

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 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, October 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.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
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director
Avant Brown, Glades County Road Superintendent
Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Sheriff
Inga Williams, Community Development Director
Charlie Murphy, Okeechobee Radio
Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator
Raoul Bataller, Hendry Glades Sunday News
Al Brown, Washington Park Coalition for Progress
Walter Breuggeman, Florida Department of Transportation
Marty Peate, NEPA/Corridor Planning Lead - AECOM
Libby Maxwell, SWFMD
Tim Stanley
21 citizens

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

PRAYER

Eric Simmons gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Jerry "Gator" Sapp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Commissioner Beck requested that one amendment be added to the agenda - Annual Christmas Boat Parade at Harney Pond Canal.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board amended the agenda.

Chairman Pryor stated this item would be placed under the Business Agenda as Item #15.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS

1. Presentation/Update by FDOT

Walter Breuggeman, Florida Department of Transportation - District 1 Bartow, introduced Marty Peate, NEPA/Corridor Planning Lead at AECOM, who was present to give an update on the PD & E Study for State Road 29 in LaBelle.

Mr. Peate gave an update on the progress of the FDOT PD & E Study which was originally done from Cowboy Way north to US 27. He stated this was currently a 2 lane facility. He stated it was approximately 15 miles from Cowboy Way to US 27. He stated there had been quite a bit of public input since the study began. He made reference to a website that had all of the information about the project - www.SR29LaBelle.com. He stated there was a platform on the website to receive comments and to sign up for the mailing list. He stated all of the announcements about any future meetings would be listed on the website. He stated all of the displays from the upcoming public workshops would also be displayed on the site. He stated a corridor workshop had been held in 2008. He stated this workshop was held to look at how SR 29 could be improved. He stated the problem area was south of the River in the historic downtown portion of LaBelle. He stated at the end of the meeting they had eliminated any opportunities to the west and began to look at the east. He stated some alternatives had been developed about a year later. He stated one of these alternatives had included a new high level bridge like the one here in Moore Haven. He stated the bridge would have gone out over the River to the east. He stated the problem with this alternative was the expense and investment to the State to have a high level bridge and leaving the expense, maintenance, and liability of the existing draw bridge to Hendry County and the City of LaBelle. He stated the community had decided that improvements along the existing SR 29 would be the most reasonable and feasible. He stated in the time since this project had started there had been a dramatic economic downturn. He stated the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization had been developed and there was a new Regional Transportation Model. He stated this model had been run with the new socio-economic information and the original limits to Cowboy Way up to US 27 had been reduced to Cowboy Way north to CR 731 just north of the River. He stated this was the area that represented the most immediate need for improvement including the replacement of the moveable bridge over the Caloosahatchee River. He stated this did not preclude improvements north of this area. He stated Bridge Street and Main Street currently operated as a one way pair up to Hwy 80 and then combined on Bridge Street and went over the Caloosahatchee River. He stated the proposed plan was to continue the one way pair with Bridge Street going

north bound with 2 lanes and Main Street going south bound with 2 lanes. He stated a new bridge would be constructed at the north end of Main Street. He stated that in addition to the existing downtown 10 foot set back off the building fronts there would be an expansion of the sidewalks to allow a promenade and some street side cafes, which LaBelle had as a part of their vision plan. He stated another option would be to have an enhanced sidewalk on one side and a 7 foot buffered bike lane on the other side. He stated they were trying to preserve the oaks as best as they could. He stated the Design Team had an arborist on staff so they were taking a look at the ones that could be saved. He stated this was hard because these trees were right on top of the road. He stated in this alternative there would be an enhanced new sidewalk on the west side and the existing sidewalk on the east side. He stated another option was a buffered bike lane coming south bound. He stated there were 2 alternatives for the area down at Cowboy Way. He stated they were proposing to change the existing intersection at Cowboy Way from a 2 four way stop intersection to a 2 signalized intersection. He stated another option would be to replace that intersection with a modern round-about. He stated this would provide for the high volume of traffic in that area. He stated the two alternatives for the bridge crossing were as follows: the first would have the new bridge take off from the north end of Main Street and begin to angle to the east across the bridge River with the municipal docks and the library in between. He stated these 2 spans varied from approximately 237 feet to 284 feet apart. He stated the second alternative would relocate Main Street at the Fort Thompson/Curry Street area and would bring the street towards the east behind the library. He stated this would not impact the library but the new bridge would then come within 30 feet of the existing bridge at Bridge Street. He stated this would avoid the Citgo Station on the north side of the bridge and some residential relocations that would have to occur using the other alternative. He stated the span and length of the bridge would be substantially shorter. He stated this alternative was also more economical. He stated the next Public Information Workshop would be held on next Thursday, November 3rd at the LaBelle Civic Center. He stated the new alternatives, the current preliminary impacts and some of the costs would be discussed. He stated public input would be taken. He stated all of the environmental documents and engineering documents should be submitted to the Department by the spring of 2017. He stated a public hearing would then be held which would allow them to move forward with the design of the project.

