

MAY 6, 2014

JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at 9:00 a.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 regarding the condition of his and other dirt roads in the county. Mr. Squires advised the Board that he has called the Road Department numerous times and has yet to get a response and that it has been three (3) weeks since his road was graded. Chairman Smith explained the reason for the road issues and that most of the Road Department's resources have been used due to the flooding and emergency road issues and that general maintenance of the roads will get back to normal. The Board directed staff to address the issues with the Road Department and Commissioner Burnam advised Mr. Squires that in the future when there is a problem to please notify her and she will make sure that the issues are corrected. Several other Board members also suggested that the Commissioner of the district be notified when there is an issue.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

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

CR-135 – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that Anderson Columbia has completed the shoulder work and the laying of the sod. Mr. Bailey also stated that the Hunter Creek bridge plans are still be reviewed by FDOT and that immediately upon getting the final approval of the revised plans that Anderson Columbia is preparing to provide the proper notice and begin construction of the bridge expansion.

NW 34th AVENUE – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that he has reviewed the issues on 34th Ave. and suggested that the outfalls be kept clean in order to allow the water to flow properly. Mr. Bailey then offered the following suggestions:

1. Place an additional cross drain approximately 800 ft. prior to the flat pond.

2. Ditch water from NW 4th Drive to CR-145.
3. Eliminate part of the intersection due to there not being ample space to construct a ditch.

After a lengthy discussion about the road issues and suggestions from Mr. Bailey, the Board agreed to install the cross drain on NW 34th Ave. and to re-work the ditches.

NW 108TH AVENUE – Commissioner Brown requested that engineer Greg Bailey take a look a NW 108th Ave. in order to determine if the water that stands on the road can be diverted to a nearby ditch for proper drainage.

SHIP PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Director Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report on the Ship Program. Mr. Nabors advised the Board that according to his sources that the Ship Program will be funded this fiscal year in the full amount of \$350,000.00 and also suggested that due to the county's ranking for the CDBG grant that the Board approve the placement of the \$125,000 matching funds back into the Ship Program. Mr. Nabors also stated that he would re-open the Ship office on Thursday and begin the process of allocating the funds.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to release the \$125,000 CDBG matching funds back into the Ship Program. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Nabors also discussed with the Board the need to approve a resolution for the updated LHAP. County attorney John McCormick read the title of the resolution for the benefit of the Board and public.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Resolution for the LHAP. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. McCormick presented the Board with a mortgage foreclosure complaint from Campus USA Credit Union and advised the Board that the County claims no right due to the time lapse of the deferred payment loan being only for ten (10) years.

SUWANNEE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

No one was present from SVTA and the Board stated that there is nothing to discuss regarding the Transit Authority.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Consent Agenda and to pull 1B (minutes). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

HAMILTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – STATUS REPORT

Development Authority Attorney Rhett Bullard advised the Board that Economic Development Director Susan Ramsey will be providing the Board with a written report regarding the ongoing economic development projects.

VETERAN’S MEMORIAL PARK – STATUS REPORT

Mr. Goodin advised the Board that there is nothing new to report at this time and that Mr. Lambert is preparing for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

EMS BILLING AND RELATED COMPUTER NEEDS

Assistant EMS Director Mack Leggett advised the Board that all of the references that the Board requested that he check were pleased with the services of Intermedix. Mr. Leggett also stated that he delivered the RFP from Davie Florida to legal staff for review and also stated that in almost all counties the collections for EMS billing increased. Attorney Cliff Adams stated that he reviewed the RFP information and that from his legal there were no issues with the RFP.

LOCAL OPTION FUEL TAX

County Attorney John McCormick presented the Board with the existing Local Option Fuel Tax Ordinance (2012-03) and then discussed with the Board the proposed Ordinance. After a brief discussion of the proposed Ordinance, the Board stated that they may be in attendance at the Municipality’s Council meetings and also considered changing the percentage for White Springs and Jennings.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the percentage change from 4% to 5% for White Springs and Jennings and reduce the county percentage to 80%. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

BID AWARD – GIBSON PARK BOAT RAMP IMPROVEMENTS

Engineer Greg Bailey discussed the bid documents received with the Board. Mr. Bailey stated that six (6) companies received the plans; however, only two (2) actually turned in a bid for the project. The bids were as follows:

1. D&L Contracting - \$403,168.50
2. Kurt’s Construction Co. - \$572,001.45

Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the grant amount was \$374,500 which leaves the difference at \$28,688.50. Mr. Bailey then discussed several options with the Board that would reduce the bid amount to within the grant funding range. After discussing the options the Board agreed to the removal of the material which would be a reduction of \$9,000. Mr. Bailey also stated that the Board could also re-advertise and allow the Road Department to

perform some of the work that will have to be done; however, Commissioner Burnam requested that the Board refrain from putting additional projects on the Road Department at this time. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that the project will not begin until the water resides and the Board also agreed to delay the beginning date until after the Labor Day weekend due to that being the busiest time of the year.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to award the Gibson Park Board Ramp construction project to D&L Contracting with the stipulation that the Road Department remove the debris reducing the bid amount by \$9,000.00 and for the remaining funds to be taken from the Recreation Department budget. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

County Attorney John McCormick advised the Board that they would not have to renew the current declaration due to Governor Scott's declaration.

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.

2012 COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATES

Mr. McCormick also requested that the Board continue this agenda item to also allow for time to review the certificates. Board agreed by unanimous consent.

DISCUSSION OF CROSSROADS FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING REPAIRS

Mr. Goodin and Mr. Bailey presented the Board with a preliminary site plan for the Cross Roads renovations. Mr. Bailey reviewed the plan with the Board and discussed the tower and costs associated with it being relocated. Mr. Bailey gave the Board the following quotes for the tower: guide wire tower - \$19,000, monolithic pole tower - \$40,000 and 20ft pole that could be placed on the water tower - \$12,000. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that the estimated cost of the renovation is approximately \$364,000 and that would include approximately 2,000 additional sq. ft. The Board then discussed the option of only repairing the damaged areas and then taking a look at the re-construction during the upcoming budget process.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to direct staff to bid the structural repairs based on the provided estimate of \$10,000. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COURTHOUSE WHEEL CHAIR LIFT

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with quotes from the following companies for a Wheel Chair Lift and recommended based on his discussion with the company and that the service is local that the Board award the bid to Profound Medical Equipment in the amount of \$8,700.

1. Profound Medical Equipment - \$8,700
2. Accessibility Professional, Inc. - \$8,483
3. Mowrey Elevator - \$19,750

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to award the bid for the wheel chair lift to Profound Medical Equipment in the amount of \$8,700 based on Mr. Goodin's recommendation. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION OF WHITE SPRINGS LIBRARY SHELTER QUOTES

Commissioner Oxendine discussed with the Board the quote in the amount of \$945 for the shelter at the White Springs Library. Commissioner Oxendine also stated that the Road Department could construct an 18X20 slab for approximately \$450.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to accept the quote from Keen's for the shelter in the amount of \$945 with the Road Department to construct the concrete slab and purchase the picnic table. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board agreed for Commissioner Ogburn to determine the location of the shelter.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

County Attorney John McCormick discussed the Summer Youth Employment Program worksite agreement with the Board and stated that he was concerned about the liability to the county for such a program. The Board directed legal staff to review the agreement and report back to the Board at the next regular meeting.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 101748 – 101998 and checks 045302 – 045447). Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2ND QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW

The Board reviewed the 2nd quarter financials.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin thanked the Board for their encouragement and support of the economic development project Bark.
- Commissioner Burnam stated that she was concerned about the road issues and that she trying to explain that the Road Department is concentrating on emergency issues; however, she has projects that have been approved and not yet completed.
- Commissioner Brown announced that he plans to attend the Town of Jennings Council meeting this evening.
- Commissioner Brown also gave the Board an update on the issues that have occurred at the SVTA with the resignation of the director Gwen Pra and that Bill Steele's position was abolished.
- Commissioner Oxendine questioned staff as to the denial of Wayne and Cindy Goolsby's borrow pit permit by SRWMD. County Attorney John McCormick explained the fee process and suggested that staff organize a meeting with the SRWMD to discuss the new rules and regulations. Commissioner Ogburn stated that he plans to attend the meeting.
- Commissioner Oxendine also questioned staff as to April 30th being Douglas Sunday's last day of employment as the Water and Sewer Plant operator, staff confirmed the date.
- Commissioner Oxendine also requested that legal staff continue to research the access to the Tuten / Davis Cemetery.
- County Attorney John McCormick presented the Board with a proclamation declaring the month of May as Civility Month. The Board agreed by unanimous consent.
- Mr. McCormick also announced the phone conference meeting with FDOT for the new signal maintenance agreements. The Board stated that they may be in attendance only.
- Chairman Smith requested that the Board consider adding back the 6th motor grader and possibly purchase a ditch puller as an attachment.
- Chairman Smith requested that the board consider allowing the main road through Meadow Brooks Subdivision to be milled or to allow portions of the road to be milled. The Board would not agree to mill the road due to road conditions and traffic.
- Chairman Smith advised the Board that the Road Department is using the newly purchased truck only as a parts truck. After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed

Mr. Goodin to direct the Road Department to put the new truck in service and to place the older truck at the Recreation Department and for the Recreation Department to include a truck in their next budget request.

- Chairman Smith also announced that the Primary Health Care Clinic is now able to accept Medicaid and has expressed a concern that SVTA can only transport individuals on Monday, a day that the clinic is currently closed. Mr. Goodin advised the Board that the quarterly financials are forth coming.
- Chairman Smith announced the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Emergency Room and Heart Cath Lab at Lake City Medical Center on Thursday, May 8th at 8:30 a.m.
- The Board also agreed that the Radial Arm Mowers at the Road Department should be operated 12 months rather than only a few months during the summer.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman recessed the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK