

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 15,
2011, AT 9:00 AM, THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS
WERE HAD, VIZ.**

PRESENT: Sherrie Taylor, Chair – District 5
Eugene Lamb – District 1
Doug Croley – District 2
Brenda Holt – District 4
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Courts
Deborah Minnis, County Attorney
Johnny Williams, County Administrator
Jean Chesser, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Gene Morgan, Vice-Chair – District 3

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with a quorum present. She then led in prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

The roll was called by the Deputy Clerk with the attendance/absence recorded as listed above.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND A SECOND BY COMMISSISONER LAMB TO EXCUSE COMMISSIONER MORGAN’S ABSENCE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

AMENDMENTS & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The following items were added at the request of the County Administrator -- Added Under Awards, Presentations & Appearances

- 1. A --Recognition of School Crossing Guards**
- 1. B --Senator Bill Nelson’s Representative Ms. Lynn Banister on behalf of Community Outreach**
- 1. C --Chris Doolin & Associates**

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAMB AND A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS & APPEARANCES

1. Redistricting Process –Overview

County Attorney Minnis explained that her power point presentation is being made at the request of the Board as an overview of the Redistricting Process ; it is simply an overview of the process and is not intended as a detailed discussion of all of the ‘ins’ and ‘outs’ of litigation – the types of litigation. It is to

simply give the Board an idea of what redistricting is, what the law says about it and generally how it was done the last time the County redistricted. In going through the presentation Ms. Minnis noted they will be working off of the 2010 census for this round of redistricting. Included with the slide presentation was a redistricting timeline 2011-2012 for the State of Florida (prepared by the Senate Reapportionment Committee) indicating how the various Congressional and Legislative Districts will be reapportioned. Ms. Minnis also explained that some counties delay redistricting until completion of the state reapportionment process in order to decrease voter confusion on potentially changing districts. She gave examples of potential problems that could occur during the redistricting process, especially if the county does redistricting prior to the State Reapportionment (pages 7-10 of power point presentation document). The presentation included four main topics; (I) What is Required (II) The Process, (III) Prior Redistricting Process in Gadsden County, and (IV) Finalizing the Plan. She again reminded the Commission this presentation is a simple overview of the process and is not a detailed report on the process. Ms. Minnis said Supervisor of Elections Ms. Shirley Knight has agreed to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Chair Taylor said the reason the Board requested this was because of some concerns with lines being drawn and the process in which it was being done. She said the Board wanted to get this information to the community so the citizens will know the Board has not made any decision on what needs to be done in going forward because they don't have the necessary data in place and the information will not become available until April 2011. She asked that everyone remember the part that states "we may or may not" and she assured everyone that will be up to the Board and they will put everyone on notice and will advertise whenever they are to have such a meeting as the Board wants to calm some of the concerns of the citizens and ample notice will be given.

Ms. Shirley Knight, Supervisor of Elections addressed the Board and in response to Chair Taylor's question as to what type of noticing the Supervisor of Elections Office will do prior to – or if they are required to do any type of noticing for the public prior to-- and Ms. Knight stated "The Supervisor of Elections Office is not required to do any noticing – that is the Board – the Boards do all of that."

Commissioner Holt commented that she was on the Board during the previous redistricting and "the County is not required to do it in the first years – you can do it in 13 years, 15 or 17 years, but the bottom line is what we did before was each one of us selected a committee member and I think there were different people from the community that was on that committee and they brought back information and that way we had community input. It was not the commissioners and you don't want the commissioners determining district lines simply because we are the ones that run. We want the community of Gadsden County to decide that; but Reapportionment as the County Attorney has said, the State has to do the Reapportionment first. You cannot go in without confusing the community and redistricting before Reapportionment is done. Let the State do their job and then we follow up after the State, and that way you don't have a lot of confusion for the voters and there's a problem with the ballot as she said and you don't want that. There's no rush to redistrict anyway – there's not any rush – you need to follow what the community wants. Also we worked and talked with the School Board members and said, 'is this alright with you'? Not that we needed their approval as they could redistrict on their own but it just made more sense for the County Commission and the School Board to have the same districts and that way the people weren't getting different ballots. So, we are not in a big hurry to redistrict – it can only hurt your community if you are. This stuff is nothing new but it's dangerous if you do it in a hurry. It's very dangerous. You know we had bad press in 2000 with the ballot and you don't want that press again saying there's problems with our ballots in Florida. Thank you, Madam Chair."

Chair Taylor “Are there any other comments – Commissioner Lamb?”

Commissioner Lamb “Not a question to Ms. Knight because I’ve already spoken with her in the past about this redistricting. What we’re going to have to realize is really do we need it and I don’t think so because our County has not grown that much so we really don’t need to get into this until we have to; and we probably won’t even have to speak on this until probably 2013 so we just need to back off of this; save time, save discussions and we don’t want to confuse our voters. They’re already confused and they don’t go to the polls like they should now and you mess around and change these lines, you’re not going to have nobody going to the polls and we have to consider the School Board because the School Board doesn’t have to accept the same lines that we accept. Right now the School Board and the County Commission, as you know, have the same lines and you don’t want to do anything to confuse our voters any more than they already are. So, we just need to back off of this and leave it alone.”

Chair Taylor “Thank you, sir. Commissioner Croley?”

Commissioner Croley “Good morning Madam Supervisor – always good to see you. I don’t really have a question for you. I understand the concern that your office may have about precincts eventually having to be changed or adjusted to track with the districts to avoid confusion and the added costs, especially for your operation. Should changes occur or changes that will occur need to be properly funded for the added expense in your operations. I hope that the County Administrator’s Office will work closely with you to make sure that you get those funds that you need in the upcoming budgets. I do have a question for you Ms. Minnis, if I may. Would you explain what is known as ‘communities of common interest and their impact in this process’?”

Ms. Minnis “Basically communities of common interest is basically what you said; there’s a community of individuals who live in a certain area that have a common interest in business, etc., etc. As far as the impact on this process, my understand is that there is no legal requirement that they – that you group based on that but it has been used in challenges to redistricting programs or redistricting plans that if the entity has used that as their basis or one of their bases for drawing the lines the way they did the Courts have acknowledged those, but I’m not aware that it’s a requirement that you have to redistrict on that basis but I know that it has been done in some areas and acknowledged by the Courts as not being an illegal process or illegal consideration.”

Commissioner Croley “You mentioned that the Federal – that there was a State requirement that followed the Federal census—“

Ms. Minnis “Correct”

Commissioner Croley “But yet in Chapter 124, I don’t recall that it makes any specific mention of –“

Ms. Minnis “There is a separate Statute that basically says that any time you deal with the term ‘population’ in any Statute in Florida, there’s another Statute in Florida – ‘The Definition Statute’ that the population is referring to the census data from the Federal Government.”

Commissioner Croley “Thanks for clarifying that and the State level – and I know Ms. Knight is familiar with this -- there’s a software web site that’s up that’s called ‘My District Builder’ Is that type software being used in the counties so that the public can have input into the redistricting process?”

Ms. Knight “Yes, there is a web site that the public can go on to monitor the redistricting process.”

Commissioner Croley “Ok, and would it be beneficial at the County level if some similar web site were available for Commission districts as well as the School Board districts?”

Ms. Knight “Sure, if it’s available.”

Commissioner Croley “Ok, well I believe we have about a million dollars in computer technology that’s under-utilized so it looks like that may be something that your office or Ms. Minnis might want to share at some time with the IT people. The final thing is because of the level of redistricting that may go on in the State that there will be – there’s only a limited number of consultants that are familiar with this type process. Is that a – I mean there’s not an indefinite supply of them with redistricting going on all over the area; so would it prudent to consider engaging a consultant early on?”

Ms. Knight “Well it decides on when the Board would decide they want to do it. You know, if you want to wait until 2013, you can wait until then to get a consultant.”

Commissioner Croley “Well what I’m trying to say is are consultants difficult to come up with that have expertise in this?”

Ms. Knight “ No, I don’t think so.”

Commissioner Croley “That’s why I asked the question and I was trying to understand if that might be a problem. That concludes my questions, thank you.”

Chair Taylor “Thank you. I want to thank you both for coming this morning and sharing. Thank you Ms. Knight, I know you are very busy. The idea is to give public a rest and as Commissioner Lamb has so eloquently said, it is not that time, but there were some concerns that we wanted to address and I think you all have filled that requirement this morning, so thank you both for your time and efforts.”

The 9th and 12th grade classes of Tallavana Christian School studying governmental procedures in their Civic class were recognized and welcomed for coming to the Board Meeting. These students are studying local government and are attending this meeting in order to observe local government processes.

Chair Taylor addressed the students and stated “On behalf of the Gadsden County Commissioners, we want to welcome you this morning.”

1.A -- Recognition of School Crossing Guards

Chair Taylor “**WE and I do use the term WE in big bold letters want to recognize the School Crossing Guards in Gadsden County. The Superintendent of Schools along with the City of Quincy’s Manager, Gadsden County and the Gadsden County Sheriff’s Department wants to let the Crossing Guards know how much we sincerely appreciate what you do for our children in escorting them to and from school safe.**” She said not only would the crossing guards be acknowledged today with tokens of appreciation, but that they were being honored with a brunch upstairs as well as with gifts which are being provided by the afore mentioned sponsors. Chair Taylor asked that the crossing guards present stand to be

recognized and there was a large round of applause by everyone in recognition and in honor of the School Crossing Guards.

School Superintendent Reginald James addressed the Board stating his pleasure and pride in being a part of this recognition and celebration of the County's school crossing guards and for the important roles each of the guards play each and every day in the lives of the students.

Ms. Teresa Moore, representing the City of Quincy addressed the Board adding the City's support in recognizing the school crossing guards and to let them know the City of Quincy is extremely proud of each of them in not only making sure the children arrive to and from school safely, but for the mentoring roles they each play in the lives of the school children of Gadsden County.

Chair Taylor said the City of Quincy and the Superintendent of Schools is graciously sponsoring the brunch, Ms. Audrey Lewis with Parent Services will be assisting with hosting the brunch and the County Administrator has opened his conference area up stairs for the brunch.

Chair Taylor read into the record the Certificate of Appreciation being presented to each of the crossing guards.

IN GREATFUL RECOGNITION OF (Guard's name) FOR YOUR UNSELFISH AND OUTSTANDING HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO THE GADSDEN COUNTY STUDENTS SERVING AS A CROSSING GUARD AT (name of school) PRESENTED THIS 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

Presented By: Gadsden County Commission, City of Quincy, Gadsden County Schools, Gadsden County Sheriff

School Crossing Guards present to receive their awards:

Mr. Willie Long, Gretna Elementary School
Mr. Amos Murray, Greensboro Elementary & West Gadsden High
Ms. Doris Bryant, James A. Shanks Middle School
Ms. Christie Newsome, Stewart Street Elementary School
Ms. Dorothy Glover (**Absent - ill**)
Ms. Lily Smith, George W. Munroe

Chair Taylor praised each of the crossing guards and said as they are always on post whenever those school doors are open and they brave the weather every morning whether it is cold weather, rainy weather or blistering hot weather to make certain the students arrive safe. She said it would have been wrong not to say "Thank you. We love you and we wholeheartedly appreciate you."

There was another round of applause showing appreciation to Gadsden County's School Crossing Guards.

1.B -- Ms. Lynn Banister, Regional Director and State Director of Community Outreach for Senator Bill Nelson in Tallahassee

Ms. Lynn Bannister briefly addressed the Commission and stated she will be out in the lobby and available to any constituents on Federal Issues they may have; as well as to assist and/or point them in the right direction on any State issues they may have. She thanked the Commission for making the public aware that she will be available to assist.

1.C – Mr. Chris Doolin – Doolin & Associates --

Mr. Doolin briefly addressed the students from Tallavana High School stating this is a great meeting for them to attend as they will see the relationship of the cities working together with the School District, County, State Legislature and Federal Offices and he wished them well with their education and their futures.

Mr. Doolin said the State Legislative Committee meetings have started, the Governor's budget is out, the Legislative Hearing in Gadsden County is coming forward next Wednesday evening at 6:00 PM. He said the State Legislature has begun developing their budget and the major issues "we" will face are pension reform, impact of retirement, program cuts and local impacts. He explained that in the areas of pension reform (has not yet taken total/absolute form) is employee contribution of 5% into their retirements as well as some changes in the accrual rates for high risk employees. There is also a proposal to eliminate the cost of living adjustment in retiree's retirement accounts. There is a proposal to limit, reduce, and eliminate the retiree health insurance subsidy. All of these are serious issues that affect local governments. Mr. Doolin said "We had thought, we had thought that because you have been contributing to your local employee retirement accounts that you would receive a bubble, so to speak by being freed up by whatever that contribution is in the Governor's budget. He reaches into your revenue sharing and proposes to reduce your revenue sharing by the amount of the contribution that they are freeing you from paying. So, you've been paying into these accounts for years and now you will not benefit to the degree of not having to pay those. I know that you are concerned about retirement. This Commission has demonstrated repeatedly the concern about this community – it has high poverty, it has high unemployment – you have worked very hard to improve economic development. You have called repeatedly to protect your economic base. In the area of program cuts, the Governor's budget has consolidated many, many programs from multiple (dozens) of line items in agency budgets to lump summing them. It is difficult at this time to determine where funding is and we are proceeding to do that. We will understand it and I am just sharing with you that in the proposal of transparency that the agency budgets have been consolidated and it is a little more difficult to see. I think the Governor is proposing accountability to the agency head to spend their money so that's a new twist. Also there are some fiscally constrained funding – pre-trial detention funding for fiscally constrained counties – we can't find that in the budget. There are a number of other areas that we can't find. I suspect they are there in some fashion and we'll get back to you on that. The last thing I would like to talk to you about is protecting your economic development. There has been a 180 degree shift at the State level within the Department of Children & Family with a proposal to privatize the Florida State Hospital and other mental health institutions; also Sunland and another program for people with mental disabilities in Marianna. There's also a proposal to consolidate prisoners to vacant positions and to clearly close two prisons. We certainly want to see those prisons in other areas than rural areas in critical economics. I wanted to come over and share this with you. We are working, the community is working together and we look forward – this is just a proposal. We're very fortunate, Senator Montford, Representative Coley, Representative Williams, Representative Rehwinkle-Vasalinda, they're all working on this, but there is a sense of urgency and it is just a proposal. I've talked with the Clerk about trying to consolidate and assess the impacts on your local governments and you should receive my memo on that within the next month so in order that we can articulate to your

legislative delegation how it would be if your recycling funds were cut – how much it will cost your court system on the loss of pre-trial detention for juveniles. Those issues are important; they feel it, they are concerned about it and we will win some but we will be challenged by others, but I can assure you that with all of us working together we will be in the best possible position that we can possibly be when this is over at the end of the session. You have our full commitment and we look forward to working with you.”

Chair Taylor thanked Mr. Doolin for his presentation.

Commissioner Holt said this is a concern from counties all around the State – they are concerned with the level of funding – loss of some lump sum funding -- yet they (Legislature) still want the same level of services provided and what some of the counties have done in the past is bus people into Tallahassee during the Legislative Session to let the Legislature know ‘if you still want us to do this we will need the funding , if we don’t have the funding, we can’t do it.’ She said Gadsden County has never been that involved (elected officials have, but the citizens haven’t), but they must figure out a way to get involved in it because when you talk about loss of programs the citizens blame the County Commission, not those individuals at the State level. She said “We need to hurry up and organize; not just us, but the communities need to do the same thing.”

Chair Taylor said she agreed and explained the Legislative Program that has been adopted by the Commission and is being sent over is on tonight’s agenda . She said the Legislative delegation will be coming over on February 23, 2011 to share with the County what they are seeing through some of the sub-committees – issues and concerns that the County either needs to rally around or call their representatives about; and at the same time the Commission will have the opportunity to share with the legislative delegation what the County is concerned about. She also urged the students attending today’s meeting to be present on the 23rd at 6 PM and join in letting the representatives know what the County wants as well as what they want the County to do in pushing Gadsden County forward. She then stated “we will move the agenda”.

1. Clerk of Courts – Presentation of County Finance & County Clerk Issues (Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of the Courts)

Clerk Thomas said he had received an email with some questions concerning the Cash Report. He explained that about once per month he usually files the cash report – “It is sent over and filed for the record). First of all cash is different from the budget – you have a \$42 million dollar budget, but you don’t start the year with \$42 million in hand. Revenue comes in at different points or intervals throughout the year. For instance the Ad Valorem Tax – fiscal year starts October 1st and we usually get money from the tax collector about mid-November and generally by March we have received most of the Ad Valorem tax we are going to get. Some of our State shared revenue from the State comes in about once a month. There are some State revenues that comes in; say Tier fuel money that comes in once a year. There’s some revenue that you collect on a daily basis so the cash report is really a daily snapshot of what the cash is on that particular day. We categorize it by fund. Also it is segregated by use with a lot of the revenue sources only being allowed to be used for certain things. So, the cash report is broken out by fund so you can know exactly how much money you have on a particular day.” Clerk Thomas said in December they talked about fund balances and how the general fund had improved; however, in looking at the cash report there is one fund that has gone in the opposite direction which everyone knew would probably happen. According to the cash report today, The Transportation Fund has about \$142,000 in cash, but 3 or 4 years ago that would probably have been around \$2 - \$2.5

million so over the years, the fund balance in Transportation has come down. The \$2 million being referring to is in addition to the Bond money – that was not included as it was in a separate fund. So over the last few years the amount of reserves in the Transportation fund has gone down. Fund 313 (Cap Projects – Public Works) shown on the second page of the cash report indicates \$709,917.19 as of today. This fund in previous years would have around \$1 - \$2 million, and even though a lot of work has been done over the last few years, the reserves are down. The end result is the County has a \$4.2 million budget and he is not saying there is a problem with revenue coming in but in terms of having money on hand in the event of emergencies (such as a bad storm that washes out a lot of roads) that a few years ago the County was much better prepared to handle that. He said while the General Fund is in much, much better shape than it was, the Transportation Fund is in a little worse shape in terms of having money on hand for this. Clerk Thomas explained the Clerk's Office is charged with managing the cash as defined in Florida Chapter 2833 – make assessment of County's money --what will be needed right away and any surplus that can be invested. In the past many of those investments were done with the SBA. However, approximately three years ago there was a problem there (SBA) and that has not been as viable an alternative in recent years –they're currently paying less than 1%. He explained that during the past few years and with staying in line with the County's investment policies, the Clerk's Office has invested in money markets and CD's, trying to get the best rate for the County and they will continue with that until such time as the SBA becomes more viable option. No investments are made into anything that is risky – no stock market investments, etc.

Chair Taylor thanked Clerk Thomas for his report and then asked the County Administrator to move forward with the next item on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAMB AND A SECOND BY COMMISSISONER HOLT TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS STATED HEREIN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes –

January 4, 2011 Regular Meeting
January 18, 2011 Regular Meeting

Item 4. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills

Accounts Payables Dated February 4, 2011
Accounts Payables Dated February 11, 2011

Item 5. Approval to Apply for the Department of Health County Award Grant and Authorize Chairperson to Sign Resolution No. 2011.007

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION -- None

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minute Limit)

Mr. Sam Palmer had requested to be heard on the use of County Property and Chair Taylor advised Mr. Palmer that item was being brought up later in the meeting and he would be recognized at that time.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

6. Adoption of 2011 Legislative Program (Mr. Charles Chapman, Public Works Director)

Chair Taylor explained the Board has had this item for some time to review and everything she has read appears to be pretty much what the Board has asked for in the past as well as being in association with what FAC is looking forward to for small counties. She then asked for any questions or concerns pertaining to the Legislative Program that the Board will be presenting on February 23.

Commissioner Holt said there are specific items shown in the report that the Board wants to try and secure funding for, but that she is also interested in over-all funding in areas the Board is not specifically looking at; especially in the grants area. She said that isn't something they would normally deal with on the legislative level but if they are out there and are hitting on the State level then the County may not be aware. She said she has asked for a grants writer several times and suggested the Board put that within their budget because what will happen is certain things will hit over at the State – the Legislature will know about it and if there is a company trying to come to Volusia County (for instance) but may suit Gadsden County, Gadsden County may not hear about it. It's not coming through the State Association and the Board needs a mechanism for going after those types of businesses. She said that is why she suggested hiring a grant writer to go after funding because "the Governor is going to cut those other areas; it's going to happen because he has the support in the Legislature".

Chair Taylor said Commissioner Holt is certainly on task with that and that is something they need to look at in their next budgeting session.

Commissioner Lamb said he would like to piggy back on what Commissioner Holt just explained; in the past the Board has suggested that the county needs a grant writer and he asked that staff consider, within the County's budget, a grant writer position for Gadsden County.

Commissioner Taylor explained for the students that these are the things the Board will be asking their Legislators to look at when they come over on February 23rd.

- **That they not privatize the Florida State Hospital.**
- **That they repeal the septic tank law (If this law goes into effect the homeowners will have a \$3,000. To \$5,000. fee to replace their septic tanks.**
- **Ask that they allow Comp Plan be provided, amended and implemented by the local government – Doesn't want someone from Washington telling the Board how to run Gadsden County.**
- **Need funding for things like transportation, parks, infra-structure, etc.,**
- **Need Stimulus money to grow – A county ill die if it doesn't grow**

Commissioner Holt added that the County had applied for terrorism money previously as well as disaster center funding on the Federal level. She said she isn't sure if their State Legislators will know anything about this as the County is just getting into their third year with it but at the Federal level the County had been told that before the bottom drops out, and once the County makes it past their third year (just going into the third year) they could then look at the \$23 million they had asked for on the Federal level. She said this is something the Board could consider asking the Legislators about on the 23rd.

Chair Taylor asked that Mr. Chapman add that to the list of things to discuss with the Legislators so that they can reach beyond their corpus and reach out to the Federal Government in Washington DC about the \$23 million.

Commissioner Holt added there were support letters from the Gulf counties for the disaster relief monies and she was sure they would be willing to do that again because of the hurricanes and things that happened along the coast.

Chair Taylor asked that the County Administrator work with Mr. Chapman and follow up on this.

Commissioner Croley said in his review of the 13 page report the majority of it appears to be basically the agenda of the Small County Coalition for rural counties and he asked Mr. Chapman if that, except for the portion on privatization of the Florida State Hospital (which is the largest employer in the County and some of it has already been privatized) is true, and Mr. Chapman responded affirmatively. Commissioner Croley asked what has been decided, specifically, as to how that issue is going to be approached; has there been anything from Mr. Doolin's office and Mr. Chapman said they have not had specific conversation about strategy on that at this point; that they were waiting on adoption of this document prior to moving forward.

Commissioner Croley asked, with the exception of the portion regarding the Florida State Hospital, if the document was the same as every other rural county would have and Mr. Chapman again responded affirmatively and added they felt it would be stronger to have corporate communication on these issues rather than singular.

Chair Taylor said in essence it's universal thought, but everything included in the prioritized list is what the County needs; transportation, safety, health issues, parks. She then called for a motion from the Board.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAMB AND A SECOND BY COMMISSISONER HOLT TO ADOPT THE 2011 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

7. Approval of Planning Commission Member Appointments –

The County Administrator explained there are currently four positions up for appointment or reappointment –Ms. Diane Sheffield and Mr. Larry Ganus from District 2 and Mr. Willard Rudd and Dr. Gail Bridges-Bright from District 4.

Both Commissioner Croley and Commissioner Holt stated their desire to have the Planning & Zoning Commissioners continue to serve in their respective districts and they have also confirmed the willingness of the four P&Z Commissioners to serve an additional term.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSISONER CROLEY THAT MS. SHEFFIELD AND MR. GANUS BE REAPPOINTED TO SERVE ANOTHER TERM ON THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSISON FOR DISTRICT 2, AND UPON A SECOND BY COMMISSISONER LAMB, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT THAT MR. RUDD AND DR. BRIDGES-BRIGHT BE REAPPOINTED TO SERVE ANOTHER TERM ON THE PLANNING & ZOING COMMISSION FOR DISTRICT 4,

AND UPON A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAMB, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

8. Discussion of Use of County Property – County Administrator

Mr. Williams explained this had been placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Croley.

Chair Taylor “OK, Commissioner I’ll let you lead into this one.”

Commissioner Croley “Well, I appreciate that Madam Chair. The reason that I had requested that this item be discussed was because of some confusion with some of the not for profits that had traditionally made use of the Courthouse grounds for various functions and had apparently run into a problem this year with their application. I think that it’s important that we -- and I am disappointed that there is no background material here , or at least there wasn’t in my book, that would show the application and the current rules that would apply now to the courthouse properties so the Commission could have reviewed those, the public would have been aware of them and we could have taken any input in that would modify or improve those and I’m disappointed that that isn’t here because there is an application and stated on it are various rules, but we don’t have them.”

Commissioner Lamb “Madam Chair –to the Manager please -- Do we have materials concerning the properties in place – ‘is it here, do we have anything written? It’s not in place?’”

The County Administrator responded “Well, we have some scattered rules here and there for park usage and we have some pertaining to the Courthouse, but you can’t put --”

Commissioner Lamb “OK, I think what we need to do instead of getting boiled down on this , and I’m not disappointed in it, but give them the opportunity to give us the information and then we can have something to go by the next time we come. Let’s not get into no big discussion because it’s not here – so give him the opportunity to give it to us so we can read it.”

Commissioner Holt “This was done back in ’01. I requested the Courthouse Grounds and I was told no. I organized the AFL CIO, Steel workers and everyone else—They had a press release in Tallahassee and a press release up here on the Courthouse square and that’s how we ended up with some rules because then I ended up using the Courthouse grounds and so there is a form for it. The Courthouse grounds are already insured they’re open to the public. It is a public facility and we had a big rally and a march and everything in ’01 and we need to hurry up and get this fixed because it’s just a muck in the road and take care of it because it’s un-necessary. It’s un-necessary to have this many people upset. That’s what they’re upset about and if you tell them they can’t use public facilities you’re going to end up with problems, so basically have a simple form so that when they request it, they can fill it out – like for the Courthouse and it should be not just non-profit, but people that need to use the Courthouse grounds. It shouldn’t be a problem on whether you can use it or not, it should be can you schedule it or is somebody already using it and then go ahead and take care of it. We need to look at this later on because it is open to the public property.”

Chair Taylor “OK, it’s only on the agenda for discussion so we don’t really even have to table it so what I say to the Administrator is I’m going to echo my colleagues in saying we need to bring this back with some back up support information to move forward on it. I, too, concur that it is a public facility; those are public grounds – already paid for and maintained by tax dollars and everyone who wants to use it

should have access and then you put a process in place so that it will not be misused, but used according to whatever program you want to come forward and use. So, come back with it Mr. Administrator if you don't mind at a later date and let's put some items in place so that we can collectively come up with a process that's fair to all."

Mr. Williams "I will be glad to."

Chair Taylor asked Mr. Sam Palmer to come forward if he still wished to address the Board and Mr. Palmer responded "Not really because I think you all have handled it the way I was going to recommend that it is a public facility and should be available to the public. That was my concern."

Commissioner Croley "To follow up on this item, I would also like to ask Ms. Minnis to take a look at those existing rules, the existing process from a legal standpoint to make sure that when we look at this again that things are done in proper legal framework."

Chair Taylor "I'm not going to support that because every time she picks up a pen it costs the County so what I'm going to support is that the Administrator bring back to us a date on this issue. Mr. Administrator get all of the background of what's in place now and if we have any questions at that time then we can pull them to Ms. Minnis as opposed to her rambling in the dark trying to figure out what exactly it is that we may or may not need. Mr. Administrator, I'm going to ask that, if you can, some time in April or March if earlier that you bring back before us, that we have our discussion and then we will give direction to our County Attorney at that time."

Chair Taylor inquired of the County Attorney if, since this item is on the agenda and has been advertised for just discussion if anything needs to be done by the Board – to table it, move it – just for Roberts Rules and Ms. Minnis responded since it was just for discussion and the Board was not going to act upon it that she doesn't think so that to simply have **a motion that the County Administrator bring the material back would suffice.**

COMMISSIONER LAMB SO MOVED AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A SECOND -

There was some confusion from members in the audience concerning programs that are already planned and if they will be able to go forward with their plans (Black History Program) and Chair Taylor said those have been approved and they can go forward.

Ms. Gwen Robinson briefly addressed the Board stating there is an application that must be filled out and it is already in the Planning & Zoning Office. She said this was done by her Organization and she has no qualms with it, but simply wanted to let the Commission know there is already a form in place for all of this.

Chair Taylor responded "You got approval and Mr. Administrator you back me up on this because I don't want be over-stepping your authority – everybody is approved and ready to go for February 26th correct?"

Mr. Williams "Oh yeah."

Chair Taylor "We have a motion and second that this item be brought back at a later date per the County Administrator's discretion. All in favor let it be known by saying aye."

MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0 IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AS STATED ABOVE.

9. Appointment of Committee to Review Impact of Homestead Exemption for Persons 65 and Over – County Administrator

Mr. Williams briefly explained Property Appraiser VanLandingham had previously made a presentation on this particular issue and it was suggested the Committee would be composed of County Property Appraiser, County Tax Collector, The Clerk of Courts, one County Commissioner and possibly one County staff member.

Commissioner Croley said he has discussed this with several senior citizens --t he strongly supports it being reviewed so they can be aware of the options and whether it should move forward. He said he will Move the Committee be Approved whenever the Board is ready.

Commissioner Lamb said this is the item he brought to the County Administrator to be agendaed. He also supports the Committee being approved so they can look at this and see what the impact will be on the County and let them bring back a recommendation to the Board.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISISONER CROLEY AND A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE AND HAVE THE COMMITTEE BRING BACK A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD, THE MOTION PASSED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Chair Taylor recommended the Property Appraiser VanLandingham get some additional back up information ; specific number of citizens, amount of money, etc., before he actually puts his committee together.

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND A SECOND BY COMMISISONER HOLT TO APPROVE COMMISSIONER LAMB TO CHAIR THE COMMITTEE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Mr. Williams recommend Mr. Arthur Lawson, Asst. County Administrator as the staff member to serve on the Committee and Chair Taylor responded that was under the auspice of the Administrator and did not require Board approval.

10. Nomination of a Board Member to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) – County Administrator

UPON A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAMB AND UON A SECOND BY COMMISISONER HOLT TO ELECT COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO SERVE ON THE FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST (FMIT) , THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

County Administrator

11. Update on Board Requests (Johnny Williams, County Administrator – Yielded to the County Attorney

County Attorney

12. Ex parte Communication Ordinance, Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, Update on Various Legal Issues (Deborah Minnis County Attorney)

Ms. Minnis said the Ex-parte Communication Ordinance will be coming before the Board at their first meeting in March for public hearing; to receive public and Board input at that time. On the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance which she explained is already in place (since 1988 or 1989 and amended by the Board in early 2000), Ms. Minnis explained this Ordinance is already in place – on the books—and it does create the local administrative board to hear complaints about the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. She said to her knowledge there have not been any members appointed to that board, but the Ordinance which is on the books allows the Commission to do so. She said she did a brief survey to other counties and has received two responses back -- one doesn't have a board at all, and the other one does have an administrative board that has had no problems with the process. This particular board would handle gang related nuisances, prostitution nuisances, and certain property type nuisances.

Commissioner Croley addressed the County Attorney stating “The question that has come up since our last meeting is about the dirt road paving priorities. The Comp Plan clearly lays out a criteria that is by Ordinance supposed to be followed and there seems to be some question as to whether or not that process has been done. So, I’m going to ask you – Those Planning & Zoning Ordinances -- Comp Plan regulations that were adopted by Ordinance, are they -- what is the legal expectation of those in terms of your interpretation?”

County Attorney “Well, as you know, any Ordinance adopted by the Commission is considered the law of the Commission and of the County. My understanding is that there was a Comprehensive Plan Amendment adopted and an Ordinance adopted with regard to paving of roads and the criteria to use in paving of roads that was based on a settlement that was done under the Department of Community Affairs and it set certain things in place that were supposed to take place every year. There was supposed to be a review and re-evaluation of roads. There was a list created so basically since that list in the Comprehensive Plan and the Ordinance is out there, that is the mechanism that is supposed to be used and the process that is supposed to be followed.”

Commissioner Croley “Ok, I’m going to come back to you with one follow-up questions, but – Mr. Administrator, has that process been used for the dirt roads that we’ve been provided with?”

County Administrator “Not during my tenure here which is less than two years.”

Commissioner Croley “Ms. Minnis, if the citizens wish that process to be followed, what is their course of relief?”

County Attorney “One avenue could be a mandamus issue; the other avenue would be whether there was any involvement by the parties to the Settlement Agreement to enforce the Settlement Agreement in general.”

Commissioner Croley “Could you explain that ‘mandamus’?”

Ms. Minnis “If I am ordered to by the Board I will explain mandamus but usually –and since I represent the Board, I don’t normally explain to people how to proceed against my client.”

Chair Taylor “You’re not ordered to by the Board.”

Commissioner Croley “Basically it’s a process whereby any citizen can go and get a order that we’re to follow the Ordinances, is that correct?”

County Attorney “That’s generally the way it’s –“

Commissioner Croley “Thank you, thank you . I’m done”

Chair Taylor “That being said, I’m going to address this particular issue real quick. There is a list of priority items but the street in question meeSt those prioritized items – yes there is daily traffic on that road, yes there is maintenance on that road and a few other items that that particular street does meet and it’s a dirt road. The origin of this particular Ordinance came up some years back. As the Administrator has shared with you, we haven’t even put it in place in years. The reason being there were more dirt roads than there was money and because there was more dirt roads than there was money, an engineer was brought in to prioritize paving. When they had a prioritized list Commissioners did not go by that list. Rich Bay Road was number one and the Commissioners chose to do another road which brought about the suit. This being so many years ago and there being so many dirt roads and a limited amount of money but now most of the dirt roads are paved. Money and roads now begin to match each other. When they came up with this Ordinance it wasn’t even with this small road in mind. This Board has voted Mr. Administrator to move forward on it and we’re going to move forward. There are other roads that have been paved – dirt roads or what have you with no questions having been asked, so bring what you may. I don’t want to see this being held up. Daily activity and mail trucks going up and down that road all day – so do citizens who are working, up and down that road all day so let’s pave the road. Let’s move on – Discussion Items by Commissioners --Commissioner Lamb”

Discussion Items by Commissioners

13. –

Commissioner Lamb – District 1 – Discussion of Additional Patrols for District 1

“Thank you, Madam Chair. Just to speak on that situation on that road. The majority of this Board has spoken so we don’t need to dwell on that anymore. The administration will carry that vote out and this should start the process. We should not labor on that anymore on this Board.”

