

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 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, July 24, 2017 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
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Gabriele Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director
Duane Pottorff, GCSO
Charles Murphy, Okeechobee Radio
David Duffy, Allstate
5 citizens

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Duane Pottorff, Chief Deputy - GCSO, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

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

County Manager Carlisle stated there were no amendments to the agenda; however, a revised lease agreement had been provided for the property in Buckhead Ridge (Item #5).

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Adopt Current Year Proposed Millage Rate for BOCC and Law Enforcement MSTU and Schedule the Tentative and Final Budget Hearings

County Manager Carlisle reminded the Board that once the millage rate was adopted it could be lowered, but not raised.

Chairman Ahern stated the purpose of this public hearing was to adopt the proposed millage rate for 2017-2018 and schedule the tentative and final budget hearings.

The Glades County BOCC prior year (2016-2017) millage rate was:	9.1367
General Fund	9.0367
Transportation Trust	.10

The Glades County BOCC current year rolled-back rate is 8.9378.

The BCC MSTU Law Enforcement prior year (2016-2017) millage rate was: 2.7500.

The BCC MSTU Law Enforcement current year rolled-back rate is 2.6901.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Starter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 9.1367 for BOCC for 2017/2018 Fiscal Year.

Chairman Ahern called for public comment. There was none.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 2.75 for Law Enforcement MSTU for 2017/2018 Fiscal Year.

Chairman Ahern called for public input. There was none.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Chairman Ahern stated the tentative budget hearing must be scheduled between September 3rd and September 18th. He stated the School Board hearing was scheduled for September 5th. He stated the County Commission could not schedule the tentative hearing on the same date and the hearing must be held after 5:00 p.m.

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court, stated the first meeting could be held on any date; however, the final hearing had to be held between the dates previously mentioned. She stated she had hoped to hold the hearing on the same date as the regular day meeting.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Starter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board scheduled the tentative budget hearing for September 12, 2017 at 5:02 p.m. and the final budget hearing for September 21, 2017 at 5:02 p.m.

Chairman Ahern called for public comment. There was none.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 2. Approved County Warrants (See Exhibit A)
General Fund: 81302 – 81429
Courthouse Facilities Grant: 1471
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 226**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Starter 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.

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

BUSINESS AGENDA

- 3. Allstate Benefits**

County Manager Carlisle stated a representative from Allstate was present, as well as, Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director, to answer any questions the Board may have. He stated he and Ms. Ibietatorremendia had met with an Allstate representative to discuss the benefits that they could provide. He stated this was a group benefit plan so the costs were substantially less. He stated Allstate could provide more benefits to the employees for the same plans. He stated going with this plan would also allow the Clerk's Office to payroll deduct to one entity. He stated the employees could keep the benefits that they currently had but they would not be pay roll deducted. He stated Allstate provided better cancer plans, health benefit plans, long term and short term disability plans, and life insurance plans.

Commissioner Starter Long stated she liked that this plan was group rated.

County Manager Carlisle stated if the Board selected this program the employees could also keep their plans at the same rate if they left the County in the future. He stated if the employees followed the group excess benefit plan it would almost pay them back what it would cost to be in the program.

Vice Chairman Stanley clarified that the employees could keep the plans they currently had; however, the cost would not be payroll deducted.

Ms. Brown questioned the current plans with Colonial and asked if they would no longer be payroll deducted.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct. He stated the employee would have to pay Colonial directly.

Commissioner Storter Long asked when the effective date would be.

Ms. Brown questioned the rates being comparable with the employees' current plans. She stated the employees' current life insurance plans had been based on age at the time of purchase.

County Manager Carlisle stated he did not know what the rates would be so he could not answer. He stated when he reviewed the rates for his life insurance policy, the Allstate plan was considerably less than what the County was paying now for his policy.

Vice Chairman Stanley commented on the term life policies.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved the Allstate Group Plan to be the excess benefits carrier for all County Employees and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Ms. Brown questioned the effective date.

County Manager Carlisle stated the effective date would be October 1st.

David Duffy, Allstate Representative, stated he had been working with the School Board and the Sheriff's Office for years. He stated the Allstate program was guaranteed for life. He stated the policies were also guaranteed issued. He stated other companies asked health questions but Allstate did not. He stated the rates were guaranteed and very affordable.

Ms. Brown stated the deductions were held out the month before so the October 1st date would be best.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

4. Addendum to License Agreement between Glades County and the Glades County School Board

County Manager Carlisle stated the School Board had requested the use of a second classroom at the Training Center. He stated they would be offering Citizenship Classes. He stated the rent would be \$1,400.00 per month per classroom.

ON MOTION Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved the Glades County School Board Addendum to the Agreement for the Glades County Regional Training Facility which provides for their use of two classrooms, common areas, and parking for employees and students for rent in the amount of \$2,800.00 a month and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit B)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

5. RFP #07-2017

County Manager Carlisle stated the property located at 30092 East State Road 78 in Buckhead Ridge had been put out for bid. He stated one bid had been received from Anderson Realty Company. He stated they had agreed to lease the property for \$100.00 per month for a term of 5 years. He stated they would be required to provide insurance and replace the fencing. He stated the revised agreement prevented the use of ATV's and buggies on the property.

Commissioner Pryor asked why the County would need 180 days' notice of termination instead of 90 days.

County Manager Carlisle stated if the termination was without cause the lease holder would be given 180 days to move the cattle off of the property. He stated if the termination was with cause the lease holder would have only 30 days.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board accepted the bid submitted by Anderson Realty Company in the amount of \$1200.00 per year for RFP #07-2017 and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

6. Budget Transfer of Funds for E911 Recorder "Logger" and Installation

County Manger Carlisle stated this was a reimbursable item. He stated the funds would be moved from the General Fund to the E911 Fund.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved the transfer of funds in the amount of \$33,357.00 from the General Contingency Fund to the E911 Fund. These funds will be reimbursed from a State Grant.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

7. Intergovernmental Radio Communication Fund Request

Duane Pottorff, Chief Deputy - GCSO, stated this was a request for \$35,000.00 from the Intergovernmental Radio Communication Fund. He stated the Sheriff's Office did not need the funds now and would not be able to complete the project prior to October. He

stated the Sheriff would make a formal request for the funds at that time. He requested that the funds be earmarked for the Sheriff.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board would need to encumber the funds. Commissioner Storter Long questioned how much was in this account.

County Manager Carlisle stated there was approximately \$212,000.00 in the account.

Chief Deputy Pottorff explained that all of the radios that were purchased several years ago would be obsolete within the next 3 years. He stated if the Sheriff's Office started purchasing the new radios now, Harris Radios would give the Sheriff's Office \$700.00 value per radio. He stated each radio would cost \$3,000.00. He stated the remaining amount for the purchase would come from the Sheriff's Capital Outlay funds. He stated the mobile radios for the cars would be more expensive.

Commissioner Pryor stated he appreciated Mr. Pottorff coming forward with this request now and not waiting until the last minute to try to fund this project.

Chief Deputy Pottorff stated he was not sure if grants would be available or not.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the encumbrance of Intergovernmental Radio Communication funds in the amount of \$35,000.00 to be used as a down payment for the purchase of portable radios for the Sheriff's Office in FY 17-18.

Commissioner Storter Long amended the motion on the floor to include that the funds would be used as a down payment for the purchase of portable radios for the Sheriff's Office in FY 17-18.

Vice Chairman Stanley amended his second to the motion on the floor.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

8. Budget Transfer from Contingencies

County Manager Carlisle stated this transfer would cover the costs of 13 air packs and 5 spare masks for EMS. He stated the budget would be amended for next year to purchase the additional 7 air packs that were required.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved the transfer of \$80,613.00 from General Fund Contingencies to the Fire Department for the purchase of 13 Air Packs (and 5 spare masks).

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

9. Certification Letter for Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers, Inc.

County Manager Carlisle stated this letter would allow Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers, Inc. to act as the County's permanent agent for the purpose of applying for and receiving monies from the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the certification letter for Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers, Inc. and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit C)

Vice Chairman Stanley asked what this organization actually did.

Chief Deputy Pottorff stated the Sheriff's Office used them for the tip hotline and for the advertising of "most wanted" persons.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

10. Letter of Agreement for Feasibility Study

County Manager Carlisle stated he and Chairman Ahern met with Interim Hospitality Consultants regarding marketing of the old hotel property. He stated he was not sure how successful the County would be in selling the property with the way it was currently being bid out. He stated Mr. Xanders had the expertise to determine what size hotel and how it should be set up and located. He stated this individual also had contacts with a lot of the hotel chains. He stated Mr. Xanders had been able to use a bid that had done for Hallendale Beach which had enabled him to give the County a \$500.00 discount. He stated he believed once the study was done that Mr. Xanders could reach out to his contacts and help Glades County get the proper hotel.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if Mr. Xander had any references.

Chairman Ahern stated he'd done hundreds of these types of studies. He commented on Mr. Xander's experience.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved hiring Interim Hospitality Consultants Firm to prepare a Feasibility Study for the hotel property located at 1195 Highway US 27, Moore Haven, in the amount of \$5,000.00 with a \$2,000.00 retainer and authorized the County Manager to sign the Agreement Letter on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit D)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

11. Encumber 2014-2015 SHIP Funds for Applicant 2017-Rehab-1 and 2017-Demo/Rebuild-2

Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator, requested that the Board encumber \$30,000.00 for a low income family for a rehabilitation and \$100,000.00 for a very low income family for a demo/rebuild.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved encumbering 2013-2015 SHIP funds in the amount of \$130,000.00 for Applicant 2017-Rehab-1 and Applicant 2017-Demo/Rebuild-2 and authorized the County Manager and SHIP Administer to sign mortgage documents on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

12. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) County Incentive Grant Program (CIPG)

County Manager Carlisle explained that he had learned about this grant and already applied. He stated when the bids had been opened for Birchwood Parkway and Aspen, the engineering and culvert replacements were approximately \$600,000.00 over budget. He stated he had met with FDOT and reviewed the grant and then applied for the funds. He asked that the Board approve the application. He stated he had received verbal confirmation from FDOT that the County would get the funds.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the application for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) County Incentive Grant Program (CIPG). (See Exhibit E)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Chief Deputy Pottorff stated there had been a full confession made and an arrest in the Buckhead burglaries.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

COUNTY MANAGER

Chairman Ahern asked if the loan for the fire truck was completed yet.

County Manager Carlisle stated the loan was complete and ready for Chairman Ahern's signature.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no discussion.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Strenth stated he would be traveling tomorrow to Washington, D.C. He stated he would be attending a dinner meeting on Wednesday night and a meeting at the White House on Thursday.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had provided some comments for Commissioner Strenth to address while in Washington, D.C.

Chairman Ahern stated he had made contact with Mr. Abner from Congressman Rooney's office. He stated they were continuing to look for additional funding for the Moore Haven Canal project.

Vice Chairman Stanley invited everyone to attend the Buckhead Ridge Community Association's meeting and pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m. He thanked the Sheriff's Department for solving the break-ins in the Buckhead Ridge area. He commented on boat motors disappearing in the area. He stated he would be attending a meeting in Sebring tomorrow regarding foreign policy and trade.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on a recent ethics class that FAC had hosted. She stated when the Board did rankings under the competitive negotiation act that she would like the roll call to be done in writing and then the Chairman could read them aloud. She stated she did not want to influence or be influenced by how someone else voted. She stated the forms would have to be included with the minutes.

Ms. Brown stated this was correct.

Chairman Ahern agreed. He stated the way the Board did the roll call now could put someone on the spot.

Commissioner Storter Long informed the citizens that have rural route boxes that the US Postal Service now offered advanced notice of packages coming to your box. She stated they would email you a picture of the envelope/package so that you were aware of what was coming and when to expect it. She commented on the Ortona Community Association and stated that they had their most successful 2 week summer program ever. She stated the average attendance was 28 kids per day.

Commissioner Pryor wished County Manager Carlisle a Happy Birthday.

Chairman Ahern stated there were 432 inmates at the jail today. He stated everything seemed to be on track at the jail.

Commissioner Strenth invited everyone to attend the school supply drive at the Lakeport Community Center.

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 6:50 p.m.

John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: September 19, 2017

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