

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 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, August 14, 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
Richard Pringle, County Attorney
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Susan Whidden, BOCC Administrative Assistant
Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director
Archie Branch, Interim Public Works Director
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator
Dale Milita, CAS Governmental Services
Connie Vanassche, CAS Governmental Services
Angela Snow-Colgrove, Emergency Management Director
Marissa Shiver, Administrative Assistant - Emergency Management
Paul McGehee, Glades Electric Cooperative
Libby Pigman, South Florida Water Management District
David Hardin, Glades County Sheriff
Chris Felker, Okeechobee News
Joe Pepe, Health Department
6 citizens

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

Dale Milita, CAS Governmental Services, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Commissioner Pryor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

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

Attorney Pringle requested that Item # 12 be removed from the agenda.

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ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board amended the agenda,

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

There were none.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approved payment of County Warrants (Exhibit A)**
General Fund: 83653 – 83678
83747 – 83877
ACH Payments: 042 – 054
Intergovernmental Radio: 10358
E911 Maintenance Grant: 122
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 238 - 239
2. **Approved Minutes of the June 25, 2018 Regular Meeting**
3. **Approved Minutes of the July 10, 2018 Regular Meeting**
4. **Approved Minutes of the July 23, 2018 Regular Meeting**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley 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.

There was none.

BUSINESS AGENDA

5. Budget Workshop

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, suggested changing the time of the next budget workshop. She stated she would need some time to update the budget recap sheets prior to the workshop. She suggested beginning the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Transportation Department's revised number would also need to be plugged in for review on the detailed recap sheets.

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Chairman Ahern stated the budget workshop could be held immediately after the September day meeting.

Commissioner Starter Long asked if the Road Department's numbers were already plugged into this recap.

Mrs. Patterson stated the number were on the summary sheet but not in the budget template at this time. She stated she would need Board direction on this.

It was the consensus of the Board to plug in the revisions.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board changed the next budget workshop time from 3:00 p.m. to immediately follow the September 11, 2018 Regular Board meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

6. Agreement for Auditing Services with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP

Mrs. Patterson stated this agreement would extend the current contract with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP by one year so that they could perform the 2017/18 audit.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board approved extending the Agreement with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP to provide audit services for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2018 and September 30, 2019 and authorized the Chairman to sign an addendum to the Agreement dated October 13, 2015. (See Exhibit B)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

7. Courthouse Termite Treatment

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated the Board had some questions at the last meeting regarding Clarke Pest Control's bid. She stated Clarke Pest Control's first plan offered with the tent treatment would cover any re-tenting or re-treatment under that bid. She stated the 5 year plan would depend upon what type of termite and how bad they came back. She stated the cost would not be at full cost and could possibly be at no cost depending on the type of termite. She stated he would need at least 4 days to do the tenting and he would need at least 30 days advanced notice.

Chairman Ahern asked if the treatment could be done over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mrs. Whidden stated this would be up to the Board but he preferred to not do the treatment then.

Commissioner Starter Long asked if Dawn Oliver, Court Administration Director, had given any dates that the court could work with.

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Mrs. Whidden stated Ms. Oliver had indicated that the courts would work with whatever date the Board chose.

There was a discussion regarding what dates would be best.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Strenth seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board awarded the bid for termite treatment of the courthouse to Clarke Pest Control in an amount not to exceed \$27,250.00 (including the yearly renewal fees in the amount of \$4,185.00 for 5 years) and authorized the Chairman to sign a contract on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit C)

Attorney Pringle asked if the motion included the yearly renewal fees.

Commissioner Strenth stated his motion included the yearly renewal fees in the amount of \$4,185.00 for 5 years.

Mrs. Whidden stated she would check with Mr. Clarke about doing the treatment over the Labor Day weekend.

Chairman Ahern stated this may not be possible but Mrs. Whidden should ask.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote

8. Courthouse Door Tint

Mrs. Whidden stated after she had prepared the agenda late Friday evening Solar Window Tint had submitted their bid. She stated there were a total of 3 bids received.

There was a discussion regarding whether or not the lettering on the doors was needed. It was the consensus of the Board to do the tinting only.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if these bids included all 3 entry doors.

Mrs. Whidden stated this was correct.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board awarded the bid for courthouse door tinting to Big Daddy's Tinting in the amount of \$975.00 and authorized County staff to move forward with the installation.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

9. 2nd Revisiting Bid Proposals for 2018-Disaster-1-Thatcher-Rehab

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated Mossel Hodges had not accepted the bid awarded due to a family emergency. She stated there were 3 other bids for the Board to consider. She asked for direction from the Board.

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Commissioner Storter Long reminded the Board that guaranteed maximum bid had been discussed and she was not sure if the other 3 bids would stand.

Mrs. Ricker stated she did not know if the Board wished to keep the same perimeters on the other bids since they were lower. She stated the County Inspector was concerned with the bids being too low and change orders.

Commissioner Storter Long preferred no change orders.

Commissioner Storter Long stated it would be difficult to get a guaranteed maximum price with so many unknowns.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he would prefer to go with the lower bid submitted by American Construction.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Board wished to go with a guaranteed maximum bid.

Vice Chairman Stanley suggested re-bidding the project if the Board wanted a guaranteed maximum bid.

Chairman Ahern agreed.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board authorized the re-bidding of the 2018-Disaster-1-Thatcher-Rehab project and a request for a guaranteed maximum price.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

10. Bid Proposals for 2018-Demo/Rebuild-Hoyt

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated 4 bids had been received. She stated South Florida Construction had bid his floor plan as a frame home and CBS at 2 different prices. She stated the frame bid totaled \$87,000.00 with upgrades and the CBS bid totaled \$96,500.00. She stated this was for an 812 square foot 2/2 home. She stated both bids included upgrades. She stated Neil Long Construction's bid was for a 1,049 square foot home with a 250 square foot driveway and had come in at \$131,150.00. She stated Construction Management's bid was for a modular home in the amount of \$189,483.00. She stated the funds encumbered for this project totaled \$100,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if a concrete driveway was part of the upgrades in the bids received from South Florida Construction.

Ms. Ricker stated they were not. She stated this home site would also need a new septic and a new drain field.

Chairman Ahern stated he would prefer the CBS home for the money.

Commissioner Strenth asked Ms. Ricker if she could contact Neil Long Construction and ask them what was being figured for the driveway.

Ms. Ricker stated she would be more than glad to. She stated she had seen their work previously and when they completed a project it was done right; however, they were not the lowest bid. She explained that the Mr. Hoyt had recently suffered a stroke and there would be some handicap accessibility issues with this home. She stated this may be the upgrades that were included in his bid.

Commissioner Strenth stated Neil Long Construction would be his choice.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the project could go above \$100,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like to know what the price would be without a driveway.

Ms. Ricker stated she would step out and call them.

Commissioner Storter Long requested that this item be tabled so that Ms. Ricker could contact the contractor and inquire about the driveway and handicap accessibility issues.

The Board continued until item until later in the meeting.

11. Encumbrance of SHIP Funds

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated funds had been encumbered for Ms. Woodward for down payment assistance. She stated Ms. Woodward had found a home to purchase and was under contract; however, when the inspections were done there were some concerns with the condition of the home. She stated there were conditions under the down payment assistance where repairs could be done. She stated the a/c unit was 18 years old. She stated there were also some windows that were sealed shut and some moisture damage around the windows. She stated there were several electrical issues and plumbing issues as well. She stated she did not close the deal and wanted to come before the Board today to seek additional rehab funding for the repairs. She stated the home was built in 1960. She stated the home did have termites but had been tented. She stated the man that owned the home had not kept up with it and the home would need to be tented again. She stated she had got some contractors to give her some estimates on the damage.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the home had been appraised by the financing bank.

Ms. Ricker stated it had and the appraisal was more than the purchase price. She stated no monies had been distributed yet. She explained that the down payment strategy did state that the home owner could not move into the home until the rehab was complete. She stated she was not certain if this could be waived or not.

Chairman Ahern asked if the applicant's mortgage was contingent upon the rehab.

Ms. Ricker stated it was not.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved the encumbrance of SHIP funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 for Applicant 2018-Woodward-Rehab and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

12. Welda Wolfenberger – Proceed with Foreclosure (This item was removed from the agenda by amendment)

Freddie Davis – Invited Tenants to move or evict

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated someone had moved into this home and had been keeping it up nicely. She stated the tenant was a permanent resident of the United States but was not a United States citizen. She stated she could not offer SHIP assistance. She stated she had talked with them and made them aware of the situation. She stated they understood that she would have to ask them to leave at some point. She stated she would like to be able to close this file.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the tenant was renting from the original owner.

Ms. Ricker stated they were previously renting from someone who had no connection to the home. She stated she was unsure of how this happened. She stated they had been living there for almost 2 year rent free.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the County had leased other residential structures out in the past. She asked if the County could allow them to rent the home.

Mrs. Whidden stated SHIP homes could not be rented out.

Ms. Ricker stated she believed a rental strategy could be made.

Attorney Pringle stated the home was still in the SHIP program and right now the County did not have the ability to rent homes in the SHIP program.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the home could be declared surplus and sold.

Attorney Pringle stated this could be done; however, any proceeds would need to go back to the SHIP program.

Ms. Ricker stated she was working on a new strategy to buy foreclosed homes or to reutilize the homes the County had gotten back through foreclosure. She stated a rental strategy could also be written. She stated someone would have to maintain the rentals.

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Attorney Pringle stated he had meet with the tenants and they had been cooperative throughout the process and it was their desire to stay in the home. He stated they have expressed a good faith intent and desire on their part to be compliant.

Ms. Ricker stated the tenant was working on getting his US citizenship.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested not evicting at this time. She stated she would like to continue this item for a month and allow Ms. Ricker to work on the rental strategy.

Chairman Ahern suggested continuing the item until the next day meeting.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board continued the Freddie Davis item until the next day meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

13. Appoint member to Agriculture and Labor Program Board

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated the Agriculture and Labor Program Board had contacted her and informed her that Samuel Thomas, who represented Glades County on the Board, had not attended any of the 2018 meetings. She stated the Agriculture and Labor Board had asked that the County remove Mr. Thomas from the Board and appoint a new member. She stated several Commissioners thought it would be a good idea for Ms. Ricker to sit on this Board. She stated Ms. Ricker had submitted an application and had agreed to serve on the Board.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board removed Samuel Thomas as the Glades County Representative on the Agriculture and Labor Program Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board appointed Cindy Ricker to the Agriculture and Labor Program Board and authorized County Staff to compose an appointment letter and the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Susan Whidden had offered to serve on the Board and appreciated her willingness.

14. Property placed on List of Lands Available for Taxes

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board waived its right to purchase the properties named in Tax Deed 2018-12 and Tax Deed 2018-13.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

15. Moore Haven Canal Permit SAJ-2010-02329 (SP-LAE)

Chairman Ahern stated the Moore Haven Canal Permit would expire on February 25, 2019.

Steve Neff, AIM Engineering, stated he had reached out to the Army Corps of Engineers to work on extending the permit. He stated they had responded very quickly and asked for a Compliance Status Report. He stated the report was due by August 29, 2018.

Chairman Ahern asked what the length of the extension would be.

Mr. Neff stated the extension would normally be a 2 year extension, but felt this maybe something the County would want to discuss with the Corps.

Chairman Ahern stated he had talked to Gary Russ yesterday regarding the extension. He stated he had informed Mr. Russ that he would like to get another 5 years on the extension. He stated he had been working with several Congressman, Senators, and the Governor about getting additional funding for the project. He stated the funding would take more than 2 years to secure. He asked if there were any other permits that needed to be renewed for the project.

