

APRIL 16, 2013

JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 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, Attorney Cliff Adams and County Coordinator Danny Johnson.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Bob Burton addressed the Board and reminded them that he and others are working to bring industry into Hamilton County. Mr. Burton stated that the system is not working and that the people responsible for economic development are not educated enough and fearful. Mr. Burton then stated that the Development Authority is not bringing anything to the county. Mr. Burton stated that he is interested in building the sign at the Industrial Park and would like to see all governmental entities keep the work in the county. Chairman Ogburn advised Mr. Burton that he would have to contact the Development Authority about the sign.

Alberta Young addressed the Board about her issue with the paving of NW 23rd Blvd. to which Chairman Ogburn stated that she would need to wait until 6:15 p.m. to discuss the road.

Jasper City Manager Charles Williams presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$ 594.52 that represents half of the remaining balance from the FEMA project. The Board thanked Mr. Williams for their cooperation and the opportunity to work together.

Conny Alleyne addressed the Board in regards to the transportation issue at the Senior Center. Ms. Alleyne stated that the transportation is being cut to only two (2) days per week. Bill Steele, with Suwannee Valley Transit Authority, advised the Board that the Suwannee River Economic Council has the transportation contract and that they are the organization that is making the decision on the reduction of transportation for the seniors. County Coordinator Danny Johnson explained that he discussed the issue with Linda Kramer, with SREC, and that they intend to implement the reduction in transportation next week. After a lengthy discussion, the Board thanked Ms. Alleyne for bringing the issue to the attention of the Board and stated that they will check into the issue.

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGE BOARD

County Coordinator Danny Johnson advised the Board that two (2) people need to be appointed to the Transportation Disadvantage Board with the Commissioner to serve as Chairman of the Transportation Board.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to declare an emergency and appoint Commissioner Burnam to serve as Chairman of the Transportation Disadvantaged Board and to appoint Clay Lambert as the replacement for Bo Beauchamin. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, 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.

WHITE SPRINGS STREETS – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the contractor is working on the Cauthen and Kendrick projects. Mr. Bailey also stated that he is still waiting on a response from ACOE for the FEMA funds on Jewitt Street. Chairman Ogburn questioned why the public is still not able to travel across the construction on Kendrick and directed Mr. Bailey to advise Mr. Koon, with Florida Fill and Grade, to allow traffic to travel on Kendrick Street as soon as possible.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY

County Attorney John McCormick advised the Board that he has pulled all of the lots owned by the county from the Property Appraiser's office and still needs time to narrow the information to certain lots of interest. After a brief discussion the Board narrowed the lots of interest to the Suwannee River Campsites Subdivision and the Withlacoochee River Subdivision and will review the lots at the next meeting in order to determine which lots to bid.

PUBLIC HEARING – 5 YEAR SPECIAL PERMIT RENEWAL – PCS PHOSPHATE

Chairman Ogburn recessed the regular meeting and called the public hearing (5 Year Special Permit Renewal – PCS Phosphate) to order at 6:25 p.m.

Land Use Administrator Megan Carter explained that the action before the Board is to approve or disapprove the 5 year special permit for PCS Phosphate. Ms. Carter stated that due to the Resolution still being prepared by legal staff that the Board should continue the public hearing. Chairman Ogburn explained that staff is working with PCS and Special Council Scott Shirley in order to draft the proper language for the resolution.

There being no further questions from the Board or public, Chairman Ogburn recessed the public hearing and called the regular meeting back to order at 6:37 p.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to continue the public hearing (5 Year Special Permit – PCS Phosphate) until the May 21, 2013 meeting at 6:25 p.m. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

ERMA FIELDS – 23RD BLVD – ROAD REPAIRS AND PAVING

Alberta Young addressed the Board speaking in place of Erma Fields regarding the paving of NW 23rd Blvd. Ms. Young explained the need for the paving of the road and advised the Board that she has discussed the road with FDOT staff and was told that she needed to discuss the issue with the Board. Ms. Young stated that FDOT advised her that the Board of County Commissioners could place NW 23rd Blvd. ahead of CR-143 on the SCOP program work schedule if they would approve the change and issue a letter to FDOT. Ms. Young stated that the residents along NW 23rd Blvd. are willing to donate the right-of-way to the county in order to expedite the paving process. Chairman Ogburn explained the history of NW 23rd Blvd. in regards to the FDOT programs how the projects are submitted and ranked by FDOT. Commissioner Burnam stated that both NW 23rd Blvd. and CR-143 are both SCOP projects and that she discussed the issue with Jordan Green, with FDOT, and that she was advised that if all conditions are met that the roads could be swapped. Ms. Young stated that she didn't think that CR-143 should be resurfaced prior to NW 23rd Blvd. being paved due to CR-143 already having a paved surface. Ms. Young also stated that she didn't understand how all of the other roads in the county were being resurfaced and that NW 23rd Blvd. was not. The Board again explained the process and stated that the county wouldn't have any roads paved or resurfaced without the FDOT road assistance programs. Ms. Young again stated reasons for the need to pave NW 23rd Blvd. Commissioner Burnam asked the Board if they would consider placing NW 23rd Blvd. ahead of CR-143 on the SCOP list. The Board discussed the issue and stated that they would need to hear from FDOT prior to taking action to change the program schedule that was submitted by FDOT. Chairman Ogburn questioned the residents that were in attendance as to whether they were willing to donate the right-of-way to the county in order to expedite the process. Bob Burton stated that the road doesn't need to be a major highway; however, Chairman Ogburn explained that the road has to be built to FDOT standards due to it being funded through FDOT. Engineer Greg Bailey explained the funding process for the FDOT road assistance grant programs. Commissioner Smith after being questioned about CR-143 stated that he would not stand in the way of swapping the roads if approved by the Board and FDOT. Commissioner Oxendine advised Ms. Young that if all things were to be in place for the paving of NW 23rd Blvd. that it would still take approximately twelve (12) months for the project to get underway due to all of the paperwork, agreements and bids that would have to be processed and approved. After a lengthy discussion the Board requested that Jordan Green, with FDOT, be present at the next regular Board meeting to further discuss the issue and for County Coordinator Danny Johnson to notify Ms. Young as to the time of the meeting or issue a letter as to the direction of the Board. The Board also directed legal staff to begin the right-of-way acquisition immediately.

USE OF ELECTIONS POLLING PLACE IN WHITE SPRINGS AS FOOD PANTRY

Richard Marshall, the director of New Hope Food Pantry, addressed the Board in order to continue his request for the Board's approval to use the Elections building as the New Hope Food Pantry. Chairman Ogburn presented Mr. Marshall with a letter from the County's insurance carrier and read the letter for the benefit of the public and Mr. Marshall which outlined the requirements for the food pantry. Mr. Marshall stated that he would take the letter to his insurance carrier in order to ensure that all requirements could be met. Mr. Marshall stated that the building was used several years ago by the Catholic Charities for the same type of service. Chairman Ogburn stated that according to the insurance carrier that no perishable items could be stored in the facility. Mr. Marshall stated that if no perishable items can be stored in the facility that would create a problem. Mr. Marshall then explained how they currently distribute the food and that he would be available to provide his services to the county in the event of an emergency or particular need. Chairman Ogburn then stated that he will work with legal staff to review the policy issues and make a determination for the Board to consider.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote. County Attorney John McCormick explained item #5 (Ard, Shirley invoice) to the Board and recommended approval.

FLORIDA LEADERS ORGANIZED FOR WATER (FLOW)

Chairman Ogburn stated that there is nothing to report at this time regarding FLOW due to the last meeting being canceled because of a lack of participation.

STATUS OF HOSPITAL PROPERTY / RURAL HEALTH CLINIC

County Coordinator Danny Johnson advised the Board that he is waiting on the asbestos samples from Skytec and will report to the Board as soon as the amount of asbestos can be determined. Engineer Greg Bailey advised the Board that he is in the process of drawing the floor plan for the modifications to the clinic building. Mr. Bailey also stated that the Board would need to determine how they wish to handle the demolition of the hospital building once the asbestos survey results are complete due to having suspended the bidding process.

DISASTER HOUSING – ORDINANCE

County Attorney John McCormick requested that the Board allow additional time to prepare the ordinance.

2011 MATURE COUNTY TAX CERTIFICATES

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to direct the Tax Collector's office to draft a letter to all of the delinquent County tax certificates to advise that after 30 days that a tax deed could be applied for by the County. Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE DOCUMENT RETRIEVAL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS WITH TECHNOLOGY FUNDS

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve the request by the Court Administrator's office to purchase the document retrieval and management system in the amount of \$23,248.52 which represents Hamilton County's prorated share. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

INDOOR BATTING FACILITY

Commissioner Smith stated that the quotes and specifications for the Indoor Batting Facility are not ready for submission as of yet. Commissioner Smith explained the purpose of the Batting Facility and how the tournaments would affect the county from an economic standpoint. County Coordinator Danny Johnson stated that he discussed the issue with Susan Ramsey, the Economic Development Director for the Development Authority, to which she stated that the Development Authority Board would make the determination regarding the possible grant request. Chairman Ogburn questioned whether the application would meet the current requirements for the grant program. Bob Burton stated that the priorities are mixed up and that the Board should be more interested in a common sense approach to jobs. Commissioner Smith then requested that the Board make a decision as to whether to submit the application for the Batting Facility to the Development Authority. Commissioner Oxendine stated that he wasn't comfortable with submitting the application due to the requirements of the Development Authority. Commissioner Burnam stated that if the Development Authority would approve the facility that she would be in support of building the facility. Engineer Greg Bailey explained the cost of the same type of facility that has been constructed in Columbia County.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to allow County Coordinator Danny Johnson to make the application for the Indoor Batting Facility to the Development Authority per the specifications provided by Engineer Greg Bailey. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Voting against the motion was Commissioner Oxendine. Mr. Johnson stated that he would work on the application and submit it to the Dev. Auth. as soon as possible.

TEMPORARY ELECTRICAL SERVICE

County Attorney John McCormick stated that he is working on the issue and has discussed with Commissioner Oxendine the changes that will need to be made in order for

the Board to take action at the next regular meeting. Land Use Administrator Megan Carter questioned the Board as to whether the Board intends to make changes to the Ordinance or the Land Development Regulations. Commissioner Oxendine explained that what his intentions regarding the matter are to allow the Building Official John Auer to have the power disconnected if an individual doesn't comply with the Ordinance for a temporary electrical service. Commissioner Oxendine then stated that the Power Company would have to be in full agreement with the action or it would be a mute issue. The Board discussed concerns about the disconnection of an individual's power and also discussed the possible wording of the ordinance if the Board were to agree to change the Ordinance for temporary power. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Oxendine stated that the item needs to be removed from the agenda and that staff shouldn't spend any more time on the issue.

SHELTER FOR RECREATION CENTER

County Coordinator Danny Johnson presented the Board with the specifications and a price quote for a 32X64 pavilion at the Recreation Center. After reviewing the information presented the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the specifications and to let bids for the 32X64 pavilion at the Recreation Department. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK – STATUS REPORT

Mr. Johnson advised the Board that there is currently nothing to report in regards to the Veterans Memorial Park and that the Committee will meet with John Carleen to review and discuss ideas about the rendition of the park. The Board questioned the progress of the entrance stage, to which Mr. Johnson advised that there was an issue with the caps on the brick columns.

RELOCATION OF ‘OLD CAMP SCHOOL’ – DISCUSSION

Chairman Ogburn advised the Board that the Road Department is working on removing the underbrush and that the Board needs to determine the location of the building on the Library property. Commissioner Smith stated that the location doesn't matter but that in his opinion the front door of the Old School should face Highway 41 with picnic tables on the side. The Board also discussed the moving of the building by the Road Department and the Board agreed to continue with the Road Department planning to move the building; however, if the Road Department determines that they cannot move the building to bring the issue back before the Board.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to approve the bills (vouchers 095009 – 095306 and checks 042048 – 042155). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Danny Johnson presented the Board with a letter from the Original Tourism Task Force requesting to be considered during the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget. The Board stated that the Tourist Development advised the Board that their recommendation was to not continue to participate in the Original Tourism Task Force and the Board agreed to honor their decision and allow the TDC to decide whether to participate in the program.
- Mr. Johnson stated that Building Official John Auer does not recommend changing the direction of the down spouts on the White Springs Library. After a brief discussion the Board directed staff to place a pad on the down spout on the North end of the building.
- Mr. Johnson also advised the Board that the Cancer Resolution has been sent to the current Congressional and State Legislatures.
- Mr. Johnson stated that the letters for the Senior Center will be installed in the next few days.
- Mr. Johnson advised the Board that the Department of Corrections has requested that the Board transfer one (1) of the two (2) vans that were purchased with the Hospital property to the DOC Motor Pool for the inmates to work on. Mr. Johnson stated that the title work will have to be corrected prior to allowing the DOC to take ownership of the van. The Board directed staff to issue a letter and allow the DOC to have the van once the title issue has been resolved.
- Commissioner Smith questioned staff as to the Ed Rock borrow pit issue. County Attorney John McCormick stated that the Board needs a letter from Mr. Rock stating that he is willing to donate the dirt to the county. Attorney Cliff Adams advised that he will contact Mr. Rock in order to get the letter. Mr. McCormick also stated that he will need a general permit from the SRWMD for the borrow pit.
- Commissioner Burnam advised the Board that Charles Barrett has requested ten (10) loads of dirt for his church site. Commissioner Burnam stated that dirt has been delivered by the county in prior years and that the Life Flight also uses the property in an emergency situation. The Board agreed to allow the dirt to be delivered by the Road Department.

- Commissioner Burnam encouraged the Board to participate and draft a proclamation for the VIVA Florida 500. The Board directed Mr. Johnson to assist Commissioner Burnam with the proclamation.
- Commissioner Burnam questioned staff as to the admission charge at the Recreation Department. After a brief discussion Commissioner Burnam stated that she didn't like the sign or the fact that an admission is being charged.
- Commissioner Brown advised the Board that he attended the SVTA meeting and that the group may be seeking additional revenue from the county in the near future.
- County Attorney John McCormick presented the Board with an article from the Suwannee Democrat regarding the Klausner Lumber project in Suwannee County. Chairman Ogburn advised the Board that Suwannee County Board Chairman Wesley Wainwright met with Mr. Johnson, Godwin and himself in order to request that the county participate in the purchase of additional property for future development. The Board discussed the issue and stated that the Development Authority would need to be involved and directed Mr. McCormick to contact the Development Authority Attorney Rhett Bullard in order to determine if the Phosphate Severance Tax Funds could be spent on a project that was not in Hamilton County. Chairman Ogburn explained that according to Mr. Wainwright that Hamilton and Columbia counties are being asked to participate and will be either paid back the loan amount or an agreement be drafted between the counties for future portions of the tax revenues. John Koche, with the Suwannee County Development Authority, stated that all of the surrounding counties will benefit from the approximate 1,200 jobs that will be available and explained the purpose of the need to purchase the additional property. Mr. Koche stated that the Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners is sending their County Attorney and County Coordinator to negotiate with the bank for the property. After a lengthy discussion about the issue the Board stated that they will need to determine the benefits for participating in the purchase of property and also what it would be worth to Hamilton County. The Board did however state that they will consider the issue and determine if the Development Authority could participate in the venture.
- The Board agreed to be a hole sponsor for the Alcohol and Drug Coalition Golf Tournament.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Ogburn adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

RANDY OGBURN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK