

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017 AT 6:00 P.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 Monday, November 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

John Ahern, Chairman  
Tim Stanley, Vice Chairman  
Donald Strenth  
Weston Pryor  
Donna Storter Long

Others present:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court  
Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Dewayne Pottorff, Chief Deputy  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Chris Felker, Okeechobee News  
Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant  
Jerry Randolph, Public Works Director  
Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections  
Queenie Bell  
5 citizens

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

**PRAYER**

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

Jerry Randolph, Public Works Director, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

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

**PRESENTATIONS / AWARDS**

**1. Glades County School Choice Week Proclamation**

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

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board adopted a Proclamation declaring the week of January 21, 2018 through January 27, 2018 Glades County School Choice Week.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

2. **Approve County Warrants (See Exhibit A)  
General Fund: 82214 – 82315  
Intergovernmental Radio: 10341**
3. **Approved Minutes of the September 19, 2017 Public Hearing**
4. **Approved Minutes of the October 10, 2017 Regular Meeting**

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board approved the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS**

**Anyone wishing to provide public comment on an Agenda Item please fill out a comment card on the table at the entrance to the Commission Chambers.**

Chairman Ahern asked if there was any public input on any of the Business Agenda items. There was none.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

5. **Resolution No. 2017-32 amending the Sheriff's 2016/2017 Budget**

County Manager Carlisle stated there were some adjustments needed on certain individual budgets to bring them into compliance with GASBY and to balance.

Vice Chairman Stanley questioned the overtime figures.

County Manager Carlisle stated the overtime was paid to deputies overseeing the prisoners.

Chairman Ahern stated there was a quite a bit of overtime paid before they were able to hire additional employees.

Dewayne Pottorff, Chief Deputy, explained that a majority of the overtime had been paid during the hurricane. He stated the balance was for jail staff helping out with GCDC.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Resolution stated the amendment to the budget was due to additional revenues received.

County Manager Carlisle stated there was additional revenues because of additional prisoners.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2017-32 amending the Sheriff's 2016/2017 Budget.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**6. Resolution No. 2017-33 amending Revenues, Expenditures and Approving Budget Transfers to amend the 2016/2017 County Budgets**

County Manager Carlisle stated this was the same situation. He stated these transfers would balance out the budgets. He stated a lot of the balances were amended due to the recent hurricane – overtime paid out, the moving of staff, and the hiring of a Building Official. He stated the auditors also had re-evaluated how the County was paying for SHIP administration time.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board adopted Glades County Resolution No. 2017-33 amending Revenues, Expenditures and Approving Budget Transfers to amend the 2016/2017 County Budgets.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**7. Acknowledge receipt of the following 2017 Annual Financial Reports: Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Starter Long the Board acknowledged receipt of the following 2017 Annual Financial Reports: Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**8. Early Learning Coalition**

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board, in the past, had sent a letter to the Early Learning Coalition expressing its regrets for not being able to fund the 6% match. He stated this year the match would total \$1,328.26. He stated this money had not been budgeted and would require an amendment to the current budget. He asked for direction from the Board.

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board disapproved the 6% Federal match in the amount of \$1,328.26 to assist the Early Learning Coalition and authorized County Manager Carlisle to send a letter explaining the County's financial situation.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**9. 16 County Coalition Dues**

Commissioner Pryor stated the Coalition had voted to hire a lobbyist to help with the water issues around Lake Okeechobee. He stated there had been no dues for the past several years; however, the Coalition needed approximately \$8,000.00 to make this deal work. He stated he had suggested asking each of the 16 counties to pay \$500.00 in dues; however, some of the bigger counties disagreed and the idea had been out voted. He stated the Coalition was requesting that each county pay \$1,000.00 in dues. He stated he agreed that it would be great to have a lobbyist for the water issues but he felt that all 16 counties should participate and if not, then the Coalition should be named the 9 County Coalition.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the original Coalition was made up of 9 counties. She stated not all of the 16 counties had the same priorities.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked how a lobbyist could be hired when Glades County had different views than the counties on the coast.

Commissioner Pryor stated only 9 counties usually showed up to the meetings. He stated some of the other counties showed up; however, only 9 counties were actually represented and that was the reason those 9 would be asked to pay dues.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she would not mind paying the \$1,000.00 dues if it was the 9 County Coalition.

Commissioner Pryor stated only 9 of the counties had a vote. He stated only Glades, Hendry, Okeechobee, Lee, Martin, Palm Beach, Osceola, St. Lucie, and Highlands counties had a vote.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Coalition had not made a formal request for payment of the dues. He stated this vote would authorize staff to pay the dues once the request was received. He suggested reviewing the Interlocal Agreement between the 16 County Coalition and see what the County's obligations were. He stated the agreement should address the payment of dues. He suggested continuing this item to the next meeting.

Chairman Ahern stated the Coalition wanted all 16 counties to pay but they were not all in attendance and may choose to not pay the dues.

Commissioner Pryor agreed with reviewing the agreement and stated this was a diverse group that actually worked together on these issues.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Vice Chairman Stanley the Board tabled Item #9 – 16 County Coalition Dues until the next day meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**10. Annual County Christmas Luncheon**

County Manager Carlisle stated Mrs. Whidden had reached out to several vendors for quotes on catering the County's Annual Christmas luncheon. He stated the following bids were received: The Quart House Restaurant - \$3,750.00; Kurbside treats - \$2,050.00; and Cracker Cookin' & Caterin' - \$2,992.50 (which included set up, serving, and clean-up).

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board approved the bid from Kurbside Treats in the amount of \$2,050.00 to cater the County's Annual Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 12, 2017.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

**11. Indian Mound Park FERDAP Agreement**

County Manager Carlisle stated he had reached out to DEP and applied for a grant in the amount of \$90,000.00 and had received it. He stated \$50,000.00 would come from DEP and \$40,000.00 from the County. He stated these funds would have been used to replace the boardwalk, 2 of the bridges, and some kiosks, benches & signage at the park. He stated that in the agreement he received after the award there were several issues that came up. He stated the County had submitted a cultural and environmental study done by the University of Florida and DEP had requested a new study. He stated this could be very expensive since there were known artifacts in the area. He stated DEP was also requiring a 99 year dedication that would require DEP approval of any improvements made to the park during that time.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Storter Long seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board disapproved the Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the improvements to Indian Mound Park and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the requirement for another study. She stated the County did need to spend some money on the park.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would bring the costs for repair of the boardwalk. He stated he would like to get the boardwalk repaired for the Cane Grinding Festival.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the need for benches at the park.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would price out having concrete benches placed at the park.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on how long the Ortona Community Association waited each year to determine whether or not they were even going to have the Cane Grinding Festival.

County Manager Carlisle stated he did believe it was important to have the boardwalk repaired.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if any other grants were available for the improvements.

County Manager Carlisle stated there was a recreational trails grant that had just come out 2 weeks ago. He stated he would look to see if this grant was applicable. He stated he would get with Mr. Randolph about getting these applications submitted.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

## **12. Hurricane Irma Debris**

County Manager Carlisle stated the Board had requested that he bring this item be brought back for discussion. He stated 2 rounds had been made throughout the County for the collection of debris. He stated a request had been made for the County to come up with some options to bring debris in for those people who had not had an opportunity to get the debris to the roadway for pickup. He stated he had consulted with Mr. Randolph about this matter. He stated there had been a serious amount of lot clearing debris put out by the roads for pickup. He stated there was household garbage debris, televisions, and mattresses brought out to the right-of-ways. He stated it would be a challenge for the County to collect this type of debris and be reimbursed by FEMA. He stated it would be years before the funds would be reimbursed. He asked where the line would be drawn on debris pickup. He stated Vice Chairman Stanley had suggested a one day amnesty so that residents could haul this debris to the landfill. He stated this maybe an option; however, this would be for vegetation debris only. He stated there was still debris left at the landfill that needed to be burnt and the additional debris could be incorporated in. He stated this debris however, would not be FEMA reimbursable because there would be no way of verifying where the debris came from. He stated this could be handled by having the resident call in an address where the vegetative debris was located then someone could go out and verify that the debris was storm related; an approval number would then be given to the resident that would be given to staff at the landfill. He stated mattresses, beds, televisions, etc. had to be taken to Okeechobee and paid for. He stated the County would have to use just about all of its reserves to haul this debris off for residents. He stated this would leave the County short on cash flow. He stated this was also a fairness issue. He stated residents would have to understand that the County could not collect this debris forever. He asked for direction from the Board.

Commissioner Pryor stated that in his opinion the County had made 2 rounds and that was sufficient. He stated he realized that some places were wetter than others, but this was a natural disaster and the County had done everything it could possibly do. He suggested that the residents haul the debris away or hire someone to haul it for them.

County Manager Carlisle stated DOT had done one round and would not do a second. He stated DOT had started pickup 3 days after the storm. He stated some of these areas were not reachable for almost a month after the storm. He stated these areas had an entire month to get the debris to the roadside for pickup. He stated there was still debris being brought out to the streets today. He stated this debris consisted of televisions, sofas, etc. He stated this debris was never part of the program.

Chairman Ahern stated the City garbage service was taking care of the areas around the City and was charging the residents for household goods. He stated these goods were not being hauled away for free.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the debris pickup could not be for just one area. She stated she would consider an amnesty day if the residents paid a fee to apply and get approved. She stated she did not feel the County could afford to do this for free.

County Manager Carlisle stated the challenge would be not being able to certify where the debris came from. He stated FEMA was very particular about this debris pickup and he could almost guarantee that none of this additional debris pickup would be reimbursable.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the residents of Buckhead Ridge had plenty of time to get their stuff out. He stated he did feel for the areas in Muse that were under water for so long. He stated this should be taken into consideration in the future if another storm came through. He stated the County was so spread out that it was hard for one contractor to cover. He stated he would agree with offering a one day only amnesty for yard debris only.

Commissioner Storter Long stated staff would have to police the entrance of the landfill to ensure that the debris was vegetative debris only. She questioned how much the County could afford to do for one day.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked how much debris was still left on the roadways in the Muse area.

Mr. Randolph stated there were a lot of whole trees along the roadways.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the County would not be picking up the debris; the residents would have to bring the debris to the landfill. He stated he did not believe it would cost the County that much to accept vegetative debris for one day.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how staff would know that the debris did not come from somewhere else.

Commissioner Strenth stated there would need to be some kind of inspection ahead of time. He suggested having the debris measured as well. He cautioned the use of a permit because someone else could come in under a permit that was not theirs. He stated there would have to be some kind of limitations placed on the debris collected.

County Manager Carlisle stated there were a lot of logistics that would play into this scenario. He questioned how all of this could be done. He stated it would take time for staff to go and inspect all of these piles and document what was there. He stated this would cost money.

Commissioner Pryor stated 2 rounds for pickup had already been made and felt that if there was any debris left that the residents should have to haul it off.

Commissioner Strenth agreed that there needed to be a cut off for the debris pickup.

Vice Chairman Stanley expressed concern with the debris sitting on the right-of-ways. He asked if the County would end up picking it all up if it was left there for some time.

County Manager Carlisle stated Code Enforcement would issue citations for the debris if it was not cleaned up.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there was still no code enforcement officer for the County. She stated there were probably a lot of permits being issued at this time due to repairs being made after the storm.

County Manager Carlisle stated they were working on having it so that the code enforcement officer could work under Mrs. Williams's license so that the Notices of Violation could be sent out, at least. He stated the citations would have to come from a certified officer.

Chairman Ahern stated Mr. Randolph had tried to clean up the populated areas as well as he could. He stated there were other areas on the County right-of-ways that he still needed to get to.

Commissioner Strenth stated an amnesty day would be a compromise; however, he cautioned the Board about opening a can of worms.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he agreed. He expressed concern with not being able to help the people but he felt an amnesty day would have too many logistics involved to make it worthwhile.

Commissioner Pryor asked if a list of vendors that could pick up the debris could be listed on the County's website.

County Manager Carlisle stated as a County government they could not endorse any particular vendor.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS**

There was no discussion.

#### **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

There was no discussion.

#### **COUNTY MANAGER**



County Manager Carlisle stated he had received an email from the lobbyists and they had requested that someone come to Tallahassee on December 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the County's sewer projects. He asked if anyone on the Board wished to volunteer. No one volunteered. County Manager Carlisle stated he would travel to Tallahassee on the 6<sup>th</sup>. He stated the property on Latum Bell in Washington Park that had escheated to the County had received some pretty significant damage during the hurricane. He stated the County had rented the building to a lady who was holding church services there weekly; however, he did not feel that the building was worth repairing. He stated Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, and Jerry Randolph, Public Works Director, had worked with a contractor in dealing with the wasps and bees that were found in Washington Park. He stated the bee hive had been destroyed and on Saturday they would be destroying the wasp hive. He stated the contractor wanted everyone who was within a block of the hive to remain indoors while he was destroying the hive. He stated the Sheriff's Department would also be present to keep people from going down that street. He stated the hive was huge. He stated it was a life threatening situation and although it was on private property, he could not wait for authorization from the owner. He stated he had scheduled a meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> with Commissioner McKinlay from Palm Beach County to discuss the lake issues.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the local press had been given a copy of the "white paper".

County Manager Carlisle stated it had been published in the Hendry Glades Sunday News.

Commissioner Storter Long asked about the Moore Haven Canal and if there had been any more progress with the hotel site.

County Manager Carlisle stated he had a meeting scheduled for tomorrow on the hotel site. He stated FWC had brought a crew out to help reset the plants that the storm had damaged. He stated the County was still facing a challenge with how to maintain the landscaping.

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

There was none.

#### **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Strenth stated Lakeport had been pretty quiet lately. He stated the Lakeport Garden Club may not have the Boat Parade this year due to having only 2 entries sign up so far. He stated they would still have the Christmas present drive.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated a meeting would be held in Okeechobee on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the Lake Okeechobee reservoir that would possibly be sited in Buckhead Ridge. He stated he would be attending the meeting. He stated he had received an invitation from the Seminole Tribe to attend a meeting with Mr. Bowers and the Army Corps regarding the water issues and proposed reservoirs. He stated the

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Buckhead Ridge Homeowners Association would hold their end of the month meeting this Thursday at 6:30 p.m. He invited everyone to attend. He stated there would be a covered dish dinner and turkey and ham would be served. He stated the store at Muse had recently reopened.

Commissioner Storter Long thanked her husband for bringing up the recycling issues at the previous meeting. She stated a recycling trailer had been placed in Ortona. She stated people were thrilled that the trailer was there. She thanked Mr. Randolph for taking care of this.

Commissioner Pryor had no comments.

Chairman Ahern stated he had been working with FEMA on issues regarding the recent storm. He stated a committee had been formed to address the long term work that was needed from the storm. He stated another meeting was planned for December 7<sup>th</sup>. He stated this committee would be working on a plan to help people in recovering from the storm. He stated there was a representative from the Methodist Foundation, one from the Presbyterian Foundation, and numerous organizations that had resources to help people. He stated the Moore Haven Canal was a work in progress. He stated the population was 450 at GCDC as of today. He stated the population was not as high as it had been but they were still in a profitable position.

**ADJOURN**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Pryor seconded by Commissioner Strenth the Board adjourned the meeting.

Motion carried by 5 – 0 vote.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Ahern adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

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John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: May 8, 2018

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