Mr. Neff stated he would check on this matter and let the Board know.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the County would have time to address any deficiencies that may be found with the Compliance Report.

Mr. Neff stated a field meeting would be conducted and he would put together the data quickly so that any concerns could be addressed.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved AIM Engineering's proposal to Glades County on the Moore Haven Canal Army Corps of Engineers' Permit Extension Assistance not to exceed \$6,000.00 and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

16. FDEP LP22023 Agreement – Revise Contact Information

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated the current contract had Mr. Helfenberger listed as the grant manager for this Agreement. She stated there reports due and the contact information needed to be updated.

Connie Vanassche, CAS Governmental Services, stated this contact information needed to be updated on this Agreement in order to move forward with the grant contract process.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board authorized CAS Governmental Services to change the grant manager on FDEP LP22023 Agreement from Joe Helfenberger to Susan Whidden.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

17. Red Cross Facility Use Agreement

Angela Snow-Colgrove, Emergency Management Director, stated this agreement would give the County an additional shelter. She stated the Ortona Community Center located at 2086 Ortona Locks Road, Moore Haven would now be an American Red Cross shelter. She stated the Emergency Management Department would handle approvals of use. She stated Red Cross could only guarantee one shelter staff so it may or may not require County staff to maintain in the event of another storm.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board approved the American Red Cross Facility Use Agreement for the Ortona Community Center and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board. (See Exhibit D)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

18. FEMA Update

Marissa Shiver, Administrative Assistant - Emergency Management, gave a quick update on FEMA. She stated all of the projects had been turned into FEMA. She stated some had been denied because of insurance. She stated most of the buildings did qualify. She stated the Road Department building had been approved yesterday. She stated she had the contract from the State on the Muse Fire Station which had also been approved. She stated all of the debris removal had been turned in for reimbursement. She stated this paperwork was in the scoping phase with the CRC. She stated everything was looking good so far. She stated the County's Emergency Protection Actions plan had been approved by FEMA. She stated this should be approved within the next month.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked how much FEMA money had been received for the Muse Fire Station.

Ms. Shivers stated the County had received \$7,346.00 from FEMA for the Muse Fire Station.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned how much had been received for the roof at the Road Department.

Ms. Shivers stated the County would receive \$11,000.00 for the Road Department roof, Animal Control facility, and the old EMS Station.

19. Muse Fire House

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Bob Jones, Deputy County Manager, stated he had provided the Board with several photos of the progress being made at the Muse Fire House. He stated he believed the project was ready to go out for bid. He stated he was in the process of preparing the bid document for approval. He stated he was writing the document so that the Board would have the latitude to accept all or parts of the bid. He stated he had David Mercer, Building Official, review the plans. He stated septic was in question and he stated he would try to use the same drain lines that came through the concrete. He stated approximately \$48,000.00 had been received from insurance and approximately \$7,400.00 from FEMA. He stated roughly \$5,500.00 had been spent so far on demolition.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board authorized Bob Jones, Deputy County Manager, to advertise for bids on the Muse Fire House project.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

20. Discussion of Combined Public Safety Building in the Muse Area

Bob Jones, Deputy County Manager, stated there was a need for a multilateral use Public Safety Building on the west section of the County. He asked if there was interest from the Board to move forward with this idea. He stated eventually there would possibly be full time firemen in the area. He stated certain things would need to be done to assist Ms. Vanassche and Mr. Milita in getting funding at the State level.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he felt the Board should move forward with this project.

Mr. Jones stated the footprint he had in mind for the building would be like the fire department building in Moore Haven. He stated some minor modification would need to be done.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board authorized moving forward with the process to construct a Multilateral Public Safety Building for the west side of Glades County.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Connie Vanassche, CAS Governmental Services, stated the attached worksheet was a critical point in beginning the process. She stated when this first started she had done some research on the availability of grants. She stated the USDA did have a Facilities Direct Loan and Grant program. She stated this was not 100% grant funding. She stated the Board could do a legislative budget request as well. She stated courthouse, police stations, and fire departments were eligible for application. She stated the service area was taken into consideration. She stated she would continue to work with Mrs. Whidden and Mr. Jones on this project.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested making Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, the contact person on this grant application.

It was the consensus of the Board to name Mr. Jones as the contact person on the grant application.

21. Public Works Director

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Branch had been appointed Interim Public Works Director on July 16, 2018. He stated the position had been posted internally and Mr. Branch had been the only employee to submit an application. He stated Mr. Branch met all qualifications for the full time Director position.

Commissioner Strenth stated he felt Mr. Branch was well qualified for the position.

Chairman Ahern agreed and stated Mr. Branch had the experience necessary to fulfill the duties of the position.

Commissioner Pryor stated he appreciated Mr. Branch stepping up to the plate and pulling everyone together. He stated the morale was high again at the Road Department.

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Branch was doing a great job.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Strenth seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board appointed Archie Branch as the Public Works Director and authorized the Chairman to sign the Payroll Action Form and the Letter of Appointment on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia asked if the Board would like her to post the Assistant Road Superintendent position.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would like the position posted internally first.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she could post the position for 7 days internally.

It was the consensus of the Board to post the position for Assistant Road Superintendent internally.

22. Motor Vehicle Safety Policy

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated she had made the revisions discussed during the last meeting and brought the policy back for consideration by the Board.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned paragraphs b, c and d under the Driver Qualification section of the policy. She stated they appeared to be the same on each.

Mrs. Whidden stated the language had been pulled from the DOT website and they did appear to be the same. She stated she would strike the others that were the same.

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Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated the County already had a motor vehicle operating policy; however, it was not included in the Employee Manual or Safety Manual. She stated the policies needed to be updated at least every 2 years. She expressed concern with the policies possibly contradicting one another.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she believed this policy should be incorporated into the Personnel Policy.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia asked if the Board would allow her to have a temporary committee comprised of several Department Heads and County Staff to review the policies and procedures and make revisions as needed. She stated they were last reviewed in 2014. She stated she would also work with PRM on the updates.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved the Motor Vehicle Safety Policy, requiring all employees driving County owned vehicles to sign the policy and return it; authorized Human Resources to add the policy to the Policy and Procedure Manual and New Hire paperwork; and authorized the formation of a committee to review the Safety Manual and Personnel Policy Manual. (See Exhibit E)

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Strenth stated at the last meeting the Board had authorized Mr. Branch to only take the County owned vehicle home when he was on call. He stated since Mr. Branch was now the Public Works Director and on call 24/7 he believed he should have the vehicle full time.

It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Branch be allowed full time use of the County owned vehicle.

23. County Manager Position

Chairman Ahern stated he had negotiated with the number one ranked candidate; however, after Mrs. James-Mesloh discussed the matter with her husband, he had decided against retirement and she was not able to accept the position. He stated Mrs. James-Mesloh had withdrawn her application.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she had contacted the other ranked candidates – Mrs. Hill, Mr. Vitas, and Mr. Murphy to inquire about their interest and each of them had indicated that they were still interested in the position.

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Murphy was ranked second and asked the Board if they would like him to negotiate with Mr. Murphy next.

Commissioner Strenth stated he felt Chairman Ahern and Attorney Pringle should negotiate with Mr. Murphy next.

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Commissioner Storter Long commented a discrepancy on his employment application.

After discussing the matter, it was decided that the Board would authorize negotiations with the next ranked candidate – Mr. Murphy.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Strenth seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board authorized Chairman Ahern and Attorney Pringle to offer the County Manager position to Martin Murphy and begin negotiations on an employment agreement.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she was not comfortable with what she felt was an untruth. She stated before the position was offered to Mr. Murphy she would like clarification on all employment that Mr. Murphy has had in the past. She stated she wanted to know why he had left each employer as well.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia asked if Commissioner Storter Long wanted her to contact Mr. Murphy's previous employers.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this was correct. She stated every employer should be contacted and find out why he was terminated or why he left.

Motion carried by 4 – 1 vote.

Commissioner Storter Long voted against the motion on the floor.

24. Appoint an Interim County Manager or Authorize the Chairman/Vice Chairman to Act as County Manager

Chairman Ahern stated Vice Chairman Stanley had filled in a lot and he appreciated his help.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Clerk of Court had provided all of the Commissioners with information regarding the Deputy County Manager position. She stated she believed the Board could deputize someone else or appoint an interim.

There was a discussion regarding the appointment of a Deputy County Manager.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Bob Jones had been appointed Deputy County Manager some years ago and the Board had not rescinded that.

Attorney Pringle clarified that there was a time when Mr. Jones was appointed Deputy County Manager until further action of the Board. He stated he had not been provided with any instance where further action had occurred. He stated since this appointment there had been a change in the job description for that position which did not make reference to Mr. Jones being the Deputy County Manager. He stated there had been no further action by the Board to undo the appointment of Mr. Jones as the Deputy County Manager. He stated when the Board took action to give the Chairman the authority to sign papers that were normally signed by the County Manager.

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There was a brief discussion regarding the job description and position and the fact that Mr. Jones had other job duties.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board affirmed that the County's Deputy County Manager Bob Jones was to assume the day to day duties normally performed by the County Manager (in his/her absence) with a limitation on spending in an amount up to \$25,000.00, if budgeted; and no hiring or firing of personnel.

Attorney Pringle clarified that the motion was to affirm the former appointment of Bob Jones as the Deputy County Manager with the limitations noted. He stated by including the language "in the absence of the County Manager" that in the future any time the County Manager was absent Bob Jones would be able to fulfill his/her duties.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the Board needed to look at its Personnel Policy and that if there were going to be Deputy Manager's for these positions the duties needed to be included in their job descriptions. He stated Mr. Jones needed a back-up as well.

Commissioner Storter Long agreed. She suggested Ms. Ibietatorremendia include these changes in the job descriptions she was currently working on.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she could work this into the job description and come up with a policy using information from the surrounding counties.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this would apply to the Public Works Director position as well. She stated someone needed to be second in charge there also.

Attorney Pringle stated it may be beneficial to consider having a separate title/job description of Deputy County Manager that could be given to an individual so that the Board could choose which person they would have in the Deputy County Manager's position.

Chairman Ahern stated this would allow the Board to look at the situation it had at the time and appoint the appropriate Director/Department Head.

Commissioner Pryor asked if there would be any funding for an Assistant County Manager position.

Connie Vanassche, CAS Government Services, LLC, stated she could do some research on this matter and see what funding was available.

Commissioner Strenth questioned the Deputy County Manager handling any ongoing investigations with personnel. He asked if the Deputy County Manager would have the authority to close any investigations.

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Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Helfenberger's recommendation had been to wait until a permanent County Manager was in place to handle any ongoing investigations.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, suggested waiting until a full time County Manager was hired to address any ongoing investigations.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

Item # 10

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Coordinator, stated she had been able to reach the contractor. She stated on the 812 square foot home there was a shower in the master bedroom and the upgrades were grab bars, ramp in/out of shower, and a higher toilet seat. She stated the concrete driveway was figured at 250 square feet at \$5.00/square foot which totaled \$1,250.00. She stated there would also be a walkway to the door. She stated they normally did a driveway but the walkway was for accessibility for the wheel chair. She stated they would also make the doorways wider. She stated the other contractor stated he would work with the applicants the best he could. She stated she had spoken with Michael Chaney regarding an exception to the amount awarded being higher than what was encumbered. She stated he had indicated that the minutes would need to reflect the exception and that the Board should also make sure the handicap accessibility issues were mentioned. She stated she most of the SHIP had been encumbered at this time. She stated one of the encumbrances she had done for a down payment assistance in the amount of \$20,000.00 would be released. She stated the bids were coming in lower on some of the encumbrances than she expected.

There was a brief discussion regarding going with the higher bid and making an exception on the amount due to the applicant being handicap.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board awarded the bid for RFP# 2018-Demo/Rehab-2-Hoyt to Neal Long Construction in the amount of \$131,150.00; with an exception being made to the SHIP guidelines that cap the encumbrance at \$100,000.00 due to the requirement of having to relocate the drain field and the handicap accessibility issues involved with this project; and authorized the County Manager and SHIP Coordinator to sign the contract on behalf of the Board.

Attorney Pringle clarified that a one-time exception would be made to the SHIP guidelines that had a cap at \$100,000.00 because of the requirement to relocate the drain field and other improvements to the site along with the provision of the handicap elements for this homeowner.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Sheriff Hardin thanked the Board and the Glades County School Board for their support in meeting all of the requirements for the deputies that were now at each school. He stated the population at the GCDC was at 433 as of today.

COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no discussion.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Ortona Community Association had raised \$1,700.00 and had taken a trip to Sea World recently. She stated the telephone had been installed at the Community Center and the new number was (863) 675-0049. She stated she hoped all went well with the Board's choice for a County Manager. She thanked Attorney Pringle for his clarification on the position of Deputy County Manager. She thanked Mrs. Hill for her offer to act as interim County Manager for the County.

Commissioner Pryor commented on the SHIP program's maximum encumbrance being \$100,000.00. He stated a home could not be built for this amount. He suggested raising the cap to \$140,000.00 and having Ms. Ricker look into the requirements to do this.

Commissioner Strenth stated everything was quiet in Lakeport. He stated the Lakeport Community Association would host a political rally there tonight beginning at 6:30 p.m. He agreed with Commissioner Pryor about raising the cap for SHIP encumbrances.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he had attended a meeting with the SFWMD and had met with the Corps prior to the meeting regarding the proposed reservoir. He stated he had told them that the County wished to have a ½ corridor along Highway 78 in front of the reservoir for commercial development. He stated they did not agree with him; however, they had encourage him to make comments on their website. He stated he was happy to hear that they had lowered the proposed reservoir to 4 feet. He stated the Community Political Rally would be held in Buckhead Ridge on August 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. He stated a potluck dinner would be held prior to the rally. He commented on people buying a lot not contiguous to their property and then wanting to put a shed on the lot. He stated he had spoken with Mrs. BuChans regarding the matter and had been told the lots had to be contiguous. He stated a shed could be put on the lot if there were living quarters on the lot as well. He stated he needed clarification as to the definition of living quarters. He stated these lots were no good to the people if they could not use them. He suggested making an exception to this rule.

Chairman Ahern stated he had met with Tommy Cortez and his partner, Mr. Hugo regarding the hotel site. He stated Mr. Cortez was anxious to get started. He stated he had shown him a concept for the building using glass. He stated the concept looked pretty sharp. He stated he thought each Commissioner had talked with Tommy Duda regarding the easement on Bronson Road. He asked that each Commissioner share their thoughts with Attorney Pringle. He stated a full time Code Enforcement Officer had been

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hired. He stated there were several places that were overgrown and were being cited for violations; however, the County did not have a procedure in place to take care of them. He asked that Mr. Branch give some thought to how this could be handled.

Archie Branch, Public Works Director, stated right now it would not be a problem to pick these properties up on his regular mowing schedule.

Chairman Ahern stated the Code Enforcement Officer was finding more and he would be working with Attorney Pringle this afternoon to see about how the County could enforce compliance. He stated if the property owner did not comply the County would have to do the clean-up or have a contractor come in to do the work and a lien would be placed upon the property.

Commissioner Strenth questioned the liability of the County doing the work.

Attorney Pringle there were other jurisdiction who had adopted ordinances to provide for lot mowing and to provide for the assessment of lien against the property. He stated there were limitations on what the County should consider doing. The ordinance would give the County the authority to do the mowing, but not necessarily the obligation.

Chairman Ahern stated he would get copies of the City's ordinances for Attorney Pringle to review.

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 11:41 a.m.

John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: September 24, 2018

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