

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-R-9

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY
FLORIDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ISSUING A FINAL ORDER FOR RATE
ADJUSTMENTS FOR COLLEGE MANOR WATER
COMPANY AS PURSUANT TO A PROPOSED
BOARD ACTION**

WHEREAS, On May 3, 2007, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County enacted Ordinance No. 2007-15, asserting jurisdiction within Columbia County over investor-owned water, wastewater, and effluent re-use systems, as authorized by Chapter 367, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2011-2 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to conduct limited action proceedings to act upon any matter within its jurisdiction, including any matter the resolution of which requires a utility to adjust its rates; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2100 and by its own action, the Board of County Commissioners authorized such a limited proceeding to consider rate adjustments for College Manor Water Company; and

WHEREAS, the County has held a customer meeting; the Columbia County Utility Committee has heard the issues and, after due consideration of the evidence and testimony, has issued a Recommended Order to the Board of County Commissioners, and the Board of County Commissioners has conducted a public hearing on March 3, 2011 for the purpose of considering the Recommended Order and all exhibits; and

WHEREAS, after full consideration, the Board has determined that the recommended rates are just, reasonable compensatory, not unfairly discriminatory, and in the public interest and further determined that the findings of fact contained therein are supported by competent, substantial evidence; and

WHEREAS, this order is contingent upon College Manor Water Company entering into a Provisional Franchise Agreement as approved by the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

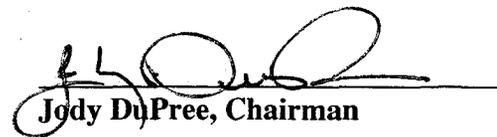
Section 1. The Recommended Order, as amended or modified, including all attachments thereto submitted by the Columbia County Utilities Committee, attached as Exhibit A. and incorporated herein is adopted as the Final Order of this Board.

Section 2. The rates, fees and charges attached as exhibit B are hereby approved and authorized as the final rates, fees and charges of College Manor Water Company.

Section 3. The rates fees and charges approved herein shall become effective after 21 days, unless a valid written protest petition is filed with the Board, and upon Staff's acknowledgement to receipt of a fully executed Provisional Franchise Agreement. These rates, fees and charges shall remain in effect until such time as amended by the Board of County Commissioners.

Adopted this 3rd day, March, 2011.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


Jody DuPree, Chairman

ATTEST:

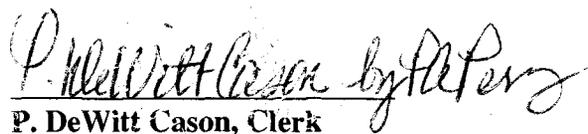

P. DeWitt Cason, Clerk

Exhibit A

To: Columbia County Board of County Commissioners
From: Columbia County Utility Committee
Date: February 9, 2011

RECOMMENDED ORDER OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY UTILITY COMMITTEE

COLLEGE MANOR WATER COMPANY

SUMMARY

The Columbia County Utility Committee as part of a Proposed Board Action initiated by the Board of County Commissioners and after due consideration of the exhibits, evidence and testimony presented at the January 25, 2011 meeting recommends to the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners that they adopt a resolution approving a Provisional Franchise College Manor Water Company. and adopt the rates, fees and charges as set forth:

\$20.00 per month base rate
\$ 2.00 per 1000 gallons usage

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1) College Manor Water Company provides only water services and provides these services to approximately 47 customers in the College Manor subdivision. College Manor Water Company cannot expand the utility. College Manor is essentially built out and the City of Lake City provides water services in the surrounding area. As such, the utility should be considered 100% "used and useful" in setting rates.
- 2) College Manor Water Company currently charges \$14.00 flat rate per month with a usage charge of \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons.
- 3) In December 2010, College Manor Water Company had to shut off service for repairs to the system's water tank. The repairs cost \$8,000.
- 4) On January 6, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners adopted an amendment to Ordinance 2007-15 authorizing Proposed Board Actions.

- 5) On January 20, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners, by its own motion, authorized a Proposed Board Action to consider a rate adjustment for College Manor Water Company.
- 6) College Manor Water Company seeks an increase in the rates to recoup the cost of the \$8,000 repairs over four years and provide a portion of the funds needed for staff salaries. The balance of the funds for salaries would come from reductions in expenditures.
- 7) On January 24, 2011, County staff conducted a Customer Meeting of the College Manor customers at the Offices of the College Manor Water Company adjacent to the subdivision. One customer and two employee/customers attended.
- 8) The quality of service is satisfactory. The one customer complained about excessive chlorine in the water, which is being investigated.
- 9) County staff has reviewed all of the exhibits provided by College Manor Water Company as part of the rate adjustment process and found them to contain sufficient evidence to support the stipulated rates, fees and charges as set forth in this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

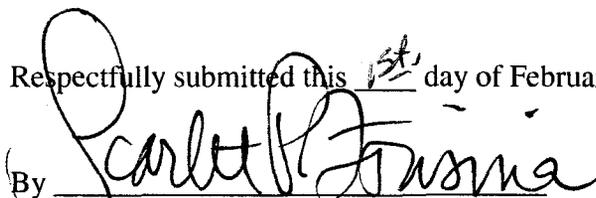
On January 25, 2011, The Columbia County Utility Committee, in a noticed meeting at the County Extension Office at the Fairground considered this issue. Public comment was accepted. One customer spoke.

Based upon the testimony and documentary evidence presented at the Customer Meeting, the Utility Committee meeting, and in the exhibits, the Columbia County Utility Committee finds the recommended rates are supported by competent, substantial evidence and are just, reasonable, compensatory and not unfairly discriminatory.

On a motion by Commissioner Bailey and seconded by Commissioner DePratter, the Utility Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners adopt a resolution approving the rates, fees and charges as set forth:

Current Rate	\$14.00 Base Rate	\$ 2.00 per 1,000 gallons
Recommended Rate	\$20.00 Base Rate	\$ 2.00 per 1,000 gallons

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of February, 2011

By 
 Scarlet P. Frisina, Chair

PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED BOARD ACTION TO CONSIDER
ORDER APPROVING INCREASED WATER RATES FOR COLLEGE MANOR
WATER COMPANY, INC.**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida will at its regular meeting on MARCH 3, 2011, in the Columbia County School Board Administration Building, 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida at 7:00 p.m. hold a public hearing to consider a Proposed Board Action entitled:

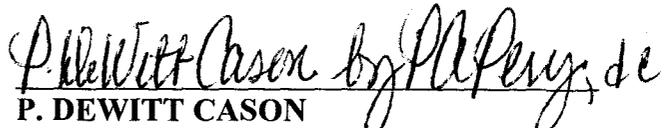
**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION BY THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY
FLORIDA
ORDER APPROVING INCREASED WATER RATES FOR THE COLLEGE
MANOR WATER COMPANY, INC.**

The substance of the above-named ordinance is as provided in its name. Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for inspection at the office of the County Manager located in the County Administration Complex, 135 NE Hernando Avenue, Lake City, Florida between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any interested party may appear and be heard at this public hearing.

In the event any person decides to appeal any decision of the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter relating to the consideration of the ordinance at the above references public hearing, a record of the proceedings may be needed and in such event, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the public hearing is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, a person needing special accommodations or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact Lisa Roberts 386/752-1006 or T.D. Services 386/758-2139, at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the hearing.

DATED this 11th day of FEB, 2011


P. DEWITT CASON
Clerk of Court

Published on: FEBRUARY 17, 2011