

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 20, 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: Jean Shuford, Finance Officer

ATTENDING: Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Woody Kitler; Commissioner Jimmy Tallman; Commissioner 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

Commissioner Croft delivered the invocation and Chairwoman Cossey led the pledge.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Debbie Thomas, Cook and Associates, informed the Board of the successfulness of open-enrollment.

Jeff Atwater's, Florida Chief Financial Officer, representative, Patrick Juliano, came before the Board to request hosting an event at the Union County Courthouse to inform County residents of unclaimed properties.

4. FINANCE REPORT

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the bills as presented. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. CHRIS BIRD, ALACHUA COUNTY

Mr. Chris Bird, Alachua County Environmental Protection, handed out excerpts from plans. Mr. Bird introduced Ben Chumley, Planner of Alachua County, and Steve Hoffstedder, Natural Resources Manager, who accompanied him. Mr. Bird offered to discuss key issues, regarding the proposed mining operation. He encouraged the Board to work closely with the Regional Planning Council, seeing they have offered their assistance.

Mr. Bird informed the Board that in 1975, Alachua County adopted their first mining ordinance. He stated that over the last four years, the mining issues have involved sand mining; therefore, they have not had much involvement with phosphate mining. Mr. Bird explained that the largest issue in this area is the fact that the proposed mine does not protect the wetlands. Chairwoman Cossey suggested the County work together with Alachua County, and Commissioner Tallman thanked Alachua for extending their assistance.

Mr. Bird explained the current situation of an extreme amount of nitrogen pollution and lack of water in Santa Fe River, causing it to have trouble flowing properly. He does not feel like the State should be allowing negative impacts to the river. Mr. Bird explained that the proposal required a 25-foot setback from wetlands. Involving the same scenario, Alachua County would require a 500-foot setback from wetlands.

Attorney Wade explained that now is the time to prepare plans and regulations. He requested authorization from the Board to move forward and continue working with Alachua County and the Regional Planning Council. He stated that the text and maps must be looked at and put into place. He spoke regarding processing permit applications and the applicant's responsibility of fees. **Commissioner Tallman moved to approve Attorney Wade to work with Alachua County and the Regional Planning Council to develop proposals to update the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

6. DAVID FOX, CDBG

Mr. David Fox stated that seven homes have been completed under the grant program, and eight applicants are available to fill the three remaining spots. . He explained that the Citizen's Advisory Task Force has new guidelines under the CDBG program which are as follows: minimum of five members, at least three being low to moderate income, can include one County employee but not required, no elected officials, and all must live in Union County. The Board discussed the progress of said applications. The list must be submitted by next Regular Board meeting.

Mr. Fox explained that the Agriculture Department will incorporate the existing contract with the new contract and the new completion date will be December 2017. Sarah's Park survey has been completed. Mr. Chuck Clyatt explained that he spoke with Fannie Mae Riggins and she stated that she would like to see the project completed as soon as possible.

7. BARNEY BENNETTE AND BILL HENDERSON, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Bill Henderson introduced Mr. Barney Bennette. Mr. Bennette spoke about SCRAP and SCOP projects. He discussed an issue of underfunded projects. Mr. Bennette stated that going forward, lower risk projects will be considered. He explained that the program is going web-based. Once a project is submitted, Department of Transportation will then decide which program it applies to, whether SCRAP or SCOP. The project will stay in the queue until it is programmed. Safety, preservation, and then capacity will be prioritized, in that order.

Mr. Bennette spoke about the Sun Trail. It currently extends from Palatka to Lake Butler and is eligible to continue to Lake City. The Right of Way is privately owned and must be attained before extension approval.

8. SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES

Abby Johnson expressed thankfulness for support. She explained that qualifying counties must have 150,000 person population or less. There are 149 acres of property in Union County that qualify for payment in lieu of taxes, totaling \$832.71.

9. SUSAN ALLDREDGE AND MATTHEW SCOTT, PRIMERICA

Matthew Scott, Regional Vice President, explained to the Board that Primerica is a financial education company. Primerica offers free educational courses, no fees, and no expectation of services to be purchased. Mr. Scott offered his services and left information and business cards.

10. CR-199 AND NE 233RD LANE, REQUEST TO ADVERTISE FOR A CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER INSPECTOR (CEI)

Jones Edmunds is no longer allowed to both design and engineer. **Commissioner Kitler moved to advertise for an engineer inspector. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

11. PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR EXTENSION GRANT FOR AGRICULTURE FACILITY

Commissioner Tallman requested to schedule a workshop on a Wednesday at 9 AM to develop plans for an advertisement for the extension grant of the Agriculture Facility.

12. APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE FROM JASON AND ANGIE HENDRICKS

Commissioner Kitler moved to approve the Application of Variance from Jason and Angie Hendricks. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

13. REPORT OF DISCOUNTS, ERRORS, DOUBLE ASSESSMENTS, AND INSOLVENCIES

Commissioner Croft moved to approve the Report of Discounts, Errors, Double Assessments, and Insolvencies. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

14. BID OPENING FOR SNAPPER MOWER

Chairwoman Cossey opened three bids: JR Davis for \$438, Thomas Stitt for \$505, and Vernon Dukes for \$75.95. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept Thomas Stitt's bid for \$505. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

15. RESOLUTION 2016-08

Commissioner Tallman moved to adopt Resolution 2016-08. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

16. RELEASE OF LIEN AGREEMENT UNDER SHIP

Commissioner Tallman moved to release the lien agreement under SHIP. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

17. 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

Director Brown spoke about the summer programs that took place. She requested Board approval for an invoice for Amazon for \$1,892.45 that was received after monthly bills were submitted. **Commissioner Croft moved to approve the invoice for Amazon for \$1,895.45. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

EMS & Volunteer Fire Department - M. Andrews

Absent

Emergency Management – J. Walker

Absent

County Extension Office – D. Nistler

Director Nistler spoke of an upcoming pesticide training, in response to Commissioner Tallman. It is tentatively planned for the end of summer. There will be one or two trainings each quarter.

18. REPORT FROM KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Connell requested guidance from the Board in reference to the Budget, as far as raises and fund balance. Chairwoman Cossey would like to see a raise for all employees. The Board preferred to build the budget with a 3% raise for all employees.

19. REPORT FROM RUSSELL A. WADE III, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Wade had nothing to report at this time.

20. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District 1 – K. Cossey

Chairwoman Cossey had nothing to report at this time.

District 2 – W. Kitler

Commissioner Kitler thanked Director Arnold and the Road Department for work that was completed, on behalf of his district.

District 3 – J. Tallman

Commissioner Tallman had nothing to report at this time.

District 4 – J. Andrews

Commissioner Andrews had nothing to report at this time.

District 5 – W. Croft

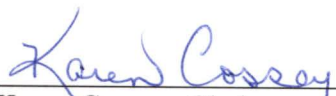
Commissioner Croft had nothing to report at this time.

21. ADJOURNMENT


Chairwoman Cossey adjourned the meeting at 7:09 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Karen Cossey, Chairwoman



Kellie H. Connell, Clerk of Courts