Commissioner Beck asked what the speed limit would be through the round-about.

Mr. Breuggeman stated the speed limit would probably be in the 25 mph range or less.

Mr. Peate stated the round-about would be similar to the round-about that were being designed and built in Sarasota.

Vice Chairman Ahern asked what type of incline the new bridge would have.

Mr. Peate stated the incline would match the existing bridge. He stated the approach slope would be approximately 3 – 4% and the profile and vertical clearance would match the existing draw bridge. He stated there would be a minimum clearance of approximately 23.5 feet. He stated these specs would be coordinated with the Coast Guard.

Jerry “Gator” Sapp commented on the project. He asked about the red lights at Hwy 80 and how the traffic would flow there.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the two roads would be one way streets and cross Hwy 80 as they do now.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. Cannabis Dispensing Businesses Ordinance

County Manager Carlisle stated this Ordinance was being adopted with the anticipation of Amendment 2 passing that would allow the sale of medical marijuana. He stated the County’s concern was if the amendment passed and there were not regulations in place, stores could pop up anywhere in the County. He stated the County did not want these stores near schools, parks, and daycare centers. He stated Planning & Zoning had reviewed the proposed Ordinance and recommended approval.

Inga Williams, Community Development Director, explained that this Ordinance would create a new article in Chapter 46. She stated it would institute a new process for applicants applying to open a cannabis dispensing business. She stated this Ordinance would only allow for one cannabis dispensing business because the number was limited by population. She stated the business would also be limited to properties zoned for retail businesses as a principal use. She stated the business would fall under the C2 zoning district. She stated there were set back requirements of 1,500 feet from certain uses. She stated the Planning & Zoning Board had recommended expansion of the list of uses to include County owned and run buildings, daycare centers, and senior care centers. She stated there was one correction to the Ordinance. She stated on page 9 of 12 she had revised “b” of that subsection but not “c”. She provided a list of what could be adopted for that language (Exhibit). She stated the subsection referenced schools or houses of worship. She stated the Planning & Zoning Board had also recommended revisions to Section 46-112. She stated the Planning & Zoning Board had added hours of operation to the Ordinance. She stated the business would only be open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. She stated they had also included language stating that there would not be any onsite consumption of cannabis.

Chairman Pryor called for public comment.

Dawn Hart, resident of Wayman Road, stated she had read in the newspaper that the business may be located on Wayman Road if the amendment was passed.

GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION – OCTOBER 24, 2016

Chairman Pryor explained that the newspaper had put 2 items together – a zoning issue and this issue.

There were no further public comments.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if this Ordinance was patterned after another county.

Mrs. Williams stated this was a template that a lot of the other counties were using.

Chairman Pryor commented in the Legislative Conference he had recently attended. He stated a lady from Colorado had spoken about this issue and had encouraged the counties to make it very difficult for these types of businesses to come in.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested making the set back requirements more than 1,500 feet.

County Manager Carlisle stated he did not know how many areas that would block out. He cautioned the Board about being able to defend the Ordinance if it was ever challenged in court.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if a pharmacy could fill the prescription if the cannabis was prescribed for a medical use or if it had to be a separate business that filled the prescription.

County Manager Carlisle explained that it would not be a prescription because prescriptions were governed by the federal government. He stated even though the State may pass this regulation medical cannabis was still not approved by the federal government. He stated it would be a certificate of use that would be issued. He stated pharmacies would not be able to dispense the cannabis. He stated the lady that had spoken on this issue at the Legislative Conference had also indicated that if the State passed legislation for the use of medical marijuana we would more than likely see legislation allowing recreational marijuana within 2 years. He stated this seemed to be the trend.

