

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017 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, April 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

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

Others present:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Lenice Hubbard, Administrative Assistant - County Manager's Office
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Neil Chapman
David Hardin, Sheriff
Gail Jones, Tax Collector
Avant Brown, Road Superintendent
Libby Pigman, Representative – SFWMD
4 citizens

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

PRAYER

Gail Jones, Tax Collector, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Neil Chapman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

County Manager Carlisle asked that Agenda Item #5 - Planning Commission Appointment be removed as he was expecting some information but had not received it yet. He stated Margaret Pass, applicant, was present.

ON MOTION Commissioner Strenth seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board agreed to remove Agenda Item #5 - Planning Commission Appointment from the agenda.

Motion carried by 5 to 0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

There were no presentations or awards.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approved payment of County Warrants (Exhibit A)
General Fund: 80709 – 80818
SHIP: 1677 – 1679
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 0223
Intergovernmental Radio: 10326**
2. **Approved the minutes of the April 11, 2017 Regular meeting**

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

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

PUBLIC INPUT ON 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

3. **Resolution No. 2017-12 Authorizing the Execution of an Unsecured Loan**

County Manager Carlisle stated that this resolution authorized the Board to enter into a loan agreement for an unsecured loan not to exceed \$250,000.00. He stated CenterState Bank had offered an unsecured loan with a 2.87% interest rate. He stated that Attorney Pringle had some concerns with some of the language. He stated the County would not be pledging any ad valorem taxes or other revenues against the loan. He stated this resolution would allow him to negotiate the terms of the loan and authorize the completion of the necessary acts to execute the loan documents.

Commissioner Storter Long asked why the resolution did not include the other items like terms and interest rate.

County Manager Carlisle stated the interest rate was 2.87% and the other items would be negotiated.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the loan would be brought back to the Board for approval.

County Manager Carlisle stated that it could be brought back if that the Board so desired.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the County was just borrowing what was used from the General Fund (\$238,900.00) to purchase the truck.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct. He stated if the Board wanted the loan to be brought back for approval, the motion would need to be modified to include this language. He stated that this resolution included authorizing the Chairman to execute the loan financing documents.

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

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2017 – 12 authorizing the borrowing of funds up to \$250,000.00 subject to a maximum interest amount of 2.87%; authorizing and providing for the execution of the necessary loan financing arrangement documents by the Chairman; and authorizing the completion of the necessary acts by Glades County to complete the execution of the loan financing arrangement documents.

County Manager Carlisle asked to clarify that by the motion the loan would not be brought back to the Board for final approval.

Commissioner Storter Long stated that it would not have to be brought back as long as the interest rate did not exceed 2.87%.

Motion carried by 5 - 0 vote.

4. Glades County Tax Deed Applications

Gail Jones, Tax Collector, stated that every year when her office held the annual tax certificate sale in May, the certificates that did not sell got struck off to the County. She stated the biggest bulk of the certificates were for properties located in Port LaBelle. She stated the 2015 certificates for unpaid 2014 taxes were up now. She stated the County only had to apply if the assessed value was over \$5,000.00. She stated if the assessed value increased over \$5,000.00 from last year's certificates, then the County would be forced to apply for a tax deed. She stated there were 366 County certificates that were mature enough for tax deed application but there were only 25 that had an assessed value of \$5,000.00 or more. She stated the cost to apply for a title search was \$100.00 each for a total of \$2,500.00 for 25 certificates. She explained that once the County applied, she would order a title search and mail warning letters again. If the property did not sell at the tax deed sale, it would go on the List of Lands Available for Taxes for 3 years and then if it did not sell the property would escheat to the County.

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had not taken the option in the past to apply for parcels valued under \$5,000.00 and recommended applying for tax deed only on the ones required by law.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved applying for tax deed sale on the 25 properties assessed at \$5,000.00 or more as required by Florida Statute 197.502(3) for a total of \$2,500.00. The Board agreed to decline application on the other 341 certificates that were available.

Mrs. Jones clarified that the Board was not purchasing the certificates as they already had them.

Motion carried by 5 to 0 vote.

5. Planning Commission Appointment

This item was removed from the agenda by amendment.

6. Purchase of Two Pickup Trucks

County Manager Carlisle stated the Road Department would like to purchase 2 replacement 4X4 pickup trucks using Charlotte County Contract Pricing.

Avant Brown, Road Superintendent, stated that normally they would not buy 2 four wheel drive trucks but they were needed to tow. He stated standard transmissions in trucks could rarely be found anymore. He stated that he and Mr. Carlisle would have to move some funds between line items in his budget to cover the cost.

Commissioner Storter Long asked Mr. Brown if he was retiring two vehicles to be sold at the next County auction.

Mr. Brown stated this was correct.

County Manager Carlisle stated that they would bring it back to the Board at a later date to declare the two trucks as surplus.

ON MOTION Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the purchase of one 2017 Ford F-150 4 X 4 in the amount of \$22,724.01 and one 2017 Ford F-150 Super Cab 4 X 4 in the amount of \$24,990.70, using Charlotte County Contract Pricing.

Motion carried by 5 to 0 vote.

