

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 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, April 11, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

John Ahern, Chairman  
Tim Stanley, Vice Chairman  
Donald Strenth  
Donna Storter Long  
Weston Pryor

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Richard Pringle, Glades County Attorney  
Avant Brown, County Road Superintendent  
Lenice Taylor, Administrative Assistant - County Manager's Office  
Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator  
Libby Pigman, Representative - SWFMD  
Sheriff Hardin  
Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections  
Tracy Whirls, Executive Director – EDC  
Joe Pepe, Glades County Health Department  
3 citizens

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

**PRAYER**

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Sheriff Hardin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

Note: Unanimous Board Action is required to amend agenda for official vote.

**PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

**1. Proclamation – Water Conservation Month**

County Manager Carlisle read the title of the Proclamation into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved a Proclamation supporting the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association in proclaiming April 2017 as Water Conservation Month and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Libby Pigman, Representative – SFWMD, thanked the Board for issuing the Proclamation. She stated the area was experiencing a water shortage. She stated for the entire month of March only 1 inch of rain had fallen throughout the district. She stated the water level of Lake Okeechobee today was at 12.21 feet. She stated this number was down .47 feet from 7 days ago. She stated the lake level was at 14.89 feet last year this time. She stated if the lake continued to drop there would be lock closures on the north shore of the lake. She stated these closures were expected to happen within the next few weeks. She stated she had emailed the Board members a copy of the navigation notices and the criteria for closure of the locks. She stated this information was available on SFWMD's website. She stated a new navigation tab had been added to the website which provided information about the locks and water levels 24/7.

Chairman Ahern thanked Mrs. Pigman for the information.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

2. **Approved County Warrants (See Exhibit A)**  
**General Fund: 80631 – 80708**  
**SHIP: 1676**  
**Intergovernmental Radio: 10324 – 10325**  
**Courthouse Facilities: 1465**  
**Small Cities SCBG Grant: 0093 - 0098**
3. **Approved the minutes of the March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Storter Long expressed concern with paying interest on the County credit cards again.

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated payment of the credit cards depended on when the PO's were received. She stated she had to have the PO prior to payment.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would look into the matter.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS**

**Anyone wishing to provide public comment on an Agenda Item please fill out a comment card on the table at the entrance to the Commission Chambers.**

There was none.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

**4. Resolution No. 2017-9 Purchase of Pierce Fire Apparatus**

Attorney Pringle stated the Board had authorized the purchase of a fire apparatus for the County. He stated there had been some discussion regarding financing the purchase. He stated there had been some discussion with one local bank and with a company that provided lease financing arrangements for the purchase of equipment by government agencies. He stated he had reviewed the proposal from the bank. He stated there would be some hurdles regarding what security the County could provide under the law and with regard to the repayment sources if the County chose to finance with the bank. He stated Leasing 2 had also submitted several proposals to the Board. He stated these proposals used lease financing arrangements that had been approved by Florida courts as a legitimate method for government agencies to use in financing purchases of equipment. He stated if the County chose to finance the purchase with Leasing 2 they would have to adopt a resolution. He stated this was the first step of financing the purchase.

County Manager Carlisle stated the bank was pretty adamant about the County donating ad valorem or non-ad valorem monies which the County did not have. He stated the lease option financing would be the most advantageous for the County. He stated the interest rate was approximately .5% higher than the bank. He asked that the Board consider the resolution so that the County get could these funds back into the General Fund. He stated yearly payments could be made and the truck would be held as collateral.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the truck had already been purchased for \$239,000.00. He questioned why the County would be financing \$243,000.00.

County Manager Carlisle stated the quote was \$243,000.00 for the purchase of the truck; however, the County had received a rebate so the actual financed amount would be \$238,900.00.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked for a recommendation from County Manager Carlisle.

County Manager Carlisle stated with the projects that were appearing on the horizon he would suggest financing the purchase of the truck. He stated this way the payments would be made yearly. He stated the County would need to purchase air packs in the near future. He stated the County did have some capital but he would not recommended spending it all at once.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what the average functional life of the truck would be.

County Manager Carlisle stated the life of the truck should be 10 – 12 years with the amount of mileage that would be put on it.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there would be a prepayment penalty. She stated the options for financing would have to be named within the motion.

Attorney Pringle stated the County could select an option today or adopt the resolution without filling in these blanks. He stated he could fill in the blanks when the information was available. He stated adoption of the resolution would not obligate the County to borrow the funds or finance the purchase. He stated adoption of the resolution would authorize staff and himself to proceed with financing the purchase. He stated most of the time there was a pre-payment penalty. He stated this would be a sliding number.

