

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
May 31, 2011
(12:00 p.m.)**

Proceedings of an emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the San Sebastian Conference Room at the County Administration Building, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Proof of publication of the notice of the emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, was received, having been noticed by a press release by the St. Johns County Office of Public Affairs on May 31, 2011.

Present: J. Ken Bryan, County Commissioner, District 5, Chair
Cyndi Stevenson, County Commissioner, District 1
Jay Morris, County Commissioner, District 4
Michael Wanchick, County Administrator
Jerry Cameron, Assistant County Administrator
Darrell Locklear, Assistant County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Karen Pan, St. Johns County Communications Manager
Lenora Newsome, Deputy Clerk

(12:07 p.m.) Bryan called the meeting to order.

(12:07 p.m.) McCormack stated that, earlier that morning, Carl Shank, Assistant Fire Chief, had distributed an interoffice memorandum describing some emergency conditions in the County.

(12:08 p.m.) Cameron reviewed Shank's concerns; the drought index reached 631 and was expected to increase. He noted that anytime the drought index was over 600 it placed the County in a critical situation. He said the situation was critical enough that the surrounding counties had already introduced burn bans. He mentioned that the Division of Forestry had advised the County that a burn ban was in order at this point. He stated that they were already past the point that, if they had a fire with any wind at all, it would be a serious situation, and they expected conditions to get worse, because precipitation was not expected for another week. He said it would take some substantial precipitation, over a number of weeks, for them to be out of the dire situation that they were in, and that they were already handling a number of brush fires. McCormack informed them that Shank was recommending that the County enact a burn ban due to the conditions, and mentioned that the situation was an emergency. Cameron affirmed that every day was critical. McCormack addressed the following documents; a memorandum, resolution, and an emergency order. He stated, by Florida Statutes, the period of local emergency authorized by the proclamation shall continue for seven days. He mentioned that he would like to develop an ordinance that would grant a time period, either 90 or 180 days, or some extended period so that an emergency declaration would not have to be revisited every seven days. He asked the Board to consider Resolution No. 2011-136, which would determine, promulgate, and declare the following proclamation, effective immediately, pertaining to the local state of emergency. Bryan recommended 180 days. McCormack informed Bryan that he would prepare the ordinance and advertise it for Tuesday, June 7, 2011, for the Board's consideration. (12:14 p.m.) **Motion by Stevenson, seconded by Morris, carried 3/0 with Miner and Sanchez absent, to approve Resolution No. 2011-136, as amended by the County Attorney.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-136

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT CONSISTS OF A PROCLAMATION DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AS PROVIDED IN PART I, CHAPTER 252, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND BY ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA ORDINANCE 94-25, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED

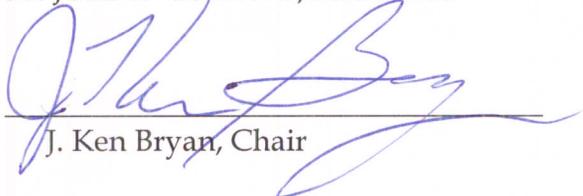
(12:14 p.m.) McCormack addressed the emergency order and said the Resolution declared the emergency and the emergency order covered what was actually banned, which was described in the fourth whereas clause. He stated that the emergency order had the effect of creating a misdemeanor or valuations of that. He said that the Administrator had the authority to implement the emergency order under the resolution that was just adopted. Bryan suggested that a notice be sent to local businesses that sell fireworks to ensure they were aware of the change involving fireworks and burn ban in St. Johns County. McCormack said he would look into it and advise the Board at the next BCC meeting. (12:19 p.m.) **Motion by Morris, seconded by Stevenson, carried 3/0 with Miner and Sanchez absent, to support the fire ban by Emergency Order 2011-01**

(12:19 p.m.) McCormack stated that the emergency meeting was called for the soul purpose of the emergency due to the fire threat conditions, and he recommended that no other business be conducted during the emergency meeting.

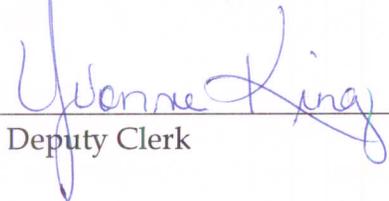
With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Approved _____ June 21 _____, 2011

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
J. Ken Bryan, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: 
Deputy Clerk