7. Professional Services Supplemental Agreement No. 07

County Manager Carlisle stated that Glades County was a part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Lake Okeechobee Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)

and a requirement of FDEP was that the County had to develop community outreach and reporting requirements. He stated this agreement with Johnson Engineering, Inc. was for the collection of the required data, the performance of public outreach, and to get the County back on track and in compliance. He stated funds would have to be transferred into Mr. Brown's professional services line item and he would have Mrs. Patterson, Finance Director, prepare a draft for approval at the next meeting.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved the Supplemental Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners of Glades County and Johnson Engineering, Inc. for Lake Okeechobee BMAP Annual Assistance and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit B)

Commissioner Storter Long abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. (See Exhibit C - Conflict of Interest)

Motion carried by 4 to 0 vote.

8. Letter of Support for New Perishable Air Cargo Complex Project

County Manager Carlisle stated that Hendry County had been working on a proposed project located at the Airglades Airport in Clewiston. The proposed Perishable Air Cargo Complex Project would increase the perishable supply chain in South Florida. He stated he believed that the project would benefit Hendry and Glades by providing extra jobs and the need for more housing and businesses. He recommended the Board send a letter of endorsement and support for the project. He stated there was a typo in the proposed letter of support and if adopted, "Center America" would need to be changed to "Central America".

ON MOTION Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved the endorsement of and Letter of Support for the proposed new Perishable Air Cargo Complex Project located at Airglades Airport in Clewiston, Florida, and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Pryor stated that he felt this was a great opportunity for someone to pick up some of the lots in Port LaBelle at a cheap price.

Commissioner Ahern stated that he had attended the public hearing regarding this project that was held last week in Clewiston. He stated there was a good crowd present. He stated the need for training had been discussed and he had informed them that the Glades County Training Center could be used, if needed.

Motion carried by 5 to 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Sheriff David Hardin reported that the jail had a current population of 431 inmates. He stated that he had promoted 7 employees to the rank of Sargent and 1 to Lieutenant today.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

County Manager Carlisle stated the construction at the Training Center was coming along. He stated the anticipated completion date was the first part of June. He stated language had been included in Senate Bill 10 that would provide for training, equipment, instructors, and curriculum for any county in a REO (Rural Area of Opportunity) that was providing storm water drainage or dispersed water storage. He stated the bill was in a much better position. He stated the House and Senate were not agreeing on the budget. He stated he had sat in on a conference call today regarding the budget. He reminded the Board that he would be out of the office on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there was a corresponding bill on the bill that was going to strip the county of home rule.

County Manager Carlisle stated there was not a corresponding bill in the Senate. He stated the home rule bill was still in the House. He stated he had attended the Regional Summit and it had gone well. He stated he had expressed the County's concern over water storage issues. He stated he felt he had received some support from the coastal counties (Charlotte, Collier, Lee, and Sarasota) that were present. He stated the summit had been hosted by Glades County.

Commissioner Storter Long stated County Manager Carlisle spoke up for the County and made an excellent presentation on the Board's behalf. She stated he explains the issues very well.

Chairman Ahern agreed.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had discussed revisiting a mutual aid agreement with Hendry County for a Building Inspector with Hendry's County Manager. He stated they were looking to hire another inspector. He stated because Glades County did not have a need for a full time official or inspector, they would be able to use Hendry County's official and inspector. He stated he would bring the item to the Board after negotiating the agreement and fees.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

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Chairman Ahern stated that Margaret Pass had signed a comment sheet to speak. Ms. Pass stated she no longer wished to address the Board. County Manager Carlisle stated that item was pulled from the agenda.

Commissioner Strenth stated that Lakeport had been calm. He commented on the odor from the mulch (compost) facility.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated Buckhead Ridge's monthly meeting would be held on Thursday night with a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:30 p.m. He stated Angie Colegrove, Emergency Management Director, would be giving a presentation on the new Emergency Alert System. He stated that hopefully the rain would stop some of the fires that the County had been having lately.

Commissioner Storter Long stated that she appreciated County Manager Carlisle, the employees, firefighters and mutual aid during the recent fires.

Commissioner Pryor stated the Board had not had a joint city, school and county meeting in a while and that the Board used to have meetings with Hendry County, as well. He suggested that the Board include Okeechobee and Palm Beach counties in this meeting.

County Manager Carlisle stated that he and Mrs. Hubbard would work on arranging a meeting.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council meeting was held in Charlotte County last Thursday. She expressed disappointment with the facilities sound system. She commented on how the Chairman had handled a request during the meeting. She stated she was not sure what the Council was doing for Glades County. She stated Sarasota County had decided that they would not be paying any further dues and that they would not be attending any future meetings. She stated she would continue to attend the meetings but suggested that the Board consider review of the membership.

Chairman Ahern stated that the Glades Correctional Development Corporation (GCDC) met this afternoon and they did have challenges but the income was up. He stated that he and County Manager Carlisle had met with the Army Corps of Engineers last week and they were supposed to hear back from them around the first part of May. He stated the possibility of leasing the campground and support for additional funding for the Moore Haven Canal project had been discussed.

County Manager Carlisle expressed frustration with having to start at ground zero again with the Army Corps of Engineers. He suggested arranging a meeting with Colonel Kirk from Jacksonville to discuss the issues.

ADJOURN

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

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Ahern adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: May 9, 2017

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