Chairman Ahern stated he would prefer to finance for only 5 years versus going out further.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the lower interest rate for more money.

County Manager Carlisle stated he and staff could negotiate the best interest rate based on the dollar amount financed. He asked if the consensus of the Board was to finance the purchase for a term of 5 years.

Attorney Pringle stated the first sentence in section 3 of the resolution would be amended to read “The Board of County Commissioners hereby approves the financing of up to a maximum principal amount of \_\_\_\_\_”. He stated the length of the term could be left open as well.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2017-9 authorizing the borrowing of funds in an amount up to \$250,000.00 to purchase a Pierce Fire Apparatus to be financed for a period of 5 years and directed staff to bring the final financing documents back to the Board for approval.

County Manager Carlisle read the title of the Resolution into the record.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**5. Resolution No. 2017-10 Initial Assessment Resolution for Glades County Business Park Infrastructure Improvements Project**

Attorney Pringle stated this was the next resolution in the process to adopt and approve a non-ad valorem assessment related to the construction of the infrastructure on Highway 27 that was generally serving the Loves property and the Duda property surrounding it. He stated this was the initial assessment resolution related to the specific possible imposition of an assessment against these 2 properties which were

receiving the benefit of the improvements, the utilities, and infrastructure that the County had constructed. He stated the final resolution would come to the Board for approval at a later date. He stated Heather Encinosa, of Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson was present today to answer any questions the Board may have. He reminded the Board that adoption today of this resolution did not impose an assessment or create a lien on any property.

Heather Encinosa, Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, stated this resolution would establish certain findings of special benefit and fair apportionment based upon acreage. She stated the resolution would establish the public hearing on May 9, 2017 and direct that the notices be sent. She stated once the notices went out the maximum amount would be set. She stated the Board could come down on the amounts at the public hearing or not impose the assessment at all. She stated this resolution was not binding but was required in order to comply with Chapter 197.363, Florida Statutes.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the resolution was for just the Loves Center or the entire parcel.

Mrs. Encinosa stated there were 2 parcels – the Loves parcel and the unimproved parcel (Duda property) behind it. She stated the resolution also included a provision that stated once development began on the property behind the Loves parcel (unimproved acreage) the assessment would be reapportioned amongst any tax parcels that may be carved out of there in the future.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if this would be an annual assessment.

Mrs. Encinosa stated this would be a one-time assessment.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the County would be basically recovering the money it had spent to get the infrastructure in place. He asked if there would be future assessments on the Duda property when they began development.

Mrs. Encinosa stated once the County recovered their funds in the one-time assessment it would be made whole. She stated there would not be future assessments.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved Glades County Resolution No. 2017-10 – the Initial Assessment Resolution for Glades County Business Park Infrastructure Improvement Project establishing the method of assessing the project cost against the properties that will be benefited thereby; directing the County Manager to prepare a preliminary assessment roll; establishing a public hearing to consider imposition of the proposed assessments and the method of their collection; directing the provision of notice; and providing an effective date.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**6. Resolution No. 2017-11 Pertaining to Electronic Filing Requirements for Campaign Finance Reports**

County Manager Carlisle stated the Supervisor of Elections had put this before the Board for consideration so that individuals running for office could file their financial reports electronically rather than in person.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved Glades County Resolution No. 2017-11 – Implementing the provisions of Section 106.07(a)2, Florida Statutes, pertaining to electronic filing requirements for the Campaign Finance Reports of Local Candidates and Political Committees, and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

County Manager Carlisle read the title of the Resolution into the record.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**7. Wright Construction – Glades County Training Facility Phase 3**

County Manager Carlisle stated Wright Construction had given the County a Guaranteed Maximum Price and some value added adjustments had been added to the proposal. He stated a representative from Wright Construction was present if the Board had any questions.

Commissioner Pryor asked what the width of the improvements would be.

County Manager Carlisle stated the width would vary. He stated the concrete slab out front was approximately 60 feet; however, the narrow side where the rooms were located was approximately 36 feet.

Commissioner Pryor asked if there would still be some area that was left undeveloped.

County Manager Carlisle stated there would be about 15,000 - 18,000 square feet left undeveloped. He stated provisions had been made under the slab so that equipment could be moved and the sewer and water could be accessed, if needed.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the well vacuum system being self-contained. She stated the proposal showed that there was no exhaust or vacuum system included in the diesel shop. She asked if the students would only be learning from books with no hands-on instruction.

County Manager Carlisle stated the diesel mechanic shop did not need a vacuum system. He stated the exhaust had not been included because they were still unsure of where the shop would be located and how it would be set up.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price Proposal for the Glades County Training Facility Phase 3 showing the revised budget; authorized the preparation of the addendum to the contract; and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Attorney Pringle asked that the motion on the floor be amended to include authorization to prepare the addendum to the contract and authorization for the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Pryor amended his motion on the floor.

Commissioner Storter Long amended her second to the motion on the floor.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**8. Acknowledge Receipt of Glades County Other Postemployment Benefits Program Interim Actuarial Valuation (OPEB)**

County Manager Carlisle stated this report had been prepared and provided by Foster & Foster. He stated the Board was required to acknowledge receipt.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board acknowledged receipt of the Glades County Other Postemployment Benefits Program Interim Actuarial Valuation as of October 1, 2015 for contributions applicable to the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**9. Change Order No. 2 – Moonshine Marsh Overlook Park – Phase I**

County Manager Carlisle stated the contractor, during the course of construction, had run into some significant rock debris in the canal. He stated this had extended the time frame for completion. He stated the project was now complete. He stated the contractor had done a fantastic job on this project. He stated FWC would be bidding out the landscaping for the park side at Moonshine Marsh.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she was willing to do this. She stated the statement indicated that the excess embankment material was to be stockpiled at the northern end of the dredging limits. She asked if the material was going to be relocated.

County Manager Carlisle stated they needed all of the excess material that was available to complete the project.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved Change Order No. 2 – Moonshine Marsh Overlook Park Phase I and authorized County Manager Carlisle to sign on behalf of the Board.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked what the final elevation had been brought down to.

County Manager Carlisle stated the bottom was at an elevation of 8 feet.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated it was too bad that the County did not have the funding to go further down the canal because the work could be done easily now that the lake levels were down. He asked if FWC would be leaving enough space between the plantings so that a truck could be driven down the path.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had showed FWC the County's plans for the trail and they had coordinated the landscaping accordingly.

Commissioner Storter Long asked who would be maintaining this landscaping.

Commissioner Pryor suggested asking FWC to help with the maintenance.

Chairman Ahern stated he would mention the need for maintenance in an upcoming meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers as well.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**10. Property from List of Lands Available for Taxes Escheats to County**

County Manager Carlisle stated these parcels had gone to tax deed sale but had not been purchased. He stated the properties had now escheated to the County. He stated he had been working with Attorney Pringle on trying to find a way to market these properties. He stated he would like to see these properties back on the tax roll. He stated they were researching doing a RFP for a realtor versus throwing them on the market and selling them.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the property located on Avenue R would be served by the new sewer extension.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct.

**11. Unencumber 2016-DEMO-1 Funds**

Susan Whidden, SHIP Coordinator, stated applicant 2016-DEMO-1 had decided that they did not want to participate in the program any longer. She stated no work had been performed on the property.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the request to unencumber \$80,000.00 of SHIP funds for SHIP Applicant 2016-DEMO-1.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if these funds would go back into the 2016 funding.



Mrs. Whidden stated this was correct.

County Manager Carlisle stated the program was getting down to the bottom of the list for applicants. He encouraged residents in need of assistance to apply for funding. He stated Mrs. Whidden was doing a great job with the program.

## **12. SHIP Satisfaction**

Mrs. Whidden stated this applicant had abided by all of the rules and had completed the program.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Starter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved the Satisfaction of Mortgage for Matthew Soud and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Starter Long stated this was one of the great things about the SHIP Program. She stated she knew this young man and his family. She stated the County was able to help someone who needed the assistance and she was glad that the County was able to do so.

## **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

There was no discussion.

## **COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Carlisle commented on the eventful week they had in Tallahassee last week. He stated he believed some progress had been made on this trip. He stated the Moore Haven Canal Project was completed. He stated the bids had gone out for the Glades Inn property and were due back by April 22<sup>nd</sup>. He stated he had not received any questions or comments from the people that he had sent the bid out to. He stated he appreciated everyone coming out to the Loves Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the old hotel property had sewer services available.

County Manager Carlisle stated the property had sewer connection and City water services.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

Sheriff Hardin stated there were currently 447 inmates at the jail facility. He stated this week was National Public Safety Telecommunications Week and if anyone had the occasion to interact with Dispatch they should thank them for their services.

Inga Williams, Community Development Director, stated she had been working with Gene Boyles with the ASP who offered a training program entitled Florida Planning Officials Training. She stated she was hoping to bring this training to Glades County.

She stated she had a proposed date of May 26<sup>th</sup> and the training would be held at the Training Center. She stated the course would take approximately 6 hours and would cover roles and responsibilities for Planning Officials, Constitutional and Legal Framework, the community building process, and an overview of the decision making process. She stated this training would be offered to the Commissioners and Planning & Zoning Board members. She stated members from surrounding counties were also being invited. She stated the local Chapter of the APA would be providing funds for lunches. She stated the course would be offered through the Florida Association of Counties for registration and attendees would be eligible for 6 education credit hours.

Commissioner Starter Long asked if the training was being offered to other county Planning Officials and staff.

Mrs. Williams stated this was correct.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked how much the training would cost.

Mrs. Williams stated the training would cost approximately \$30.00 - \$40.00 per person. She stated the Instructor's fee would be \$1,250.00, which may be reduced because the APA Chapter may be contributing funds to assist with payment.

Joe Pepe, Director Health Department, stated he had put in multiple requests for funding through the Division of Emergency Planning, as well as the County's CDC Associate, for the self-contained breathing apparatus (air packs). He stated he had been advised that because of the emergency response usage for the SCBA's the request would fall outside of the public health preparedness guidelines for the grant. He stated he had also followed up since then with the County's Bureau Chief for the Emergency Medical oversight. He stated they were in dialogue now to see what funding sources were available. He stated he would keep the Board informed on this issue. He stated the Glades Health Department would be hosting classes for Behavioral First Aid (Adults and Children) during times of disaster. He stated this was a really great program. He stated he was still in dialogue with the Veterans Administration to get further clarification as to what the status was of continuing services in Moore Haven. He stated he had not received a concrete answer yet. He stated he had reached out to Representative Diaz-Balart's office for support. He stated he wanted to assure that Glades County was providing services to its Veterans in some capacity.

Tracy Whirls, Executive Director - Glades EDC, stated she had mailed the recreation grant for the Ortona Indian Mound Park to Tallahassee last week. She stated the invitations for the EDC Annual Dinner would be mailed out this next week. She stated the dinner would be held at the Doyle Conner Building on Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. She stated Senator Denise Grimsley would be the keynote speaker. She stated the EDC was working on 2 brochures for the Tourism Development Council.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There was none.

**COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Strenth stated last week had been his first opportunity to visit the Capitol. He commended County Manager Carlisle on the great job he did representing Glades County.

Vice Chairman Stanley echoed Commissioner Strenth's comments about County Manager Carlisle.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Honey Festival had gone very well in Muse. She stated the Muse Community Association had requested that the County mow some paths so that the festival could be expanded next year. She stated the Muse Community Association had offered a donation of 2 benches and a cross to be placed on that property. She stated Mr. Alexander was working with County Manager Carlisle regarding any legal limitations there may be in doing this. She stated the cross would have no wording or scripture on it. She stated Mr. Friedman had objected to the donation. She thanked Mrs. Williams for offering the training for the Planning Officials and the Commissioners. She stated there would be a hearing tonight before the Planning & Zoning Board regarding a 382 site RV Park in Ortona on 35 – 38 acres. She stated the utilities for River Oaks would be expanded. She stated the Board needed to be very well informed about this development. She stated a constituent had made the notation that the traffic study had been done in October when there was very little traffic in Ortona. She stated the study indicated that there would be no impact on the traffic. She stated the more the Board learned about the planning process the better it would serve the people.

Commissioner Pryor reminded everyone of a public meeting regarding Lake Okeechobee at the Clewiston Inn tonight at 6:00 p.m. He stated his recent trip to Tallahassee had been successful. He thanked the Florida Association of Counties and Chris Doolin with the Small County Coalition for the great job that they do for Glades County.

Chairman Ahern stated he felt the same way about his recent trip to Tallahassee. He stated the trip was a lot better than last year. He stated they had stayed busy and felt that they had accomplished a lot of their goals. He stated the population was up at the GCDC facility. He stated the income for March was much improved. He stated the total had been \$1,195,000.00 for the inmate per diem. He stated everything was on track for the renewal of the bonds. He stated he would be meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers next week to discuss the campground and more work on the Moore Haven Canal. He stated County Manager Carlisle had done a great job in Tallahassee. He stated he had been very prepared and had all of the information for distribution to the legislators.

County Manager Carlisle thanked Mrs. Hubbard for getting all of the documentation ready for the recent trip.

**ADJOURN**

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

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Ahern adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

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John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: April 24, 2017

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