

Columbia County  
**BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting on **February 07, 2008** in the School Board Administration Building at 7:00 p.m.

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Ronald Williams      District 1  
Dewey Weaver (Chair) District 2  
George Skinner      District 3  
Stephen Bailey      District 4  
Elizabeth Porter      District 5

**Others in Attendance:**

County Manager Dale Williams  
Marlin Feagle, County Attorney  
Sandy Markham, Deputy Clerk  
Lisa Roberts, Asst. County Manager

The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**GOLDEN CUTTER AWARD**

The Columbia County EMS and Columbia County Fire Department responded to an accident on the interstate last year that was considered a remarkable extrication. TNT Extrication Company, a company who produces emergency, hydraulic rescue tools presented Columbia County with the Golden Cutter Award, an award rarely given. The following first response personnel was recognized for their amazing work and presented a Certificate:

Arnez Thomas	Stephen Bailey	Andy Herndon	Adam McCook
David Bickel	Jim Steiner	Dave Peeler	Mike Hudson
Emory Bailey	Chief Jim Cason	Adam Davis	Reneisha Merrick

**REQUEST for EXEMPTION**  
**Recreation Vehicles**

Pastor Jeff Brown recalled that on August 04, 2005 that the Board held a public hearing regarding LDR 05, which addressed Recreational Vehicles as a Special Temporary Use Permit issued by the Land Development Regulation Administrator. Pastor Brown expressed that the fees associated with the cost of obtaining a special exception could be used in assisting the homeless. Pastor Brown said he was open to other ideas for making this ministry possible.

The Chair said the matter would be taken under advisement, and that any type of change would have to be scheduled for public hearing.

Pastor Brown recalled that the matter has already been heard in a public hearing and has also been voted on, but not implemented. He asked what would be required of him in order to have the matter heard publicly.

Attorney Feagle recalled this issue being brought up for discussion at the August 04, 2005 public hearing. He said that he has had several discussions with County Planner Brian Kepner regarding the matter, but still has not found a way to "make it fit" for everyone in the 501(c)(3) category. Attorney Feagle said that even though the matter was heard and discussed at the August 04 meeting, the matter would still need to go back to Planning and Zoning, and then a proposal would be brought back before the Board of County

Commissioners for consideration. Attorney Feagle said that carving out a special exception to the LDRs regarding recreational vehicles will be very difficult.

No action was taken. The Chair suggested that Pastor Brown meet with Commissioner Skinner to discuss the matter further.

### **Director of Safety and Property Recommends Purchase of Property**

Commissioner Williams addressed this matter with the Board at the request of Rudy Crews, the Director of Safety and Property.

The county recently purchased property located on the north and south sides of NW Mershon Street to be used as mitigation property. The northeast corner of the property, including an easement road down the east side of the property lying north of NW Mershon Street consisting of approximately 6.77 acres, is owned by J. C. Marsh & Sons, Inc. Director of Safety and Property Management recommends that the County attempt to purchase this additional out-parcel of land for the following reasons:

1. Columbia County already owns approximately 80 acres adjacent to this smaller parcel, and the acquisition of this additional parcel would allow the County to square up and secure its current property and investment.

2. The property includes an ingress and egress easement and roadway on the east side of the county property, which allows access not only onto the easement, but onto the County property. This makes it extremely difficult to secure the county property from wildlife poachers, dumping, vandalism, and other unauthorized use of the property.

3. A problem is developing with dumping on the adjacent easement property as well as the county-owned mitigation property. Also, four-wheelers other ATV vehicles now have access to the County property creating possible liability to the county.

If the County elects to acquire this additional property, fencing is recommended for the perimeter of the property, including the retention pond area for security, maintenance, and liability purposes.

The county already has two (2) appraisals on the property. One appraisal values the property at \$6,950.00 per acre and the other at \$7,500.00 per acre.

Mr. Crews has discussed the possible purchase with the land owner who would agree to sell the property to the county for the average price of these two (2) appraisals, which is \$7,225.00 per acre. Based on 6.77 acres (subject to survey confirmation), the total purchase price to the County would be \$48,913.25.

There were brief comments of support by Commissioner Williams, Porter and Bailey.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the recommendation of Mr. Crews. Second by Commissioner Porter. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Shared Services Committee**

Re: Public Transportation

Ms. Ann Carroll who is the Director of Shared Services Network (“SSN”) gave a brief history of how the SSN began. She said that this joint project between the Department of Education and the University of South Florida began in 1997, and through a startup grant the local network was set into motion. She said that Columbia County received grant funds to establish an infrastructure within the community. Two groups were formed (CEO Roundtable and Steering Committee) to identify concerns with children and families and to assist in establishing this infrastructure. The groups have met on a continual basis over the past nine years for the purpose of addressing common needs, goals and to share resources. The mission of the SSN is to link comprehensive integrated services for children, youth and families through the facilitation of collaboration involving all segments of the community. The groups

have addressed such issues as developing a better understanding of available services in order to avoid duplication and to efficiently utilize available funding.

Ms. Carroll reported that every year as the groups begin to list issues and goals to be addressed, *public transportation* is at the forefront. She explained that many time services are available to families, but the families do not have the transportation needed in order to take advantage of the services. Therefore, Ms. Nancy Fields was appointed to head a committee that would research possible ways to begin a public transportation system.

Ms. Fields said that SSN sees public transit as the critical missing component of Columbia County's future and discussed the benefits of public transportation. She said that after extensive research and many surveys, the SSN made contact with the Department of Transportation Regional Office to share the gathered information. This organization continues to gather information. The D.O.T. has offered suggestions and ideas, and has also enlisted the aid of Suwannee Valley Transit. Cost estimates were provided to SSN and have also been submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for developing a route(s). According to Ms. Fields, the Department of Transportation initially indicated that they would be willing to contribute fifty percent of the cost to start a public transit system if another government agency would contribute the other needed fifty percent. Ms. Fields said that it is her understanding that as of 6:00 p.m. today that a vote took place [No details provided] that was not favorable for this project due to budget cuts. However, D.O.T. has predicted that within several months the budget will stabilize and that they will be able to provide a firm dollar amount that could be contributed to this project. The commissioners were urged to move forward in strategic planning with D.O.T. for the purpose laying out strategic goals that would make a public transit system reality for the citizens of Columbia County.

No action was taken. Ms. Field's complete presentation is attached to original minutes.

## **Consent Agenda**

- (1) Indigent Burial – Mizell's Funeral Home – Margaree Steward, Deceased – \$500.00
- (2) External Budget Amendment – Sheriff's Office - #3 – BA #07-13 – Subsistence Costs – July 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 – \$7,118.07
- (3) Columbia County Emergency Medical Services – Refund Request – First Coast Service Options - \$179.85
- (4) Utility Permit – Brian Crawford, Concept Construction – Bascom Norris Drive and Sister Welcome Road
- (5) Human Resource – Public Library - Promoting Zulima Martinez to Librarian II – Wavier of Hiring Freeze
- (6) Public Library – Meeting Room Policy Revision
- (7) Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. – (S.H.I.P.) – Release of Lien Agreement – Julia Koberlein - \$4,000.00
- (8) Clerk of Court – Correction to Minutes – May 18, 2006, March 2, 2006 and December 15, 2005 – Change the word from Censor and Censorship to Censure and Censureship - and change October 18, 2007 from Avocation of their Judiciary to Abdication of their Fiduciary and Final Arbitrator of Judiciary to Final Arbitrator of Fiduciary
- (9) Clerk of Court – Declaration of Surplus Property – County ID #9599, County ID #9907, County ID #11612 and County ID #11721
- (10) Purchasing – Contract Renewal – Gulf Atlantic Culvert Company – Requesting an Extension of the Agreement – Bid 2007-B – No Price Change for One Year
- (11) 2010 Census – Local Update of Census Address (LUCA) Program: (a) Subgrant Agreement – Florida Department of Community Affairs and Columbia County - \$14,870.00 (b) Subcontract Agreement – Columbia County and Crouse Consulting – \$4,800.00
- (12) Emergency Management – Federally-Funded Subgrant Agreement - Homeland Security Grant - \$45,536.00
- (13) Minute Approval – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – January 3, 2008

- (14) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Closed Landfill Inspection – \$1,344.31
- (15) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Closed Landfill Monitoring - \$5,342.35
- (16) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Winfield Landfill Monitoring – \$12, 141.33
- (17) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Winfield Landfill Discreet Projects - \$1,909.51
- (18) Invoice – Darabi and Associates, Inc. – Closed Landfill Assessment - \$1,280.98
- (19) Application and Certificate for Payment – Pay Request # 2 - John C. Hipp Construction Equipment Company – Bid No. 2007-06 - Brown Road Project – \$169,143.83
- (20) External Budget Amendment No. 07-14 – Columbia County Public Library – Painting Exterior of the West Branch Library - 3,500.00
- (21) External Budget Amendment No. 07-15 – Columbia County Public Works Dept. – Chain Saw Purchase - \$720.00
- (22) Property Management – Declaration of Junk and Surplus County Property – County Property Numbers 9174 & 9190 (junk), 10145 and 12166 (surplus)
- (23) Human Resources – County Court Secretary – Hiring of Heather Jenkins Norris – Waiver of Hiring Freeze and Waiver of Minimum Typing Requirement
- (24) Human Resources – Public Works Dept. – Brush Chipper Operator – Hiring of Patrick Smyth – Waiver of Hiring Freeze
- (25) Human Resources – Public Works Dept. – General Laborer – Hiring of Roy Hisle – Waiver of Hiring Freeze
- (26) Forest Country Phase 6 – Homeowners Association Requests Permission to Erect a Shelter and Mail Box Area on Public Property to be Maintained by Homeowners Association
- (27) Code Enforcement Dept. – Dangerous Building/Hazardous Lands Clean Up – Charles Harry, Owner – Corner of SE Pearce and SE Lochlynn Terrace - Parcel No. 33-3S-17-06636-000 - County to Perform or Cause to Perform Clean Up of Stated Property and Place Lien Against Property for Cost in Performing Clean Up
- (28) Code Enforcement Dept. – Dangerous Building/Hazardous Lands Clean Up – Tommie Sue Thomas, Owner – SW Fulton Place – Parcel No. 10-4S-16-02860- 008 – County to Perform or Cause to Perform Clean Up of State Property and Place Lien Against Property for Cost in Performing Clean Up
- (29) Change Order No. 1 – Hambone Enterprises, LLC – Concrete Pavement at Public Works Shed - \$3,600.00
- (30) County Manager – Request for Administrative Leave – February 20-22, 2008 – 24th Annual Growth Management and Environmental Permitting Short Course Course Co-Presenter: Springshed Protection
- (31) Utility Permit – Bellsouth Telecommunications – SW Arrowhead Road
- (32) Utility Permit – Comcast Cable – West Washington Street
- (33) Utility Permit – Comcast Cable – SW Bascom Norris Drive. (34) Utility Permit – Dale Williams, County Manager – CR 133-B Fire Station
- (35) Utility Permit – City of Lake City – NW Lake Jeffery Road
- (36) Columbia County Public Library – Request for Grant Proposal Support – The National Endowment for the Arts – Big Read - \$7,500.00
- (37) State of Florida E911 Board – E911 Grant Program Application – Columbia 911 Backup Center Creation - \$547,021.88
- (38) Southside Recreational Complex – Deed Conveyance from City to County by Special Warranty Deed and City Resolution No. 2008-008
- (39) Purchasing Department – Ring Power Corporation Governmental Lease- Option to Purchase Agreement – Motor Grader - \$175,576 with a Guaranteed Buyback at Five Years of \$120,000
- (40) Minutes – Board of County Commissioners – Regular Meeting – January 17, 2008.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve. Second by Commissioner Skinner for discussion.

There were calls for clarification on items #5, #9, #11, #23, #24, #25, #27 and #37.

Regarding item #37. The IT upgrade proposals presented at the January 19, 2008 meeting was for a Viper Positron System. The grant application listed a different brand; Patriot Plant CML System. Commissioner Bailey questioned the change. Cedric May, the Assistant Communication Center Director explained that the Sheriff's Department mapping system has been down and that they have had significant support issues with Positron over the past few months. The Patriot system is being successfully used by several counties (Leon, Duval, Alachua, etc.) and offers as much or more than the current system. The Sheriff offered that the writing of this grant has been an on-going process and that nothing is written in stone and that technology changes at a very rapid pace. The Sheriff said there is nothing hidden and this application is a staff recommendation.

County Manager Williams said that EMS Director Rusty Noah prefers the Positron system for maintenance reasons. The County Manager said that the phone company will only be responsible for the lines as they get to a certain point. The maintenance of the equipment and how it intercepts and uses the data is going to be a separate issue. Commissioner Bailey stated that Mr. Noah has expressed the same concerns to him. The monies are not awarded on particular "brands".

The motion carried unanimously.

**Corrections:**

Request to Survey Old Wire Road and Herlong Road

The County Manager made a correction. Elim Church Road should be listed as Old Wire Road on the agenda.

Regarding the Project limits on Herlong Road, the County Manager clarified that the limits will be from SR 47 to US 44, not from SR 47 to Tustenuggee Road. There will be no change in the cost of this project.

**Special Projects Allocation**

District 4 – Commissioner Bailey

District 5 – Commissioner Porter

The sum of \$10,000 (\$5,000 from each) will be allocated to the Columbia County School Board to be used on constructing the athletic facility known as the Jones Field House.

Motion by Commissioner Bailey to approve. Second by Commissioner Porter. The motion carried unanimously.

**Special Projects Allocation**

District 5 – Commissioner Porter

The sum of \$780.00 will be allocated to purchase Arbor Day plaques.

Motion by Commissioner Porter to approve. Second by Commissioner Bailey. The motion carried unanimously.

## **EMS Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Renewal Service Area**

Currently, the county has a non-expiring COPCN that will cover the entire county, including both incorporated areas (City of Lake City and the Town of Fort White). The license must be renewed by the end of March. This is roughly a 60 day process. The Board was being asked to clarify what geographical area the COPCN would cover. The issue of the COPCN was previously discussed at January 31, 2008 workshop.

In an e-mail received earlier in the day, Citizen Stewart Lilker requested permission to speak prior to the Board taking up this issue

Citizen Stewart Lilker said that the issue of the COPCN coverage and the 911 Advisory Committee Proposal affects the welfare, health and safety of those living, working and passing through Columbia County. He recalled that his most recent experience with 911 was when he came upon a horrible automobile accident and reported a dead child and a woman who was very seriously injured and asked that they send a helicopter for her. He said that he was on the scene and phone for approximately 35 minutes before any of the first responders arrived to assist. Later, as a witness he received a call from the Florida Highway Patrol regarding the matter and he asked why a helicopter was never sent. He said that the response he received was that they did not know why. He said that in an emergency situation, nothing matters more to a citizen than being able to reach help by dialing 911.

Mr. Lilker asked the Board to remain mindful, as they begin deliberating, that the mission is different from the funding source issue. In Mr. Lilker's opinion, the only issue that should be on the table for this meeting is a solution to the dial in problems at the 911 Center, because everything else takes second place.

Mr. Lilker agrees with Commissioner Williams in that a 911 Authority is needed and takes the politics out of the issues. He asked that this be considered.

According to Mr. Lilker, also in favor of a 911 Authority is Councilmen George Ward, Mike Lee, John Roberts, and City Manager Reynolds. According to Mr. Lilker, the City has a few positions they are considering involving one centralized call center for all emergency calls coming into the county. Mr. Lilker said that it is his understanding from a discussion with the County Manager that there is enough room for everyone to be situated together in a centralized call center.

Mr. Lilker expressed that city funding should be done on a per call basis and that could guarantee they pay their fair share.

Mr. Lilker asked that the Sheriff be given the positions he has requested.

The Chair responded that there has already been a consensus among Board members to move in the direction of a unified dispatch. The Board must repair the immediate problems now, prior to a 911 authority. Mr. Lilker replied there is no reason the Board could not repair the immediate problems and work on a 911 Authority simultaneously.

