



Griffin head football coach resigns to take position at University of Central Florida  
**SPORTS, A8**

COVID-19 IN SPALDING COUNTY

3639

CASES

130

DEATHS

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ANTHONY RHODES/DAILY NEWS

County Manager William Wilson Jr. is pictured speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Spalding County Animal Shelter in September.

## Wilson to retire from county manager job

# The Lakes at Green Valley chosen for aquatic center

BY TIM DALY  
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The Spalding County Board of Commissioners on Monday night selected The Lakes at Green Valley as the site for the aquatic center.

The Paragon Consulting Group is estimating that it will cost \$7.8 million to build the aquatic center at the site.

At the board's Monday meeting, Paragon Consulting Group President and Principal Engineer Brian Upson provided board members with cost estimates for The Lakes at Green Valley site as well as three options for a Cowan

Road site. The estimated cost of the three options ranged from \$8.67 million to \$8.8 million.

The three options at the Cowan Road site were more expensive than The Lakes at Green Valley site because there are no sewer or water lines adjacent to the Cowan Road site, Upson said. The three options contained different plans for vehicle access to the site.

Upson said there are water lines adjacent to The Lakes at Green Valley site and there is sewer on site.

Chairman Clay Davis and Commissioners James Dutton and Ryan Bowlden voted in favor of

The Lakes at Green Valley site, while Commissioners Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Rita Johnson voted against the site.

A total of \$4.7 million was set aside in the 2016 special-purpose, local-option sales tax (SPLOST) for a six-lane competition pool and a building with a retractable cover.

The plan approved by the board Aug. 17 calls for an eight-lane competition pool and a pool for therapy and instruction in a building with a permanent roof.

In addition to using money set aside in the 2016 SPLOST, County

SEE AQUATIC/PAGE A2

## JOHNSTON NAMED GSCS

fraud narratives."

Some local Democratic leaders have also pointed out the costs county elections

be forced to spend around \$57 million on the changes in the next election cycle. penned this week by

the financial impacts of the proposed changes, expressing support

heading up this year's debate on election bills in the Republican-con-

firmity for millions more voters.

"The goal of the bill

confidence overall in our election system," Fleming said.

## AQUATIC

FROM PAGE A1

Manager William Wilson Jr. said in August, the county will be using excess SPLOST collections and "looking for funding partners."

In making a motion to choose The Lakes at Green Valley site, Dutton said The Lakes at Green Valley is the "very obvious" site for

the aquatic center.

Flowers-Taylor emphasized that she wants the aquatic center to be a "community facility" that is not used exclusively by the Griffin Gators swim team and the high school swim teams.

"This is not about what the high school swim teams and the Griffin Gators need," she said. "This is based on what the community needs."

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