

## **BAKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2010**

The Baker County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session with the following members present:

Chairman Alex Robinson  
Commissioner Michael R. Crews  
Commissioner Mike Griffis  
Commissioner Mark Hartley  
Commissioner B. Gordon Crews

Also present:

County Manager Joseph L. Cone  
County Attorney Terry Brown  
County Clerk Al Fraser

Chairman Alex Robinson called the meeting to order and led in the prayer and flag ceremony.

Chairman Robinson questioned if there were any corrections to the agenda? Joe Cone requested to add another item under the County Manager section of the agenda. Commissioner Michael Crews moved to approve the agenda with the addition requested by the County Manager and the motion was second by Commissioner Gordon Crews. Motion carried unanimous.

Chairman Alex Robinson asked if there were any corrections to the Consent Agenda items, which were:

1. Expenditure Report
2. Approval of Minutes January 19, 2010
3. Approval of \$500 for 2008/2009 budget St. Mary's River Management
4. Resolution 2010-01 EMS Grant

Commissioner Mike Griffis moved to approve the consent agenda and the motion was second by Commissioner Mark Hartley. Motion carried unanimous.

County Manager Joe Cone stated several weeks ago he had a conversation with the Supervisor of Election Nita Crawford regarding the many differences between the Ordinances of the County, City of Macclenny and Town of Glen pertaining to political campaign signs. This has apparently created much confusion among the candidates in the past due to the varying regulations and people generally not knowing where city limits are. As a result we had a meeting with representatives from the two cities and the county and compared the ordinances of each. Mr. Cone presented the Board with a summary sheet that takes the best and most reasonable conditions of the various ordinances. The process for implementation will consist of the governing body of the cities and the county to adopt a new Ordinance to replace their existing campaign sign provisions. The Board

reviewed the summary sheet presented to them and decided to present the following recommendations back to the City of Macclenny and Town of Glen.

- Allowed in all districts with an affidavit referencing a \$250 fine (per entity) if not removed within 5 days of General Election. Available at the Supervisor of Elections office.
- 16 sq ft per residential lot; 32 sq ft per commercial and visible
- Put up signs 30 days before early primary and remove within 5 days of general election.
- Not on the Right of way. Must be on private property.
- 5ft front/15 foot side/ 15 foot apart
- Residential signs must be less than 5 ft high
- Commercial signs must be less than 10 ft high
- Shall be free standing and not illuminated

Mr. Cone stated he would present the information and report back to the commission.

Joe Cone presented the EMS Union Contract for FY 2009/2010 and Resolution 2010-02 for adoption. Commissioner Mark Hartley questioned Section 19.2 and stated he preferred that it remain as last year with no changes. Commissioner Michael Crews had questions concerning the buy back time. Commissioner Mark Hartley made the motion to accept the EMS Union Contract for FY 2009/2010 and that Section 19.2 would remain with no changes and also moved to adopt Resolution 2010-02 and the motion was second by Commissioner Gordon Crews. Motion carried unanimous.

Mike Sweat presented Resolution 2010-03 for Board approval and explained if approved the Board would enter into a grant memorandum of agreement with the State of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Forestry. The Resolution states Baker County desires to apply for a forest Health Improvement Initiative Grant that would provide monies to improve the condition of the community's trees canopy, educate the public and provide economic opportunities to local residents, landscapers, contractors and maintenance personnel. The Grant would also provide monies to improve the condition of the community's tree canopy by the establishment of an Arboretum and Teaching Garden located behind the Agriculture Center located on land currently owned by the 4-H Club of Baker County. Commissioner Mike Griffis questioned was it a matching grant? Mike Sweat responded it was not. Commissioner Mike Griffis pointed out this grant monies comes from stimulus money and he requested that Mike Sweat track the spending and report the folks using the funds. Attorney Terry Brown read Resolution 2010-03 by title. Commissioner Gordon Crews moved to adopt Resolution 2010-03 and the motion was second by Commissioner Mike Griffis. Motion carried unanimous.

Joe Cone reported to the Board the county had received the necessary paper work from the Department of Law Enforcement granting the Edward Byrne Grant funds in the amount of \$416,302 which will allow the county to proceed with the renovations of the old jail to house local prisoners. Joe Cone stated he would like to bring up the grant funds at the next Public Safety Coordinating Council meeting for discussion of the funds also. Commissioner Gordon Crews moved to approve the grant contract and was second by Commissioner Mike Griffis. Motion carried unanimous.

Commissioner Michael Crews stated he had asked the county manager for a time frame on the monitoring of the wells at the Steel Bridge dumpsite facility. Joe Cone stated the permit for the monitoring was issued 18 years ago and explains it is renewed every 20 years. Commissioner Mike Crews questioned were we mandated to do a contract for another 20 years and stated he would like to ask the Board to consider doing an RFP for the engineer who monitors the site this spring. Joe Cone said he would take care of the RFP advertisement.

Commissioner Gordon Crews gave an update on the St. Mary's River Management Committee and requested Al Fraser research the records to see if the county paid the annual \$500 for FY 2007/2008 and 2008/2009.

Terry Brown requested a release of a 2009 code enforcement lien for parcel number 29-2S-22-0161-0000-0520 due to the fact a bankruptcy proceeding had been started by the mortgage holder and a les pen dins was filed which basically cut off the counties right to file a lien. Commissioner Mike Griffis moved to release the lien and the motion was second by Commissioner Michael Crews. Motion carried unanimous.

Commissioner Gordon Crews moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

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**Al Fraser, Clerk**

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**Alex Robinson, Chairman**