

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018 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, June 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

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

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court
Richard Pringle, County Attorney
Mr. Helfenberger, Interim County Manager
Paul Carlisle, Consultant
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Susan Whidden, BOCC Administrative Assistant
Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director
Jerry Randolph, Public Works Director
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
H. L. Bennett, H. L. Bennett & Sons
Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator
Matt Howard, AIM Engineering
Chris Felker, Okeechobee News
Tracy Whirls, Executive Director – Glades EDC
Paul McGehee, Glades Electric Cooperative
Libby Maxwell Pigman, South Florida Water Management District
Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections
10 citizens

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Commissioner Strenth led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

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

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Commissioner Storter Long requested that a discussion regarding the Muse Fire House and the use of one cent funds be added to the agenda.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board amended the agenda.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Case COMP 18-01 Chin

Attorney Pringle swore in the following witnesses: Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Bennett.

Paul Carlisle, Consultant, stated Mr. and Mrs. Chin were requesting a change to the Future Land Use Map designation of 9.23 acres from Commercial to Industrial. He stated there would be no new development on the site. He stated Mr. Chin currently had a 5,000 square foot building on this property and this change would allow him to put in a building up to 200,000 square feet. He stated Mr. Chin would only be using the additional square footage for storage of his equipment. He stated the traffic analysis had shown that there would be no impact on US Highway 27. He stated staff recommended approval of the application for submission to the State. He stated the public hearing had been duly advertised and posted.

Attorney Pringle asked that the application, staff report, and finds of the Planning and Zoning Board be made a part of the record. (Exhibit A)

Larry Bennett, H.L. Bennett & Sons, stated he represented the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Chin. He stated Mr. Chin owned a trucking business and would be storing trucks from time to time on site.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board, based on the findings and analysis in the staff report dated April 26, 2018 and findings presented at the public hearing, adopted Glades County Ordinance No. 2018-8, amending the Glades County Comprehensive Plan by revising the Future Land Use Map from Commercial to Industrial for 9.23 acres of land located at 27107 US Hwy 27; Applicant and property owner - Barry and Janice Chin: Case No. COMP 18-01; providing for inclusion of Ordinance and revised Future Land Use Map in the Comprehensive Plan; and providing for an effective date.

Chairman Ahern called for public input. There was none.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

2. Case RZ 18-01 Chin

Attorney Pringle stated this was the rezoning case for the same parcel of land. He stated this was a quasi-judicial hearing and Chairman Ahern would need to call for the disclosure of any ex parte communication. He stated the witnesses had already been sworn in the previous public hearing.

Chairman Ahern called for the disclosure of any ex parte communication. There was none.

Mr. Carlisle stated Mr. and Mrs. Chin were requesting a change from Commercial General C-2 to Heavy Industrial ID-2 on 9.23 acres located at 27107 US Highway 27. He stated the use would be consistent with adjoining property uses. He stated this public hearing had been duly advertised and the application had been heard by the Planning & Zoning Board.

Attorney Pringle asked that the application, staff report, and findings and decisions of the Planning & Zoning Board be made a part of the record. (Exhibit B)

Chairman Ahern called for public input. There was none.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board, based on the findings and analysis in the staff report dated April 26, 2018 and findings presented at the public hearing, adopted Glades County Ordinance 2018-9, amending the official zoning map of Glades County from Commercial General (C-2) to Heavy Industrial (ID-2) for 9.23 acres of land located at 27107 US Highway 27, Moore Haven; Case No. RZ 18-01; Applicant and property owner – Barry and Janice Chin; providing for conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

Chairman Ahern called a roll call vote:

Commissioner Strenth – Yes
Vice Chairman Stanley – Yes
Commissioner Storter – Yes
Commissioner Pryor – Yes
Chairman Ahern – Yes

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Approved payment of County Warrants (Exhibit C)**
General Fund: 83402 – 83475
ACH Payments: 017 – 020
SHIP: 1719 – 1721
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 237
Intergovernmental Radio: 10354

4. **Delete Macom Portable Radio (Property No. 2739/3443) from Sheriff's Property Records and declare as surplus property**
5. **Public Risk Management Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement for Glades County BOCC, the City of Moore Haven, Barron Water Control District and Port LaBelle Community Development District**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

PUBLIC INPUT 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.

Attorney Pringle stated one member of the public, Neil Chapman, had signed in to speak to the fire tax discussion.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if Mr. Chapman would consider waiting until the Board reached that discussion to speak.

Mr. Chapman agreed.

Chairman Ahern stated he would call upon Mr. Chapman when the Board reached that discussion.

BUSINESS AGENDA

6. **Resolution 2018- Approving a Use and Occupancy Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Transportation for the benefit of the Doyle Conner Building property**

Chairman Ahern read the title of the Resolution into the record.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2018-5, approving a Use and Occupancy Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Transportation for the benefit of the Doyle Conner Building property.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

7. **Consider purchase of property placed on the List of Lands Available for Taxes**

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court, stated there were no bids at the last tax deed sale on this particular parcel of land. She stated the County may wish to purchase the property for the opening bid in the amount of \$9,602.74. She stated if the Board chose not to purchase the property it would remain on the list of lands available for purchase by the public.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board moved not to purchase the property as shown in Tax Deed 2017-14 from the List of Lands Available for Taxes.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

8. Schedule for 2018-2019 Budget Workshops

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated this item was for informational purposes only. She stated the budget workshops would be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. and on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

9. Approve change of strategy for Applicant 2018-REHAB-1 Thatcher

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated she would like to request a change in the strategy for this applicant from rehabilitation to disaster. She stated she had used the rehab strategy originally because the disaster strategy would not allow low income applicant to apply for assistance under the LHAP at the time. She stated after the change in LHAP per the Board meeting held on May 8th, low income was now allowable.

Commissioner Storter Long asked for the address of the property.

Ms. Ricker stated the property was located at 829 Thatcher Boulevard and had sustained quite a bit of damage during Hurricane Irma.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if any of the damage was not from the storm.

Ms. Ricker stated it was pretty clear that the damage was from the storm.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved a change in strategy for Applicant 2018-REHAB-1 Thatcher to 2018-Disaster-1 Thatcher and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

10. Encumber SHIP funds

Ms. Ricker stated she had the following 3 applicants ready for approval: 2018-Woodward-DPA-1 – encumbrance of down payment (low income); 2018-Hoyt-Demo-Rebuild-2 – disaster recovery (very low income); and 2018-Jones-Demo-Rebuild-3 (low income).

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why there were addresses listed for all of the properties except Woodward.

Ms. Ricker stated Ms. Woodward had not yet found a house but did have pre-approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the encumbrance of SHIP funds for the following applicants and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board: 2018-Woodward-DPA-1 – encumbrance of

down payment (low income); 2018-Hoyt-Demo-Rebuild-2 – disaster recovery (very low income); and 2018-Jones-Demo-Rebuild-3 (low income).

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

11. CDBG and SHIP Satisfactions

Ms. Ricker stated she was happy to report that both of these applicants had met all requirements with their loans and she was requesting satisfaction of their mortgages.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the satisfactions of the following mortgages and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board: Jimmy Randall Roberts – CDBG - \$14,224.00 and Jamisha Williams – SHIP - \$29,900.00.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she was glad to see these mortgages being satisfied. She stated this proved that the program worked.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

12. Approve the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management

Attorney Pringle asked that this item be continued until the June 26th meeting so that the resolution could be approved.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board continued the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management to the June 26, 2018 meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

13. Discussion regarding a Fire Tax

Commissioner Strenth stated it was his feeling that for the betterment of the County the Board should look into implementing a fire tax. He stated the tax or fee may range from \$175.00 per dwelling to \$275.00 per dwelling. He stated this would amount to approximately .68 ½ cents per day. He stated this was a reasonable amount for to pay for 24/7 fire rescue. He stated he would like to see the Board agree to at least have a study done.

County Manager Helfenberger stated he had talked with Public Safety and some of the required data for the study could be gathered by staff. He stated there were several options for a study. He stated the previous study had cost the County \$50,000.00. He stated a new study could probably be done for the same cost. He stated there had been some significant changes to what land would be included the study.

Chairman Ahern stated he was not sure what resources the County had to assist with updating the study. He stated Muse had always been an area of concern. He stated Mrs.

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Ward had prepared some information for him. He stated some thought had been given to creating a special district. He agreed staff could generate some of the information themselves.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he had no problem with having a study done. He commented on the fire services still being so small that it would be hard to do something like this. He stated he would like to try and squeeze 2 more firemen into the budget this year.

Neil Chapman, Fireman, stated the bottom line was the care of the people and the safety of the citizens of Glades County. He stated there was a large group of people out there that were firemen and paramedics. He stated this would be a 2 fold thing. He stated Glades County had 2 medical units covering the entire County - Medic 3 covered the west end and Medic 1 covered everything else. He stated in Buckhead Ridge service was provided by Okeechobee County for \$100,000.00 per year. He stated if 2 fire fighters who were also paramedics were placed in Buckhead Ridge and 2 in Lakeport the response time would be faster. He stated they could stabilize until Seminole EMS could get there and transport the patient. He stated all zones needed to be covered. He stated none of the fire fighters were trained when he came here. He stated he had offered 8 courses. He stated all of this training did not cost the County anything and had been offered to the people for free. He stated it could be done again. He stated Glades County had come a long way since he came on board. He stated 88% of the calls in Glades County were medical calls. He stated the community was not getting any younger. He stated it was difficult to find volunteer fire fighters. He suggested the school get involved and offer the Fire Fighter I courses to seniors. He stated a study would be great and the issue needed to be thought about in depth.

Chairman Ahern stated he appreciated all that Mr. Chapman had done for the County and all of his volunteer work throughout the years.

Commissioner Storter Long stated more stations would be needed to provide better coverage. She asked if Mr. Chapman was talking about having 2 – 40 hour per week firemen.

Mr. Chapman stated they would be on 24/48 just like the EMS units were now. He stated if there were fire fighters/paramedics on call 24/7 there would be better coverage.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated Buckhead Ridge was already being covered 24/7. He stated 6 people would be needed instead of 2. He stated this would cost the County approximately \$250,000.00.

Mr. Chapman stated he understood this but the County really needed to think about the future.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the County had maxed out on soliciting volunteers.

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Mr. Chapman stated they had done everything they knew to do to recruit volunteers. He commented on the hard work done in Palmdale after the store burnt down. He stated 3 meetings had been held and the people had been given all of the information needed for training. He stated the training was going to be free. He stated not one person had come back for training. He stated that community had a long response time and was really hurting. He stated there was a station there that had been shut down.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there was a fire station in Indian Hills and Palmdale and wondered if equipment could be placed there.

Mr. Chapman stated there was equipment that could be put there.

Commissioner Storter Long asked why a resolution was not adopted last year to move forward with a MSBU for fire services.

Mr. Carlisle stated it had been discussed last December but the Board did not wish to move forward.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she liked the idea of taking the old study and having County staff gathering what information they could from the Property Appraiser's office and the number of calls and updating the study. She suggested starting with 40 hours per week. She stated she felt sure they would still be available as volunteers after hours.

Mr. Chapman suggested making the stipulation that when the hiring was done the new hires would sign a contract that they would be here for 2 years.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like to know what it would cost the County to have one team of 2 fire fighters/paramedics; how many calls came from each community; and what it would take to man each station. She stated she did not see waiting until the County could do it all. She stated they needed to start somewhere. She stated she did not think \$175 per year was very much for the protection that would be provided.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated the 2 – 40 hour firemen that the County currently had cost approximately \$100,000.00. He stated he had a very difficult time filling the last position on 40 hours. He stated if the Board would tell him what level of service they wanted he would figure the costs. He stated he did not feel that the County should pay to have the study done again. He stated 90% of the people who worked for EMS were already fire certified. He stated it was a 3 ½ hour turn-around time for one ambulance to go from here to Gulf Coast. He stated if there were medics on the fire trucks they could get there and stabilize and then one of the medics or mutual aid could transport.

Chairman Ahern commented on the agricultural land no longer being included in the study. He stated when he talked to Mrs. Ward about the Muse district he was told there were 4,900 homes countywide. He stated all of this information could be combined and discussed during the budget workshops.

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Mr. Jones stated one EMS crew of 6 cost the County roughly \$400,000.00.

Chairman Ahern stated he believed the Board needed to work on this issue and to have the information updated so they could make an educated decision.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like to see the information in the study updated as much as possible without having to have a new one done. She stated the Sheriff had provided her some dispatch information regarding the number of fire calls. She stated Medic 1 and Medic 3 had only gone out on 22 fires last year. She stated she felt this information was incomplete.

Commissioner Strenth stated the insurance discount would pay for the tax. She stated it could be a reason why there was no more development in Glades County.

Commissioner Pryor stated there were still a lot of people in Glades County that would not be able to afford \$275.00 per year.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he did not have a problem doing the study but he wanted it fair to everyone in the County.

Chairman Ahern stated he and staff would start compiling information from the prior study.

Commissioner Storter Long asked for a copy of the previous study. She stated there was currently equipment in Ortona, Lakeport, Buckhead, and Muse; however, no one was stationed at Muse. She stated the Muse fire house would have to be totally replaced.

Chairman Ahern stated he had spoken with several local contractors about the Muse fire house. He stated if the County did the site work themselves it would cost approximately \$100,000.00 to put in a 50' x 60' building with 2 – 12' x 14' bay doors.

Commissioner Pryor suggested that if there was an area or district that wished to pay for their fire protection they could put it out for referendum and proceed with their own special district.

Chairman Ahern asked Attorney Pringle to give the Board some insight on special districts.

Attorney Pringle stated Chapter 191 of the Florida Statutes authorized the creation of an independent special district (fire district). He stated the district would be an independent taxing authority. He stated the district would have its own elected Board of Commissioners. He stated the district would have its own taxing authority up to a maximum level of 3.75 mills. He stated the district could do ad valorem assessments or a non-ad valorem assessments. He stated the district's board would set the number of paid fire fighters and paramedics. He stated the industry standard in Lee County was to

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have dual certified employees (fire fighters/paramedics). He stated most of the fire districts in Lee County also did emergency rescue services but not ambulance services.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the enabling legislation that would be required prior to a referendum.

Attorney Pringle stated the County Commission would authorize this. He stated the residents themselves could also get together and define their district boundaries and the level of services they would like to see and then pool their resources to hire the consultant to do the study, the attorney to prepare the enabling legislation, and then to lobby in Tallahassee for the passage of the legislation.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this may be the way to go. She stated not all residents may want the additional services.

Attorney Pringle explained the benefits of having a special district. He stated personnel costs would be approximately 90% of the budget. He stated the level of service would determine the tax rate that would be charged. He stated there were 2 considerations or elements, based on his representation of fire districts that the Board had before it today. He stated the first would be a determination of the level of service that they wished to provide. He stated the second was procedural. He stated the Board would need to adopt and implement a funding source. He stated the Board would need to be able to defend the assessment rates. He stated this was where the study would come in. He stated the assessment would need to be able to be defended.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there was a percentage that the referendum needed to pass by in order to move forward.

Attorney Pringle stated the referendum would need to pass by a vote of 50% plus 1. He stated a group of citizens could get together and work towards forming a special district for their area regardless of what the Board did today. He stated this was not an easy process but it was successful.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what the County's legal requirement was for services within the County. She asked if the County was required to have fire departments.

Mr. Jones stated there was no legal requirement for fire services; however, there was a requirement for 24 hour EMS services. He stated this service could be basic.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board would decide the level of services it would provide. He stated the ambulance services could be provided strictly through inter-local agreements and have no staffing at all. He stated the Board could also hire a contractor through a professional services agreement or have employees perform the services. He stated all of this related back to the level of services the Board wished to provide.

Mr. Jones explained that when he made the schedule and decided where the fire fighters would be stationed throughout the County he looked at the weather, environmental conditions, and mutual aid. He stated the Hendry County Fire Department had 25 volunteers. He stated these fire fighters were paid a \$100.00 per day stipend plus call pay. He stated the problem for Glades County was that no one could be worked more than 21 days in row. He stated Hendry County had enough people to rotate. He stated Hendry County had 2 people all day, every day. He stated he liked to keep Glades County fire fighters in the middle of the County and use mutual aid as needed.

Commissioner Storter Long asked why the County would rebuild the fire house at Muse if no one was going to man it.

Mr. Jones stated his opinion as a tax payer was that sooner or later Glades County would get to the point that it had full time people. He stated his opinion of the Muse fire house was twofold. He stated 2 of the men on the fire house in Muse lived in north LaBelle. He stated at some point in the future the Medic 3 station would need to be replaced. He stated this station covered Palmdale, Ortona, and north Port LaBelle. He commented on the ISO ratings. He suggested building a one bay building to replace the building in Muse. He stated the wall could be split so that the bathroom could use the same septic system as the new bathrooms that would be installed at the park. He stated one fire truck could be housed there. He stated another building could be constructed on the schools grounds in Muse and could be used for medic and fire. He stated this would help with ISO ratings.

Chairman Ahern suggested looking at the existing building in Muse and if it could be modified then to do so. He stated he would share the information that he obtained from Mrs. Ward.

13A. Discussion regarding the Muse Fire House/One Cent Sales Tax (This item was added to the agenda by amendment)

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated after the Board unencumbered the remaining balances there would be approximately \$1.6 million in the one cent fund. She stated the County currently had approximately \$700,000.00 out in reimbursable grant money. She stated these funds will be reimbursed within 30 – 60 days.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like to know how much the insurance payout was for the fire house in Muse.

Mrs. Patterson stated she would email that information to each of the Commissioners.

Diane Cianfrani, resident of Muse, suggested doing both. She stated doing the assessment would take at least a year. She commented on the stagnate growth in Glades County and stated maybe the lack of these types of services was the reason for this. She stated if the County showed good faith and started offering more services maybe the County would see more growth.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Muse community would still have to pay the MSBU if they formed a special taxing district.

Attorney Pringle stated they would still be responsible for the payment of the MSBU assessment because it would be County wide.

Chairman Ahern asked that County Manager Helfenberger head up a task force to move forward at looking at the County's different options for a special fire district and a MSBU assessment.

14. Discussion regarding the County Manager Position

Chairman Ahern stated the County Manager position had been advertised and several applications had been received. He stated there were several options available to the Board on how to proceed. He stated he believed the Board needed to close the time period for taking applications first.

Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director, stated 16 – 18 qualified applicants had applied.

Attorney Pringle asked if a review process had been discussed or adopted.

Chairman Ahern stated it had not.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board could extend the time to accept applications or close the application period and review the applications already received.

Commissioner Pryor suggested that the Commissioners rank their top 5 candidates and go from there.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board closed the acceptance period for applications for the County Manager position.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Strenth had stepped out of the room at the time of the vote.

Chairman Ahern asked Ms. Ibietatorremendia to provide the applications to each Commissioner so that they could rank their top 5 choices.

Attorney Pringle suggested that the Board authorize Ms. Ibietatorremendia to review the applications, remove any non-responsive candidates from the pool, and forward the remaining applications to the Commissioners for their review and evaluation.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what criteria was being used to determine if a candidate was non-responsive.

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Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated some candidates had not followed directions and some did not meet the minimum qualifications for the position.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board had the latitude to waive deficiencies in the applications, if they so desired.

Commissioner Storter Long moved to direct staff to provide each Commissioner with a copy of the applications for the County Manager position withholding only those who did not meet the qualifications; any applicants with insufficient responses would not be excluded.

Commissioner Pryor seconded the motion on the floor.

Attorney Pringle clarified that the applicants that did not meet the qualifications would be rejected and the ones that did meet the qualifications would be further considered.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Board should be provided with a list of the names & why they did not qualify.

Attorney Pringle stated the ultimate decision would be made by the Board. He stated the Board would be putting responsibility on staff that was ultimately the Board's responsibility. He stated staff could give input but the decision would be made by the Board.

Commissioner Storter Long withdrew her motion on the floor. Commissioner Pryor withdrew his second to the motion on the floor.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board directed staff to provide the Commissioners with all of the applications that have been received and to also provide recommendations as to which applicants were qualified; then based on review and staff recommendations the Commissioners at their next meeting would reject the non-qualifying applicants and move forward with the qualifying applicants.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if a letter would be sent to the applicants that were disqualified.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she would send the letters.

Chairman Ahern stated the other applicants should also be notified of where they stood in the process.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

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Attorney Pringle stated the Commissioners would still have had the opportunity to review all of the applications and make a decision regarding rejecting those not qualified and to move forward with those applicants who were qualified.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Commissioners should go ahead and rank the remaining applicants.

Attorney Pringle cautioned the Board about ranking the applicants until they had reviewed all of them.

Chairman Ahern asked that this item be placed on the next agenda.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if any of the applicants were from out of State.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated there were several.

15. Discussion regarding the Interim County Manager Position's duties

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Helfenberger had been taking care of the day to day decisions and making recommendations to the Board. He asked if the Board wished to modify the parameters of his duties.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she did not see why the Board would limit Mr. Helfenberger on any of his duties.

Mr. Helfenberger stated would inform the Board of any major decisions made.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board authorized Mr. Helfenberger to act and perform all duties of the County Manager as described in the County's policies.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Pringle commented on the County Manager's competitive selection process. He stated he may not be present at the night meeting. He explained that the purpose of the competitive selection process was to select the candidate that was the best fit for the position in Glades County. He stated there were 2 elements for the Board to consider regarding the fire services. He stated the Board should consider what level of service it wished to provide for both fire protection and emergency rescue services. He stated the Board needed to also consider what impact the level of services would have on the ISO ratings. He stated this was where money differences would come into play. He stated there was a separate schedule of events described by statute that the Board would need

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to follow in order to implement a MSBU for fire services. He stated the Board would need to adopt a resolution in November or December.

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Helfenberger stated the Text to 911 would be operational by June 20th. He stated Glades County would be only the third county in the State of Florida with this capability. He stated he and Commissioner Strenth had visited with the new Manager at the compost plant on the Reservation. He stated the new Manager had significantly reduced production pending the repairs being made to the facility. He stated the repairs should begin in July. He stated he would continue to monitor the facility. He stated he would be meeting on Friday with the Planning Director for Hendry regarding the Glades Airport. He stated termites had been discovered in the courthouse. He stated the only way to get rid of them was by fumigation of the entire building. He stated he was getting a cost estimate and believed a good time to do the fumigation would be around the Thanksgiving holiday.

Chairman Ahern stated the courthouse would have to have 2 treatments, one by tenting and the other to treat the ground.

County Manager Helfenberger stated a candidate for the Planning Director position had been interviewed. He stated this candidate looked promising.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if a deal had been formalized with the City for code enforcement.

County Manager Helfenberger stated he was looking at having temporary services provided through the City Code Enforcement Officer by a separate contract. He stated this would allow the County time to look at going to the magistrate system and securing a full time person for the position.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Libby Pigman, South Florida Water Management District, stated the District would hold a public meeting on Monday, June 18, 2018 at the Williamson Center at Indian River State College in Okeechobee to discuss the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Plan. She stated the land owners that would be affected by the current foot print had been sent letters.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he would attend.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Storter Long stated she had been told that the Unmet Needs Group had requested to use the Training Center but that it was only available for one hour. She asked if there was a schedule set up for when people were using the building.

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated the group had used the building from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Commissioner Storter Long stated she had received a request to use the Palmdale Community Service for a memorial service for Sammie Humphries. She asked if a fee would be charged or if the building could just be used and then cleaned up afterwards.

Mrs. Whidden stated there was an application; however, no fee was required. She stated the user would be required to clean up and haul off any garbage.

Commissioner Storter Long thanked Mrs. Cianfrani for her efforts with the fire house in Muse.

Commissioner Pryor had no comments.

Commissioner Strenth had no comments.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the Eagle Riders wanted to lease the park in Buckhead Ridge for a benefit. He stated the event would be held sometime between Halloween and Thanksgiving. He stated they wished to sell beer at the event and questioned what procedures would need to be followed.

Commissioner Storter Long stated in order to serve alcoholic beverages they should be required to have law enforcement on scene.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the gentleman would pay for law enforcement to be present and follow whatever other process were required.

Mr. Carlisle stated there was a clause in the agreement that required the person leasing the building to have a license to sale alcoholic beverages and to hire an off duty deputy. He stated there was also a fee ranging from \$125 - \$300 depending on the size of the event.

Mrs. Whidden directed Vice Chairman Stanley to contact the Community Development Department.

Chairman Ahern suggested that the restrooms be checked at the Palmdale Community Center to make sure they were in working order. He stated he had been looking at the County budget and the County Barn needed some repairs made to the roof. He asked if Vice Chairman Stanley would give a report on the Glades Sportswriters Invitational Fishing Tournament that had recently taken place.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated 13 Sportswriters had come to Glades County for 3 days to participate in a fishing tournament. He stated in return for the Tourism Development Council hosting the event and providing them lodging, the Sportswriters would be writing articles about their experiences here in Glades County. He stated he believed the entire event had cost approximately \$5,000.00 with a majority of the funds being donated. He stated a lot of local businesses had participated. He stated he believed Glades County

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would reap some great benefits from the event. He stated the TDC was trying to promote Glades County as well as they could.

Chairman Ahern asked that Mrs. Whidden provide the articles to each Commissioner as she received them. He stated he had attended both dinners that were hosted during the event and they had been well attended and lots of good comments were being made.

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 11:06 a.m.

John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: July 23, 2018

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