

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JULY 30, 2007
(9:00 A.M.)**

Proceedings of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the auditorium at the County Administration Building, 4020 Lewis Speedway (County Road 16-A) and U.S. 1 North, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present were: Ben Rich, District 3, Chairman
Thomas G. Manuel, District 4, Vice Chairman
Ron Sanchez, District 2
James Bryant, District 5
Michael D. Wanchick, County Administrator
Wally Kropacek, Interim County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Terry Bulla, Deputy Clerk

Absent: Cyndi Stevenson, District 1

(07/30/07 - 1 - 9:02 a.m.)

1. THIS IS A SPECIAL PRIVATE ATTORNEY/CLIENT MEETING, HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 286.011(8), FLORIDA STATUTES, AND WILL BE CONFINED TO SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND LITIGATION EXPENSE STRATEGY PERTAINING TO THE LAWSUIT BETWEEN WHETSTONE AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY, CASE NO. CA98-1501, IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY. THE SPECIAL PRIVATE ATTORNEY/CLIENT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM A, IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMPLEX

Proof of publication of a special private attorney/client meeting known as Whetstone v. St. Johns County, Case No. CA98-1501, was received, having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on July 27, 2007.

Rich called the special meeting to order.

Patrick McCormack, County Attorney, informed the Board that he needed advice concerning the *Whetstone v. St. Johns County* lawsuit, Case No. CA 98-1501, in the Circuit Court in and for St. Johns County. He stated that Florida Statute 286.011 allowed the Board to hold a private meeting in order to provide that advice.

Rich announced that the meeting would be held in Conference Room A and the names of the attendees: County Commissioners Ron Sanchez, Ben Rich, Thomas G. Manuel and James Bryant; Michael D. Wanchick, County Administrator; Patrick F. McCormack, County Attorney; Steve Gallagher, Special Counsel and Linda Fake, Court Reporter. Rich announced that Commissioner Cyndi Stevenson, though not present at the opening, might attend. Stevenson remained absent.

The meeting attendees moved to Conference Room A for the closed session.

The special meeting reconvened at 9:20 a.m.

Rich stated that the Board was requesting that the County Attorney, or his representative, continue negotiating the issue, and if they could reach settlement in the range of \$75,000 to do so. McCormack said they would also ask for authority to use the totality of the circumstances to determine the actual settlement figure, probably within the range of \$75,000.

Rich announced termination of the closed attorney/client settlement meeting at 9:20 a.m. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Approved August 21, 2007

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Ben Rich
Ben Rich, Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: Wanner King
Deputy Clerk

