

RESOLUTION R-10-140

A RESOLUTION OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA DELEGATING THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE PRE-SUIT OFFERS IN EMINENT DOMAIN CASES FOR THE RIGHT-OF-WAY REQUIRED FOR THE 44th AVENUE EAST (15th STREET EAST - 19th STREET EAST) ROAD RIGHT OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PARCELS ARE IDENTIFIED AS EXHIBIT "A", TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS DESIGNEE, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FOR THE AMOUNT UP TO THE APPROVED APPRAISED VALUE OF THE PROPERTIES SOUGHT TO BE ACQUIRED.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, has heretofore approved the scope and construction of the project, parcels identified in Exhibit A", and identified in the Capital Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, under Florida Statute 73.015, effective July 1, 2000, before bringing an eminent domain proceeding, the condemning authority must attempt to negotiate in good faith with the fee owners of the parcels to be acquired, provide fee owners with a written offer, and, if requested, a copy of the appraisal report upon which the offer is based, and attempt to reach an agreement regarding the amount of compensation to be paid for the parcel; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is in the County's best interest to conduct such negotiations and make such written offers prior to the time that the Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to meet; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that in such cases it is appropriate to delegate to the County Administrator, or his designee, within guidelines, the authority to conduct negotiations and make written offers to purchase such parcels, subject to the Board of County Commissioners approval; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that limiting such authority to make a written offer up to the amount specified in the appraisal, and requiring the concurrence of the County Attorney or his designee in the written offer, will provide adequate guidelines and safeguard Manatee County's interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners hereby delegates its authority To make pre-suit offers pursuant to Florida Statue 73.015 to the County Administrator or his designee, subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, for the parcels sought to be acquired in Exhibit "A". Said offers not to exceed the value determined for the respective parcels in the approved appraisal reports.

DULY ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 27th day of July, 2010.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Chairman

ATTEST: R.B. SHORE
Clerk of the Circuit Court


RBS



**44TH AVENUE EAST (15TH STREET EAST - 19TH STREET EAST)
ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
EXHIBIT "A"**

<i>PARCEL #</i>	<i>CONVEYANCE TYPE</i>	<i>SQUARE FOOTAGE</i>	<i>OWNER NAME</i>	<i>ADDRESS</i>	<i>APPRAISED VALUE AS OF JUNE 2010</i>
145	FEE	1673.0	JOHN F. BOZMAN, III	1912 44 TH AVE. E.	\$12,250
148	FEE	614.0	M.J.C. 1812 REALY TRUST, LLC	1812 44 TH AVE. E.	\$8,150
149	FEE	18,223	MANASOTA INDUSTRIAL PARK ASSOCIATES, LTD.	18 TH ST. E.	\$77,850
150	FEE	232,175	EL RANCHO PARTNERS AND MIKE CARTER I, INC.	18 TH ST. E.	\$949,600
151	FEE	211,702	EL RANCHO PARTNERS AND MIKE CARTER I, INC.	18 TH ST. E.	\$865,900
852	PERMANENT EASEMENT	23,400	EL RANCHO PARTNERS AND MIKE CARTER I, INC.	18 TH ST. E.	\$47,900
153	FEE	8,220	CEMEX CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FLORIDA, INC	4415 44 AVE. E.	\$42,000
TOTAL					\$2,003,650

SUBJECT	Resolution R-10- 140 authorizing Pre-Suit Negotiations 44 th Avenue East (15 th Street East-19 th Street East) Road Right of Way Improvement Project	TYPE AGENDA ITEM	Consent
DATE REQUESTED	July 27, 2010	DATE SUBMITTED/REVISED	July 16, 2010
BRIEFINGS? Who?	N/A	CONSEQUENCES IF DEFERRED	N/A
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION	Property Management Property Acquisition Division	AUTHORIZED BY TITLE	Charlie Bishop, Director, Property Management <i>CHB</i>
CONTACT PERSON TELEPHONE/EXTENSION	Lynn Willis Extension 6287	PRESENTER/TITLE TELEPHONE/EXTENSION	Joaquin Servia, Division Manager, Property Acquisition/Extension 3021 <i>JS</i>
ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL		<i>[Signature]</i>	
ACTION DESIRED INDICATE WHETHER 1) REPORT; 2) DISCUSSION; 3) FORM OF MOTION; OR 4) OTHER ACTION REQUIRED			
Adoption of Resolution R-10-140 authorizing Property Acquisition to conduct pre-suit negotiations and make written offers to purchase certain parcels as defined in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, required for the 44 th Avenue East (15 th Street East-19 th Street East) Road Improvement Project, before proceeding with eminent domain.			
ENABLING/REGULATING AUTHORITY Federal/State law(s), administrative ruling(s), Manatee County Comp Plan/Land Development Code, ordinances, resolutions, policy			
Florida Statute 73.015			
BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 73.015, Florida Statutes, requires negotiations with the property owner, a written offer of purchase, and notice to owner of their statutory rights prior to any eminent domain action. Resolution R-10-140 requests authorization delegating authority to make pre-suit offers in eminent domain cases for the amount up to the approved appraised value of the property sought to be acquired for the 44th Avenue East (15th Street East-19th Street East) Road Right of Way Improvement Project, #334-6045661. Parcels sought to be acquired are identified in Exhibit "A", attached hereto. 			
APPROVED IN OPEN SESSION			
COUNTY ATTORNEY REVIEW			
Check appropriate box	JUL 27 2010		
<input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED Written Comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Available from Attorney (Attorney's initials: ___) BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA		
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOT REVIEWED (No apparent legal issues.)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT REVIEWED (Utilizes exact form or procedure previously approved by CAO.)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER		
ATTACHMENTS: (List in order as attached)		INSTRUCTIONS TO BOARD RECORDS:	
1) Resolution R-10-140 2) Exhibit "A" 3) Florida Statutes		Please return copy of adopted Resolution to Lynn Willis, Property Acquisition, Property Management <i>Emailed 7/29/10 (1A)</i>	
COST:	N/A	SOURCE (ACCT # & NAME):	N/A
COMMENTS:	N/A	AMT./FREQ. OF RECURRING COSTS: (ATTACH FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT)	N/A

property, the property may be transferred, after public notice and competitive bidding unless otherwise provided by general law, to another natural person or private entity without restriction, if the following conditions are met:

1. The current titleholder documents that the property is no longer needed for the use or purpose for which the property was transferred to the current titleholder; and

2. The owner from whom the property was taken by eminent domain is given the opportunity to repurchase the property at the price that he or she received from the condemning authority.

(3) This section does not affect the limitation on a government entity's powers of eminent domain contained in s. 350.81(2)(j).

(4) The power of eminent domain shall be restricted as provided in this chapter and chapters 127, 163, and 166, except when the owner of a property relinquishes the property and concedes to the taking of the property in order to retain the ability to reinvest the proceeds of the sale of the property in replacement property under s. 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code.

*History.—*s. 1, ch. 2006-11.

73.014 Taking property to eliminate nuisance, slum, or blight conditions prohibited.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any charter provision, ordinance, statute, or special law, the state, any political subdivision as defined in s. 1.01(8), or any other entity to which the power of eminent domain is delegated may not exercise the power of eminent domain to take private property for the purpose of abating or eliminating a public nuisance. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any charter provision, ordinance, statute, or special law, abating or eliminating a public nuisance is not a valid public purpose or use for which private property may be taken by eminent domain and does not satisfy the public purpose requirement of s. 6(a), Art. X of the State Constitution. This subsection does not diminish the power of counties or municipalities to adopt or enforce county or municipal ordinances related to code enforcement or the elimination of public nuisances to the extent such ordinances do not authorize the taking of private property by eminent domain.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any charter provision, ordinance, statute, or special law, the state, any political subdivision as defined in s. 1.01(8), or any other entity to which the power of eminent domain is delegated may not exercise the power of eminent domain to take private property for the purpose of preventing or eliminating slum or blight conditions. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any charter provision, ordinance, statute, or special law, taking private property for the purpose of preventing or eliminating slum or blight conditions is not a valid public purpose or use for which private property may be taken by eminent domain and does not satisfy the public purpose requirement of s. 6(a), Art. X of the State Constitution.

*History.—*s. 2, ch. 2006-11.

73.015 Result negotiation.—

(1) Effective July 1, 2000, before an eminent domain proceeding is brought under this chapter or chapter 74, the condemning authority must attempt to negotiate in good faith with the fee owner of the parcel to be acquired, must provide the fee owner with a written offer and, if requested, a copy of the appraisal upon which the offer is based, and must attempt to reach an agreement regarding the amount of compensation to be paid for the parcel.

(a) No later than the time the initial written or oral offer of compensation for acquisition is made to the fee owner, the condemning authority must notify the fee owner of the following:

1. That all or a portion of his or her property is necessary for a project.

2. The nature of the project for which the parcel is considered necessary, and the parcel designation of the property to be acquired.

3. That, within 15 business days after receipt of a request by the fee owner, the condemning authority will provide a copy of the appraisal report upon which the offer to the fee owner is based; copies, to the extent prepared, of the right-of-way maps or other documents that depict the proposed taking; and copies, to the extent prepared, of the construction plans that depict project improvements to be constructed on the property taken and improvements to be constructed adjacent to the remaining property, including, but not limited to, plan, profile, cross-section, drainage, and pavement marking sheets, and driveway connection detail. The condemning authority shall provide any additional plan sheets within 15 days of request.

4. The fee owner's statutory rights under ss. 73.091 and 73.092, or alternatively provide copies of these provisions of law.

5. The fee owner's rights and responsibilities under paragraphs (b) and (c) and subsection (4), or alternatively provide copies of these provisions of law.

(b) The condemning authority must provide a written offer of compensation to the fee owner as to the value of the property sought to be appropriated and, where less than the entire property is sought to be appropriated, any damages to the remainder caused by the taking. The owner must be given at least 30 days after either receipt of the notice or the date the notice is returned as undeliverable by the postal authorities to respond to the offer, before the condemning authority files a condemnation proceeding for the parcel identified in the offer.

(c) The notice and written offer must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the fee owner's last known address listed on the county ad valorem tax roll. Alternatively, the notice and written offer may be personally delivered to the fee owner of the property. If there is more than one owner of a property, notice to one owner constitutes notice to all owners of the property. The return of the notice as undeliverable by the postal authorities constitutes compliance with this provision. The condemning authority is not required to give notice or a written offer to a person who acquires title to the property after the notice required by this section has been given.

(d) Notwithstanding this subsection, with respect to lands acquired under s. 259.041, the condemning authority is not required to give the fee owner the current appraisal before executing an option contract.

(2) Effective July 1, 2000, before an eminent domain proceeding is brought under this chapter or chapter 74 by the Department of Transportation or by a county, municipality, board, district, or other public body for the condemnation of right-of-way, the condemning authority must make a good faith effort to notify the business owners, including lessees, who operate a business located on the property to be acquired.

(a) The condemning authority must notify the business owner of the following:

1. That all or a portion of his or her property is necessary for a project.

2. The nature of the project for which the parcel is considered necessary, and the parcel designation of the property to be acquired.

3. That, within 15 business days after receipt of a request by the business owner, the condemning authority will provide a copy of the appraisal report upon which the offer to the fee owner is based; copies, to the extent prepared, of the right-of-way maps or other documents that depict the proposed taking; and copies, to the extent prepared, of the construction plans that depict project improvements to be constructed on the property taken and improvements to be constructed adjacent to the remaining property, including, but not limited to, plan, profile, cross-section, drainage, pavement marking sheets, and driveway connection detail. The condemning authority shall provide any additional plan sheets within 15 days of request.

4. The business owner's statutory rights under ss. 73.071, 73.091, and 73.092.

5. The business owner's rights and responsibilities under paragraphs (b) and (c) and subsection (4).

(b) The notice must be made subsequent to or concurrent with the condemning authority's making the written offer of compensation to the fee owner pursuant to subsection (1). The notice must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address of the registered agent for the business located on the property to be acquired, or if no agent is registered, by certified mail or personal delivery to the address of the business located on the property to be acquired. Notice to one owner of a multiple ownership business constitutes notice to all business owners of that business. The return of the notice as undeliverable by the postal authorities constitutes compliance with these provisions. The condemning authority is not required to give notice to a person who acquires an interest in the business after the notice required by this section has been given. Once notice has been made to business owners under this subsection, the condemning authority may file a condemnation proceeding pursuant to chapter 73 or chapter 74 for the property identified in the notice.

(c) If the business qualifies for business damages pursuant to s. 73.071(3)(b) and the business intends to claim business damages, the business owner must, within 180 days after either receipt of the notice or the date the notice is returned as undeliverable by the

postal authorities, or at a later time mutually agreed to by the condemning authority and the business owner, submit to the condemning authority a good faith written offer to settle any claims of business damage. The written offer must be sent to the condemning authority by certified mail, return receipt requested. Absent a showing of a good faith justification for the failure to submit a business damage offer within 180 days, the court must strike the business owner's claim for business damages in any condemnation proceeding. If the court finds that the business owner has made a showing of a good faith justification for the failure to timely submit a business damage offer, the court shall grant the business owner up to 180 days within which to submit a business damage offer, which the condemning authority must respond to within 120 days.

1. The business damage offer must include an explanation of the nature, extent, and monetary amount of such damage and must be prepared by the owner, a certified public accountant, or a business damage expert familiar with the nature of the operations of the owner's business. The business owner shall also provide to the condemning authority copies of the owner's business records that substantiate the good faith offer to settle the business damage claim. If additional information is needed beyond data that may be obtained from business records existing at the time of the offer, the business owner and condemning authority may agree on a schedule for the submission of such information.

2. As used in this paragraph, the term "business records" includes, but is not limited to, copies of federal income tax returns, federal income tax withholding statements, federal miscellaneous income tax statements, state sales tax returns, balance sheets, profit and loss statements, and state corporate income tax returns for the 5 years preceding notification which are attributable to the business operation on the property to be acquired, and other records relied upon by the business owner that substantiate the business damage claim.

(d) Within 120 days after receipt of the good faith business damage offer and accompanying business records, the condemning authority must, by certified mail, accept or reject the business owner's offer or make a counteroffer. Failure of the condemning authority to respond to the business damage offer, or rejection thereof pursuant to this section, must be deemed to be a counteroffer of zero dollars for purposes of subsequent application of s. 73.092(1).

(3) At any time in the presuit negotiation process, the parties may agree to submit the compensation or business damage claims to nonbinding mediation. The parties shall agree upon a mediator certified under s. 44.102. In the event that there is a settlement reached as a result of mediation or other mutually acceptable dispute resolution procedure, the agreement reached shall be in writing. The written agreement provided for in this section shall incorporate by reference the right-of-way maps, construction plans, or other documents related to the taking upon which the settlement is based. In the event of a settlement, both parties shall have the same legal rights that would have been avail-

able under law if the matter had been resolved through eminent domain proceedings in circuit court with the maps, plans, or other documents having been made a part of the record.

(4) If a settlement is reached between the condemning authority and a property or business owner prior to a lawsuit being filed, the property or business owner who settles compensation claims in lieu of condemnation shall be entitled to recover costs in the same manner as provided in s. 73.091 and attorney's fees in the same manner as provided in s. 73.092, more specifically as follows:

(a) Attorney's fees for presuit negotiations under this section regarding the amount of compensation to be paid for the land, severance damages, and improvements must be calculated in the same manner as provided in s. 73.092(1) unless the parties otherwise agree.

(b) If business damages are recovered by the business owner based on the condemning authority accepting the business owner's initial offer or the business owner accepting the condemning authority's initial counteroffer, attorney's fees must be calculated in accordance with s. 73.092(2), (3), (4), and (5) for the attorney's time incurred in presentation of the business owner's good faith offer under paragraph (2)(c). Otherwise, attorney's fees for the award of business damages must be calculated as provided in s. 73.092(1), based on the difference between the final judgment or settlement of business damages and the counteroffer to the business owner's offer by the condemning authority.

(c) Presuit costs must be presented, calculated, and awarded in the same manner as provided in s. 73.091, after submission by the business or property owner to the condemning authority of all appraisal reports, business damage reports, or other work products for which recovery is sought, and upon transfer of title of the real property by closing, upon payment of any amounts due for business damages, or upon final judgment.

(d) If the parties cannot agree on the amount of costs and attorney's fees to be paid by the condemning authority, the business or property owner may file a complaint in the circuit court in the county in which the property is located to recover attorney's fees and costs.

This shall only apply when the action is by the Department of Transportation, county, municipality, board, district, or other public body for the condemnation of a road right-of-way.

(5) Evidence of negotiations or of any written or oral statements used in mediation or negotiations between the parties under this section is inadmissible in any condemnation proceeding, except in a proceeding to determine reasonable costs and attorney's fees.

History.—s. 57, ch. 99-385; s. 8, ch. 2001-256.

73.0155 Confidentiality; business information provided to a governmental condemning authority.—

(1) The following business information provided by the owner of a business to a governmental condemning authority as part of an offer of business damages under

s. 73.015 is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the owner requests in writing that the business information be held confidential and exempt:

(a) Federal tax returns or tax information confidential under 26 U.S.C. s. 6103.

(b) State tax returns or tax information confidential under s. 213.053.

(c) Balance sheets, profit-and-loss statements, cash-flow statements, inventory records, or customer lists or number of customers for a business operating on the parcel to be acquired.

(d) A franchise, distributorship, or lease agreement of which the business operating on the parcel to be acquired is the subject.

(e) Materials that relate to methods of manufacture or production, potential trade secrets, patentable material, or actual trade secrets as defined in s. 688.002.

(f) Other proprietary confidential business information related to the business operating on the parcel to be acquired, if the owner attests in writing to the governmental condemning authority that:

1. The information is being relied upon to substantiate a claim for business damages under s. 73.015;

2. The information has not otherwise been publicly disclosed;

3. The information cannot be readily obtained by the public using alternative means;

4. The information is used by the business to protect or further a business advantage over those who do not know or use the information; and

5. The disclosure of the information would injure the business in the marketplace.

(2) An agency as defined in s. 119.011 may inspect and copy the confidential and exempt business information exclusively for the transaction of official business by, or on behalf of, an agency.

(3) This section does not prevent an agency from offering the confidential and exempt business information as evidence in a legal proceeding and does not prevent a court from determining whether to close a portion of a court record from subsequent public disclosure after trial in order to maintain the confidentiality of that information.

(4) Any employee or agent of an agency receiving such confidential and exempt business information who willfully and knowingly violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

History.—s. 1, ch. 99-224; s. 1, ch. 2004-46; s. 1, ch. 2009-234.

73.021 Petition; contents.—Those having the right to exercise the power of eminent domain may file a petition therefor in the circuit court of the county wherein the property lies, which petition shall set forth:

(1) The authority under which and the public use or purpose for which the property is to be acquired, and that the property is necessary for that public use or purpose;

(2) A description identifying the property sought to be acquired. The petitioners may join in the same action all properties involved in a planned project whether in the same or different ownership, or whether or not the property is sought for the same use;

(d) The appraisal value of the property.

(e) A clear, concise statement relating to the unit owner's right to object to the taking or appraisal value and the procedures and effects of exercising that right.

(f) A clear, concise statement relating to the power of the association to convey the property on behalf of the unit owners if no objection to the taking or appraisal value is raised, and the effects of this alternative on the unit owner.

The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may adopt, by rule, a standard form for such notice and may require the notice to include any additional relevant information.

(3) In the absence of a response by the unit owner within 30 days, the unit owner shall be deemed to have acquiesced to the association acting as the unit owner's representative in any subsequent proceeding relating to the parcel at issue. Unit owners who object to the purchase or taking or the appraisal of value within 30 days after the date the notice is received shall have all of their legal rights preserved with regard to the taking, the appraisal of value, and all other rights which appertain to unit ownership. Failure to raise an objection within the 30-day period shall only constitute an acquiescence by the unit owner to the association acting as the unit owner's representative in any subsequent proceeding relating to the parcel at issue and shall not affect any other rights of the unit owner. In the event that no unit owners shall so object, the condemning authority may rely upon a power of sale vested in the condominium association. The condemning authority shall only be required to name as defendants, should eminent domain proceedings be necessitated, the association and those owners of units which shall have objected to the taking or appraisal value within the 30-day period.

(4) It is the intent of the Legislature, through the adoption of this section, to provide a mechanism to either eliminate or minimize the necessity for naming individual unit owners in eminent domain proceedings for the acquisition of a portion of the common elements of a condominium and the necessity of incidental title searches and legal actions necessitated by naming multiple unit owners as defendants.

History.—s. 1, ch. 94-336; s. 9, ch. 2008-240.

73.081 Form of verdict.—The verdict of the jury shall state an accurate description of each parcel of the property sought to be appropriated and the amount to be paid therefor, together with any damage to the remainder caused by the taking and including business damages when allowable by statute. When severance damages, business damages, moving costs, separate compensation for permanent improvements made by a mobile home owner under s. 73.072, or other special damages are sought, the verdict shall state the amount of such damages separately from the amounts of other damages awarded.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369; s. 1, ch. 70-284; s. 2, ch. 78-315

73.091 Costs of the proceedings.—

(1) The petitioner shall pay attorney's fees as provided in s. 73.092 as well as all reasonable costs incurred in the defense of the proceedings in the circuit court, including, but not limited to, reasonable appraisal fees and, when business damages are compensable, a reasonable accountant's fee, to be assessed by that court. No prejudgment interest shall be paid on costs or attorney's fees.

(2) At least 30 days prior to a hearing to assess costs under this section, the condemnee's attorney shall submit to the condemning authority for each expert witness complete time records and a detailed statement of services rendered by date, nature of services performed, time spent performing such services, and costs incurred, and a copy of any fee agreement which may exist between the expert and the condemnee or the condemnee's attorney.

(3) In assessing costs, the court shall consider all factors relevant to the reasonableness of the costs, including, but not limited to, the fees paid to similar experts retained in the case by the condemning authority or other parties and the reasonable costs of similar services by similarly qualified persons.

(4) In assessing costs to be paid by the petitioner, the court shall be guided by the amount the defendant would ordinarily have been expected to pay for the services rendered if the petitioner were not responsible for the costs.

(5) The court shall make specific findings that justify each sum awarded as an expert witness fee.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369; s. 2, ch. 87-148; s. 52, ch. 90-136; s. 1, ch. 90-303; s. 2, ch. 94-162; s. 60, ch. 99-385.

73.092 Attorney's fees.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 73.015, the court, in eminent domain proceedings, shall award attorney's fees based solely on the benefits achieved for the client.

(a) As used in this section, the term "benefits" means the difference, exclusive of interest, between the final judgment or settlement and the last written offer made by the condemning authority before the defendant hires an attorney. If no written offer is made by the condemning authority before the defendant hires an attorney, benefits must be measured from the first written offer after the attorney is hired.

1. In determining attorney's fees, if business records as defined in s. 73.015(2)(c)2. and kept by the owner in the ordinary course of business were provided to the condemning authority to substantiate the business damage offer in s. 73.015(2)(c), benefits for amounts awarded for business damages must be based on the difference between the final judgment or settlement and the written counteroffer made by the condemning authority provided in s. 73.015(2)(d).

2. In determining attorney's fees, if existing business records as defined in s. 73.015(2)(c)2. and kept by the owner in the ordinary course of business were not provided to the condemning authority to substantiate the business damage offer in s. 73.015(2)(c) and those records which were not provided are later deemed material to the determination of business dam-

ages, benefits for amounts awarded for business damages must be based upon the difference between the final judgment or settlement and the first written counteroffer made by the condemning authority within 90 days from the condemning authority's receipt of the business records previously not provided.

(b) The court may also consider nonmonetary benefits obtained for the client through the efforts of the attorney, to the extent such nonmonetary benefits are specifically identified by the court and can, within a reasonable degree of certainty, be quantified.

(c) Attorney's fees based on benefits achieved shall be awarded in accordance with the following schedule:

1. Thirty-three percent of any benefit up to \$250,000; plus
2. Twenty-five percent of any portion of the benefit between \$250,000 and \$1 million; plus
3. Twenty percent of any portion of the benefit exceeding \$1 million.

(2) In assessing attorney's fees incurred in defeating an order of taking, or for apportionment, or other supplemental proceedings, when not otherwise provided for, the court shall consider:

(a) The novelty, difficulty, and importance of the questions involved.

(b) The skill employed by the attorney in conducting the cause.

(c) The amount of money involved.

(d) The responsibility incurred and fulfilled by the attorney.

(e) The attorney's time and labor reasonably required adequately to represent the client in relation to the benefits resulting to the client.

(f) The fee, or rate of fee, customarily charged for legal services of a comparable or similar nature.

(g) Any attorney's fee award made under subsection (1).

(3) In determining the amount of attorney's fees to be paid by the petitioner under subsection (2), the court shall be guided by the fees the defendant would ordinarily be expected to pay for these services if the petitioner were not responsible for the payment of those fees.

(4) At least 30 days prior to a hearing to assess attorney's fees under subsection (2), the condemnee's attorney shall submit to the condemning authority and to the court complete time records and a detailed statement of services rendered by date, nature of services performed, time spent performing such services, and costs incurred.

(5) The defendant shall provide to the court a copy of any fee agreement that may exist between the defendant and his or her attorney, and the court must reduce the amount of attorney's fees to be paid by the defendant by the amount of any attorney's fees awarded by the court.

History.—s. 1, ch. 76-158; s. 37, ch. 85-190; s. 3, ch. 87-148; s. 54, ch. 90-136; s. 3, ch. 90-303; s. 3, ch. 94-162; s. 1370, ch. 95-147; s. 61, ch. 99-385.

73.101 Form of judgment.—The judgment shall recite the verdict in full and shall state that the estate or interest in the property described in the petition and

sought to be appropriated by the petitioner shall vest in the petitioner upon the payment of, or securing by deposit of money, the amount found by the verdict of the jury. Where there are conflicting claims to the amount awarded for any parcel, the court, upon appropriate motion, shall determine the rights of the interested parties with respect to the amount awarded for each parcel and the method of apportionment, together with the disposition of any other matters arising from the taking.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369.

73.111 Deposit and possession.—Within 20 days after the rendition of the judgment, the petitioner shall deposit the amount set forth therein into the registry of the court for the use of the defendants, or the proceeding shall be null and void, unless for good cause further time, not exceeding 60 days, is allowed by the court. Upon such deposit and the entry in the proper records in the clerk's office of the judgment and the clerk's certificate that the compensation has been paid into the court, the estate or interest sought shall vest in the petitioner. The court may fix the time within which, and the terms upon which, the defendants shall be required to surrender possession to the petitioner.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369; s. 3, ch. 78-315.

73.121 Writs of assistance and possession.—Whenever the judge is satisfied that any person, whether holding under the defendant or not, is preventing or obstructing the petitioner from entering upon or taking possession of the property after the petitioner is entitled to do so, the judge may grant such writs as he or she may think necessary, or the judge may proceed for contempt of court.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369; s. 363, ch. 95-147.

73.131 Appeals; costs.—

(1) Appeals in eminent domain actions shall be taken in the manner prescribed by law and in accordance with the appellate rules, except that an appeal shall not prevent appropriation of the property by the petitioner where the amount awarded by the judgment has been deposited with the court as aforesaid. If, at any time after entry of the judgment, a defendant shall take out of the court the amount due him or her, any pending appeal taken by the defendant shall be dismissed by the appellate court upon the filing of a certificate by the clerk of the circuit court stating that the defendant taking the appeal has withdrawn the amount due him or her.

(2) The petitioner shall pay all reasonable costs of the proceedings in the appellate court, including a reasonable attorney's fee to be assessed by that court, except upon an appeal taken by a defendant in which the judgment of the lower court shall be affirmed.

History.—s. 1, ch. 65-369; s. 4, ch. 87-148; s. 364, ch. 95-147.

73.141 Payment.—

(1) In the event that no appeal has been taken within the time and in the manner provided by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, the clerk shall pay each judgment creditor the sum necessary to satisfy the judgment from the funds on deposit, and upon order