

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 25, 2016 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 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

John Ahern, Vice Chairman
Donna Storter Long
Paul Beck

Not present:

Weston Pryor, Chairman

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Lenice Hubbard, Administrative Assistant - County Manager's Office
Susan Whidden, SHIP Coordinator
Avant Brown, Road Superintendent
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Sheriff
Tim Stanley
Anita Sauls
1 citizen

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Commissioner Beck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

County Manager Carlisle requested that Item #12- Extension of the agreement with SFWMD for the Moore Haven Canal project be added to the agenda.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the amendment to the agenda as requested.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

There were none.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approved payment of County Warrants. (Exhibit A)**
General Fund: 78843 – 78954
Courthouse Facilities Grant: 1452 – 1455
Tourism Development Council: 1035 – 1039
Intergovernmental Radio: 10304
2. **Approved the minutes of the June 14, 2016 Regular Meeting.**
3. **Approved the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Regular Meeting.**
4. **Approved the minutes of the July 12, 2016 Regular Meeting.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

BUSINESS AGENDA

5. **Resolution No. 2016- Community Development Block Grant**

County Manager Carlisle stated approval of this Resolution was part of the Community Development Block Grant policies that were required to be implemented. He stated the Resolution would adopt a policy relating to the employment of small, women owned and minority businesses for use in administering Community Development Block Grants.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved Glades County Resolution No. 2016-24, adopting a policy relating to the employment of small, women owned and minority businesses for use in administering Community Development Block Grants.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

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

6. Adopt current year proposed millage rate for BOCC and Law Enforcement MSTU and schedule the tentative and final budget hearings

County Manager Carlisle stated adoption of the millage rate would set the trim notice. He stated the figures could be reduced after this point but not increased. He stated staff had recommended leaving the millage rate the same and there were several recommendations for the MSTU rate that would need to be discussed.

Vice Chairman Ahern asked if the Board wished to leave the millage rate the same this year.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the purpose of this meeting was to adopt the proposed millage rate for 2016-2017 and to schedule the tentative and final budget hearings.

The Glades County BOCC prior year (2015-2016) millage rate is:	9.1367
General Fund	9.0367
Transportation Trust	.10

The Glades County BOCC current year rolled-back rate is 8.9515.

The BCC MSTU Law Enforcement prior year (2015-2016) millage rate is 2.45.

The BCC MSTU Law Enforcement current year rolled-back rate is 2.4003.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 9.1367 for the BOCC.

Vice Chairman Ahern called for public input. There was none.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

Vice Chairman Ahern called for discussion regarding the MSTU for Law Enforcement.

County Manager Carlisle explained that if the rate was increased by 500ths of a point the funding would be increased by approximately \$27,000.00; if the rate was increased to 2.55 the funding would be increased by approximately \$57,000.00. He stated this would not be a budget increase for the Sheriff's Department but a shift in funding sources.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated he had spoken with Shelly Ridgill, Finance Director – GCSO, and had learned that part of the increase in the budget was due to Sheriff Whiddon's retirement and the fact that he was in the Drop Program and the new Sheriff having to be fully funded for his/her retirement. He explained that the health insurance had also increased and there had been a slight increase for the proposed raises.

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Commissioner Beck stated he would support an increase in the MSTU rate to 2.45.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this would only add \$27,000.00 to the budget and yet the Board knew the Sheriff Department's budget was looking at a \$40,000.00 increase.

Commissioner Beck stated the ad valorem taxes would increase this year by \$67,000.00 over last year.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would support an increase in the rate to 2.75.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated he did not wish to raise the at all but realized the Board really did not have any other options. He stated he would support increasing the rate to 2.75 and reminded the Board that they could always come down on the rate but that they could not increase it after today.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there were any other outstanding issues (figures) that would change the budget from what it was figured at now.

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated she had not yet received the salary increases for the Constitutional Officers and Commissioners.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board adopted the current year proposed millage rate of 2.75 for MSTU for Law Enforcement.

Vice Chairman Ahern called for public comment. There was none.

Motion carried by 2 - 1 vote.

Commissioner Beck voted against the motion on the floor.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the Clerk's Office had recommended that the proposed date for the Tentative Budget Hearing be scheduled for September 12, 2016 at 5:01 p.m. He stated the School Board hearing would be held on September 8th and the County Commission could not schedule a hearing on the same date. He stated the hearing must be scheduled after 5:01 p.m. He stated the proposed date for the Final Budget Hearing depended on the date of the tentative hearing. If the tentative hearing was scheduled as recommended, the final hearing must be scheduled between September 20 through 23, 2016 after 5:01 p.m.

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court, stated the City of Moore Haven had indicated that they would like to hold their hearing on the 20th; however, the Board had first choice.

The Board agreed to hold the Final Budget Hearing on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 5:01 p.m.

Vice Chairman Ahern called for public comment. There was none.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board scheduled the Tentative Budget Hearing for September 12, 2016 at 5:01 p.m. and scheduled the Final Budget Hearing for September 22, 2016 at 5:01 p.m.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

7. Rescind Resolution No. 2016-19

County Manager Carlisle stated there had been some discussions regarding the appointment of family members to boards and committees at the FAC conference. He stated the Board had asked that he look into the matter. He stated he had contacted the Commission on Ethics and there was a specialty clause in the State Statutes for communities of less than 35,000 in population. He stated he had been cautioned that no one had enacted this clause since 1971. He stated out of an abundance of caution because the County was less than 35,000 in population the Commission on Ethics had suggested that the Board get an informal review and opinion from them on the matter.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board rescinded Glades County Resolution No. 2016-19 approved at the June 27, 2016 Board Meeting.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

8. 2015-2016 Annual Reports

County Manager Carlisle gave a brief overview of the reports. He stated the County had had received the grant for the Training Center and the building had been completed and several road projects had been completed with SCOP and SCRAP funding. He stated he could not say enough about the County's staff and the things they had been able to accomplish on a shoe string budget. He stated if it wasn't for the team effort and the support of the Commission he did not believe these things would've gotten done.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the reports were definitely very informative.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board adopted the 2015-2016 Annual Reports.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

9. Community Development Block Grant Purchasing Policy

County Manager Carlisle stated this was another item that was required under the Community Development Block Grant Purchasing Policy.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board adopted the Glades County Community Development Block Grant Program Purchasing Policy including the Minority Business Enterprise Policy.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

10. SHIP Bid

Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator, stated she had gone out to bid on 3 different homes. She stated one of those applicants could not get funding so she had pulled her application; another applicant had decided to sell her home and done so within 4 days of it being listed; and the third applicant had received a bid in the amount of \$132,246.00 and the home was only valued by the County at \$32,123.00. She stated this bid was for rehabilitation of the home. She stated there was a possibility that there could be more damage underneath the home and that the bid could amount could go up. She asked that the Board allow her to go out for bid for a demo/re-build of the home.

Commissioner Beck asked when the house had been built.

Mrs. Whidden stated the home had been built in 1958.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Starter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board rejected the current bid in the amount of \$132,246.00 and authorized re-bidding the project for demo/re-build. (Project #: 2016-Rehab-1)

County Manager Carlisle the SHIP Department had been getting extremely high prices on rebuilds. He stated Mrs. Whidden and himself may be bringing the option of modular homes to the Board in the near future.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

11. Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida – Relinquish Board Appointment & Recommendation

Vice Chairman Ahern stated this was a board that he had been appointed to and that he had attended a few of the meetings via telephone. He stated there was a School Board Member from Hendry County – Stephanie Busin who had a personal interest in serving on the Board.

ON MOTION Commissioner Starter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved Vice Chairman Ahern's request to relinquish his seat on the Board for the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida; recommended appointment of Ms. Stephanie Busin to serve on the Board; and authorized the Chairman to sign the letter to the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

12. Amendment to Agreement No. 4600001552 between SFWMD and Glades County BoCC (added by amendment to the agenda)

County Manager Carlisle requested that the Board extend the agreement with SFWMD for the Moore Haven Canal project another 7 months.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved the amendment to Agreement No. 4600001552 between the South Florida Water Management District and the Glades County Board of County Commissioners and authorized Vice Chairman Ahern to sign.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Carlisle commented on the ground breaking ceremony held for the Loves Travel Center. He stated the event had turned out very well. He stated Mr. Sheffield had indicated that it was the biggest ground breaking event for one of the centers that he had ever attended. He stated there were several businesses there who were looking to come into Glades County. He stated he had attended a meeting today with the South Florida Water Management District and Army Corps regarding the need for additional water storage north of Lake Okeechobee. He stated Glades and Okeechobee Counties were in the spot light for these discussions. He stated Gary Ritter, who was now with Farm Bureau, was in attendance and had reiterated that SWFMD needed to use the land that they currently had before they started purchasing new lands. He stated there had also been some discussion about land swapping versus buying new lands. He stated they had talked about compensation. He stated projects in the lake had been talked about as well. He stated he had explained to them the Moore Haven Canal Project and its benefits concerning water quality, the restoration of the water system to help with historical flows, etc. He stated he explained that the project was funded but only for the first mile. He explained to them the need for additional funding and that the project was shovel ready, had permits, and was already under construction. He stated Career Source had some funding to pay someone to assist in running the Training Center. He stated Polk State had received a \$2.1 million grant and would be renting some office space at the center. He stated the trucking company had a lease and that it would be finalized this week. He stated John Myers (Florida Southwestern) and the School Board were looking forward to starting classes at the center. He stated the County had received the grant to do the new bus route from Immokalee and LaBelle. He stated a bus would also be coming from Okeechobee to the Training Center.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated staff was also working with Michael Swindle - Adult Education in Hendry County to get some classes started at the center.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

There was no discussion.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Beck commented on the current water quality issues and the fact that Glades County was not being included in the discussions. He stated because Glades County did not have a 100,000 more votes they would not be considered.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the Annual Report and stated how proud she was of all of the County employees and how appreciated each of them were.

Vice Chairman Ahern agreed. He stated he, Aletris Farnam, Avant Brown, had been working with GEO on the manual labor help for the Recycling Program. He stated GEO would have a crew at the landfill on Wednesday to start helping with the program. He stated work on the Moore Haven Canal had started today. He stated the Corps had gotten all of the utilities out of the campground now. He stated the property was ready to be turned over to their real estate division to go out for bid.

ADJOURN

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board adjourned the meeting.

Motion carried by 3 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Vice Chairman Ahern adjourned the meeting at 6:40p.m.

John Ahern, Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

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Approved: August 22, 2016

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