Chairman Pryor asked what would be needed to amend this Ordinance in the future, if needed.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Ordinance could always be amended. He stated the Board would follow the same steps as they had for implementation and adoption of any Ordinance. He thanked Mrs. Williams for being proactive with this matter. He stated a lot of times legislation would pre-empt any Ordinances that were not already in place prior to implementation.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board adopted Glades County Ordinance No. 2016-18, Amending the Glades County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part I – General Ordinances, Chapter 46 – Licenses, Taxation and Miscellaneous Business Regulations: Creating a New Article V – Cannabis Dispensing Businesses; Providing for Incorporation of Recitals; Providing for Codification; Providing for Scrivener’s Errors; Providing for Conflict; Providing for Liberal Construction; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date. With revisions named in meeting.

Chairman Pryor called for roll call vote:

Commissioner Storter Long – yes
Vice Chairman Ahern – yes
Commissioner Beck – yes
Chairman Pryor – yes

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. **Approved County Warrants. (See Exhibit A)**
General Fund: 79472 – 79570
Buckhead Ridge Utility: 217
4. **Approved minutes of the September 22, 2016 Special Meeting**
5. **Approved minutes of the October 5, 2016 Emergency Meeting**
6. **Approved minutes of the October 11, 2016 Regular Meeting**

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. **Resolution Modifying Planning & Zoning Fees**

County Manager Carlisle stated as part of the cannabis Ordinance and other revisions to the new fees, Mrs. Williams had gone through and removed some of the fees were no longer applicable and had adjusted some of the other fees.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what the changes to the fees were. She asked what was being increased and decreased.

Mrs. Williams stated the changes were listed in the Resolution. She stated the site plan review fee had been removed. She stated she had added a fee for the RV Park review. She stated she had reduced the simple subdivision fee from \$800.00 to \$600.00. She stated a major subdivision fee had been increased from \$800.00 to \$1,000.00. She stated the written vesting determination had been removed. She stated this was basically a

zoning determination review. She stated the price of the zoning determination had been reduced from \$100.00 to \$40.00. She stated she had combined all of the temporary uses and would be bringing an Ordinance to the Board for review.

Commissioner Storter questioned what was provided in an occupational review.

Mrs. Williams stated these were not done anymore but she had left it in place in case the Board chose to implement occupational licensing again in the future.

County Manager Carlisle stated the County needed to reinstate occupational licensing again. He stated it was very difficult for a business owner to get a State license when they could not provide a County license. He stated this would also help regulate unlicensed contractors in the County.

Mrs. Williams stated a review would be done of the paperwork and the applicant would need to take a test.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2016 -33, Amending Ordinance 2005-02, which amended Ordinance 2004-11; Modifying Planning and Zoning Fees; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how Mrs. Williams had arrived at a fee of \$1,500.00 for the application for a cannabis dispensing business.

Mrs. Williams stated this figure was based on staff time.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested raising the fee.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

8. Resolution Establishing a Deferred Compensation Plan with the Provisions of the National Association of Counties

County Manager Carlisle stated he had discussed this matter with a Nationwide representative who represented NACo and she had discovered that the County was not participating in the plan. He stated this plan would be another opportunity for the employees to save for retirement and do some financial planning. He stated Mrs. Thompson was present to answer any questions the Board may have. He stated this plan was sponsored by the NACo and open to any members.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved Glades County Resolution No. 2016-34, Establishing a Deferred Compensation Plan with the Provisions of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Deferred Compensation Program and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

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

9. Bid Award #08-2016 – Demolition of the Glades Inn

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had previously put out a RFP to sell the Glades Inn; however, it had burnt down and the offer had been withdrawn. He stated the County had received the insurance settlement from Public Risk Management and put out a bid for the demolition and disposal of the material. He stated one proposal had been received from Unlimited Restoration in the amount of \$327,616.00. He asked that the Board approve the bid award.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board awarded Bid #08-2016 – Demolition of the Glades Inn to Unlimited Restoration, Inc. in the amount of \$327,616.00 and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

10. Port LaBelle Community District Meeting Schedule

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board only needed to acknowledge receipt of the letter from Port LaBelle Community Development District providing their schedule of meetings. He stated no action was required on this item.

11. Unencumber SHIP Funds

Susan Whidden, SHIP Administrator, stated that after further investigation this applicant no longer qualified for the SHIP Program.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board approved unencumbering SHIP funds in the amount of \$70,000.00 for Applicant 2016-Demo-5.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned what had disqualified the applicant.

Mrs. Whidden stated the applicant had a private mortgage lender (mortgage) that was not recorded.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

12. Inter-Agency Agreement entered into by the Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc. and it's Healthy Start Care Coordination subcontracted provider as listed in IIA, and Glades County Community Services

County Manager Carlisle stated this group worked with expectant mothers. He stated he had attended a program where this group had given a presentation with United Way. He stated he was very impressed with the work this group was doing.

Mrs. Whidden stated this was a wonderful program. She stated they had started having the doctor make home visits to the mothers who could not get to the doctor's office. She stated this program would help make sure there were healthier babies coming into Glades County. She stated they would tell people about the SHIP Program and she would tell people about their program.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Storter Long the Board approved the Inter-Agency Agreement between the Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc. and its Healthy Start Care Coordination subcontracted provider as listed in IIA and Glades County Community Services and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

13. SHIP Mortgage and Loan Agreement

Mrs. Whidden stated it had taken her a while to accomplish this task. She stated after looking into the SHIP Program and dealing with several of the people that had received SHIP assistance she had come to realize that not one of their mortgages were the same. She stated there were a lot of loop holes in the mortgages. She stated she had worked with Attorney Pringle and County Manager Carlisle to re-write the mortgage documents and loan agreement. She stated she had received some responses from Commissioner Storter Long regarding some items that she felt needed to be revised. She stated she would have to make these revisions and bring the item back before the Board for approval at a future meeting. She explained that she had made separate documents for the applicant/recipient to sign. The first of these was an Error and Omissions page, a borrower agreement to stay current on their Glades County property taxes, a borrower agreement to provide homeowners insurance, and a borrower agreement to maintain primary residency at the address of the home. She stated the SHIP Mortgage Agreement had been revised to reflect that all mortgages would now have a 4% per annum if they defaulted. She stated she had also included a clause that stated the mortgage would satisfy upon the death of the borrower.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on this clause. She agreed that the mortgage should be satisfied upon death of the borrower.

County Manager Carlisle stated this item would need to be revisited. He stated he called this the "kill granny" clause because while it may be their childhood home, it would be their home if granny died. He stated the County needed to make sure they did not promote a situation where this may occur.

Mrs. Whidden agreed.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she was very proud of Mrs. Whidden for getting this done. She stated if Mrs. Whidden handled the closings the borrower would know the rules.

Mrs. Whidden stated #10 made the definition of default very clear. She stated #14 was the due on sale clause. She stated the entire amount of the mortgage from SHIP would be due upon sale of the home within the 5 – 10 years of ownership. She stated there would be no prorated amounts due depending on how long the borrower was in the home, the entire amount would be due regardless. She stated #16 made it very clear that in the event of default the borrower would be responsible for the attorney's fees. She stated the final item was her request to sign on behalf of the Board. She stated someone from Glades County had to represent the SHIP Program at the closing. She stated the person at the closing had to be able to sign the mortgage. She stated there would not be very many closings throughout a year and if one of the Commissioners wanted to attend the closings she had no issue with that.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if an official policy would have to be put in place to allow Mrs. Whidden to sign.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would bring more information about this back to the Board for review. He stated he appreciated all of the comments and suggestions.

14. Glades County BoCC Annual Luncheon

County Manager Carlisle stated the luncheon would be held after the first meeting in December. He stated the County had only received 2 bids for the catering of the event. He stated one of the bids had come in late and did not make the agenda packet. He stated Cracker Country Cookin' had submitted a bid in the amount of \$2,653.00 and Curbside Treats had submitted a bid in the amount of \$1,680.00. He stated the same menu had been provided to all bidders.

Commissioner Beck questioned the late bid. He asked if there was a deadline.

County Manager Carlisle stated no deadline had been posted. He stated staff had just sent the request for bid to them today. He stated staff was just trying to get the best value for the County.

Chairman Pryor asked if both vendors were located in Glades County.

County Manager Carlisle stated both of the vendors were located in Glades County. He stated both were properly licensed with the State.

Commissioner Beck stated the only difference he saw with the bids was that Cracker Country Cookin' would be providing table decorations and staff to serve and clean up afterwards.

County Manager Carlisle stated Curbside Treats would be dropping the food off. He stated County staff would have to do all of the set up and take down.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board approved the date of Tuesday, December 13, 2016 for the County/City/School Annual Luncheon and authorized Curbside Treats to cater the event in the amount of \$1,680.00.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

15. Annual Christmas Boat Parade – Harney Pond Canal (added to the agenda by amendment)

Commissioner Beck stated the Lakeport Women's Garden Club sponsored an Annual Boat Parade at the Harney Pond Canal. He stated the event would be held on December 3rd. He stated the Club was requesting that the Board close the boat ramp nearest to the pavilion at 4:00 p.m. so that they could begin preparations for the parade. He stated the parade would start at 6:00 p.m. He stated the price of admission was to bring a child's toy. He stated the event continued to grow bigger every year and invited everyone to attend.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck seconded by Vice Chairman Ahern the Board approved the Lakeport Garden Club's request to hold their Annual Christmas Boat Parade on December 3, 2016 at the Harney Pond Canal and authorized the closure of the boat ramp closest to the pavilion at 4:00 p.m.

Motion carried by 4 – 0 vote.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

There was no discussion.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

There was no discussion.

COUNTY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT HEADS

County Manager Carlisle stated the grant for the Community Development Block Grant for the neighborhood enhancement was opening. He stated he had spoken with Fred Fox, CDGB Contractor Administrator, about moving forward with the sewer project in Washington Park. He stated staff had not been able to assemble a Community Action Task Force which had cost the County 10 points. He stated he believed that with the County's Promise Zone Designation the County should be able to obtain some bonus points. He stated he was looking into getting this project funded and underway. He stated

the contractor for the infrastructure at the Loves Travel Center had been given the Notice to Proceed. He stated this project would be moving forward. He stated one of the other meetings he had attended at the FAC Legislative Conference was with a company named Health Stat who did in-house clinics for employees. He stated the meeting had consisted of representatives from Glades Electric Cooperative, the School Board, and the Sheriff's Department. He stated he would also be meeting with the City of Moore Haven. He stated it would provide an opportunity to have an in-house clinic for the employees, their spouses, and children. He stated the program would be set up at either no cost or low cost. He stated this was just another benefit the County could offer their employees. He reminded the Board of the Small County Coalition meeting that would be held November 16th and 17th in Tallahassee. He stated it was very important that the County had representation at this meeting. He stated the FAC Conference would be held on November 30 – December 2. He stated he would not be able to attend this event; however, he encouraged some of the Commissioners to attend.

PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Jimmy Cianfrani, resident of Muse, expressed concern with the surface of Kirby Thompson Road. He stated the road was becoming rough to travel down. He stated he had not been able to get in touch with Avant Brown. He stated he did not know whether the contractor had been paid in full or not or if there was any liability on their part. He stated someone needed to come and take a look and drive down the road. He commented on the speed limit being reduced to 45 mph.

Jerry "Gator" Sapp, resident of Palmdale thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to speak this afternoon. He stated the community of Palmdale had suffered a tragic loss. He stated the store had burnt down and over 100 years of history had been destroyed. He stated he remembered that as a young child that store had everything you could possibly want. He stated the store had even served as the Post Office at one time. He stated the people of Palmdale were really saddened with this loss. He stated nothing could fill the loss that Mr. & Mrs. Taylor were going through. He explained how he was notified last Friday morning that the store was on fire. He stated he was almost in tears. He stated the community of Palmdale wanted to see what could be done to revitalize their fire department. He stated he did not know how long it took for the fire department to get to the fire, but quite frankly, if there had been 100 trucks they would not have been able to put the fire out. He stated the store was constructed of pine (lighter wood) and burnt quickly. He stated Palmdale would like to get its fire department back. He stated he realized there were no certified fire fighters in Palmdale but he believed there were men that were willing to become trained and certified as volunteer fire fighters. He stated the community of Palmdale would greatly appreciate anything the Board could do for them.

Chairman Pryor stated this year in the Small County Coalition and Rural Caucus that the Commissioners went to prior to the Legislative Delegation the Board had been fighting for a reduction in the hours for fire fighter training. He stated it was hard for a working man to get the training done. He stated he knew Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, would

help in any way he could. He commented on the need for someone to put water on the fires until the trained fire fighters could get on scene. He stated he believed Mr. Jones and Neil Chapman could help Palmdale get some classes set up and help get the volunteer fire department back.

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated 8 classes had been held since 2007 and there was a class going on right now in Hendry County. He agreed with Mr. Sapp wholeheartedly about the situation. He stated the best way to go about fighting structure fires was for the volunteers to take the Fire Fighter I course. He stated there were courses available in the brush division as well. He stated the training did not cost anything for anyone who wished to attend. He stated he could probably get another class going after the first of the year. He stated the classes were held on Tuesdays and Thursdays and all day Saturdays. He stated the fire fighters needed to be trained with the whole combination – brush, structure, etc. He stated the County would need to come up with the trucks, equipment, and bunker gear. He stated once the volunteers were certified they would be issued all of the equipment and bunker gear. He stated the people had to follow the State laws.

Ray Hendry, resident of Palmdale, commented on a discussion he had had with Mr. Jones several days ago about having a water truck and allowing some of the volunteers to be first responders to the scene until someone trained could arrive. He stated he realized the volunteers would not be authorized to go into the building and would have to back off when the trained fire fighters arrived. He stated this would suffice at least until some of the volunteers could get trained. He stated the community of Palmdale had nothing at this point.

Neil Chapman, retired Fire Fighter/Instructor, commented on the use of a water truck by volunteers who were not yet trained. He stated he had talked with Doug Swann, resident of Palmdale, today regarding this matter. He stated first of all the community needed young men to go through the 206 hours of training. He stated 8 classes had been held and no one from Palmdale had ever showed up. He stated when the last Fire Chief had left Palmdale years ago the fire department had become null and void because no one there was trained. He stated the State of Florida required 206 hours of training before you could enter a structure fire. He suggested that the volunteers become S130 and S190 trained (forestry). He stated it was a 40 hour course that could be held at the Palmdale Fire Station. He stated the community would then get a brush truck. He stated the volunteers would also have to complete a 40 hour First Responder course. He stated the volunteers could do anything but enter a structure. He stated that would allow the volunteers to protect their property as much as possible until someone could get there that could make entry. He stated the store fire probably could have been contained had Palmdale had this type of training. He stated the response time was 14 minutes. He explained that the volunteers would not have been able to get in the hot zone. He commented on the liability of entering the structure without the proper training and the State of Florida coming down on the County in the event someone is injured. He stated

Palmdale needed the men who wanted to do the training. He stated this fire had been a tragedy.

Mr. Hendry asked when the classes could start.

Mr. Chapman stated the classes could start as soon as possible.

Chairman Pryor suggested that Mr. Jones and Mr. Chapman meet at fire department with the residents of Palmdale that were interested in becoming volunteer fire fighters.

Mr. Chapman agreed. He stated they could figure this out and make things work for Palmdale.

Mr. Sapp thanked the Board for their attention to this matter.

Diane Cianfrani, resident of Muse, stated her husband had started a fire at their property just this past week. She stated the fire had burned down a ½ acre palmetto head. She stated it was a windy day and they had major concerns that the ash would blow next door. She stated they had called the fire department and Division of Forestry. She stated it took the fire department 1 full hour to get their home. She stated a request had been made approximately 2 years ago to get full time firemen. She asked that the Board revisit this idea again. She stated these young men in Palmdale worked daily and even if they get the brush truck, if they were not there when a fire started, it would be no good. She stated they could not find young men in Muse that could volunteer because they all worked. She urged the Board to look again at getting full time fire fighters for the County.

Commissioner Storter Long stated a \$30,000.00 study had been done regarding a MSBU for fire. She stated it was going to cost the tax payers approximately \$125.00/year for an additional 4 full-time fire fighters.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board needed to decide at the next meeting whether or not they wished to advertise for a MSBU for fire. He stated there had been legislative changes last year and agricultural properties could no longer have a MSBU placed on them. He stated the MSBU would only apply to residential uses.

Chairman Pryor called Mr. Jay H. Sharkey to speak. Mr. Sharkey had already left the meeting.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated he believed the whole Board supported helping Palmdale, Muse, or any of the areas in Glades County. He stated the County would provide the equipment and training and would be doing our part to assist. He stated Mr. Jones and Mr. Chapman would do everything they could to help with the situation.

Commissioner Beck asked if there was anything further the Board could do to compensate these people with their travel. He suggested compensating them for their time, travel, or fuel use.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested a per diem for a meal or providing them a meal or paying their mileage. She stated the payment should only be made if the person completed the training. She suggested they keep records during their training. She stated she would like to see the Board reconsider the MSBU for fire and asked that the item be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Mr. Cianfrani commented on the way the volunteer fire departments used to work. He commented on the regulations that the State has put on the local volunteers.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if it was against the law for someone to own a fire truck and spray water on someone else's home in the event of a fire.

Mr. Chapman stated there was no law against someone owning a fire truck or spraying water. He stated the law restricted that person from going into the house. He stated the person could not use the truck for structural firefighting. He stated if the people in Palmdale had a brush truck they could keep the fire contained until trained firemen arrived, but they could not go inside the structure.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why the Division of Forestry was not dispatched to the fire in Palmdale.

Mr. Chapman stated it was a structure fire and Forestry did not go to structure fires.

Marsha Taylor, owner of the Palmdale Cracker, stated they could have put the fire out themselves had they had a truck. She stated the fire started on the second floor. She stated they had put a lot of love and money into renovating the store. She stated the community of Palmdale needed fire fighters. She stated it was a small fire to begin with but when law enforcement arrived they would not let anyone near the building. She stated they waited for 45 minutes for the first fire truck to arrive. She stated no one went inside the building. She stated the fire truck sprayed water on the front of the store and the fire was in the back.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the arrival time.

Mrs. Taylor stated it was 45 minutes before anyone arrived on scene. She stated this was after 45 minutes after the 911 call. She stated when the trucks got there one of them ran out of water and had to go to Fisheating Creek to refill the truck. She stated she did not wish to see this type of thing happen again or to any of her neighbors. She stated Palmdale needed a fire truck.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what commercial industry of any kind would ever move into a community that did not have a fire department.

Mrs. Taylor commented on her insurance company cancelling her policy because she was too far away from a fire station.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Beck stated he was glad to see the renewed interest in getting a volunteer fire department started in the community of Palmdale. He stated the County needed to do everything they could to help. He stated some research needed to be done on a monetary compensation for their travel and time. He stated he understood what Mr. Chapman was saying. He stated he had discussed these issues with the Fire Chief for the State of Florida and several cabinet members some time ago and they did not understand rural Florida. He stated all of the legislation was designed for incorporated areas and large areas.

Mr. Jones commented on getting the training classes started and doing what they could to help the community of Palmdale.

Mr. Hendry asked the Board for their support and stated they were going to rebuild the store.

The Board agreed that they would help anyway they could.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on her recent attendance at the FAC Advanced County Commissioner Course. She stated the program had been entertaining and educational. She stated the Ortona Community Association had a new ceiling and it worked. She stated the building was very quiet now. She stated the people of Ortona appreciated the improvements. She asked if the records that were approved periodically at meetings to be destroyed were scanned prior to being taken to the landfill.

County Manager Carlisle stated certain records could be destroyed after a certain period of time.

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court, stated permanent records were kept in her office. She stated the rest of the records were kept according to the records retention schedules set by the State.

Commissioner Storter Long thanked Mrs. Whidden and Mrs. Williams for their efforts to make the SHIP Program better.

Vice Chairman Ahern thanked Mr. Chapman and Mr. Jones for stepping up to help Palmdale with their volunteer fire department. He stated hopefully more people would be encouraged to be volunteers. He stated there were approximately 250 inmates at the

GCDC facility. He stated Mr. Bobby Flanagan had passed away and had been one of the original GCDC Board members.

Mrs. Cianfrani stated Mr. Flanagan had passed away on Friday and she had received word today that there would be no services held.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated there would be an opening on the GCDC Board that they would advertise for and after a selection was made the appointment would come before the Board for approval. He stated the population had been better. He stated the talks with ICE had been encouraging. He commented on the Moore Haven Canal project. He stated the project was moving along and they were making good progress. He stated he continued to search for additional funding to continue the project on to the Monkey Box. He stated the Moore Haven Mosquito Control had sponsored a used tire pickup event. He stated approximately 200 – 300 tires had been picked up.

Chairman Pryor stated it was a sad day for the Palmdale community and the Board needed to do everything they could to help the community. He stated he hoped Mr. Hendry could get some men together and get them certified. He commented on his attendance at the FAC Advanced County Commissioner Course. He commented on a project that he had participated in at the course. He stated he had played off of what the County was doing with the Training Center. He stated the other groups had to criticize the different groups' projects. He stated it was very obvious that the other groups could not come up with any reasons why the project would not work. He stated the other groups did not realize that Glades County was actually doing this. He stated he was proud that what the County was doing was working. He stated he would be going to Tallahassee to attend the Small County Coalition workshop in the end of November.

ADJOURN

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 7:47 p.m.

Weston Pryor, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: November 28, 2016

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