

MAY 20, 2014

JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Josh Smith, Robert Brown, Randy Ogburn, Beth Burnam and Buster Oxendine, a full Board being present. Also present was County Attorney John McCormick, County Coordinator Louie Goodin and Attorney Cliff Adams.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Josh Smith and led in prayer by John McCormick with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Chairman Smith.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Robin Squires addressed the Board and shared his concerns about how the roads are being graded. Mr. Squires stated that the way that the roads are currently being graded allows the water to stand on the roadway and also that the roads should be graded two (2) to three (3) times per month. Commissioner Burnam advised the Board that she has discussed the issues with NW 34th Street with Road Superintendent James Bell and that the roads will be graded every ten (10) to eleven (11) days. Mr. Squires stated that prior to new management that the roads were being graded weekly and he also presented the Board with photos of the ditch issue. After a brief discussion with the Board, the Board assured Mr. Squires that the Road Department would get his road fixed. The Board also directed Chairman Smith to meet with Mr. Bell in order to discuss the issues.

George Roberson discussed the Bell – Tuten Cemetery access issue with the Board. Mr. Roberson stated that the cemetery needs to be cleaned and that a sign should be posted regarding how individuals can gain access. Commissioner Oxendine reminded the Board that legal staff has already researched the issue. Attorney Cliff Adams discussed F.S. 704.08 where a property owner must give individuals access to the cemetery at reasonable times, reasonable manners and designate an easement for ingress and egress. Commissioner Oxendine advised the Board that he would meet Mr. Roberson at the cemetery at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 23, 2014 in order to gain the appropriate access.

Health Department employee Freddie Mack was recognized by the Board for his life saving procedures that helped stabilize a person with a life threatening illness. Lori Belote, Nancy Sult and Henry Land spoke about the heroic actions of Mr. Mack.

PUBLIC HEARING – SIX (6) CENT LOCAL OPTION FUEL TAX

Chairman Smith recessed the regular Board meeting and called the public hearing regarding the Local Option Fuel Tax to order at 6:25 p.m.

County Attorney John McCormick read the ordinance allowing the Local Option Fuel Tax to remain in place.

There being no comments from the Board or public, Chairman Smith closed the public hearing and reconvened the Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Smith addressed the Board regarding the letter that was received from the Town of Jennings requesting to have the fuel tax distributed by population. County Attorney John McCormick advised the Board that the Florida Statutes states that the amount of fuel tax proceeds is determined by the County and can only be used for road repairs. Commissioner Burnam stated that the Town of Jennings had signed and approved the agreement and that the issue should be discussed for a future change if needed.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to adopt the ordinance allowing the continuance of the Local Option Fuel Tax with the distribution percentages to remain as previously changed and voted on by the Board. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board briefly discussed item #5 (credit card) and #8 (FDOT Agreement), however, there were no issues.

2012 COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATES

The Board directed the Clerk to remove the 2012 County Tax Certificates from the agenda.

2007 COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATES

County Attorney John McCormick requested that this agenda item be continued until the next Board meeting in order to allow legal staff time to review the certificates. Board agreed by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC HEARING – LAND USE – SPECIAL EXCEPTION – SE 14-01 (LAW)

Chairman Smith recessed the regular Board meeting and called the public hearing (SE 14-01 (Law) to order at 6:40 p.m.

Land Use Administrator Megan Carter explained the action before the Board as a special exception to allow a Group Living Facility in an Ag-4 Zoning and for a Planning Technical Assistance Grant request to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Commissioner Burnam briefly explained the request for the special exception.

There being no further comments from the Board or the public, Chairman Smith reconvened the regular Board meeting at 6:41 p.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve Special Exception SE 14-01 (Law).
Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

Engineer Greg Bailey gave the Board a status report on the current road and building projects.

LOVES BYPASS ROAD – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that FDOT has agreed to seek to see what grants would be available and also check to see if there are any Federal Grants available. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that the right-of-way deeds need to be prepared as soon as possible. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to proceed with the survey and right-of-way acquisition.

CR-135 – Mr. Bailey stated that the Hunter Creek bridge plans have been approved by FDOT and that Anderson Columbia will have the signage on the road by Wednesday notifying the public of the road closure.

CR-143 – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that a letter needs to be provided to FDOT in order to begin construction of the CR-143 resurfacing project. The Board also discussed the possibility of removing the two (2) 90 degree curves.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to direct staff to proceed with the CR-143 resurfacing project. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

NW 108TH AVENUE – Commissioner Brown discussed with the Board the drainage work that will need to be done on NW 108th Avenue. Mr. Bailey explained that the property owner is in agreement to provide the easement to allow the water that stands on the road to be diverted to a nearby ditch for proper drainage.

CIGP PROJECTS - The Board discussed potential CIGP projects and agreed for

staff to submit NW 63rd and NW 104th Ave. as projects to FDOT.

SHIP PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report on the Ship Program. Mr. Nabors requested approval of a new construction (Rye) and purchase assistance (Marvin).

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the new construction (Rye) and the purchase assistance (Marvin) as recommended by Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Nabors also advised the Board that he was 99% sure that the Ship funding will be available for the next fiscal year. Mr. Nabors also requested that the Board allow him to advertise for applications. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to allow Mr. Nabors to advertise for applications.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – JORDAN GREEN AND BILL HENDERSON – COUNTY WORK PROGRAM PRIORITIES

Jordan Green, with FDOT, discussed with the Board the FDOT program priorities and future schedule for the work program. After discussing the priorities, Mr. Green advised the Board that the SCRAP and SCOP priorities will need to be submitted to FDOT by May 23rd and the CIGP projects by July 1st. Mr. Green also advised the Board that a landscaping project is planned for the entry into Florida and should begin in approximately one (1) year and then later a landscaping project for the Welcome Center. Mr. Green answered questions from the Board and the Board thanked Mr. Green and Mr. Henderson for their discussion of the FDOT work program.

FLORIDA GATEWAY – PRESENTATION OF REGIONAL CENTER AND NEW PRODUCTS

John Carleen, with Florida Gateway, addressed the Board regarding their current projects and a regional center which would produce significant revenue and jobs for the county. Brianne Cirone, the Office Manager for Florida Gateway, also discussed with the Board the USCIS Immigrant Investor Program that allows foreign investors to place capital in developing businesses to provide economic stimulus and job creation. Raj Doobay, Florida Gateway CEO, spoke briefly about the Regional Center and answered questions from the Board and public. Mr. Doobay stated that the Chinese are very interested in the investment program and that if everything continues to progress that he would be able to begin construction on the center by Christmas.

REQUEST TO LEASE OLD LIBRARY BUILDING – HAMILTON COUNTY MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Margaret Lewis appeared before the Board and read a letter requesting that the Hamilton County Museum Committee be allowed to lease the old Library Building. The Board advised Ms. Lewis that the Empowering Tabernacle has requested an extension of their lease until December 6, 2014. Ms. Lewis then stated that the committee would be willing to wait until the end of the lease with Empowering Tabernacle due to their committee being in the organizing stage. Ms. Lewis also advised the Board that their committee is a voluntary organization. County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that he did not see a conflict with the two (2) groups and would work with both to coordinate the transition.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to lease the old Library Bldg. to the Hamilton County Museum Committee effective December 7th with the details to be worked out by staff. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK – STATUS REPORT

Veteran Service Officer Clay Lambert gave the Board a status report on the Veterans Memorial Park. Mr. Lambert advised the Board that the committee has approximately \$89,000 due to the donations from individuals, PCS Phosphate and the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Lambert stated that he would have final plans for the park at the Board meeting in June and that the ribbon cutting will be on Veteran's Day. VFW Post 8095 Commander Lamar Royals addressed the Board about the landscaping of the park. Mr. Royals stated that Hamilton County is the leader in the State for packages to Veterans in Afghanistan and thanked the Board for all of their support and invited them to attend the Memorial Day Service at the Veterans Memorial Park.

CROSSROADS FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING REPAIRS - QUOTES

Mr. Goodin advised the Board that he only received one (1) quote from L&G Construction in the amount of \$2,495 for labor only with the county to provide the materials to replace the damaged areas of the building. The Board questioned staff as to why only three (3) contractors were contacted and after a lengthy discussion agreed to advertise the project in the Jasper News and to send each local contractor a letter regarding the project. Commissioner Smith stated that it is unfair to not accept the bid from L&G and to resend the bids for the project.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to rebid the project, properly advertise and to send out a request to all local contractors. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Chairman Smith voted against the motion.

NW 23RD BLVD DEED ACCEPTANCE

Attorney Cliff Adams gave the Board a status report on the acquisition of right-of-way for the NW 23rd Blvd. paving project. Mr. Adams requested that the Board consider allowing local private investigator Steve Curry to locate the heirs to the parcels that have never been probated due to the fact that he lives on the road and is familiar with the families. The Board agreed for Mr. Adams to speak with Mr. Curry about possibly assisting with the project.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to accept the deeds as recommended from legal staff for Santa F. Deas and David and Eleanor King with the payment to be based on the appraised value from the Property Appraiser's records. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

LEASE REQUEST FOR ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

County Coordinator Louie Goodin and Commissioner Burnam addressed the Board about the request for space for adult education classes.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to approve the request for adult education class space with the School District to absorb the cost of renovating the space. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

County Attorney John McCormick discussed the Summer Youth Employment Program worksite agreement with the Board and stated that the agreement appears to be fine.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to approve the agreement for the Summer Youth Employment program. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to approve the bills (vouchers 101999 – 102340 and checks 045448 – 045606). Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

PRIMARY CARE CLINIC

County Coordinator Louie Goodin reviewed the daily census, equipment and patient count for the period of January 7th – May 10th. The Board discussed the need to possibly open the clinic on Monday rather than Saturday; however, decided to wait and see how things progress through the next quarter before making a decision to change the days that the clinic is open. The Board also directed Mr. Goodin to set up a meeting with Shands staff,

Ms. Tompkins from the Hospital Board and county staff to discuss the future of the clinic as well as the 1st quarter financials. Mr. Goodin also stated that he would check on the signage for the clinic.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner Ogburn advised the Board that a tree limb from a nearby tree caused damage to the White Springs Library. The Board agreed to have the two (2) dead trees removed and to also remove others that could cause future damage.
- Commissioner Burnam questioned staff as to the mosquito spraying; Mr. Goodin advised the Board that the spraying in the unincorporated area is underway.
- Commissioner Burnam stated that he Board had previously agreed to limerock a portion of NW 27th Blvd.; however, no limerock is need due to the road being in good shape.
- Commissioner Brown questioned staff regarding the hole in the old Hospital Clinic Building, Mr. Goodin stated that the insurance company is handling the issue.
- County Attorney John McCormick advised the Board that the Stonington Insurance lawsuit has been settled.
- Mr. McCormick stated that the Ordinance for the Local Option Fuel Tax will be forwarded to the Department of Revenue and that staff and Commissioner Ogburn will be meeting with Leroy Marshall from the SRWMD on May 23rd to discuss the new rules and regulations for borrow pits.
- Chairman Smith advised the Board that some areas of the county are not being sprayed for mosquitos due to trapping taking place in order to determine the need. Chairman Smith stated that four (4) 55 gallon drums of the spray is approximately \$6,000 and that there are only 2 more cans available. The Board agreed to continue spraying with White Springs to assist in the east part of the county.
- Chairman Smith discussed with the Board that NW 86th Blvd. needs to be repaired due to water damage from the recent flood.
- The Board discussed the CR-141 speed limit signs.
- Board staff advised the Board that the Intermedix references for EMS billing checked out and that the reputation of the company was also as presented.
- The Board requested staff to place on the agenda for the next Board meeting the Road Department pay incentive for equipment operators.
- Chairman Smith requested that the limbs on SW 44th Ave. be trimmed due to

scratching and damaging vehicles. The Board agreed by unanimous consent.

- The Board agreed for a sixth Road Grader to be placed in the upcoming budget for the Road Department per the request of Road Superintendent James Bell.
- Wade Goolsby requested that the Board have CR-141 mowed.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK