



Happy Birthday, Manatee County Government

Larry Bustle, Carol Whitmore, Michael

Nicholas Azzara to: Gallen, Robin DiSabatino, John Chappie,
Betsy Benac, Vanessa Baugh

01/07/2013 04:30 PM

Ed Hunzeker, Karen Windon, Dan Schlandt, chips.shore, Cathy
Cc: Slusser, Yvonne Tryon, Marianne Lopata, Shirley Talley, Kaycee
Ellis, Kim Godbee, Bill Hutchison, Brenda Rogers, Charlie Bishop,

Commissioners,

Wednesday, Jan. 9 is the anniversary of the establishment of Manatee County. This week our county government turns 158 years old. Thought I'd share with you an excerpt from a book I recently received as a gift, *Edge of Wilderness: A Settlement History of Manatee River and Sarasota Bay*.

I've attached the section on the "Birth of Manatee County" as a pdf below.

The 1854 legislative session convened on Monday after Thanksgiving. On New Year's Day 1855, the Senate brought from the House a bill to organize Manatee County. It had been introduced in the House by Jesse Carter of Hillsborough County. Three days later, the bill passed the Senate unanimously, 13-0. Manatee County -- named for the state mammal, the Florida manatee -- was officially formed on Jan. 9 when Gov. James E. Broome signed it into law.

The new county stretched for more than 5,000, from its present day northern border south to Monroe County and east to St. Lucie County.

The first Board of County Commissioners qualified on Nov. 8, 1855. They were cattlemen Maxfield Whidden and J. Addison, master bricklayer Asa Goddard and Capt. Nathaniel P. Hunter. Cathy Slusser with the Clerk of Courts office confirmed that the first commission had only four commissioners -- an even number, oddly enough!

Nicholas Azzara

Manatee County Information Outreach Coordinator

Office: 941.745.3771

Cell: 941.224.9393

1112 Manatee Ave. W., Suite 902

Bradenton, FL 34205

www.MyManatee.org



- Birth of Manatee County.pdf

*Reporter
Roundabout
Rubonia
on-line BB for projects
Jan 9th Anniversary*

