

**PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON JULY 9, 2013 AT 9:00 AM
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
ROOM 103, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
ARCADIA, FLORIDA**

The Board of County Commissioners held a Public Meeting on July 9, 2013 with the following persons present:

Commissioner, Buddy Mansfield, Dist#1	
Chairman, James Selph, Dist#2	Utilities Director, Eddie Miller
Commissioner, Gabriel Quave, Dist#3	Social Services Director, Peggy Waters
Commissioner, Elton Langford, Dist#4	Fire Chief, Glenn Prescott
Commissioner, Bob Miller, Dist#5	Purchasing Director, Cindy Talamantez
County Administrator, C. Guy Maxcy	HR Director, Don Kesterson
County Attorney, Don Conn	Parks & Recreation Director, Tara Anderson
Facilities Director, Richard Metzger	County Coordinator, Mandy Hines
Environmental Svcs. Director, Henry Grimes	EM Director, Doug Christ
Transcribing Secretary, Jill Thompson	Office Manager, Lauri Jones
Administrative Services Director, Linda Nipper	County Extension Director, Ken Johnson
Road & Bridge Director, Shawn Edwards	Deputy Fire Chief, Larry Taylor
Compliance Director, Jorge Hernandez	County Engineer, Mike Giardullo
Building Official, Lester Hornbake	Planning Manager, Thomas Cookingham

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 AM

PRAYER- Pastor Doug King/Temple Baptist

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Kathy Hill, Tax Collector and Sheriff Will Wise

RECOGNITION

The Chairman recognized Krista Mitchell/National Director and Greg Free/District 2 Dixie Youth Baseball and thanked them both for bringing the tournament to DeSoto County.

SET/AMEND- Mr. Maxcy requested to add an item to the agenda regarding a detailed work plan budget for fiscal year 2013/14 for State aide for mosquito control services. A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to waive the agenda policy. Seconded by Commissioner Langford. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to approve the agenda with the amendment to the mosquito control to be placed as 9B on the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Mansfield. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT AGENDA-MOTION TO APPROVE

A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to approve the Accounts and Warrants drawn according to schedule of bills payable; Minutes of June 24, 2013 Workshop; ERU Pool Agreement for Gordon Martin; Contract Amendment with The Dumont Company, Inc. to extend the contract for another year; Agreement Amendment with Benchmark Enviroanalytical, Inc. to extend the agreement for another year; Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG) Agreement #14-BG-07-24-01-014; Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement #14-FG-07-24-01-081. Seconded by Commissioner Quave. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

8. Wireless Remote Monitoring

Eddie Miller presented a handout on the telemetry and justification for the system being presented. The current system is very reactive but would like a more proactive system so only the problems at the lift stations can be addressed. Ted Holtzman with Mader Electric Motors spoke regarding the monitoring system presented. The system will have the ability to turn pumps on and off through cell phone modems. The advantages of the system would be that engineering and installation costs reduced, increased productivity, help prevent costly downtime events, operators become more efficient and reduced overtime. Eddie Miller agreed with Mr. Maxcy that the wireless remote monitoring system will save the County money. Eddie Miller stated that in order to purchase the system; phasing in may be necessary over the next year. Commissioner Miller feels the system is worth further inquiry. Commissioner Quave suggested researching an alternate system that costs less. Commissioner Langford questioned the maintenance fees. Mr. Holtzman stated there is no normal monthly maintenance. The annual cost is approximately \$30.00 monthly per unit.

REGULAR BUSINESS

9. FY 2012/13 Tax Roll

Kathryn Hill presented the final 2012 Tax Roll with a correction on net charge; should state 12. As of this year Ms. Hill is no longer required to present this to the Board. She then reviewed the Tax Roll. Ms. Hill stated she has hired a collection agency for personal property which is no cost to the County. Further discussion was had. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to accept the year-end Tax Collector's Recapitulation for the tax year 2012 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

9B. Grant/Mosquito Control

Mr. Maxcy requested the Board to consider approval of the Mosquito Control Grant matching funds up to \$18,000.00. A motion was made to adopt the request for DeSoto County Board of County Commissioners to approve a Detailed Work Plan Budget for fiscal year 2013/14 to State Aide from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for Mosquito Control. Seconded by Commissioner Mansfield. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Agreement/SCOP with FDOT

Mike Giardullo requested approval for funding of the Carlstrom Field Road improvements through the Small County Outreach Program. Florida Department of Transportation has dedicated \$649,929.00 to this project. The improvements will include milling of the existing road, repaving, adding shoulders, some drainage improvements, making connections to existing driveways, culverts and restriping. Mr. Giardullo stated that he prioritizes the list in which jobs need to be completed; that list went before the Board and was approved. Commissioner Miller commented that he would prefer the funds go to the extension of West Farms Road. Further discussion was had. A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to approve the Small County Outreach Program Agreement with

the Florida Department of Transportation for funding in the amount of \$649,929.00 for the design, construction and construction engineering and inspection for the repaving of SE Carlstrom Field Road with the design contract let on or before September 1, 2013; design to be completed on September 1, 2014; construction to be let on or before November 1, 2014; construction to be completed before November 1, 2015 and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Quave. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Contract/Marine Contracting Group

Mike Giardullo stated over a year ago, it was noticed there was a need for a floating dock at the Liverpool boat ramp. The low bid came in at \$110,000.00 with a \$1,500.00 alternate to do scour restoration at the existing boat ramp. Mr. Giardullo stated that some of the extra funds will come from the balance of funds for culvert restoration. There are also funds available in the railroad line item. He believes no funds will need to come out of reserves for this project. Further discussion was had. Commissioner Mansfield stated that the original price range was set at \$50,000.00 and believes the additional funds for the project is too much. Mr. Maxcy feels the boat ramp is a life safety issue. Commissioner Langford feels this issue should be postponed due to additional funds needed. He also suggested looking at different design options. Further discussion was had regarding the different options. Don Conn commented that if the situation is a life safety issue then steps need to be taken to alleviate that risk. One solution would be to close the boat ramp or solve in another way. Chairman Selph does not feel it would be a wise choice for the Board to ignore the situation. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to table agenda item #11 the floating boat dock at Liverpool boat ramp and give staff time to research alternate options that are closer to the original \$50,000.00 budget. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Approval/Group Insurance for FY 13-14

Don Kesterson requested to amend the request to approve the proposed 13-14 by removing the Health and Life insurance at this time. There are several issues that he would like to bring back to the Board on July 23rd. Mr. Kesterson requested approval for the Dental and Vision insurance with a recommendation from the Insurance Committee. Commissioner Miller commented on the value of the Insurance Committee. Robin Riley commented that the United Healthcare renewal is coming in with a rate increase of 5% with no plan changes. Blue Cross & Blue Shield has proposed a fully-insured plan with only a 3% rate increase from current plan. BCBS has also proposed a self-funded plan with the option of controlling the claims and plan. UHC also provided a self-funded quote but their rates are still 5% higher than current rates. Mr. Maxcy stated that a 5% increase in premiums is equivalent to \$157,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Quave to approve the proposed FY 13-14 Dental and Vision plans premiums as recommended. Seconded by Commissioner Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Maxcy commented that he worked in concessions during the Tidewell Hospice Ranch Rodeo. He enjoyed it and wanted to commend the Turner Center staff on a job well done. Mr. Maxcy read into record a letter from Governor Rick Scott congratulating the Turner Center for being one of only seventeen food service establishments in the Sunshine State for having no safety or sanitation violations within the past year. Mr. Maxcy requested to speak with each Board member individually regarding equipment for the Utility department. Mr. Maxcy brought to the Board's attention the new monitors and thanked Richard Metzger and Cindy Talamantez for ordering and installing.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Conn reported that the P.I.E. case has been scheduled oral argument with the Second District Court of Appeal in Lakeland on August 28, 2013. He requested from the Board, regarding the Astaldi case, to set an attorney/client briefing session for July 23rd at 2:00 pm to discuss litigation strategy as well as a possible settlement proposal. It was consensus of the Board to set this date and time for an Executive Session.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Quave commented that he met some very interesting people during FAC that are willing to audit the Business Tax as well as the Tourism Tax the County collects. He also requested to speak with Mr. Maxcy regarding EMS insurance claims auditing. He is enjoying the baseball tournament.

Commissioner Langford reported that the Hospice Ranch Rodeo was down on attendance from the previous year but still worth the effort and thanked all involved.

Commissioner Mansfield thanked Commissioner Langford for the Ranch Rodeo. He also commented on the mosquito problem in the County. Commissioner Mansfield stated Tara is doing a great job at Brewer Park.

Commissioner Miller stated he has heard comments regarding the beautiful ball fields at Brewer Park but unfortunately a large number of people had to stay in Port Charlotte due to the lack of Hotels in DeSoto County. He also attended the barrel race at the Turner Center and commented there was a large amount of contestants. Commissioner Miller stated the County does pay the expenses when the Board attends FAC but there is vast amount of knowledge from the meetings that is priceless. These are great opportunities to meet other Commissioners throughout the State that have common issues.

Commissioner Quave commented regarding the compliments he received regarding the fields at Brewer Park.


Commissioner Selph commented regarding global equipment. DEP requires an office at the Utilities Lift Station and suggested the bill be forwarded to DEP with a copy to our two Legislators. He also commented that the Board's attendance at FAC is important and valuable information is gained. He applauded Commissioner Langford on the Ranch Rodeo. He also commended Tara Anderson on the ball fields at Brewer Park. Also, the fireworks were fantastic. Mandy Hines and he are meeting with the Governor on Thursday. He stated they are working on creating jobs in this State and DeSoto County and more opportunity to create a larger ad-valorem tax base but it's not easy. We have to be realistic as to what we can do in a small rural inland county.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Selph adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.

ATTEST:


C. GUY MAXCY
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

JAMES F. SELPH
CHAIRMAN