

**PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON OCTOBER 8, 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 October 8, 2013 with the following persons present:

Commissioner, Buddy Mansfield, Dist#1
Chairman, James Selph, Dist#2
Commissioner, Gabriel Quave, Dist#3
Commissioner, Elton Langford, Dist#4
Commissioner, Bob Miller, Dist#5
County Administrator, C. Guy Maxcy
County Attorney, Don Conn
Facilities Director, Richard Metzger
Transcribing Secretary, Jill Thompson
Road & Bridge Director, Shawn Edwards
County Engineer, Mike Giardullo

Planning Manager, Thomas Cookingham
Fire Chief, Larry Taylor
Purchasing Director, Cindy Talamantez
HR Director, Don Kesterson
Utilities Director, Eddie Miller
Administration Office Manager, Lauri Jones
Parks & Recreation Director, Tara Anderson
Environmental Svcs. Director, Henry Grimes
Senior Financial Accountant, Brian Wagner
Building Official, Lester Hornbake
Staff Accountant, Peter Danao

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 AM

PRAYER- Pastor J.D. Booher/Mt. Ephraim Baptist Church

4-H PLEDGE- Kristy Popa and 4-H Youth Members

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheriff Will Wise

SET/AMEND- Chairman Selph stated that item #6A will be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to set the agenda adding item #6A. 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 September 9, 2013 Budget Hearing; Minutes of September 10, 2013 Public Meeting; Declaration of Surplus Property; Contract amendment with Florida Department of Corrections for an additional one year; Agreement amendment with CAS for Lobbying Services and Networking of Grants with Appropriations. Seconded by Commissioner Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS

6. Proclamation/Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Guy Maxcy presented to the Board a Proclamation declaring October 2013 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford proclaiming the month of October 2013 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion

carried unanimously. A representative with SPARCC thanked the Board for their support.

6A. Proclamation/Dr. T Howell Upchurch

Guy Maxcy presented to the Board a Proclamation recognizing Dr. T Howell Upchurch for his 60 years of service in the Ministry. Mike Waller accepted the Proclamation on behalf of Dr. Upchurch. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to approve the Proclamation. Seconded by Commissioner Mansfield. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Proclamation/National 4-H Week

Guy Maxcy presented to the Board a Proclamation declaring October 6-12, 2013 as National 4-H Week. A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to approve the week of October 6-12, 2013 as National 4-H Week. Seconded by Commissioner Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Selph gave a brief history on how Co-Op Extension Services was formed. Kristi Popa thanked the Board for their support.

Commissioner Langford thanked Kristi and credits his time as a 4-H member for aiding with his public speaking skills.

Commissioner Mansfield stated he was also a 4-H member in the past and feels it teaches the youth responsibility and keeps them busy.

Commissioner Miller stated he was a 4-H member in the past as well and thanked Kristi Popa along with the members.

Mr. Maxcy thanked Ms. Popa for her service.

REGULAR BUSINESS

8. Resolution/Set a Public Hearing for Vacation of Right-of-Way

Tom Cookingham requested approval by the Board to conduct a public hearing regarding abandonment for a portion of right-of-way on Judy Avenue. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to adopt a Resolution to set a time and place for a public hearing to abandon a portion of right-of-way of SW Judy Avenue. Seconded by Commissioner Mansfield. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Policy Revisions/Capital Asset/Utilities Collections Procedure

Brian Wagner presented a request to revise the 2008 Capital Asset Policy. A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to approve the revision to the 2008 Capital Asset Policy. Seconded by Commissioner Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

Peter Danao presented a request to implement Utilities Collection Procedures. It will target delinquent customers through a collection process through bad debt write offs when account become completely uncollectable.

Chairman Selph stated that some of the information was missing and would like to table the item until all the information was received. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford to table the item of Utilities Collection Procedures. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Work Assignment/Professional Services, The Weiler Engineering Corporation

Cindy Talamantez requested approval of a work assignment for general engineering services for the fiscal year 2013-2014. This is the same amount as approved last year. Commissioner Mansfield questioned if engineering costs included with the cost of a project. Ms. Talamantez stated that would depend on the length and amount of the project. Grant funded projects are separated, reimbursable and tracked separately. If a project takes only a short amount of time, engineering services will be billed under day to day services. A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to approve Work Assignment #45 with the Weiler Engineering Corporation for Professional Engineering Services and

authorize the Chairman to execute the Work Assignment. Seconded by Commissioner Quave. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Maxcy stated that the Governor approved the formation of the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization for the Heartland Counties to include DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades and Hendry Counties. Sebring and Avon Park have met the criteria to become an NPO. Local agreements will be presented to the Board in the future.

The Department of Economic Opportunity is hosting a Regional Workshop at the Turner Center Exhibit Hall today from 9:30am to 12:00pm presenting the Community Competitiveness Program.

Mr. Maxcy spoke regarding Lake Suzy Aqua Utilities staffing and will present to the Board at a later date, a reorganizational chart.

The Lettuce Lake tie-in is complete.

Mr. Maxcy requested approval by the Board to advertise the Library Director position as well as the Administrative Assistant position for the Parks Department. It was consensus of the Board to do so.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Conn reported that mediation has been set regarding the Astaldi case on October 23, 2013 to move to the next step to implement the Board's direction in this particular case. It was consensus of the Board that Mr. Conn is the representative at the mediation. Mr. Conn reminded the Board of the required Ethics Training. The Utility Department would like the Board's consideration to hold a Workshop in November to discuss topics such as deposits, disconnects, delinquency in payments and a vacation rate for part-time residents. It was consensus of the Board to hold the Workshop on November 26, 2013 at 9:00am.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Quave stated that since the last Board meeting he has been approached by happy, sad and angry citizens with interesting comments. He also commented what a pleasure it is working with the present Board members. He thanked Kristi Popa on a job well done.

Commissioner Langford commented that during the recent Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority meeting; discussion was had regarding the 91 rebuild which is the plant by the river. He just wanted to inform the Board of the possibility of a lawsuit with Charlotte County due to the reason that Charlotte County does not agree with the portion that they owe and agreed upon. Commissioner Langford also commented on the issue that Mitzie McGavic is now charging for retrieval of Deeds. He also commented that he is an employee of DeSoto County and he is offered the same benefits as any other employee of the County and receives nothing extra.

Commissioner Mansfield reminded everyone that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. He attended the Governor's Dinner and it was very informative. He thanked Kristi Popa for all her hard work.

Commissioner Miller stated that he would like members of the Economic Development Advisory Committee to make suggestions to the Board on what they think would be the ways to put their money to use. He believes we need someone on the State level to help rural counties and EDAC can be a good asset.

Chairman Selph thanked Kristi Popa and commented that Board meetings are the same process as 4-H meetings and this is a good experience for the youth to witness. He stated there will be an issue of the Flood Ordinance at the next Board meeting and urged the Board to research as much information as possible regarding this topic and feels it is very important to pass this Ordinance.

Commissioner Quave commented on the FEMA expansion of flood maps.

Chairman Selph urged the Board to be as prepared as possible regarding the Flood Ordinance. Further discussion was had.


ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Selph adjourned the meeting at 10:05 AM.

ATTEST:



C. GUY MAXCY
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA


JAMES F. SELPH
CHAIRMAN