

Union County Board of County Commission

15 Northeast 1st Street • Lake Butler, FL • 32054

Phone: 386-496-4241 • Fax: 386-496-4810

ucbocc@windstream.net

MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 26, 2013 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record for the proceedings and may need to insure that a verbatim record is made.

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order in the County Commission Board Room at 55 West Main Street, Lake Butler, Florida.

2. COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE

Chairman Smith stated that the Board tabled the matter of health insurance at their last meeting and he would like to see this issue resolved. Commissioner Cossey stated that she is in favor of keeping Roberts Insurance and can't understand why it keeps coming up on the agenda. She stated that she could understand that some people preferred BC/BS, but that AvMed is also a good insurance and the County saved \$160,000.00 the first year by going with AvMed. She also suggested having Roberts Insurance shop around for us. Commissioner Dobbs stated that he would prefer BC/BS. Commissioner Tallman stated that some individuals had complained that they couldn't afford their prescriptions with AvMed and he really didn't want any other company other than BC/BS or AvMed. Commissioner Croft stated that he thinks we should look at other options. Chairman Smith stated that he is completely upset with AvMed and thinks that there are other insurance companies that are better. Chairman Smith tried unsuccessfully to poll the Board to see who wanted to keep Roberts Insurance as our agent of record.

*Commissioner Cossey moved, seconded by Commissioner Dobbs, and **failed 3-2 to keep Roberts Insurance as our Agent of Record. Those voting against: Tallman, Croft and Smith.***

Clerk Connell asked if someone could explain what the duties of Agent of Record are, and suggested that the current agent, Lori Thompson, address the Board to that effect. Lori Thompson of Roberts Insurance and Debbie Thomas, of Cook & Associates each spoke.

*Commissioner Tallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Cossey, **to advertise for an RFQ using the same wording previously used.** This was interrupted by Attorney Wade, who stated that the motion previously passed essentially had no effect on the relationship with Roberts Insurance, and that the Board needed to take action to terminate the agreement before advertising for RFQ's.*

*Commissioner Tallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Croft, and **carried unanimously to terminate the Agreement between Union County and Roberts Insurance by a 30 day written notice and to Advertise RFQ using the same wording previously used.***

Commissioner Tallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Cossey, and **carried unanimously to approve Budget Amendment 2013-04.**

3. COUNTY ROAD 237

Chairman Smith informed the Board that he had met with Jones Edmunds this morning regarding a change order for County Road 237 that he passed out to each Commissioner. He explained that the shoulder work, sod work and everything will be done on that road except asphalt being placed underneath the guard rails. He recommended the Board to approve it as is because he didn't think we could do any better.

Commissioner Smith then began to discuss the paving work on 102nd Lane. Commissioner Tallman asked him to explain how he went from discussing County Road 237 to discussing 102nd Lane.

BOARD MEMBERS:

KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL
Clerk of Court

RUSSELL WADE
County Attorney

KAREN COSSEY, District 1 • MORRIS DOBBS, District 2 • JIMMY TALLMAN, District 3 • M. WAYNE SMITH, District 4 • WILLIE CROFT – District 5
CHAIRMAN

Union County Board of County Commission

15 Northeast 1st Street • Lake Butler, FL • 32054

Phone: 386-496-4241 • Fax: 386-496-4810

ucbocc@windstream.net

Commissioner Tallman asked some of the residents who live on 102nd if they paid for the paving on this road and they didn't answer. Commissioner Cossey stated that paving 102nd Lane was not approved by this Board. Commissioner Tallman stated that Chairman Smith told the Board in an open meeting on March 18th that the seven citizens who live on this road paid for it. Commissioner Tallman stated that it was illegal for the road to be paved without Board approval. Chairman Smith stated that once the County maintains a road for four years it is considered a county road and 102nd Lane is a county road because it has been maintained for more than four years, and that he took it upon himself to pave the road. Commissioner Tallman asked Attorney Wade who retains the authority to order a road to be paved. Attorney Wade stated that it is by a vote of the Board. Commissioner Tallman stated that he wouldn't be satisfied until Chairman Smith personally pays \$17,000.00 plus. Commissioner Tallman then asked Clerk of Courts, Kellie Connell if the County had the money to pay for this road and if she felt it was proper for Chairman Smith to go around the Board and do as he pleases. Clerk Connell stated that there was upwards of \$400,000.00 reserves last year and all but approximately \$83,000.00 of that was used to balance this year's budget. She informed the Board that there were still reserves from the money that came from New River Solid Waste, but she recommended that funds should be held onto to assist with next year's budget. Commissioner Dobbs stated that Chairman Smith had admitted that he was wrong and was now asking for mercy. Chairman Smith asked for the mercy of the Board, and asked that they allow him to use \$17,688.00 from the \$300,000.00 that he and Commissioner Dobbs received from New River Solid Waste for the County. He stated that if the Board would not allow him to use these funds, he would have to pay for it himself. Rhonda Smith, daughter of Chairman Smith stated that her father has gotten over twenty million dollars for Union County while serving as a commissioner over the past twenty years. She stated that he has asked for mercy, and cannot believe that people want to argue over \$17,688.00. A citizen spoke, stating that her 90 year old mother lives on 102nd Lane and thanked Chairman Smith for paving the road. Commissioner Dobbs asked Clerk Connell if they could use the \$300,000 New River Solid Waste money to pay the \$17,688.00 cost of paving 102nd Lane. Clerk Connell stated that \$16,000.00 of the money from New River Solid Waste was used for maintenance on the fire truck, and that there are no restrictions on the remaining balance.

Commissioner Dobbs moved to allow for the Board to use \$17,688.00 from the New River Solid Waste money to pay APAC for the paving of 102nd Lane. This motion died for a lack of a second.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cossey moved, seconded by Commissioner Croft, carried unanimously to adjourn.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

M. WAYNE SMITH, CHAIRMAN

KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CLERK

BOARD MEMBERS:

KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL
Clerk of Court

RUSSELL WADE
County Attorney

KAREN COSSEY, District 1 • MORRIS DOBBS, District 2 • JIMMY TALLMAN, District 3 • M. WAYNE SMITH, District 4 • WILLIE CROFT – District 5
CHAIRMAN