

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 AT 9:00 A.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 Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Weston Pryor, Chairman  
John Ahern, Vice Chairman  
Donna Storter Long  
Paul Beck

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Richard Pringle, County Attorney  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Lenice Hubbard, Administrative Assistant – County Manager’s Office  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Avant Brown, Glades County Road Superintendent  
Duane Pottorff, Chief Deputy - GCSO  
Tim Stanley  
Tracy Whirls, Executive Director – Glades EDC  
Scott Bass, Superintendent – Glades County Schools  
Charlie Murphy, Okeechobee Radio  
Dr. Joe Pepe, Director - Hendry Glades Health Department  
Libby Maxwell, SWFMD  
J. D. Langford, Aim Engineering  
5 citizens

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

**PRAYER**

Commissioner Beck gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Lori Ward, Glades County Property Appraiser, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

There were none.

**PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

1. **Wright Construction Group, Inc. 2016 VP Buildings Hall of Fame**

County Manager Carlisle stated that, unfortunately, no one from Wright Construction was able to attend the meeting today. He stated Wright Construction had submitted the Glades County Training Center for an award. He stated the building was now listed in the 2016 VP Buildings Hall of Fame. He presented a plaque to the Board members.

**2. United Way – Glades County Staff Campaign Award & Glades County Property Appraiser’s Recognition**

Lisa Sands, Hendry/Glades Manager for United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee Counties, stated each year the United Way collected money for 36 social service agencies in Hendry and Glades Counties. She stated \$256,000.00 had been collected this year. She stated the Glades County Property Appraiser’s Office had collected \$403.00 towards this total. She presented an award to Lorie Ward, Property Appraiser, for her staff’s efforts. She thanked County Manager Carlisle for his support and the Glades County employees who had donated funds through payroll deductions. She stated the employees had collected a total of \$4,052.00 this past year. She reminded everyone that the next campaign would begin on September 27<sup>th</sup> and invited everyone to participate. She stated County Manager Carlisle had served on the United Way’s Allocation Committee and they were able to visit 3 different agencies in Glades County this year.

County Manager Carlisle commented on the things that organizations, such as Agape and Good Will, did for the community. He stated the money that was donated to these organizations would be well used and would make a difference in the community.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 3. Approved payment of County Warrants. (Exhibit A)  
General Fund: 79133 – 79247  
Intergovernmental Radio: 10309  
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 216  
SHIP: 1659 - 1662  
E911 Maintenance Grant: 116**
- 4. Approve minutes of the August 9, 2016 Regular Meeting.**
- 5. Delete IBM Wheelwriter 1000 – Property #2619 from Property Records**
- 6. Acknowledge Receipt from South Florida Water Management District  
Fiscal Year 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

**7. Property from List of Lands Available for Taxes Escheats to County**

County Manager Carlisle stated this item was for informational purposes only. He stated these were properties that taxes had not been paid on and they had reached the dollar threshold whereby statute they would escheat to the County.

Chairman Pryor asked how clean these lots were.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had not seen the lots. He stated they were all vacant lots.

**8. Ortona Community Center Flooring & Acoustic Tiles**

Attorney Pringle stated there was one citizen signed up to speak to this item.

Debra Richardson stated she had signed in just in case she had questions after the presentation.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board had previously approved funding for rubberized flooring in the Community Center at Ortona. He stated some additional sampling and comments had been made by the Association. He stated the Association had determined that the flooring would not be appropriate for what they used the building for. He stated the Association had chosen some other materials and the main objective was to reduce the sound reverberation in the building. He stated prices had been received for the type of flooring that the Association wanted and for some drop down acoustic tiles. He stated the lighting and air conditioning vents would have to be lowered with the new acoustical tile ceiling. He stated these improvements would cost an additional \$5,502.00 to complete. He asked if the Board wished to add these funds from the one cent fund to complete the project. He stated staff could look at other options; however, there were not a whole lot of other options available.

Chairman Pryor stated there was no sense in half way doing the improvements.

Vice Chairman Ahern asked if the Community Association was satisfied with this flooring and additional improvements.

County Manager Carlisle stated Mrs. Richardson had done a lot of work to help get this project moving. He stated he believed the Association was satisfied with the proposed improvements.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the improvements.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the additional funding in the amount of \$5,502.00 for the installation of new flooring from Jeanette's (\$9,125.00); air conditioning and light fixtures by Griffin Electric

(\$2,970.00); and the installation of acoustic ceiling tiles from Acousti (\$7,050.00) at the Ortona Community Center.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

Attorney Pringle clarified that the motion included approval of the contractors listed in the motion.

**9. Budget Transfer Request**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board approved a budget transfer from Capital Outlay One Cent Funds totaling \$2,502.00.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**10. Glades County Property & Casualty Insurance**

County Manager Carlisle recommended maintaining the current level of coverage.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved maintaining current coverage amounts and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**11. Acoustical Ceiling Replacement Doyle Conner Building**

County Manager Carlisle stated Glades Youth Livestock had asked the County to look at doing a couple of improvements to the Doyle Conner Building. He stated the County had previously authorized B & I Engineering to do the a/c work. He stated he would like to coordinate the work on the ceiling tile replacement with the a/c work. He stated he had received 3 different quotes for the replacement of the ceiling tiles. He stated Acousti Engineering had been the lowest and most responsive bidder at \$21,755.00. He stated Glades Youth Livestock would be paying for the improvements.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board awarded the bid for replacement of the Doyle Conner Building ceiling tiles to Acousti Engineering in the amount of \$21,755.00 to be paid for by Glades Youth Livestock.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**12. United Way Lease at Fire Station**

County Manager Carlisle stated this lease had been in the works for a long time. He stated the construction of the new Clerk's Storage Building and the moving of the contents of the old Fire Station had opened for use. He stated the United Way of Glades, Hendry, and Okeechobee counties, along with Hope Connections, had agreed to pay for all of the modifications needed to make this facility work. He stated they had also agreed to pay

for any additional costs, such as maintenance and utilities, for the portion of the building that they would be leasing. He stated this was a great opportunity for these organizations to reach out to the people in the community. He stated the Hope Connections building was currently in foreclosure and would have to close its doors soon. He stated these organizations did a great service for the elderly. He stated they provided food and in home care, along with many other services.

Chairman Pryor stated he believed this would be a great use of the space.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the lease with the United Way for the use of the Glades County Fire Station.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

### **13. Award Administrator of CDBG Grant**

County Manager Carlisle stated this RFQ had gone out almost a year ago; however, the Department of Economic Opportunity had determined that the Hendry Glades Sunday News did not meet the requirements of a regional newspaper. He stated the RFQ had been re-advertised in the Fort Myers Newspress. He stated 2 proposals had been received. He stated the CATF had reviewed and ranked both. He stated that based on the evaluations of the CATF, it was recommended that the County award the contract to Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board awarded the contract for administration of the CDBG grant to Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

### **14. SHIP Satisfaction**

County Manager Carlisle stated the original mortgagor on one of the SHIP mortgages had passed away. He stated her son did meet the qualifications of the CDBG program and would be refinancing the home.

Vice Chairman Ahern asked if SHIP was involved with the son's refinancing.

County Manager Carlisle stated it was not a SHIP loan.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this particular SHIP mortgage included language that stated the mortgage would have to be satisfied upon the death of the mortgagor even if the heirs did not qualify.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board approved the satisfaction of the SHIP Mortgage recorded on November 26, 2007 at Book 271 Page 221 (Instrument # 200722152164) in the name of Hazel Watson and John Watson.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**15. State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was an annual agreement for the State Aid to Libraries Grant.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement between the State of Florida – Department of State and the Glades County Board of County Commissioners for and on behalf of the Glades County Public Library and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**16. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Florida Division of Emergency Management**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was part of the County's emergency notification system.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Florida Division of Emergency Management to utilize the notification system provided by the Division to transmit alerts, notifications, and other public safety messaging, and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**17. Glades County Legislative Delegation Meeting**

County Manager Carlisle stated our legislative delegation was not going to be able to meet the December 2<sup>nd</sup> timeline. He stated scheduling of the delegation would have to come back to the Board. He stated he wanted to hear from the Board on what they thought some of the legislative priorities should be this year. He stated he had provided the list from last year and believed most of them were still pertinent. He suggested that the Board look at getting DEO or the Governor to designate funds for EFI specifically for economic development in rural counties of opportunity. He stated the delegation would still be pushing for the approval of a matching grant for the rural infrastructure grants for DEO and to increase funding from \$1.5 million to \$5 million. He stated Commissioners Ahern and Pryor would be attending the FAC conference with him to discuss these and other legislative priorities with our legislators.

Chairman Pryor commented on working with the Small County Coalition to prioritize the fire department hours this year. He stated PILT was another main concern for Glades County. He stated he had met with Chief DeMann yesterday about the County's list of priorities and to see if there were any others that the Sheriff's Department would like to see added to the list. He stated Chris Doolin did a great job with the rural areas and the Small County Coalition and understood Glades County's weaknesses.

Vice Chairman Ahern agreed that Mr. Doolin did a great job pushing the issues that were important to Glades County.

Chairman Pryor stated Glades County had a great relationship with Okeechobee, Hendry and Highlands Counties and parts of Palm Beach County. He stated he felt we could all make a big push, if united on the issues. He stated this would help tremendously.

County Manager Carlisle asked that the Commissioners inform him of any issues that came up between now and the delegation. He commented on the work that the Army Corps would be doing on the north end of the Lake. He stated this work would affect Glades County's future and ability to develop. He stated the scope of the project was 850,000 acre feet of storage. He stated the Board needed to make sure their concerns were made known to the Army Corps, the 16 County Coalition, the Legislature, and the Association of Counties.

**18. Letter of Commitment FutureMakers Everglades Promise Neighborhood**

County Manager Carlisle stated he had been working with the Promise Zone on a grant which required matching funds. He stated Glades County had made a financial commitment to the FutureMakers Everglades Promise Neighborhood Initiative in in-kind services in the amount of \$6,810,000.00. He stated this grant could be very beneficial for the community. He stated the Training Center was one of the key components.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the in-kind commitment to the FutureMakers Everglades Promise Neighborhood Initiative and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

**CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

There was no discussion.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Pringle commented on the satisfaction of the SHIP mortgage that was approved earlier in the meeting. He stated his son, Caleb Pringle, Attorney, had been working with him and Mrs. Whidden to get a standard set of SHIP documents (mortgage, note,

application, financial disclosure, etc.) so that they were more consistent than they had been in the past. He stated the rules and regulations that had been used before was a part of the document with United Way. He stated some streamlining was beginning to occur.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there was a rental agreement with the occupants of the EMS trailer at the Road Department. She asked if there were provisions in the agreement for the rest of the family since the death of Deputy Naso.

County Manager Carlisle stated the family members were named in the lease and that as long as they continued to meet the requirements of the lease they would be allowed to remain there.

### **COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS**

County Manager Carlisle reminded the Board that he was going to attend the FAC Conference this week and the Rural Summit in Orlando on the following week. He stated he would be available by phone or email. He stated Vice Chairman Ahern and Chairman Pryor would be attending as well. He stated he had been working with Dr. Pepe regarding mosquito spraying. He stated the spraying would begin this week in the more populated areas of Muse, Ortona, Horseshoe Acres, and Palmdale. He stated Dr. Pepe was working on getting some additional funding. He stated the spraying would be done from trucks and would be minimal.

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

There was none.

### **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Storter Long stated she had chosen not to amend the agenda to discuss this item. She stated the cemetery seating needed to be addressed. She stated the seating was limited and uncomfortable. She stated the design of the benches was not appropriate for the use. She suggested that the Board look into getting some prices for more suitable benches. She stated she believed the benches would cost approximately \$900.00 - \$1200.00 each. She stated she would prefer benches with no arm pieces and ones made of recycled material.

Commissioner Beck agreed. He suggested reassigning the benches that were at the pavilion to some of the community associations to put in their parks or playgrounds.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested allowing the community associations to purchase the benches.

Commissioner Beck asked that a discussion regarding this item be placed on the next agenda. He asked that County Manager Carlisle come up with some cost options.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would like to look at putting the benches out at the Indian Mound Park where the interactive trail used to be and possibly getting the trail back into shape.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she realized that the mound was a Calusa Indian Mound but wondered if any of the Native American tribes would be interested in participating in the restoration of the trail.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the seating was top priority at the cemetery pavilion but that he would also like to see both sides of the pavilion covered. He asked if the Board could explore extending both sides of the pavilion.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had looked into rolled down shades; however, the shades did not tend to last very long. He stated he had also looked at risible awning; however, this closed the pavilion in completely when they were rolled down. He suggested extending the pavilion and making it bigger.

Commissioner Storter Long asked that electrical maintenance be done on the fans at the pavilion. She stated the fans were not used very often and were subject to the elements but they did need to be looked at and repaired or possibly replaced. She thanked the Board for approval of the flooring at the Ortona Community Association. She also thanked Mrs. Richardson for her help with the project.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated he understood that a fire fighter class was getting ready to begin and that 6 individuals were enrolled. He asked Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, if this was correct.

Mr. Jones stated the class would start on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in LaBelle. He stated as of last night there were 4 students signed up from Glades County.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated he realized that there would not be many participants until the requirements were changed.

Commissioner Beck asked if there was any way the County could compensate the students for their gas or time so that they were not bearing all of the expenses.

Mr. Jones stated the students were using the County vehicles and the County was paying for all of their materials and equipment. He stated he was working with the Health Department and the County would probably be paying for their physicals this year.

Commissioner Storter Long agreed with Commissioner Beck. She stated she realized they were volunteers but felt the County should help them get the training so that they would be available when needed. She asked if a meal could be provided or perhaps a per diem.

Attorney Pringle stated he and County Manager Carlisle would give some thought as to what the County may be able to do in addition to providing transportation and the purchase of equipment.

Chairman Pryor suggested running an ad in the newspaper to recruit volunteers for the training.

Mr. Jones stated the training was being advertised. He stated this was a joint effort with Hendry County. He stated there were 14 people county wide that would be attending from Hendry County. He suggested that a bonus be given to each student that completed the class.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she believed it would be an investment in protecting and providing public safety for the County.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the population at GCDC had increased to 237 inmates as of today. He stated the Moore Haven Canal project continued to move along. He stated him, along with Commissioner Storter Long and County Manager Carlisle had taken Congressman Rooney and Congressman Diaz Balert and his staff out on an air boat tour of the project and the Lake and conveyed the need for additional funding. He asked if J. D. Langford would like to give an update on the Moore Haven Canal project.

J. D. Langford, Aim Engineering, stated he had spoken with the Project Manager yesterday. He stated he had indicated that they were starting to mobilize some barges at the site. He stated they would be knocking the berm on the west side and moving the dirt to the east side. He stated he would be visiting the site this evening. He stated they should be at least 500 – 600 feet down the canal. He stated he had been keeping South Florida Water Management District in the loop as well and working with County Manager Carlisle in trying to secure additional funding for the project.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the committee for the Moore Haven campground at the locks had met with the Army Corps of Engineers about the different options that were available for the site. He stated there was a 90-day period to collect some ideas and they would meet again. He stated Russell Echols, Bret Whidden, County Manager Carlisle, Mike Presley, and himself had attended the meeting.

Commissioner Beck reminded everyone of the 16 County Coalition Eco-Summit that would be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. He asked that County Manager Carlisle attend this event with him. He stated representatives from all 16 counties would be present at the meeting, as well as, representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Water Management District, and state and federal offices. He stated that following the meeting there would be a luncheon at the church across the street. He stated this would allow for some networking. He stated he had been trying to talk with some of the

representatives, departments, and other governmental agencies from the coast to get some understanding and a little help from them with the Moore Haven Canal project. He stated the City County Public Works Authority was making some progress on the sewer system and the phosphorous reduction into the Caloosahatchee River. He commented on the news articles talking about the brown water coming from Lake Okeechobee. He stated he was sure that a lot of the water was polluted by the time it got to the coast. He stated he wished they would do the same kind of testing on the water at the locks. He stated there were other problems between Lake Okeechobee and Fort Myers Beach, such as sewer systems running into the Caloosahatchee. He stated there were also fertilizer issues at Cape Coral. He stated Whiskey Creek had been corded off several years ago due to feces in the water. He stated this was due to sewer problems in their neighborhood. He stated this could not be blamed on Glades County. He stated the people on the coast wanted to blame inland counties for their loss of tourism.

Chairman Pryor stated he was forward to attending the legislative delegation at the FAC conference this week.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Promise Zone kick-off would be held on at 8:00 a.m. on September 22, 2016 at I-Tech in Immokalee. He stated representatives from the USDA, DOE, and a lot of people from Washington, D.C. would be there. He stated it would be a great opportunity to meet with these representatives individually. He encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this agenda did not include Department Heads.

Chairman Pryor asked if there was any input from the Department Heads. There was none.

Chairman Pryor stated several people had already signed up for the Citizenship classes at the Training Center.

County Manager Carlisle stated the classes had started about 2 weeks ago.

Chairman Pryor stated he was glad to see people showing an interest so soon.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the trucking company had started classes yet.

County Manager Carlisle stated the lease was in place but they were waiting for the State to certify the facility.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the construction of the Loves Travel Center and how fast they were moving along.

**ADJOURN**

GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board adjourned the meeting.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Stanley adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

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Weston Pryor, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: September 26, 2016

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