

February 12, 2015

JASPER, FLORIDA

**SPECIAL SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in special session on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Hamilton County School Board meeting room, , Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Josh Smith, Randy Ogburn, Robert Brown and Beth Burnam. Buster Oxendine was absent due to work. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin, County Attorney John McCormick and Attorney Cliff Adams.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Josh Smith.

The following business was transacted.

**DISCUSSION BEWTEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Development Authority Chairman R. B. Davis led the discussion and requested Board of County Commissioners Chairman Josh Smith to speak on behalf of the Board. Chairman Smith read a letter written by Commissioner Oxendine in his absence. After a brief discussion, Chairman Smith suggested that a Commissioner could be a member of the Development Authority to help with the communication between the Boards. Chairman Davis explained the difference in how the Boards are set up and the difference between how the two (2) Boards govern. Chairman Davis also stated that another difference is that the Development Authority can be confidential, which is something that the Commission cannot. Chairman Davis also indicated that the Commissioners were getting into their business and needed to be running the local government and allow the Development Authority to handle the Economic Development. Commissioner Burnam requested that the Development Authority consider a person from District 1 when filling the next vacancy on the Board. Both Boards discussed several of the issues that have hindered the relationship between the Boards in the past and agreed to move forward and work together as a united front on economic development in the county. Commissioner Ogburn explained the situation with PCS Phosphate and that the tax base in the county will need to grow significantly in order to support the services being provided if PCS were to close. Development Authority Board member Danny Daniels spoke about all that the Development Authority had done for the county. The Board of Commissioners agreed to allow County Coordinator Louie Goodin to be the individual that receives the briefings from the Development Authority and agreed to meet again in August to further discuss any issues and also that staff should be clear on each other's roles. The Development Authority's consultants spoke about the up-coming legislative session and requested feedback from the Board of Commissioners. Both Boards also agreed to set up a seminar after the legislative session. The Boards also discussed possible changes that could be made to the first exit in Florida and the need to work together on the

possibilities. Both Boards thanked each other for meeting face to face to discuss their issues and stated that they were determined to work together in order to enhance the economic development in Hamilton County.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK