

Columbia County
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of
April 6, 2023

The Columbia County Board of County Commissioners met in a regular scheduled meeting in the auditorium of the School Board Administrative Complex at 9:30 a.m. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chairman Rocky Ford, Robby Hollingsworth, Timothy Murphy, Everett Phillips and Ronald Williams

Others in Attendance: County Manager David Kraus ("CM")
Assistant County Manager Kevin Kirby (ACM")
County Attorney Joel Foreman
Clerk of Circuit Court James M. Swisher Jr.
Deputy Clerk Olga Armas

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the agenda. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations

Rocky Ford, Chairman

- 1) Proclamation No. 2023P-04 – National Hospice Month – April 2023

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve Proclamation No. 2023P-04. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously. See attached Proclamation.

- 2) Proclamation No. 2023P-05 – National Public Safety Tele communicator Week

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve Proclamation No. 2023P-05. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously. See attached Proclamation.

Presentation of the Board

Kate Doung, Library Staff

Library staff requested permission to stop charging library users for returning library materials past their due dates. The request, if approved, would take effect on October 1, 2023.

Terry Rasmussen offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve elimination of library fines for overdue materials, beginning October 1st, 2023. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

MOTION by Commissioner Hollingsworth to approve the consent agenda as amended. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1) BCC Administration - Request by Crime Stoppers of Columbia County, Inc. - Recognize Crime Stoppers of Columbia County, Inc. as the Official Crime Stoppers Program in Columbia County
- 2) BCC Finance - BA 23-46 - Transfer Economic Development Future Enhancement Funds to Professional Services
- 3) BCC Finance - BA 23-48 Loan Allocation for Capital Improvements Loan with First Federal
- 4) BCC Finance - Bills and Vouchers - 03/29/23 - \$2,374,974
- 5) BCC Administration - Richardson Disclaimer
- 6) Library - Pronunciation Agreement - \$1,995
- 7) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Phillips Circle
- 8) Public Works - Utility Permit - Comcast - SW Michael Raod
- 9) Solid Waste Collection Franchise Application - Dale's Excavation

Item # 5 pulled from consent agenda for discussion under CM Kraus' last item.

MOTION by Commissioner Hollingsworth to adopt the consent agenda as amended. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action Items

Kevin Kirby, Assistant County Manager

1) 2023-I – Well Abandonment

On March 14th, 2023, five bids were received in response to 2023-I. All bids were determined to be qualified meeting all of the required specifications. Staff's recommendation to the Board is to award either Newsome Well & Septic the lowest qualified bidder with a timeline of 30 days, or Roundman's Pump Repair the lowest qualified bidder with a timeline of 14 days.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to award Newsome Well & Septic the lowest qualified bidder with a timeline of 30 days, or Roundman's Pump Repair the lowest qualified bidder with a timeline of 14 days. SECOND by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously.

David Kraus, County Manager

2) Resolution No. 2023R-15 – Request for COPCN – North Florida Regional Medical Center, Inc.

North Florida Regional Medical Center, Inc. requested a COPCN for inter-facility transport. This would allow them to pick up patients at Lake City Medical when they are unable to get timely transport for patients going down to North Florida for transfer admission. They will provide an ALS/BLS ambulance because many of these transfers are ALS patients; cardiac, respiratory, etc.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve Resolution No. 2023R-15. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

3) Job Description Revision – Tourist Development Director

Stew Lilker offered comment.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve revision. SECOND by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

4) Permission to Negotiate - NOAA lease – Franklin St. Tower.

Central communications requested permission to enter into negotiations with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for Tower Vertical Space and Utilities. NOAA to extend their lease for an additional 5 years on Franklin Street Tower.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to Authorize negotiations to extend lease on Franklin Street Tower with NOAA. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

5) Permission to Negotiate – AT&T – Tower Replacement

Central Communications recommended revisions to the AT&T lease of space on the Lulu tower. Upon approval of the revised language, Central communications will finalize funding details with AT&T.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to approve lease language as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The motion carried unanimously.

6) Permission to Negotiate – T-Mobile/Sprint Communications – Tower Space

Central Communications recommended revisions to the T-Mobile/Sprint Comm lease of tower space. If the revised language is approved, Central Communications will finalize funding details with T-Mobile/SprintComm.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve lease language as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Phillips. The motion carried unanimously.

7) BCC Administration - Richardson Disclaimer

Discussion ensued.

Members of the public offering comment on the Richardson Center were:

- Sylvester Warren
- Stew Lilker
- Phil Mobley
- Dale Brisby

Commissioner Williams mentioned that there is a grant for the Richardson Center for \$500K that will be applied to begin renovating the Classroom in the Center.

MOTION by Commissioner Murphy to not approve the disclaimer nor accept the deed until after a workshop is held with the City of Lake City and the BOCC. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Comments and/or Questions:

Members of the public offering comment were:

- Brandon Stubbs
- Terry Rasmussen
- Sylvester Warren
- Stew Lilker
- Paul Dyal

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to not remove anything from the Richardson Center until after the meeting that is going to be held with the County and the City. SECOND by Commissioner Hollingsworth. The motion carried 3 to 2 with Commissioners Murphy and Ford voting in opposition.

Staff Comments:

None.

Commissioner Comments:

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

ATTEST:

Rocky Ford, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

James M. Swisher, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court