UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

RICKY BARNETT, on behalf of himself and those similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 2:10-cv-333-FtM-29DNF

WRIGHT CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC., a Florida profit corporation,

Defendant.

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on consideration of the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation (Doc. #15), filed July 22, 2010, recommending that the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement (Doc. #14) be granted, the settlement be approved as fair and reasonable, and the case be dismissed. No objections have been filed and the time to do so has expired.

After conducting a careful and complete review of the findings and recommendations, a district judge may accept, reject or modify the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); <u>Williams v. Wainwright</u>, 681 F.2d 732 (11th Cir. 1982), <u>cert. denied</u>, 459 U.S. 1112 (1983). In the absence of specific objections, there is no requirement that a district judge review factual findings *de novo*, <u>Garvey v. Vaughn</u>, 993 F.2d 776, 779 n.9 (11th Cir. 1993), and the court may accept, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the findings and recommendations. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). The district judge reviews legal conclusions *de novo*, even in the absence of an objection. <u>See Cooper-Houston v.</u> <u>Southern Ry. Co.</u>, 37 F.3d 603, 604 (11th Cir. 1994); <u>Castro</u> <u>Bobadilla v. Reno</u>, 826 F. Supp. 1428, 1431-32 (S.D. Fla. 1993), aff'd, 28 F.3d 116 (11th Cir. 1994) (Table).

After conducting an independent examination of the file and upon due consideration of the Report and Recommendation, the Court accepts the Report and Recommendation of the magistrate judge and finds that the settlement was fair and reasonable.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

1. The Report and Recommendation (Doc. #15) is hereby **adopted** and the findings incorporated herein.

2. The Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement (Doc. #14) is **GRANTED** and the Settlement Agreement and Full and Final Mutual Release of All Claims (Doc. #14-1) is **approved** as fair and reasonable.

3. The Clerk shall enter judgment dismissing the case with prejudice, except as provided by settlement, terminate all pending matters, and close the file.

DONE AND ORDERED at Fort Myers, Florida, this <u>9th</u> day of August, 2010.

Stepla JOHN E. STEELE

United States District Judge

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Copies: Hon. Douglas N. Frazier United States Magistrate Judge

Counsel of Record Unrepresented parties