

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) of Citrus County, Florida, met in a special joint session with the Citrus County School Board (CCSB) on the above date in Room 277 at the Withlacoochee Technical Institute (WTI), 1201 West Main Street, Inverness, to discuss mutual items of interest and long term goals. Prior to the meeting, Chairman Nave led in the invocation, and a luncheon was hosted by the CCSB.

Chairman Nave called the joint meeting to order at 1:35 P.M., and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chairman Batchelor asked the Clerk to call the Commission roll, and then the BOCC and the CCSB proceeded with its business.

<b>BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</b>	<b>SCHOOL BOARD</b>
<b>COMMISSIONERS:</b> Roger Batchelor, Chairman; Gary Bartell, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman; and Commissioner Josh Wooten	<b>SCHOOL BOARD:</b> Patience Nave, Chairman; Patricia Deutschman, Vice Chairman; Virginia Bryant, Sandra "Sam" Himmel, and Carol L. Snyder.
<b>ADMINISTRATORS:</b> Richard Wm. Wesch, Ken Saunders, Assistant	<b>SUPERINTENDENT:</b> David J. Hickey; Linda Kelley, Assistant
<b>DEPUTY CLERK:</b> Glenda Brown	<b>ATTORNEY:</b> Richard S. Fitzpatrick <b>SECRETARIES:</b> Phyllis Geddes Linda Verderame

Chairman Nave gave opening statements and welcomed the BOCC to the second joint session, and Chairman Batchelor thanked the CCSB for the luncheon, and stated that he looked forward to working together.

**VI-A UPDATE OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOCC AND CCSB**

Mr. Wesch stated that in the past, there had been difficulties in coordinating facility usage due to decisions being made by the site-based administrator at various schools. He requested a modification of the Interlocal Agreement to have one contact person coordinate facility usage.

Mr. Hickey stated that the BOCC and CCSB staff had reviewed the Interlocal Agreement and decided that the basic Agreement was adequate, except for the following concerns: facility usage problems, liability waivers, and advertising flyers sponsored by the BOCC and posted within the schools. He advised that the facility usage problems had been worked out, that he felt one liability waiver could be signed on an annual basis, and that the BOCC could post advertisement flyers in the schools, with the exception of business ads. Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that a liability waiver signed one time with the Agreement should not be a problem.

CCSB Member Himmel suggested that the schools set certain time periods for the availability of athletic fields and give those dates to Ed Staten, Coordinator, and that the County contact Mr. Staten for athletic field availability. Mr. Fitzpatrick clarified that the school should provide a monthly schedule of available dates to the County.

Mr. Wesch stated that the Clerk of the Circuit Court had inquired if the agreement for the position of School Historical Resource Officer could be written for a longer period of time, due to the difficulty of recruiting and retaining an employee, and the issue of funding each year. Mr. Hickey responded by stating that the position was funded jointly by the

County and the School Board, and that school employees must be reviewed on a yearly basis. Mr. Fitzpatrick confirmed that the School Board did not have the legal authority to enter into a contract for more than one fiscal year, and Mr. Wesch replied that he would report the information back to the Clerk.

Mr. Fitzpatrick recommended that Mr. Wesch and he meet at a later date to discuss the details of the modifications and restructuring of the Interlocal Agreement, and bring back to the BOCC and the CCSB.

VI-B **CONTINUED JOINT SUPPORT/USE OF ATHLETIC FACILITIES**

CCSB Member Himmel stated that the program had been successful, and that she would like to see the program continued through the summer with expanded hours in the evenings for a couple of the gyms. She explained that the County employed the staff, and that the school reimbursed one-third of the expenses and supplied the facilities.

Mr. Wesch reported that there were approximately 8,000 participants in the program at an investment of under \$10,000, and stated that the County would continue the partnership with the school next summer and make the program even more expansive.

Mr. Hickey requested that the planning process begin as early as possible to allow for scheduling concerns and dollar allocations that might be requested. (2:00 P.M.)

VI-C **PARTNERSHIP WITH CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE/  
CITRUS CAMPUS (CFCC), BOCC, AND CCSB**

Chairman Batchelor stated that in addition to athletic fields, recreational facilities, and land use, other similar joint programs could be established. Mr. Wesch suggested expanding the partnership by including CFCC. He advised that CFCC had land ownership in Lecanto, that the County and the schools had manpower and funding resources, and that the three entities could work together to create new facilities, rather than acquiring additional property. He advised that there were swimming pools on the west side (Bicentennial Park) and the east side (Whispering Pines Park), but that there was not a recreational facility in the center of the County where the major area of growth was.

CCSB Member Snyder stated that she thought CFCC would be pleased with the idea of a partnership because it would give the students in the public schools a chance to consider what CFCC had to offer. She added that money would be utilized more efficiently with community involvement and cooperation between entities.

CCSB Member Deutschman mentioned that the schools struggled with maintenance of the facilities and fields, and suggested that the County work with the schools since their crews were more adept at maintenance. Mr. Fitzpatrick advised that Hernando County and Hernando County School Board had a joint use agreement for the maintenance of all sports fields and parks that were funded by the school and maintained by a County crew.

Chairman Batchelor recommended extending an invitation to Dr. Harvey from CFCC to participate in the next joint meeting. CCSB Member Himmel agreed and suggested that the Cities of Inverness and Crystal River also be included.

Discussion ensued regarding the joint venture benefits, consolidation of tax dollars, safeguards for common facility maintenance agreements, available grant funds, etc.

**Consensus:** Mr. Hickey and Mr. Wesch to meet with CFCC, the City of Inverness, and the City of Crystal River to discuss the concept of establishing joint partnership agreements, and report the results back to the BOCC and the CCSB. (2:05 P.M.)

VI-D **GROWTH MANAGEMENT/ACQUISITION OF LAND**

Chairman Nave stated that as student enrollment increased, there was a need to acquire additional land. Mr. Hickey explained that there were growth concerns in the County, that studies were being conducted that would best serve the taxpayers as it related to building school facilities, roads, etc. He added that the School System had been working with Chuck Dixon, Community Development Director, over the last 12 months on the plan and greatly appreciated the time and effort Mr. Dixon had devoted to the process. He further stated that with the demographic and utilization studies, the County and CCSB staffs were well on top of growth management.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also advised that County and School staff had met numerous times regarding a Central County Transportation Department, the feasibility of building a new high school and park on the Holder property, demographics, census numbers, modifying existing boundaries to match the County's, etc. Commissioner Bartell added that the Growth Management Reform Act would eventually be passed, and it would be mandated that the County and the School District be pro-active in the development of schools, simultaneous to the development of surrounding areas.

Alan Burcaw, Director of Facilities and Construction for CCSB, stated that the County and the School District would continue working on growth management, impact fees, a new high school site, and Renaissance Center. He referred to the "bubble", which he described as dealing with growth and that the peak of the "bubble" was at capacity. Chairman Nave added that the school was trying to find a way to cope with the "bubble", increased student growth, and not end up with an empty school when enrollment dropped.

VI-E **HOLDER PROPERTY OWNED BY CITRUS COUNTY**

Chairman Batchelor commented on the previous discussion regarding a new high school location and the amount of land that was available in Holder. Mr. Wesch indicated that the park had 133 total acres, and that approximately 56 acres were available.

Mr. Hickey advised that the State recommended 80 acres for a high school site. CCSB Member Deutschman suggested building a smaller school with shared athletic field usage as an alternative.

VI-F **IDENTIFICATION AND DIRECTION SIGNS FOR SCHOOLS**

CCSB Member Deutschman expressed concern regarding the lack of highway signs for school locations. Mr. Wesch advised that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was responsible for State highways, the County for County roads, and the cities for city streets. She then suggested that the School District identify school locations, requested that the County furnish school signs at appropriate roadways, and that the FDOT and the

cities comply with the County and display school signs on their respective streets and highways.

Mr. Hickey informed that a written request had already been sent to the FDOT for Citrus High School, Crystal River High School, and Lecanto High School, and that Mr. Wesch and he would review the County's role. (2:35 P.M.)

VI-G **IMPROVED COMMUNICATION**

Chairman Nave explained that Chairman Batchelor, Mr. Wesch, Mr. Hickey, and she had organized the agenda for this meeting, and had discussed how the two Boards could improve communication and discussion of important matters. Commissioner Bartell recommended that the BOCC and CCSB staffs coordinate a meeting for discussion of issues, and set a date for another joint meeting to consider staff's recommendations. Chairman Batchelor added that Commissioner Phillips was the education liaison.

Mr. Fitzpatrick recommended that the CCSB and the BOCC exchange minutes of their respective meetings each month. The BOCC and CCSB concurred.

**Consensus:** The BOCC and the CCSB would meet in a joint session annually after the legislative sessions concluded in late spring and at other times as required. (2:45 P.M.)

VI-H **EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR POSITION**

Chairman Nave announced that Mr. Wesch had addressed this issue earlier in the meeting.

VII- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dennis G. Treadway, Vice President of the Crystal River Sharks, read from his letter (filed with the Clerk's agenda) regarding the need for a permanent football facility, and expanding the Interlocal Agreement to include the Crystal River Sharks and other such groups. He responded to Mr. Fitzpatrick by stating that he would be willing to share facilities with the Inverness Razorbacks, and that the County had property near Rock Crusher School that could be used on a temporary basis, but that he was concerned about committing to the debt of approximately \$30,000.

Sumner Waite suggested that the County purchase paper and janitorial supplies directly from the School District.

Chairman Nave adjourned the special joint meeting at 3:02 P.M.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman