

October 7, 2014

JASPER, FLORIDA

**REGULAR SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Randy Ogburn, Buster Oxendine, Josh Smith and Beth Burnam, a full Board being present. Also present was County Attorney John McCormick, Attorney Cliff Adams and County Coordinator Louie Goodin.

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**

There were no comments from the public.

**PRESENTATION AND RECOGNITION OF FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR – COUNTY AGENT GREG HICKS**

Hamilton County Extension Agent Greg Hicks introduced Bud and Heather Bemby as the Farm Family of the year. Mr. Hicks gave the Board the history behind the Bemby family and presented them with a plaque in recognition of their accomplishments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Consent Agenda and to pull item 6B (Ship Invoice). Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**HAMILTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – STATUS REPORT**

There was no one present for the meeting from the Development Authority.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK – STATUS REPORT**

Veterans Service Officer Clay Lambert gave the Board an update on the status of the Veterans Memorial Park. Mr. Lambert advised the Board that he is still working on the cost estimate for the pavilion and that FDOT has agreed to assist with landscaping the park. Mr. Lambert also stated that the power and water lines have been installed and that the ribbon cutting for the park will be at 10:30 a.m. on November 11<sup>th</sup> prior to the Veterans Day Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Lambert stated that the committee has approximately \$38,000 and will be getting \$10,000 through a grant.

**NW 23<sup>RD</sup> BLVD DEED ACCEPTANCE**

Attorney Cliff Adams advised the Board that there were currently no deeds ready for execution.

**FLORIDA SUWANNEE RIVER VALLEY MARKETING GROUP – ANNUAL REPORT – TRI-COUNTY TOURISM INITIATIVE ANNUAL REPORT**

Lorina Regan, with the SRVMG, presented the Board with an accounting of their organization and discussed the purpose of their organization and the benefits associated with being a part of their group in this area. Ms. Regan then requested support from the Board. Chairman Smith explained to the Board that the TDC has voted to not participate in the SRVMG due to feeling that they were not being represented throughout the region. Ms. Regan gave the Board a pamphlet and explained how the county is being advertised. The Board suggested that they discuss the issue with the TDC at their next regular scheduled meeting.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – STATE OF THE RESOURCE REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES – JON DINGES, ASST. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jon Dinges, with SRWMD, introduced his assistant Abby Johnson and gave the Board a presentation regarding the natural resources under the jurisdiction of the district. Mr. Dinges then presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$37,699.77 for the 2013 Payment in Lieu of Taxes.

**OPERATION “AT HOME” INC. – BRENDA NORRIS – REQUEST FOR STORAGE SPACE**

Brenda Norris and April Perez were present in order to follow up with their request of the Board to provide space at the Courthouse Annex for the storage of non-perishable foods. Ms. Norris stated that they would like to utilize the old cafeteria building and provided staff with a copy of their liability insurance. County Attorney John McCormick provided the Board, Ms. Perez and Ms. Norris with a copy of the lease agreement for review. After reviewing the document, Ms. Norris and Ms. Perez were concerned about the language in the agreement. The Board explained that the lease would need to be modified and also discussed other potential rooms that would also be available.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to allow the lease of the old cafeteria space contingent upon amending the lease and to allow Chairman Smith to sign and execute the lease. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **MOTOR GRADER – BID AWARD**

The Board reviewed the Motor Grader bids from Flagler Construction Equipment, Ring Power and Beard Equipment Company. Mark Hill and Bill Cannon with Flagler Construction Equipment discussed their bid with the Board and also stated that the total cost as stated in the bid includes travel, milage and labor. Mr. Hill also stated that the total cost included the Rockland Sloper and installation. The Board discussed the possibility of keeping the Grader after the five (5) year lease; however, stated that they would make that decision at a later date. Todd Sandlin with Ring Power was also present for the discussion regarding the bids. After a lengthy discussion, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to award the Motor Grader bid to Flagler Construction Equipment in the amount of \$246,000 with the Rockland Sloper and to utilize the five (5) year lease. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Voting against the motion was Chairman Smith.

Commissioner Oxendine explained his reason for requesting a Rockland Sloper and a Grader with a steering wheel rather than a joystick steering.

## **SHIP PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT**

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report of the current Ship projects that are under construction and pending action. Mr. Nabors also recommended that the Board approve the three (3) Purchase Assistance applications as submitted. The applications were as follows: Brent McDonald - \$12,000, Odie Hawkins - \$20,000 and Shannon Bell - \$20,000.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the Purchase Assistance Applications as recommended by Mr. Nabors. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Nabors also discussed the need for the Board to address in the near future the timeliness of approved applications.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 6B (SHIP INVOICE)**

Mr. Nabors explained the issue with the 2012 Ship funds and how the funds are applied.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Consent Agenda Item 6B (Ship Invoice). 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.

**CR-135** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the Hunter Creek Bridge construction is still proceeding.

**NW 69<sup>TH</sup> BLVD.** – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an aerial of the road that needs to be milled to eliminate the erosion.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve for a portion of NW 69<sup>th</sup> Blvd. to be milled due to erosion and for safety reasons. Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**SW 61<sup>ST</sup> TERRACE** – Mr. Bailey presented the Board with an aerial of this road that is being proposed to be milled by Chairman Smith. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Smith agreed to remove from the agenda the request to mill the road.

**LOVES ACCESS ROAD** – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an aerial photo and site plan for the Loves access road. Mr. Bailey requested permission to present the site plan to the utility companies. The Board agreed by unanimous consent. Chairman Smith questioned Mr. Bailey in regards to the entrance to the newly constructed Pilot. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed for Mr. Bailey to contact FDOT in order to address the driveway issue and not be in the same predicament as Loves.

**CR-143** – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an aerial of the resurfacing project and explained the layout of the road. The Board after reviewing the site plans agreed to leave the layout of the road as is and allow Mr. Bailey to let bids for the CR-143 resurfacing project. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that Anderson Columbia will pave the Courthouse parking lot in about three (3) to four (4) weeks.

## **OPERATIONAL SITE PLAN – GIBSON PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

Mr. Bailey presented the Board with alternative site plans A, B & C for the Gibson Park improvements for the Board to review. Mr. Bailey explained that both alternative options B & C preserve the current pavilions. After reviewing and discussing the alternative site plans the Board agreed with Plan C with Mr. Bailey to get a survey which will cost approximately \$500. The Board also discussed the issue regarding access and land for a driveway for Attorney Cliff Adams with Mr. Adams agreeing to deed the County the necessary property for a driveway to allow access to his property. The Board also agreed to place a Board fence around the entire park.

- Motion by Commissioner Oxendine to accept alternate site plan C, allow NFPS to proceed with the survey and to provide a driveway for Mr. Adams allowing access to his property. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a

unanimous vote.

### **JENNINGS LIBRARY MEETING ROOM**

Mr. Bailey discussed with the Board the electrical and HVAC of the existing building and what will have to be done for the construction of an additional meeting room.

### **JENNINGS BLUFF PROPERTY SURVEY – QUOTES**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with survey quotes for the Jennings Bluff property. The quotes were as follows:

1. Nathaniel Combass - \$4,300
  2. J. Sherman Frier - \$4,575
  3. Precise Data Systems - \$2,500
- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve the bid from Precise Data Systems in the amount of \$2,500. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **DISCUSSION OF REDISTRICTING**

County Attorney John McCormick and Attorney Cliff Adams advised the Board that there is nothing to report at this time.

### **APPROVE BILLS**

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve the bills (vouchers 104513 – 104917 and checks 046815 – 046960). Second was made by Commissioner Oxendine, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Smith advised the Board that he was impressed with the professionalism and work provided by the individual that made repairs to the PLC's and electrical at the SR-6 / I-75 Water and Sewer Plant.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with a request from PCS Phosphate to change the date for the #5 Dragline to cross CR-137. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to allow the date to be changed due to weather and other issues.
- Chairman Smith discussed with the Board the possibility of relocating the EMS Station at the Annex and would be able to have the ambulances in an enclosed building. After a lengthy discussion the Board requested that the item be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

- Commissioner Ogburn discussed an issue with trees hanging over grave sites at the Riverside Cemetery in White Springs. Commissioner Ogburn stated that the trees base is on private property; however, they are hanging over a portion of the cemetery and will cause damage to graves if left. County Attorney John McCormick advised that he would review the issue and report back to the Board.
- Commissioner Ogburn stated that the PCS Phosphate Annual Report will need to be placed on the agenda for a meeting in the near future.
- Commissioner Burnam discussed with the Board regarding the lack of response by EMS to a health issue at the High School and issues with how the ambulances are staffed.
- Commissioner Burnam also requested that the Board consider hiring a grant writer for the county with the majority of their salary to be paid from the administration of the grants.
- The Board announced a meeting between Board staff, Shand's and the Hospital Board appointees to review the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financials.
- Chairman Smith discussed the need for additional work crews from DOC. The Board discussed the lack of crews that are available and directed County Coordinator Louie Goodin to check with the DOC regarding the issue.
- Chairman Smith also shared a concern from a constituent regarding the possible need for an alternate route for the Sabel Trail Pipeline due to the pipe being approximately forty (40) feet from the individuals from door. After a lengthy discussion and possible request for an alternative route, legal staff advised that the county has no authority to deal with the issue and that it should be handled between the individual and Sabel Trails.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK