

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018 AT 6:00 P.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 Monday, July 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

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

Others present:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court  
Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Joe Helfenberger, County Manager  
Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant  
Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Gabriele Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director  
Susan BuChans, Planning & Development Director  
Archie Branch, Public Works Director  
Jeff Patterson, Tourism Development Council  
Connie Vanassche, Vice President – CAS Governmental Services, LLC  
Raoul Bataller, Hendry Glades Sunday News  
Dale Milita, President – CAS Governmental Services, LLC  
James Hull, AIM Engineering  
Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections  
Robert DeMann, Chief Deputy - GCSO  
18 citizens

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

**PRAYER**

Commissioner Pryor gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Vice Chairman Stanley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

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

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – JULY 23, 2018

Chairman Ahern requested that Item #15 – Bid Proposal for 2018-Disaster-1-Thatcher-Rehab be added to the agenda.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board amended the agenda.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

### **PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

There were none.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Approved County Warrants (See Exhibit A)**  
**General Fund: 83679 – 83746 and ACH Payments: 038-041**  
**SHIP: 1726 – 1730**  
**Intergovernmental Radio: 10357**
2. **Approved minutes of the June 12, 2018 Regular Meeting**
3. **Records Disposition Document 2018-2 (Clerk of Court) (See Exhibit B)**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth 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.**

Chairman Ahern called for public input on the Business Agenda Items. There was none.

### **BUSINESS AGENDA**

#### **4. 2017 – 2018 Annual Report**

County Manager Helfenberger stated the Annual Report was available for anyone interested. He stated there was a lot of information contained within the report. He stated the report started with an overview of all services. He stated the report included annual reports from E911, Human Resources Department, Maintenance, Public Works, Library, County Extension, Public Safety, Fire, Animal Control, EMS, Emergency Management, SHIP, and Community Development. He stated the Annual Report would also be available on the website and at the Library.

Vice Chairman Stanley thanked staff for a great job throughout the year.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board acknowledged submission of the Glades County 2017-2018 Annual Report.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**5. Appoint three members to the 2018 Value Adjustment Board**

Chairman Ahern stated Vice Chairman Stanley and himself had served on last year's Value Adjustment Board from the Commission and Mrs. Cianfrani had served as the citizen member. He stated Mrs. Cianfrani had agreed to serve again this year.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Strenth seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board appointed Chairman Ahern, Vice Chairman Stanley, and citizen member Diane Cianfrani to serve on the 2018 Value Adjustment Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**6. Adopt current year proposed millage rate for BOCC and Law Enforcement MSTU and schedule the Tentative and Final Budget Hearings**

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court, stated the Board would need to adopt the millage rate for the Board. She stated the following:

The Glades County BOCC prior year (2017/18) millage rate was:	9.1367
General Fund	9.0367
Transportation Trust	.10

The Glades County current year rolled-back rate is 8.8907.

The BOCC MSTU Law Enforcement prior year (2017/18) millage rate was: 2.75

The BOCC MSTU Law Enforcement current year rolled-back rate is 2.6760.

The proposed millage rate for BOCC this year is 9.1367.

Chairman Ahern called for public input. There was none.

Ms. Brown reminded the Board that the millage rate could be reduced by not increased after tonight's adoption.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 9.1367 for BOCC for 2018/19 Fiscal Year.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Ms. Brown stated the Board had discussed increasing the proposed millage rate for BOCC MSTU Law Enforcement. She stated the current year millage rate was 2.75. She stated it would require a majority vote to increase the millage to 2.9375. She stated the maximum millage rate was 3.2725 and would require a 2/3 vote. She stated explained

that if the millage rate was increased to 2.80 it would increase the General Fund by \$29,726.39 and if increased to 2.85 it would increase the General Fund by \$59,452.80; and at 2.90 it would increase the General Fund by \$89,175.19.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested increasing the millage to 2.90. She reminded everyone to keep in mind that this number may be decreased after the final budget hearing.

Commissioner Pryor stated this would offset the mandated increases in the retirement contributions.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 2.90 for Law Enforcement MSTU for 2018/19 Fiscal Year.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Ms. Brown stated the tentative budget hearing would need to be scheduled sometime between September 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup>. She stated the hearing could not be heard on the same day as the School Board's hearing. She stated she had contacted the School Board but they had not yet set their hearing dates. She stated their hearing normally fell ahead of the County's. She reminded the Commissioners that the hearing had be held after 5:01 p.m.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board scheduled the Tentative Budget Hearing for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 5:05 p.m. and the Final Budget Hearing for Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 5:05 p.m.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Ms. Brown asked if the Board wished to schedule another Budget Workshop.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested meeting after the morning meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> around 3:00 p.m.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board scheduled a Budget Workshop for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

## **7. Courthouse Termite Treatment**

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated she had 4 different companies come in to do a termite inspection of the courthouse. She stated all 4 agreed that the building had termites. She stated 2 of the companies were recommending a tent service and the others had indicated they could spot treat the termites. She asked that the Board give her direction and some dates so that she could schedule the treatment.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated some of the companies had yearly fees after the first treatment.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the soil treatment costing 2 – 3 times as much on one of the quotes.

County Manager Helfenberger stated the company would be treating 2 different kinds of termites. He suggested the tent fumigation to get rid of the kind that was persistent in the Judge's Chambers.

Chairman Ahern stated both subterranean and dry wood termites had been found.

There was a brief discussion regarding the differences in costs on each quotes and what the warranties were.

Chairman Ahern stated the courthouse would have to be closed at least one day. He suggested having the treatment done during a holiday weekend. He stated the Board would have to get permission from the Courts to close.

Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections, reminded the Board that she would have early voting going on also.

Mrs. Whidden stated Orkin had indicated that they could prep the building on a Thursday after 5 p.m. and begin fumigation by 7:00 a.m. on Friday. She stated the tent would be removed by 10 a.m. on Sunday morning. She stated this would have to be followed by a 24 hour waiting period before employees could return to work on Monday. She stated Terminex had indicated that they could spot treat the termites.

After reviewing the quotes, the Commissioners directed Mrs. Whidden to contact the 2 companies that were willing to do the tent treatment and ask them what it would cost the County during the first 5 years for maintenance. Chairman Ahern asked that this item be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board continued Item #7 – Courthouse Termite Treatment until the next day meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

#### **8. Ambulance Remount**

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated he sent out 4 bid request and received 2 responses. He stated one was from Quality Emergency in the amount of \$122,500.00 and they had taken one exception to the bid request regarding references. He stated the other bid received was from ETR in the amount of \$122,952.00. He stated no exceptions had been taken per the bid specs. He stated both delivery dates were approximately the first part of January. He recommended awarding the bid to ETR.

County Manager Helfenberger pointed out several key elements of the ETR bid. He stated ETR had 19 bays and the other company had 6; and the other company could only repair one vehicle at a time so there could be a significant delay in getting the vehicle back into service. He stated this would put a lot of undue wear and tear on the rest of the County's vehicles. He stated ETR had the ability to do multiple repairs at once.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board awarded the bid for an ambulance remount to ETR in the amount of \$122,952.00 and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**9. RFQ 2018- Muse Fire/EMS Department (Continued from July 10, 2018 meeting)**

Mr. Jones stated he had been asked at the last meeting to move forward with demolition of the building. He stated a track hoe was coming Monday to begin tearing the building down. He stated a lot of debris had been removed already. He stated they would be going out to cut the tie beams this week. He stated if the walls could be salvaged his plans were to save the third bay and the kitchen area. He stated he would make a cut at the third bay, front to back, and then cut the add-on attached on the back of the building off. He stated this would leave 2 openings in the back and one on the right side of the building. He stated all of the ends would be framed with 2" x 6" pressure treated lumber and he would sheet the building with plywood using liquid nail and screws. He stated the concrete on the back corner on the right would be cut for the restroom. He stated an office would be constructed right beside the restroom. He stated if the Board so chose he would build another restroom on the right outside corner of the building. He stated concrete board with water proof backing would be used and then stucco would be used to finish it. He stated the restroom would be hose bibbed so that it could be cleaned with a water hose. He stated all of the sewer lines would be cut out to the septic tank. He stated once all of this was done he would go out for bid for someone to put the trusses in and complete the roof. He stated there would be gable ends on the building and new garage doors would be installed. He stated he would then stucco the entire building. He stated if he got out there and found that the walls were no good he would come back before the Board for further direction. He stated he had met with Al Brown regarding the asbestos inspection. He stated Mr. Brown had indicated that there was only a slim chance of finding asbestos in the building. He stated he would have to cut across the floor from where the meeting area and kitchen were previously located so that the water and sewer could be tied in.

Commissioner Storter Long asked why the Board would not move forward with the restroom plans that were already done for the park. She stated the restroom was going to be stainless steel.

Commissioner Strenth stated the plans included stainless steel fixtures but the entire building was not stainless steel.

Mr. Jones stated he had not seen those plans. He stated there would be a smooth layer of stucco on the walls. He stated it could be cleaned with a water hose. He stated the fixtures would be stainless steel. He stated the demolition permit had been pulled and the power would be shut off within days. He stated the debris would be left on site and hauled away as Mr. Branch's schedule permitted.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested closing the park until the demolition and renovations were complete.

County Manager Helfenberger suggested getting the debris hauled away as soon as possible because of Hurricane season and the threat of storms.

Chairman Ahern asked that Mr. Jones give a report on his progress at the next meeting.

**10. Public Works Department Roof**

County Manager Helfenberger stated the roof at the Public Works Department had been damaged during Hurricane Irma. He provided pictures in the packets. He stated the building had been constructed in 2002 but was already showing signs of rust in some areas. He stated the County had received \$69,731.64 in insurance funds and would receive approximately \$11,018.90 from FEMA. He stated the FEMA funds would be reduced by 12.5% for the County's cost share. He stated there was also an area where the screws were pulled up from the purlins so parts of the roof were sitting there with no attachments. He recommended replacing the entire roof because of the extensive damage.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the advertisement of bids to replace the roof on the Public Works Building; insulation in the garage bays; and replacement of purlins as needed.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**11. Reject RFP 2018- Fuel Tank Bid (Continued from June 25, 2018 meeting)**

Archie Branch, Public Works Director, stated after having the fuel tank inspected and reviewing the bid he would recommend rejecting the bid from Diversified Professional Services Corp. and rebidding the project.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board rejected the bid from Diversified Professional Services Corp. and authorized re-advertising the RFP with specifications provided by staff.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**12. County Vehicles being driven home by employees and verbiage for Policy and Procedure Manual**

County Manager Helfenberger stated there were currently 4 employees driving County vehicles home. He suggested adopting a policy which would include a number of standard items. He stated the employees would be subject to random drug tests and be required to provide adequate insurance. He stated those employees that were driving the vehicles would be assigned certain responsibilities with the County vehicle.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she felt this policy was needed. She stated the Interim Public Works Director would be driving a vehicle home in case of after hour calls concerning roads, bridges, and traffic lights. She stated when Jimmy Summeralls was on call, he would be driving that vehicle home. She clarified that this would be one vehicle.

County Manager Helfenberger stated he believed Mr. Summeralls would be taking a separate vehicle home on the weekends he was on call.

Mr. Branch explained that he would like to have the person under him be able to have a vehicle so that he could make the decision on who would go out. He stated this way someone would always be on call.

Commissioner Storter Long stated when Mr. Brown was at the Road Department there was only one vehicle being driven home.

Mr. Branch stated it was left to Mr. Brown's discretion as far as the equipment, vehicle, and person that was being called out. He stated he would like to add a vehicle so that the person being called out would have a way to go. He stated there would only be one vehicle taken home when someone was on call.

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, questioned the employee's spouse being permitted to drive the County vehicle.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the employee should not be driving the vehicle for personal business even when on call.

County Manager Helfenberger stated that portion of the policy had been revised on a prior version of the document. He stated there would be no personal use of the vehicle and no one other than a County employee would be permitted to drive.

Commissioner Storter Long asked which vehicles required a CDL.

Mr. Branch explained the differences in Class A and Class B CDL. He stated a CDL was not required for driving the pickup truck.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if all of Mr. Branch's employees had adequate licenses.



Mr. Branch stated not all of his employees had a CDL but he would choose who was called in. He stated Mr. Summeralls did not have a CDL license.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why Mr. Summeralls was chosen to be on call. She stated he would have to go get an extra employee if called in. She expressed concern with this decision.

County Manager Helfenberger suggested reviewing the policy and this matter further. He asked that the item be continued.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board continued Item # 12. County Vehicles being driven home by employees and verbiage for Policy and Procedure Manual until the next meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, asked for clarification regarding an employee's spouse riding in the vehicle. He stated there were times when his wife, who was a nurse, went on medical calls with him.

Commissioner Storter Long stated as long as she was not driving the vehicle she did not have any concerns.

Chairman Ahern stated he understood if she was riding with Mr. Jones to assist on medical calls.

### **13. County Manager Position Applications**

Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director, stated the top 5 ranked candidates had been narrowed down to the following:

Martin Murphy  
Angela Hill  
Bogdan Vitas  
Tim Day  
Jennifer James-Mesloh

She stated the other candidates had dropped out of the running. She stated she was almost done with the employment verifications and reference checks. She stated she had encountered some issues due to the phones and internet being down today. She stated the results would be emailed to each Commissioner and placed in their mail boxes upon completion.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Commissioners could receive this information before the weekend since the meeting was scheduled for Monday.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she would have the information to them this week. She stated she would go to the EOC building, which was fully functional, in the morning if the County's systems were still down.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if a score card had been created.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she had been given a score card for the interviews by County Manager Helfenberger. She stated Attorney Pringle's office had sent her a list of questions for the interviews. She stated she believed the Board would be pleased with what she had for the reference checks. She stated it was very detailed and had a rating section for characteristics.

Commissioner Strenth asked if the Board was obligated to pick one of these candidates.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated the Board was not. She stated the position could be re-advertised if the Board so chose. She stated she had confirmed that the top 5 candidates would be present on July 30<sup>th</sup>. She stated she had sent invitations to the Department Heads/Directors and Constitutional Officers. She stated lunch would be served from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

#### **14. RFP 06-2018 Hotel Site Proposal**

County Manager Helfenberger stated one bid had received on RFP 06-2018 Hotel Site Proposal. He stated the bid in the amount of \$60,000.00 had been received from New Moore Haven, LLC. He stated this proposal included the purchase of approximately 5 acres of property. He stated the following would be constructed on the property: 5 units of Workforce Housing; 4 units of Professional Office/Retail; a 160 seat Restaurant; and a 3 story – 86 unit Hotel. He stated Exhibit B of the proposal outlined the details of the offer. He stated the developer would purchase a hotel/motel franchise within 240 days of acceptance of the proposal and anticipated that construction would start within 12 months and be completed within 24 months of acceptance.

Chairman Ahern stated the site plan looked very nice.

Commissioner Storter Long reminded the Board that page 6 of 31 had the language protecting the County regarding what would be constructed. She stated she was pleased with the proposal and excited that it was finally coming to fruition.

County Manager Helfenberger stated the Board could establish time frames and minimum values in the contract.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board accepted RFP 06-2018 Hotel Site Proposal received from New Moore Haven, LLC on July 18, 2018 in the amount of \$60,000.00 and directed Attorney Pringle to draft the contract.

Vice Chairman Stanley questioned the need for a ladder truck if there was a 3 story building in the County.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated he believed this was correct.

Commissioner Strenth cautioned the Board about being in a hurry and giving the property away. He stated this was 5 acres located on Hwy 27 with sewer and water connection and the Board was willing to let it go for \$12,000.00 per acre. He suggested counter offering or having a study done to see what the County could possibly gain if it let the property go for such a small amount. He stated this was a heck of a bargain. He stated there was a site plan included but that did not ensure that this developer would be constructing the buildings. He stated waiting would not cost the Board anything

Chairman Ahern stated this project had been in the works for 2 years and he did not want to wait any longer.

Commissioner Storter Long agreed.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated it was put out for bid and only one bid was received. He stated the construction of this hotel would attract business to Glades County. He stated there were no places to stay at this point. He stated the Board could ensure that Attorney Pringle wrote up the contract to protect the County. He stated if the property was sold after completion of the restaurant and hotel at some point in the future that would be fine.

Chairman Ahern stated the deal was good for the developer; however, it was also good for the County since the property would be back on the tax rolls and Glades County would have a hotel and restaurant.

Commissioner Storter Long expressed concern with the 3 story building.

County Manager Helfenberger stated the building would have sprinklers and this would reduce the risk of fire.

Mr. Jones reminded the Board that the County had mutual aid with Hendry County and that Clewiston had ladder trucks.

Commissioner Pryor called for the question.

Tommy Cortez, New Moore Haven, LLC, stated he was one of the developers and could answer any questions the Board may have. He stated the main 3 reasons for submitting his proposal was the very good report on the study that had been done, the NOA was excellent; there was an airport coming in the near future; and the property was shovel ready. He stated he would not have to go through any zoning or variance hearings. He stated he would have 90 – 180 to do his due diligence. He stated the major problem he saw here was the ability to get good management. He stated it was impossible to open a good hotel without the proper management. He stated he believed the study showed

a 60 room hotel, which was what his proposal was for. He stated he believed an error had been made in the proposal. He stated if he could do more rooms he would.

Chairman Ahern stated this was correct. He stated the feasibility study had shown 60 rooms.

Mr. Cortez explained how he planned to get good managers for the hotel. He stated the hotel would be built to code and would include sprinklers. He stated the risk was really more on him than the County. He stated he believed in Glades County and the location of the motel on US Hwy 27. He commented on how the hotel would be built.

Motion carried by 4 – 1 vote.

Commissioner Strenth voted against the motion on the floor.

### **15. Thatcher Bid**

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Administrator, stated she had David Mercer, Building Official, go out and re-inspect the Thatcher home. She stated he had also reviewed all of the bids received and done his own workup. She stated Mr. Mercer had concurred with the highest bid. She stated Mr. Mercer believed this bid was the closest to what it would cost to do the rehab. She stated he was also concerned with what may be under the wood siding.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved awarding the bid for RFP#2018-Disaster-Thatcher-Rehab to Mossel-Hodges Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$25,038.00 with the contract to include a guaranteed maximum price and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated Ms. Ricker should make sure the contractor knew if they could not do the project for a guaranteed maximum price to inform her so that the project could be re-bid.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

### **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

Robert DeMann, Chief Deputy – GCSO, stated the population as of today at GCDC was 476 inmates.

Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections, stated 400 “Vote by Mail” packets would be mailed out tomorrow.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

There was no discussion.

### **COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Helfenberger stated he would be providing the Board a status report on pending projects and issues as of Thursday. He stated he continued to work on various

issues. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the people of Glades County. He stated he had very much enjoyed working with everyone. He wished the Board tremendous success in the future. He stated he would miss everyone.

Chairman Ahern stated County Manager Helfenberger would be missed and that the Board hated to see him leave but understood his reasons. He wished Mr. Helfenberger the best in all of his future endeavors.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he appreciated all Mr. Helfenberger had done for the County.

Commissioner Strenth stated Mr. Helfenberger had done a great job.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia introduced the County's new Planning and Development Director – Susan BuChans.

The Board welcomed Mrs. BuChans to Glades County.

County Manager Helfenberger stated Mrs. BuChans came highly recommended.

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

Bud Neese, Owner of Quality Air Conditioning and Heating, stated this was his 35<sup>th</sup> year of doing business in the State of Florida. He stated he wished to address the Board's bidding procedures. He explained that David Longwell, Maintenance, had contacted him about getting a bid put together for the replacement of 2 air conditioning systems at the Doyle Conner Building. He stated Mr. Longwell had indicated that Chairman Ahern needed the bids done soon.

Chairman Ahern explained that his connection to the Doyle Conner Building was that Glades Youth Livestock managed the building for the County. He stated Mr. Longwell had come to him about the 2 air conditioning units being out. He stated he had asked him to get some prices. He stated the Public Works Department was involved because Mr. Longwell works for the Public Works Department as a Maintenance employee.

Mr. Neese described some conversations between himself and Mr. Longwell. He stated he knew the proper way to bid jobs. He stated he was concerned with the way the bids had been received. He explained how he had inspected the building and prepared his bids. He stated he later met with Chairman Ahern regarding the bids. He expressed concern with writing the bids down on a piece of paper and not knowing who would see his numbers.

Chairman Ahern stated the Public Works Department was who had requested the bids and that he was not sure who all had turned in bids. He stated he realized that Mr. Neese had been uncomfortable giving his bids and worried that someone else would see them. He stated staff at the Public Works Department had inquired about Mr. Neese's bids and he had taken them out there the next day.

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated the County's Purchasing Policy did not require sealed bids for any project under \$50,000.00. She stated all the County was required to do was get 3 quotes. She stated that was why the bids were not sealed and there was no deadline on them.

Mr. Neese stated there really needed to be some protection for the contractors who were turning in bids.

Chairman Ahern explained that the County was only getting quotes and they were not sealed. He stated staff was trying to make sure the County got the best price.

Ms. Brown further explained that if the project was from \$2,000.00 - \$10,000.00 the County only had to receive verbal quotes and if the project was from \$10,000.00 - \$50,000.00 they would receive written quotes and were not required to be sealed.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Glades Youth Livestock did a great job managing the Doyle Conner Building; however, they were not the manager of the building. She stated with all of the good intentions Chairman Ahern had as Chairman of the Board, this item should have been brought to staff.

Chairman Ahern stated staff was who had made the decision regarding the quotes.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Chairman Ahern should not have been involved.

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Longwell had come to him with the matter and the County did not have a County Manager part of the time this deal was going on. He stated he had requested the quotes for this year's budget.

There was a brief discussion regarding the County's Purchasing Policy and how sealed bids and quotes were handled.

Mr. Neese recommended that the County have contractors turn all bids into the County Manager's Office.

Ms. Brown stated the bids/quotes would be turned into the Department that requested them.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested that the Board direct staff to give specific instruction to whom and where the bid/quote should be turned in when soliciting written bids/quotes in the future.

Ms. Brown stated if the purchase was \$10,000.00 - \$50,000.00 the Department Director would get the quotes and take them to the County Manager for approval.

## **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – JULY 23, 2018

Commissioner Strenth commented on the compost plant at the Reservation. He stated he had no complaints.

Vice Chairman Stanley invited everyone to attend the Homeowners' meeting in Buckhead Ridge on Thursday night. He stated the potluck dinner would begin at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting at 7:00 p.m. He stated he had not confirmed but had heard that a Hard Rock Casino would be built on the Reservation within the next 2 years. He stated an announcement had been made to their employees last week. He stated this would help the economy in Glades County significantly.

Commissioner Storter Long welcomed Mrs. BuChans to Glades County. She stated she had not heard any complaints about Code Enforcement and the office seemed to be running well. She thanked Mr. Helfenberger for his hard work. She stated he had been a pleasure to work with.

Commissioner Pryor stated he greatly appreciated what Mr. Helfenberger had done for the County. He welcomed Mrs. BuChans to Glades County.

Chairman Ahern welcomed Mrs. BuChans to Glades County as well. He echoed the other Commissioner's comments about Mr. Helfenberger. He stated he had done a great job and had made some good suggestions for improvements. He wished him a successful future. He commented on the part time Code Enforcement Officer had been out to Buckhead Ridge, Muse, Ortona, and Lakeport. He stated she was getting things done. He stated there were some revisions that needed to be made to the County's Code Enforcement rules. He stated Attorney Pringle and Judge Lundy would be working on these after the next day meeting.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Code Enforcement position was still being advertised.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated the position was on hold at this time. She stated she had a substantial amount of applications and had given them to Mrs. BuChans this morning to review. She stated Mrs. BuChans had selected several candidates to interview next week.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned when the Public Works Director position would be advertised.

County Manager Helfenberger stated the position had only been advertised internally so far. He stated if none of the internal applicants were suitable he would advertise publically.

### **ADJOURN**

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 7:55 p.m.

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John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: August 14, 2018

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