

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2016**

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.

PRESIDING: Karen Cossey, Chairwoman

RECORDING: Kellie Connell, Clerk of Courts

ATTENDING: Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Woody Kitler; Commissioner Jimmy Tallman; Commissioner Jeff Andrews; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Kellie Connell, Clerk of Courts; Russ Wade, County Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairwoman Cossey.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Pastor Patrick Maxwell delivered the invocation and Chairwoman Cossey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carol Pittman addressed the Board regarding not being provided with high speed Internet service. He stated the problem is that he has a Lake City phone number, but is in Union County. Chairwoman Cossey said she had spoken with Windstream, and it would cost millions to run the line for the connection. The Board agreed to send a letter supporting the company providing service to residents.

Leroy Newton came before the Board again asking the road in his subdivision be repaired. Chairwoman Cossey stated that this was in need of repair, and that there was money left in the budget for the road materials for the districts if it were combined. **Commissioner Kitler moved to split the cost between the districts and put out bids to repair the road. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.**

4. TREY LONG, JAMES MOORE & COMPANY

Trey Long, of the County's auditor James Moore & Company, addressed the Board regarding the audit contract. The original contract was for three years, with three-year renewals. He asked that the Board increase the fee from the current rate of \$52,400. He stated that the original bid had been for \$60,000, was reduced to \$54,000, and was further negotiated to the current amount during interviews with the audit committee. He is asking to adjust to \$56,000, attributing \$2,000 of the increase due to the new requirements by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board for pension reporting.

Clerk Connell stated that the auditors are doing a good job, are thorough in their work, and are reasonable and easy to work with. Chairwoman Cossey asked if Mr. Long would accept \$55,000, and he agreed. Commissioner Tallman expressed concern about the increased fees, and thought that we could find a lower price by bidding it out again. **Commissioner Tallman moved that the County go through the bid process for the audit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Croft and passed unanimously.**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve the May 16, 2016 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted, with a second from Commissioner Kitler. The motion carried with none opposed.

6. FINANCE REPORT

Commissioner Tallman made a motion to approve to pay the bills as presented, with a second by Commissioner Kitler. The motion passed unanimously.

7. ACORN CLINIC, CANDICE KING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Candice King, Executive Director of the Acorn Clinic, approached the Board requesting funding for the upcoming year. She requested the continued \$10,000 to fund ongoing operations, and an additional \$10,000 for a capital campaign. Discussion ensued among the Board regarding the services provided by the Health Department's dental bus. **Commissioner Tallman moved to fund continuing operations at the current amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion and it passed with none opposed.**

8. MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, INC.

Richard Anderson, Senior Vice-President for Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, addressed the Board, stating that 463 Union County residents were served last year by Meridian, and outlining other statistics regarding services provided. Commissioner Kitler inquired about daily interaction in the school system. Mr. Anderson stated that a grant has been applied for to provide services in the schools. Chairwoman Cossey asked if the School Board contributes, and Mr. Anderson responded that they do not. Commissioner Tallman observed that the amount of \$40,000 he is requesting is a rather large increase. **Commissioner Tallman moved to continue funding in the current amount of \$27,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Croft, and passed unanimously.**

9. MANNY PEREZ, PARK MANAGER, FRDAP GRANT RECIPIENTS 2016-2017

Manny Perez, State Park Ranger, presented the Board with a two-phase \$100,000 FRDAP Grant for O.J. Phillips Recreational Complex. The funds will pay for new picnic tables, playground equipment, exercise trail, basketball courts, baseball fields and handicap accessible parking. Chairwoman Cossey inquired of Attorney Wade the status of the grant for the Sarah Holmes Park. He stated there were problems with the title, and they were trying to resolve those issues before moving forward.

10. CDBG CITIZEN ADVISORY TASK FORCE

The following names were presented for the CDBG Citizen Advisory Task Force: Joan Welch, JR Davis, Roseanna Barnett, Linda Navarro and Judy Stegall. **Commissioner**

Andrews moved to approve the citizens presented for the Task Force. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion; the motion carried with none opposed.

11. 233RD LANE/SAPP CEMETERY ROAD

Bruce Meyer from Jones-Edmunds presented to the Board the upcoming SCRAP projects for Sapp Cemetery Road and County Road 199. He stated they would like to bid the two projects together to minimize the costs.

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the Scope of Services for Sapp Cemetery Road. There was a second by Commissioner Croft. The motion passed unanimously.

12. COUNTY ROAD 199

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the Scope of Services for County Road 199, and to move forward with the process with DOT. There was a second by Commissioner Tallman. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairwoman Cossey stated that DOT now requires separate services for a construction engineer inspector, from NCH Construction, included with the Scope of Services. **Commissioner Croft moved to approve NCH Construction for the construction engineer inspector. There was a second by Commissioner Andrews. The motion passed unanimously.**

13. COUNTY ROAD 239

Chairwoman Cossey stated the Board has received the right of way from Plum Creek Timberlands needed for the culverts. **Commissioner Croft moved to accept the right of way as presented from Plum Creek. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.** Chairwoman Cossey indicated that we needed to move quickly, as the grant deadline is approaching.

14. TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Commissioner Tallman moved to approve the amendment to the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement, with a second by Commissioner Croft. The motion passed with none opposed.

15. RECREATION COMPLEX DISCUSSION

Commissioner Tallman addressed recent complaints being made on Facebook about maintenance of the Recreation Complex. He stated that this is done by volunteers, and in recent years, there has been a shortage of volunteers. The current members of the Recreation Board's terms are ending in September, and applications are being accepted for new members. Commissioner Tallman expressed appreciation to Denise Dukes and Kim Shatto, who have volunteered even after their children are no longer playing ball there. They have given a lot of their time for years. The Interlocal Agreement indicates that there are two board members from the County, and two from the city. He expressed the DOC takes care of a lot of the maintenance. He encouraged people that are complaining to step up and volunteer their services for the Recreation Board.

16. HOLIDAY AND PAYROLL SCHEDULE

Clerk Connell pointed out that Christmas Eve and Christmas fall on a Saturday and Sunday this year, and those holidays have been split on Friday and Monday, following the 8th Judicial Circuit. **Commissioner Croft moved to approve the Holiday and Payroll Schedule as presented, with a second by Commissioner Kitler. The motion passed with none opposed.**

17. SHIP ANNUAL REPORT

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the SHIP Annual Report as presented, with a second by Commissioner Tallman. The motion passed with none opposed.

18. AG FACILITY BIDS

Chariwoman Cossey opened two bids for the Ag Facility. The first was John Burket, of PJ Callaghan Construction, from Clearwater, for \$266,744.40. The second was Union LaSteel for \$147,486.00. Commissioner Tallman asked for the bids to be reviewed to ensure the bids were for comparative structures. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept the bid from Union LaSteel for \$147,486, on the contingency that it is reviewed to be within the specs of the project, with a second by Commissioner Croft. The motion passed with none opposed.**

19. CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the COPCN between the County and Century Ambulance, with a second by Commissioner Andrews. The motion passed unanimously.

20. REPORT FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Solid Waste Department – J. Beasley
Absent

Road Department – S. Arnold, Jr.
Director Arnold had nothing to report at this time.

Public Library – M. Brown
Absent; Chairwoman Cossey addressed that an employee left and Mrs. Brown is asking to move R. Crews from part-time to full-time. **Commissioner Tallman moved to allow the change in position status. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.**

EMS & Volunteer Fire Department - M. Andrews
Director Andrews had nothing to report at this time.

Emergency Management – J. Walker
Absent

County Extension Office – D. Nistler
Mr. Nistler reported that the 4-H Foundation Auction was a huge success, and there will be ten 4-H clubs in the upcoming year, and there is a shortage of leaders.

21. REPORT FROM KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Connell reported that Finance Officer Jean Shuford accepted a job with the Sheriff's Office, and she has hired Savannah Chastain to fill the position, and will start August 29.

22. **REPORT FROM RUSSELL A. WADE III, COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Wade had nothing to report.

23. **REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

District 1 – K. Cossey

Chairwoman Cossey had nothing to report at this time.

District 2 – W. Kitler

Commissioner Kitler had nothing to report at this time.

District 3 – J. Tallman

Commissioner Tallman informed the Board that he will be meeting with C. Byrd of Alachua County regarding mining issues.

District 4 – J. Andrews

Commissioner Andrews had nothing to report at this time.

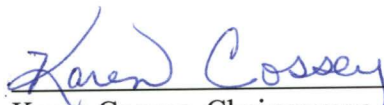
District 5 – W. Croft

Commissioner Croft has nothing to report at this time.


24. **ADJORNMENT**

Chairwoman Cossey adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:


Karen Cossey, Chairwoman

ATTEST:


Kellie H. Connell, Clerk of Courts