

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MOORE
HAVEN, FLORIDA

The Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Monday, January 25, 2016
at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Tim Stanley, Chairman
Weston Pryor, Vice Chairman
Paul Beck
John Ahern
Donna Storter Long

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Avant Brown, County Road Superintendent
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Raoul Bataller, Hendry Glades Sunday News
Matthew Howard, Johnson Engineering, Inc.
Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Sheriff
Missie Barletto, AIM Engineering
Libby Maxwell, South Florida Water Management District
Lenice Hubbard, BoCC Administrative Assistant
James Hull, AIM Engineering
8 citizens

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Beck gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Commissioner Ahern led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Board Selection of Officers (Chair & Vice Chair)

Commissioner Beck nominated Commissioner Stanley for Chairman and Commissioner Pryor for Vice Chairman.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Ahern the Board moved to cease nominations.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – JANUARY 25, 2016

Commissioner Stanley will serve as Chairman and Commissioner Pryor will serve as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Commissioner Stanley asked that the Commissioners contact him if they had any problems with the boards/committees that they were now serving on.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like an updated list of the appointments.

Vice Chairman Pryor stated he would like to see one more Commissioner added to the committee for the Training Facility. He stated he could not always make the Thursday morning meetings.

County Manager Carlisle stated the meetings were held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

Chairman Stanley stated an alternate could be named.

County Manager Carlisle explained the reasons why it may be difficult to have 2 Commissioners present at the same time at the meetings.

Vice Chairman Pryor stated he would contact the alternate if he was unable to attend.

Commissioner Ahern stated he would be glad to serve as the alternate on the Training Center Committee.

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

2. Approve payment of County Warrants. **(Exhibit A)**
General Fund: 77656 – 77729
SHIP: 1644 – 1646
Intergovernmental Radio: 10289
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 208
3. Approve Minutes of the December 8, 2015 Regular Meeting.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Pryor the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Commissioner Ahern stated that Glades Youth Livestock had paid \$500.00 towards the large water bill at the rodeo grounds.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

BUSINESS AGENDA

4. Purchase of Extrication Union (JAWS)

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated this request was a little different than most. He stated he had to get the State's approval to use up to \$10,000.00 out of his Awards grant money to put towards the purchase of the extrication unit. He stated his plan was to use up to \$10,000.00 of his EMS Awards grant money and up to the matching amount out of his current 643 budget (Fire Budget). He explained the reason for not having a total price for the unit right now. He stated he would be trading some of his older equipment in towards the cost of the replacement extrication unit. He stated it would be an Amicus unit and would cost approximately \$17,000.00. He stated he would get with County Manager Carlisle and give him the property record numbers of the items he wished to delete and let him approve the purchase. He stated once he received a final price he would bring it back to the Board. He stated Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, and County Manager Carlisle both agreed with handling this purchase this way.

County Manager Carlisle stated Mr. Jones was not sure what funds he would get for the trade-in equipment. He stated a lot of the department's equipment was 15-20 years old. He stated Mr. Jones was trying to update his equipment.

Chairman Stanley asked where this unit would be housed.

Mr. Jones stated this unit would be housed at Ortona. He stated he would need to purchase a unit for Moore Haven in the near future.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how many units Mr. Jones would be trading in and if they were currently working.

Mr. Jones stated some of the units were still working; however, they were not able to cut certain materials like the newer units. He stated some of the cutters would not cut and some of the pumps were not strong enough. He stated he could not even get parts for some of the equipment. He stated some old pumps at the shop and all of the equipment located at Ortona would be used for trade-in. He stated he would not know how much this equipment would bring until the man came down and looked at it all.

GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – JANUARY 25, 2016

County Manager Carlisle requested that the Board authorize the expenditure of \$10,000.00 from the Awards grant; authorize the surplus of the equipment that would be traded in; and authorize the balance of the purchase to come out of the Fire Budget.

Commissioner Beck asked if the unit at Ortona was not functioning as well or at all.

Mr. Jones stated one of the units did not work at all and others did work but not well. He stated he would keep the best of the pumps and let the other go. He stated he was in the process of switching all of his equipment to Amicus made products.

Commissioner Beck asked what the lag time would be and how long Ortona would go without a unit.

Mr. Jones stated there would not be any lag time. He stated the old equipment would not be disposed of until the new unit arrived. He stated it would take approximately 4 weeks for the new equipment to arrive.

Commissioner Beck asked how many active members were on the Ortona Fire Rescue team.

Mr. Jones stated there were 5 members.

Commissioner Beck asked if these members had received adequate training on the new equipment.

Mr. Jones stated he would have an education class next month for all of the Fire Departments. He stated he would need to purchase 1 -2 more units in the future.

There was a brief discussion regarding what type of cuts the new units were capable of making.

Commissioner Storter Long asked where the unit that was purchased in October was being housed.

Mr. Jones stated that unit was in Engine 55 at the Muse Fire Station.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Ahern the Board approved the purchase of an extrication unit for Glades County Public Safety and the deletion from County Property Records of Hurst Tools or Pumps that are no longer serviceable and not used as trade-in towards the purchase of the extrication unit (Property Numbers to be turned into the Clerk's office).

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

5. Okeechobee County EMS Interlocal Agreement

County Manager Carlisle stated that in December, Positive Medical had given the County 60-day notice that they would no longer be servicing the northern end of the County. He stated he had tried to negotiate a contract with another third party ambulance service; however, he had been unsuccessful. He stated he had negotiated a contract with Okeechobee County using the rate used previously. He stated there was still some language regarding termination that needed to be wrapped up. He stated this agreement would need to be in place by February 1st because that was the last day for Positive Medical. He requested that the Board approve the agreement tonight, authorize him and Attorney Pringle to negotiate the final terms, and authorize the Chairman to sign the final agreement. He stated he would be attending the Okeechobee County Commission meeting on January 28th to present the agreement to their Board.

Chairman Stanley asked if this would be a 5 year agreement.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct.

Commissioner Storter Long asked about an increase in the rate.

County Manager Carlisle stated the \$90,525.66 (Base Rate) would be increased or decreased by the same percentage rate that Okeechobee's MSBU rate changed. He stated the amount would not ever go below \$90,525.66.

Chairman Stanley stated when Positive was in Buckhead Ridge they provided excellent service; however, he understood the reasons the County was going back to Okeechobee. He stated the County would eventually have to make different arrangements. He stated he was glad to see Okeechobee go back to the original agreement and rate.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the use of the original contract and rate was due to County Manager Carlisle's efforts.

County Manager Carlisle stated Mr. Jones had a lot to do with that as well.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Pryor the Board authorized allowing the County Manager and County Attorney to negotiate the final Interlocal Agreement between Glades County and Okeechobee County for Emergency Medical Services and authorized the Chairman to sign that agreement.

Motion carried by 5 - 0 vote.

6. Duda Land Donation

County Manager Carlisle stated this donation was for 15 acres of land that would be part of the entrance way and connect Americas Gateway to the Glades County Business Park. He stated this parcel was being donated for the installation of the water and sewer

systems, the stormwater treatment facilities, and the entrance to the Loves Travel Center. He stated the execution of this deed needed to be expedited because the County was supposed to have begun the construction per the CDBG contract by March 1st. He stated execution of this deed was also preventing the County from getting one of its last permits. He stated several conversations had been had with Duda and their attorney. He stated there were two sections (Sections 5 & 8) that were of concern to Duda. He stated these sections dealt with the County's obligation to not fund any shortfalls in the project. He stated the reasons for this language were due to the reverter clauses in the original land donation agreement. He stated Duda was willing to reverse all of the reverter clauses with the exception of one. He stated no ground would be turned until all of the agreements were in place. He stated Loves was out to bid for their site work and the project was moving forward.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Pryor the Board authorized allowing the County Manager and County Attorney to negotiate the final Agreement between Glades County and A. Duda & Sons for a land donation to Glades County for the construction of the infrastructure for the Loves Travel Stops and authorized the Chairman to sign that agreement.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

7. Code Enforcement Violation – Marshall Field Road Property

County Manager Carlisle stated at the request of the Board at the previous meeting this item was being presented for consideration. He stated this property was located at 1156 Marshall Field Road, LaBelle, Florida and had approximately \$42,700.00 in accumulated fines. He stated there had been no attempt to clean the property or to bring it into compliance in any way. He stated if it was the will of the Commission this property could be used as another test case for Code Enforcement Lien foreclosures.

Vice Chairman Pryor asked if anything had been done on the other property that was being used as a test case.

County Manager Carlisle stated a title search had been ordered but not yet received.

Vice Chairman Pryor questioned stacking these cases up prior to knowing how the other case would turn out.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this property involved more money than the first and there was interest by the adjacent property owner in purchasing this property.

Commissioner Beck stated County Manager Carlisle had indicated in a prior discussion regarding these properties that there were different legalities in the foreclosure process for each. He asked what these differences were.

County Manager Carlisle stated there was a resident living on the property located on Ted Beck Road and the Marshall Field Road property was vacant.

Commissioner Beck stated that was irrelevant and expressed concern with having to pay additional attorney fees for these foreclosures since they were not in Attorney Pringle's normal job description.

Chairman Stanley stated he did not care if the County made any money off of these properties as long as they were cleaned up. He stated the County could not allow these violations to continue. He stated they would ruin the neighborhoods and decrease surrounding property values. He stated he would agree with using these 2 cases as test cases and then go from there.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how many more big fine properties were out there.

County Manager Carlisle stated there were several properties that had fines in the thousands. He stated there was one in Buckhead Ridge with a huge fine due.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Ahern the Board authorized the County Attorney to investigate the foreclosure of the code enforcement fines on 1156 Marshall Field Road, LaBelle, Florida and to bring information back to the Board for further consideration at the next night meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

8. Kirby Thompson Road Improvements

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had gone out to bid under the SCOP and SCRAP programs for the reconstruction of Kirby Thompson Road. He stated the bid from Lynch had come in at \$1,679,114.66. He stated the available funding for this project was \$1,790,053.00 of which \$195,610.00 would be removed as payment for the engineers leaving a shortfall of \$84,671.66. He explained the differences in the 2 options that Lynch had proposed. He suggested using Option B.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the language regarding the receipt of funds from DOT.

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had an agreement in place for the funding.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the agreement between Lynch Paving and Contracting Co., Inc. and Glades County BoCC for the reconstruction of Kirby Thompson Road (Option B) to be funded with \$1,594,430.00 from the SCOP and SCRAP programs and \$84,671.66 from the Road Department paving budget.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Road Department's goal was to pave Oak and Apache at the same time that the contractor was working on Kirby Thompson. He stated he would obtain a quote for the additional paving and bring it back to the Board for consideration.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had received the \$50,000.00 grant from Southwest Florida Community Foundation for the phone system, the electronics, and the servers at the Training Center. He stated he was working with Wright Construction Group on a cost estimate to put a mechanic/welder shop in the warehouse section of the Center. He stated he would use this as part of his request when he went to Tallahassee next week. He stated there was a huge demand for welders and diesel mechanics in this area. He stated he had talked with one company that was willing to sponsor the construction and US Sugar was willing to donate some equipment for the program. He stated he had also met with a company that wanted to do high voltage wire training at the center. He stated the closest training facility for this type of trade was in Georgia. He stated this company was willing to pay for rental space as well. He stated that with the phone system installed the County would be able to move forward with the CDL training at the center. He stated Florida Southwestern College had \$300,000.00 to put into an Engineering Tech training program. He stated that offering the high voltage training and the engineering tech training would meet the criteria for US Sugar to hire individuals. He stated there would be some funding requests coming to the Board in the near future. He stated Good Wheels had contacted him last week and informed him that DOT had refused to continue the funding for the Moore Haven-Lakeport-Buckhead Ridge-Okeechobee route. He stated they would have to end the route if they were unable to find funding. He stated he had suggested that they use Transportation Disadvantaged Funds. He stated this could be done but each person using the route would have to fill out an application and be approved. He stated Good Wheels was requesting that the Board fund an additional \$7,000.00 in revenue to run the route. He stated there were currently 6 people using the route.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if these 6 individuals qualified for the Transportation Disadvantaged funding.

County Manager Carlisle stated he did not know but if they did the County should not have to pay the additional funding. He stated the County had been approached in

September regarding railroad protection (signal safety). He stated there were 4 locations around the US Sugar Railway where DOT would help fund the installation of safety devices. He stated this amounted to approximately \$500,000.00. He stated the County would then be obligated to pay \$1,700.00 every year for the maintenance of the signals and arms. He stated the County would also be responsible for all of the advance warning signs and stripes. He stated the County did not have all of the equipment to do this nor did it have the staff to maintain it. He asked for direction from the Board.

Commissioner Ahern stated he read the document to state that it would cost the County \$1,700.00 per year for each crossing.

County Manger Carlisle stated this was correct.

Commissioner Beck stated the County would essentially be providing a service for US Sugar.

County Manager Carlisle cautioned the Board about this matter. He stated there was a State statute that governed the Rail Road companies and that stated the Rail Road companies shall be responsible for their railway crossings unless there was a prior agreement with an entity. He stated there was no agreement in place right now and did not believe the Board should get involved.

Commissioner Storter Long expressed concern with the liability if the County failed to maintain the signage properly. She stated she would not support entering into an agreement.

County Manager Carlisle stated if the Board did wish to look into the agreement he could contact DOT and inquire about what funding may be available to fiscally constrained counties.

It was the consensus of the Board to not sign an agreement due to lack of funding at this time.

County Manager Carlisle asked that each Commissioner let him know if they would like to go to tablets/lap tops for electronic agendas. He stated Wifi had been installed in the Board room and was now available to the Commissioners. He stated this would be an individual decision for each Commissioner.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Commissioners could use their own computers in the mean time.

County Manager Carlisle cautioned the Commissioners about using their own computers because of the information that would become public record.

Commissioner Beck expressed concern with using tablets/lap tops. He stated he would prefer paper.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she liked being able to do quick searches with the tablets.

Vice Chairman Pryor stated this change would save the County money.

County Manager Carlisle agreed. He stated his office spent a lot on paper and time creating the current agenda packets.

County Manager Carlisle commended Lenice Hubbard, BoCC Administrative Assistant, on the letter she had put together to Mr. Luckey regarding the donation to the library from Mrs. Oehlbeck's estate.

Commissioner Beck concurred and stated the letter had been excellently written.

Commissioner Ahern asked if there was any more news on the hotel property.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had not heard anything further since their conversation on Friday.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the County Manager's Office kept a log of what was sent to Attorney Pringle and when.

County Manager Carlisle stated he corresponded with Attorney Pringle through emails.

Commissioner Storter stated she appreciated Attorney Pringle's thoroughness and protection for Glades County but wished things were done on a more timely basis.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Raoul Bataller, Hendry Glades Sunday News, asked if the Board meetings were still being recorded on cassette tapes.

County Manager Carlisle stated they were but the Board would be switching to CD's in the near future because cassette tapes would no longer be available for purchase.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Beck invited everyone to attend the Sour Orange Festival on February 6th in Lakeport.

Vice Chairman Pryor stated he had attended the Muse Honey Festival this past weekend. He stated the food was outstanding. He thanked Lenice Hubbard for her hard work and stated it was a pleasure to work with her.

Commissioner Ahern stated there were discussions taking place with the Corps of Engineers regarding the campground. He stated they were going to have an engineer come and check the electrical at the campground. He asked how the Water Management District's appropriations and projects would affect Glades County's tax base. He questioned if the County would receive PILT funds for the Duda property that the Water Management District would be purchasing.

County Manager Carlisle stated if the funds were not appropriated the County would not receive any compensation. He stated Water Management was pulling money from their reserves to pay PILT. He stated this could not go on forever. He stated all of these projects were good for the state but the only county paying for them was Glades. He stated if the project was good for the entire state then the entire state should have to kick in to make Glades County whole.

Commissioner Ahern suggested that the Board stay on top of this issue. He stated a circus had been held on Sunday at the rodeo grounds. He stated there was not a big crowd in attendance but Glades Youth Livestock was trying to expand the use of the arena.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Commissioner Ahern, Supervisor of Elections Holly Whiddon, and herself had recently attended a Canvassing Board Workshop. She stated Florida would make a big difference in the Presidential Primary race. She encouraged everyone to be properly registered and to vote.

Commissioner Ahern stated the workshop was very educational.

Commissioner Storter Long invited everyone to attend the Ortona Cane Grinding Festival on February 6th; Ortona's bi-annual election of officers on Thursday night; and to an "All You Can Eat" spaghetti dinner at the Ortona Community Building on February 13th.

Chairman Stanley invited everyone to attend the Buckhead Ridge Homeowners' Association meeting on Thursday night. He also invited everyone to attend the Buckhead Ridge Catfish Festival on January 30th.

ADJOURN

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Pryor the Board adjourned the meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Stanley adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Tim Stanley, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: February 9, 2016

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