner Beck stated he would accept the appointment.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Drake seconded by Commissioner Echols the Board appointed Sheriff - Stuart Whiddon, Property Appraiser – Lorie Ward, Tax Collector – Gail Jones, Clerk of Court – Sandra Brown, Supervisor of Elections - Holly Whiddon, Finance Director – Tiffany Patterson, and Commissioner Beck to serve on the Audit Selection Committee.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

11. Agreement with Foster & Foster to prepare other Postemployment Benefits Report for 2014

Mrs. Patterson stated this was an annual agreement with Foster & Foster to prepare the Other Postemployment Benefits Report for 2014. She stated this report was a requirement of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). She stated this year the Board was able to do an interim report instead of a full report and the cost would only be \$2,500.00 instead of \$8,000.00.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board authorized the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Foster & Foster to prepare an Interim OPEB Report for 2014 at a cost of \$2,500.00.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

12. FHREDI Membership Dues and Matching Contribution

County Manager Carlisle stated the annual dues for membership and the matching contribution for Glades County was \$10,000.00. He stated the new bylaws had been amended and adopted. He stated based on the new bylaws the County would now have 2 Board members versus one.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the payment of the 2014 – 2015 Membership Dues and Matching Contribution in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Florida’s Heartland REDI, Inc.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

13. FHREDI Committee Membership Appointment

County Manager Carlisle stated there were 2 appointments needed. He stated Commissioner Beck was currently serving on the Board and could be reappointed if the Board so desired.

Vice Chairman Stanley volunteered to serve on the FHREDI Board.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board appointed Commissioner Beck to serve on the FHREDI Board as the Local Government

Director for Glades County and Vice Chairman Stanley as the second County Director as per the FHREDI bylaws.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

14. Letter of Support for the FHREDI Rural Development Grant Application

County Manager Carlisle stated FHREDI provided economic development support and collaboration throughout the South Central Region through marketing. He requested that the Board sign a Letter of Support for the FHREDI Rural Development Grant Application.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board authorized the Chairman to sign a Letter of Support for the FHREDI Rural Development Grant application being submitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity on behalf of Glades County.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

15. Approved Contract with Ajax Paving Industries of Florida for Roadway Improvements for County Road 733

County Manager Carlisle stated Ajax Paving Industries of Florida had been the low bidder on for the roadway improvements for County Road 733 (Main Avenue, Palmdale). He stated their bid was in the amount of \$1,016,002.21.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the contract submitted by Ajax Paving Industries of Florida, LLC. The Contractor agreed to perform all of the work described in the contract documents, including alternate bid items, for the total sum of \$1,016,002.21, said amount being the total of the unit prices as listed on the estimate submitted.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

16. Emergency Medical Services

County Manager Carlisle stated the County currently had a contract with Okeechobee County to help provide EMS coverage in the north part of the County. He stated the new agreement had requested an increase from \$90,525.00 to \$126,000.00 plus retainer of any fees collected from Medicare and insurance proceeds. He stated the Board would need to amend the budget to include this increase if they wished to contract again with Okeechobee County. He stated him and Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, had also spoken with a private company - Positive Medical. He stated Positive Medical was willing to provide these services to the north part of the County for \$70,000.00 and they would also keep the payments and insurance proceeds collected

from providing these services. He stated this coverage would include staff and an ambulance in the area 24/7. He asked the Board for direction on this matter.

Chairman Storter Long asked Attorney Pringle if this was a sole source provider and if an RFQ would be required.

Attorney Pringle stated this was in the sole source provider realm and the County could proceed if they so wished.

Commissioner Echols stated when this relationship had been established it had been mutually beneficial to both parties. He stated since then the agreement had become an opportunity for employees to create a rub with the Commission as if they were performing additional tasks that were not assigned to them. He stated the amount that Okeechobee County was requesting was not sustainable. He stated he would like to see the Board negotiate a contract for services with Positive Medical.

Commissioner Beck agreed. He stated this would save the County approximately \$55,000.00. He asked how long it had been since the last counter-offer was made to Okeechobee County.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had provided them with a counter-offer last Tuesday. He stated he had received a response on Monday stating that Okeechobee County felt Glades County should have to pay for the additional salaries and fuel for the additional fire truck services. He stated last year the ambulance and fire truck had responded to 70 calls out of a total of 170. He stated the current contract required that the County pay the same millage rate as if they were part of Okeechobee County for the portions of the county that they serve. He explained how the additional \$36,000.00 had been figured.

Commissioner Beck agreed that the Board should negotiate a contract with Positive Medical. He asked how many ambulances they would provide.

County Manager Carlisle stated there would be only one ambulance provided. He stated if the one ambulance had to leave on a call a second ambulance would be dispatched from Clewiston or Sebring to cover while the other was out.

Commissioner Beck stated it appeared there would be more immediate response and the coverage would be equal or better.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board authorized the County and County Attorney to begin contract negotiations with Positive Medical Transport to provide EMS services for the North section of Glades County and authorized the Chairman to sign a letter to the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners thanking them for their relationship in the past and releasing them from

the mutual aid services that they now provide. (Letter to be sent upon successful negotiation of a contract with Positive Medical Transport.)

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he did have a community meeting in Buckhead Ridge to inform the residents of this proposal. He stated the community was in favor of using Positive Medical for the services. He expressed concern with the chance that if this company did not work out, the County may have to take on the additional services.

Chairman Storter Long questioned the fire truck being dispatched to 70 different calls. She asked if these were fire related calls.

County Manager Carlisle stated there were certain conditions, such as heart attacks, heavy lifting, or traffic control where a fire truck would be dispatched.

Chairman Storter Long asked when the letter to Okeechobee County would be sent. She expressed concern with coverage until a new contract could be negotiated.

County Manager Carlisle stated the letter would be sent after successful negotiations with Positive Medical. He asked who would be signing the letter.

Commissioner Echols suggested that the letter come from the Chairman. He stated the County was still covered under mutual aid from the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Okeechobee County.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated there would be some logistics that would need to be worked out.

Chairman Storter Long asked if all of the services that Positive Medical provided would fall under the County's Public Safety Director.

Mr. Jones stated he did not believe the services should fall under the County's Medical Director or Public Safety Director. He stated the services needed to be kept separate for liability reasons. He stated Positive Medical had its own Medical Director. He stated he could dictate to them what drugs they carried.

Chairman Storter Long asked that Mr. Jones be included in the contract negotiations.

Commissioner Beck withdrew his second to the motion on the floor.

Vice Chairman Stanley seconded the motion on the floor.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

17. RFQ #09-2014 Design/Build of Warehouse, Classroom, and Office Facility

County Manager Carlisle opened the bids for the design/build of a warehouse, classroom, and office facility on September 29th. He stated 7 bids had been received.

Attorney Pringle explained that the Board was required to use a competitive selection process for this matter. He stated the County had chosen a RFQ using a design/build arrangement. He stated 7 responses had been received by the deadline. He stated he had reviewed those 7 responses and was of the opinion that 2 of the responses were non-responsive - Close Construction had submitted only one copy instead of 7 copies of the response and Marmer Construction had not acknowledged, in writing, their receipt of the first addendum to the RFQ. He stated because these were mandatory requirements that were not met by these 2 responders their responses should be considered non-responsive. He asked that the Board take official action to determine that these 2 responses were non-responsive.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board declared the following proposals non-responsive: Close Construction, LLC and Marmer Construction.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Attorney Pringle stated the other 5 were legally responsive and could be further considered. He explained that the Board would use the process defined in Chapter 287.055, F.S. as a competitive selection method to select a design/build firm. He stated the first step would be to determine that the 5 remaining firms were qualified for consideration. He stated the Board should consider the following factors when making this determination: capabilities, adequacies of personnel, and past record and experience of the firm or the individual. He asked that the Board take official action as to whether or not the 5 remaining firms were qualified for further consideration.

ON MOTION Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board declared the following proposals qualified response: AD Morgan Corporation, Frasier Contracting, Manhattan Construction, Inc., West Construction, Inc., and Wright Construction Group.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Attorney Pringle stated the next step would be the ranking of the qualified firms. He suggested that this final action be taken on October 27th at the night meeting and that the Board notify the remaining 5 firms that they can make a presentation at that meeting. He stated the last step would be the negotiation with the first ranked firm on the terms of an agreement. He stated he had spoken with Alexis Crespo and she could be the Design Professional, as needed. He stated Mrs. Crespo would be a sub-

contractor under his office. He stated staff would also review the 5 remaining responses and give the Board their evaluations.

County Manager Carlisle stated he, Attorney Pringle, Mrs. Crespo, and Inga Williams would complete evaluations and report to the Board.

ON MOTION of Chairman Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board authorized the County Manager to invite the 5 qualified responders to the October 27, 2014 Board meeting to make a presentation and answer questions. (The Board will rank the responders at this meeting.)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

18. Sugar Hill Sector Plan (SHSP)

Chairman Storter Long stated Hendry County was facing some opposition to the Sugar Hill Sector Plan. She stated this plan would be presented before the Regional Planning Council on Thursday. She stated she and Commissioner Drake were the designated representatives on the RPC. She asked for the Board's direction and position regarding this plan.

Commissioner Echols stated he would support the Sugar Hill Sector Plan.

Commissioner Beck agreed. He stated the concerned property was all cane fields and had been intensively farmed for a long time.

Commissioner Drake stated she would have to abstain from comment due to her husband's previous employment with U.S. Sugar. She stated she would unfortunately have to abstain from voting at the RPC meeting as well. She stated the County really needed representation on the RPC. She stated the County also needed representation on the RPC's legislative committee which would be meeting at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday.

Chairman Storter Long stated she would be attending the meeting and thanked the Board for their comments.

Commissioner Echols suggested that the Board appoint someone from the Board that could vote at the meeting on Thursday.

Commissioner Beck stated he would serve as the Board representative on the RPC.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Echols seconded by Commissioner Drake the Board appointed Commissioner Beck as the Board representative on the Regional Planning Council effective immediately and authorized the Chairman to sign.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Pringle clarified that Chairman Storter Long did not have a conflict under Item #17 on the agenda. He stated everything done today was related to process and procedure and she was able to participate in these discussions; however, she would need to abstain when the Board made their selections. He stated he and County Manager Carlisle continued to work on other items and he was encouraged with what he was seeing.

COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

County Manager Carlisle stated he had met with the Director of the Regional Planning Council regarding “promise zones” that would be coming to the Board for approval. He stated the promise zones would allow the County to get extra points when they applied for certain grants. He stated there would be no cost to the County. He stated the zones would provide the County with a greater opportunity to receive grant funds. He stated the EOC building was coming along very well. He stated the bid for the cellular towers was out; however, no responses had been received yet. He stated this bid would open on October 29th. He stated he had recently had a telephone conference with Buxton (a site selector for retail stores) and had been encouraged with the information they had provided. He stated he would be talking with them more and may bring the item back to the Board for consideration. He stated there was a cost associated with their services. He stated he had also asked them to make a presentation at the next FHREDI meeting. He stated he had met with the contractor regarding the renovations to the old Health Department building. He stated the estimate for the work need was \$212,000.00 and would take them approximately 3 months to complete the renovations. He stated he had received some information from the seal company regarding the work needed at the old jail facility. He stated he was reviewing the information and would decide which way to proceed. He stated the Purchase Order had been issued for the replacement of the windows. He stated he had also met with the Glades Youth Livestock regarding a bid package for the painting of the Doyle Conner Building.

Commissioner Drake asked if a grocery store had been discussed with the Buxton Group.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had discussed the idea with them. He stated they had had the same situation before and he felt that they could reach numerous companies and perhaps have one that would be willing to come to Glades County. He stated this had been one of the main topics of the conversation.

Attorney Pringle stated he had received a copy of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari that had been filed against the Glades County Board of Adjustments. He stated the lawsuit was related to the approval of a tower site by the Glades County Board of Adjustments.

Chairman Storter Long asked about the J.J. Wiggins litigation.

Attorney Pringle stated he had met with their lawyer and planner and it had been a very positive discussion. He stated he was waiting to receive some further documentation from them.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated he had attended a meeting in Hendry County yesterday regarding the Ebola virus. He stated he would be discussing the matter with County Manager Carlisle and the Sheriff and making some recommendations about adjustments that would need to be made at the courthouse for safety purposes, such as the flow of traffic.

Chairman Storter Long asked how often fire drills were required at the courthouse.

Mr. Jones stated all of the fire alarms had been inspected approximately 6 months ago and everything was working properly.

Commissioner Beck expressed concern with the Ebola virus affecting more than humans.

Mr. Jones stated there was a possibility that the virus had affected animals in Africa. He stated scientists believe the virus originated from bats. He stated there was no documentation, other than in Africa, where the virus had infected anything else. He stated an animal had been put down in Spain; however, the animal was exhibiting no symptoms. He stated the dog belonging to the Dallas nurse that had become infected had been quarantined as well. He stated the State of Florida was controlling a lot of the Public Service Announcements that were being distributed. He stated Florida's Health Department and Emergency Management Department was holding two conference calls per day. He explained that in the event of an epidemic in Florida the CDC would send a team here.

Commissioner Beck asked if the CDC was doing any studies to see if the virus could cross over to animals. He questioned mosquito bites.

Mr. Jones stated he was not aware of any such studies. He stated the virus was transmitted by contact when the infected person was showing symptoms. He stated the incubation period was 2 – 21 days, with a normal incubation of 8 – 10 days. He stated the number one symptom was fever. He stated the virus could live outside the human body in the proper environment for up to 50 days. He stated everyone needed to stay informed and be pro-active.

Commissioner Beck asked if there were any confirmed cases in Florida.

Mr. Jones stated there were not. He stated the only confirmed case was the nurse in Dallas.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Stanley stated his community meeting at Buckhead Ridge had gone well and stated it was good to meet with the public. He stated he planned to have more meetings like this in the future.

Commissioner Echols had no comment.

Commissioner Drake publicly apologized to Mrs. Cianfrani for a miscommunication. She stated she would not be inviting the public to Muse on Thursday evening. She stated she would have about 20 students there to explain the 3 proposed amendments on the ballot. She stated her students had been studying the 3 amendments for over a month. She stated the students would also be present at the Ortona Homeowners' Association meeting on October 28th.

Commissioner Beck commented on the Sugar Hill project. He stated he did believe in clean air and clean water. He stated the property that was in question was farm land. He stated cattle had been run on the land for years and then sugar cane had been planted and harvested. He stated the property was all drained and irrigated. He stated the project would improve Hendry County's tax base and quality of life. He stated a lot of this would create opportunities for Glades County as well.

Chairman Storter Long agreed. She commented on the recent Summit meeting she had attended on October 1st. She stated she had learned that the natural swamp water had a higher phosphorous level than what the State was requiring to clean used water levels to. She commented on the Ava Maria development and the effects it had on Glades and Hendry counties.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Chairman Storter Long adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Donna Storter Long, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: October 27, 2014

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