The County Manager explained the geographical limits by which the commissioners would need to make for emergency medical services license renewal. If you choose to change the geographical limits, you must do so with an effective date of October 01 (through the remainder of the current fiscal year). This also provides additional time, should the City and County be able to work out their differences regarding EMS funding.

The Chair expressed that he wanted the County and City to continue working together to get differences resolved on this issue.

Commissioner Williams recalled it was the general consensus at the workshop that the only geographical area to be included in the renewal would be the unincorporated area and the Town of Fort White.

Motion by Commissioner Williams that the County applies for a Certificate of Necessity that only includes the unincorporated area of the county and the Town of Fort White. Second by Commissioner Skinner for discussion.

Discussion:

If the City and County are able to resolve the EMS issue, the Certificate of Necessity can be amended to include the City.

The motion carried unanimously.

**9-1-1 Advisory Committee Proposal**

The Board was asked to address two proposed positions and the funding of those positions.

Original Proposal #1 made at the January 19, 2008 meeting: Two positions (secretarial and information technologist) be funded now at a pro-rated cost of \$57,611 for the remainder of the year. The annual cost would be \$83,216.

Amended Proposal #2 made at the January 31, 2008 meeting: One secretarial position that is combined with a data base manager position. No set salary has been determined for that position, but it is expected to be less than the original proposal when coupled with a contract for IT services within the communications center.

Another component of Proposal #2 was to elicit help and recommendations from a sister county who is highly regarded for their dispatch center operations, and preferably a county that has already gone through a consolidated dispatch effort.

City Manager Scott Reynolds said that the City agrees that a unified 911 Operation is what's needed, including adding in the Police Department as part of the long range goals. Mr. Reynolds said that he believes a funding source has been identified for at least one more position. Alachua County is willing to assist where they can.

Kelly Jolly, a ten year veteran of the 911 Center addressed life at the center before and after the merger. She believes the Center is outdated and behind times, but stated it is a much more efficient operation today than it was prior to the Sheriff Department's taking over.

Stephanie Ramsey, 911 Training Coordinator told the Board that prior to the Kimbell Study there was virtually no training for 911 dispatchers. She said Alachua County is willing to help with training, which is going to save the County a lot of money. Prior to the report, there was a huge turnover rate and insufficient coverage.

MOTION by Commissioner Skinner, "I move that whatever funds it takes to start bringing people on line in training...let staff get together and work it out and lets get going." The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Williams expressed that money spent now is an investment for the future. The commissioner said that salaries for 911 employees will have to be addressed at some point.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to approve the secretarial/data input position, and to “hold off” on the IT position until the IT personnel from Alachua County, City of Lake City and Columbia County are able to visit the Center and make a recommendation for the Board to consider. Second by Commissioner Skinner.

Commissioner Bailey said that a secretary/data position does not satisfy the need at the 911 Center. He said the needed 911 positions are an immediate need that must be addressed before the secretarial/data position. In Mr. Bailey’s opinion there needs to be a written plan to consider the immediate and long term goal of the 911 Center and the cost of the goals. The Commissioner said that the 911 Center definitely needs to be placed under its own 911 Authority. Commissioner Bailey said he understands Commissioner Williams’ position, but that he has to have numbers in front of him to make this type of decision.

The Chair called for the vote. Commissioner Porter stated that she had a question, but was informed by the Chair that the Board was in the middle of the vote. Commissioners Bailey and Skinner voted in opposition. Commissioners Williams and Weaver voted in favor. No vote was cast by Commissioner Porter.

Commissioner Williams offered his verbal resignation from the 911 Advisory Committee stating he is “tired of beating a dead horse.”

Chairman Porter asked for clarification on job duties of the secretarial/data input position. The County Manager assisted with clarification.

It was brought to the Chair’s attention that Commissioner Porter was required to vote on the motion. Commissioner Porter said that after receiving the clarifying information that her vote would be in favor of the motion. The motion carried 3-2.

Commissioner Williams said that before he asks the Board to fund additional employees for the 911 Center, he will meet with the Sheriff to go over the Kimbell Report.

## **2008 Impact Fees – Reaffirmation of Start Date**

The County Manager said that the Columbia County Builder’s Council advised that they were arranging meetings individually with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss impact fees and the County’s implementation date of February 01, 2008. County Manager Williams said that he has met with the Builder’s Council and members of the Board of Realtors in an administrative capacity.

The County Manager said that it is his understanding that the two entities were going to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that there be a postponement of the county portion of the impact fee for a period of time.

The County Manager said that the Builders Council and the Board of Realtors have requested that the Board of County Commissioners either make a motion to approve or deny their recommendation for postponement.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to reaffirm the starting date for the impact fees for February 01, 2008. Second by Commissioner Skinner.

Commissioner Porter favored postponement to give the local economy a boost. Commissioner Williams said that it would be the homeowners who will pay the impact fee, and the impact fee stretched out over the owner's 30 year mortgage will cost less than one Coca-Cola per day. Commissioner Bailey is not in favor of postponement and reminded everyone that if postponed, the required 90 day notice would have to be implemented again, and another opportunity would be given to flood the Building Department once again. Commissioner Bailey said that as far as he is concerned, the impact fees are already here and were implemented February 01, 2008.

The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Porter voting in opposition.

### **Florida Department of Corrections Lake City Community College**

The Florida Department of Corrections has canceled their training contract for correctional officers with Lake City Community College. This decision to cancel has a negative economic impact on the community. The contract is in excess of \$1,000,000, and a number of people who utilized the facility for training stayed in the local hotel and motels, and dined and made purchases in the local stores and restaurants.

County Manager Williams said it does not appear the state gave any consideration to the fact that Columbia County is a county of critical economic concern, and it appears there were no discussions regarding the savings vs. the contracted amount prior to a decision being made.

County Manager Williams said he has been in contact with IDA Director Jim Poole and Mr. Harvey Campbell, Tourist Development Authority Director regarding the matter. The County Manager stated that contact with the Office of Tourism Trade & Economic Development has been made to have this decision reversed, because the benefit to having the corrections officer training in Tallahassee is negligible, but the negative impact on Columbia County is very measurable.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to support Lake City Community College and its efforts to reverse this decision. Second by Commissioner Skinner. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Items Not On Agenda**

Commissioner Williams said that he feels consolidation will eliminate the bickering between the City and the County. The commissioner would like to find out, via straw ballot, if the community is interested in **consolidation**.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to have Attorney Feagle prepare a resolution to have consolidation placed on the general election ballot. Second by Commissioner Skinner.

The County Attorney said that he would draft a resolution for consideration by the Board.

The motion carried unanimously.

In a previous meeting, the Board made a decision to amend the **Code Enforcement Ordinance**. Attorney Feagle advised that this ordinance has been drafted and is ready for review and input at a public hearing.

MOTION by Commissioner Williams to set public hearing on March 06, 2008. Second by Commissioner Porter. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chair reminded all that the **Olustee Festival** is next week, and advised that he will not be present for the **February 21, 2008** Board of County Commissioners **meeting**.

## **Public Comment**

Citizen Judy Wyndham told the Board that their last workshop meeting violated the **Sunshine Laws**. She explained that in that meeting, no one except one member of the public who raised her hand to speak was allowed to give input, and that she specifically told that she did not have a voice in that meeting. Ms. Wyndham advised that information relative to this was faxed to the Board Office earlier in the day with a request that the matters discussed at the workshop be re-scheduled and not discussed further. The Chair answered that the matters would not be re-addressed, and explained that the Board is not required to take public input at a workshop. He assured Ms. Wyndham if he missed allowing her to speak at the workshop it was an oversight. Commissioner Williams said that he was the one who asked Sue Hadley to address the Board.

Ms. Wyndham said that she was supposed to have had, but is being denied a meeting between concerned parties [she did not elaborate] and **Animal Control**. She told the Board that she wanted it scheduled soon. The Chair responded it was his understanding that Commissioner Williams was waiting on her court date to pass since many of the issues to be addressed were issues relevant to Ms. Windham's court case. Once the Court has addressed Ms. Wyndam's pending case, a meeting will be scheduled very shortly thereafter.

She asked why the **Animal Control Contract** is not put out for bids. She asked for copies of Animal Control's bids if one exists.

Ms. Wyndham recalled that Commissioner Williams brought up at a previous meeting a lady in his district who had raised two children as her own, but never adopted them, and who wanted these children to be allowed to put mobile homes on her property under the **Special Use Permit or Family Lot**. Ms. Wyndham opposed this as it would set a precedent. She said this would open the door for everyone who'd ever raised foster children to be able to move them onto their property. Attorney Feagle said that a decision

has already been made to not use the defacto adoption as it may create issues with the LDRs.

Citizen Barbara Lemley said that she is in total agreement with the idea of consolidating the city and the county.

Ms. Lemley referred to the special projects funds being spent on Arbor Day plaques. She asked who requested them and said she did not know why they were needed. Commissioner Porter the request was made by the Lake City Columbia County Beautification Committee.

Ms. Lemley said that she visited the Huddle House Restaurant at Bell Road. She said it was obvious to her that the only person to benefit from the loads of limerock taken in by the county was Sam Oosterhoudt, the owner of the Huddle House. She said the county recently spent several thousand dollars buying property from him and asked why Mr. Oosterhoudt could not simply take the money he made off of the county and pay the \$2,400 for the needed limerock. The Chair responded that Mr. Oosterhoudt was not required to purchase the limerock, and stated he has an exit and entrance off of Highway 441. The limerock was a benefit to District 1. Mr. Oosterhoudt paid for the cost of use of equipment and the paving.

Citizen Gail Spencer reported to the Board that the Animal Control Shelter is currently working very hard to computerize its operations, which are now paper driven and cumbersome. This will help the shelter to better serve Columbia County. The new system will make it easier to generate reports. She said the community needs to be better educated on rules and regulations dealing with animal control. Hopefully, this will eliminate the public criticizing or jumping to conclusions without having all the facts. Ms. Spencer said that she is an animal advocate and would like to use her degree in business management to work with the Animal Shelter to improve in certain areas.

Citizen Wayne Sapp commended 911 workers for their hard work and dedication. He said the 911 issues should have already been settled, and that there should always be someone to immediately intercept a call to 911.

Mr. Sapp said that he doesn't totally agree with impact fees, but commended the Board for sticking together on the issue.

Citizen Stewart Lilker recalled earlier in the meeting that Commissioner Williams mentioned a meeting regarding the IT position. Mr. Lilker asked when that meeting took place and who was in attendance. Chairman Weaver responded that Commissioner Williams is the appointee from the Board. The Sheriff, Columbia County Fire Chief, EMS Director, and Lake City Fire Chief serve on that committee. Mr. Lilker suggested when committees meet that public reports be given. He agreed with Commissioner Bailey that more information is needed.

Mr. Lilker asked Attorney Feagle at a previous meeting whether he recalled ever having prior knowledge that Commissioner Skinner was going to be publicly censured. Attorney Feagle said that he did not recall having prior knowledge that the matter would be on the agenda or that it was going to be discussed. Mr. Lilker asked Commissioner

Weaver if he recalled ever speaking with anyone prior to the meeting about his plans to publicly censure Commissioner Skinner. Commissioner Weaver said he spoke with the County Manager.

Mr. Lilker mentioned Commissioner Williams' resignation from the 911 Committee earlier in the meeting. The Chair responded that his resignation was never accepted.

Mr. Lilker asked that since the Board is already having Attorney Feagle draft a resolution that will make it possible to place a question on the ballot to determine whether or not the electorate is interested in consolidation, that they also put along side that question the issue of term limits for elected officials. Commissioner Williams said that issue has already been taken up by the Charter Review Committee. He suggested the issue be readdressed by the Charter Review Committee in the year it is scheduled to do a review.

MOTION by Commissioner Skinner to have Attorney Feagle draft a resolution to place the issue of term limits on the ballot to determine citizen interest. The motion died for a lack of a second.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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P. DeWitt Cason  
Clerk of Circuit Court

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Board of County Commissioners