Commissioner Lamb then commended the Advisor for Tallavana School and the students for being present at today’s meeting and he expressed pleasure at having the students observing the Board. Commissioner Lamb said he would still like the Board to consider trying to find some additional funds somewhere in order to add additional patrols in District 1 as they are having a lot of problems with break-ins, etc., and he said hopefully the Sheriff and the Administrator can get together and come up with something to be brought back to the Board for the Board’s consideration.

Commissioner Croley, District 2 – Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission District 2 and Gadsden County

“Madam Chair Would you give me a minute more here – maybe go to Commissioner Holt – I had a note here I wanted, and I’m having some technical problems and then I will come back?”

Chair Taylor “Yes, sir. I’ll respect your request. Commissioner Holt?”

Commissioner Holt, District 4 –

Commissioner Holt “Yes, thank you Madam. That only gives me the opportunity to retaliate later and I want that to be the request.”

Chair Taylor “Now Commissioner Holt, as rule of reg., if you are not called out personally I will not allow any retaliation.”

Commissioner Holt “I’m talking about according to the subject, because the subject may be about me but you never know because you can always step around using the name – So I want, or I will wait on him.”

Chair Taylor “ I will use my discretion at that time. Commissioner Holt --”

Commissioner Holt “ Well at your discretion, OK, well that is questionable. There are several things that I have on the agenda and I’m going to go over them quickly. A couple of things I wanted to know --

- The manager was supposed to give me an evaluation of the day to day operations of the Manager and what our involvement can be in there as far as his evaluation and that’s a question for the attorney.”

Chair Taylor “Are you familiar with the request?”

County Administrator “About evaluations?”

Commissioner Holt “ I requested it two weeks ago. This is for the attorney.”

Chair Taylor “Oh, you wanted an evaluation on the attorney?”

Commissioner Holt “No, the question is I asked the attorney about the evaluation -- the County Commissioners evaluation of the County Manager’s day-to-day performance. I asked that at a previous meeting simply because we’re getting a lot of law suits and I need to have some information on that.”

Ms. Minnis “I apologize Commissioner. I didn’t realize that that was an assignment for me to bring back to the Board. I remember the conversation about the evaluation or looking into the day-to-day and I apologize. I didn’t understand that to be an assignment for me to bring something back to the Board.”

Commissioner Holt “Right. We really need this, I think Madam Chair as this is very important to the Board because these law suits are not going to stop and --”

Chair Taylor “Yes, and let me share with you – in April it is his evaluation and I think at that time we are going to have some opportunities to discuss what is happening previous and what is happening forward --”

Commissioner Holt “I understand what you’re saying but my concern is this. We need some clarification; legal clarification before then because what happens is this. Once all of this stuff is laundered out in the public it becomes a problem. It doesn’t need to get to that point. The bleeding has got to be stopped somewhere so where do we stop it at? We need to be on legal standards and that’s why I’m asking for an opinion from the attorney because it is costly. It’s going to become very costly. Where do we have – you see a contract has two sides at least – the manager agrees to his side and the County Commission agrees to the other side. He has to perform and the Commission has to perform. Where is it that there’s a lack of performance if we’re in Court. So with a yearly evaluation you can call to question that, but if there are problems right along then you have to come back and see do you need to re-evaluate our process. We need to know that. So that’s what I’m asking.”

Ms. Minnis “So, for protocol purposes is that voted on?”

Chair Taylor “Yes, it will have to be a voted on issue and today we don’t have a full board. I understand what she is asking for and that is to just legally look at the contract and to see where performance weighs out productivity. You see what I’m saying – here’s your performance and here’s what you are producing, or here’s your performance and here’s what your cost is. So there are some issues and I think, Commissioner, you are going to be OK and what we’re going to ask is that at our next meeting that we have a full board sitting that we will go in the direction – because this is a very sensitive subject when you’re talking about the County Administrator. We will get a vote and have you to look into this a little bit more in depth and then you can get with Commissioner Holt to make sure you get her needs down once we get a majority ruling on this thing.”

Ms. Minnis “OK, and at this point it’s just a review of the contract?”

Chair Taylor “It’s just a review of the contract and just be prepared to go into depth a little bit further so that we can be able to intelligently review what’s going on in April so we probably will need to do that prior to –”

Commissioner Holt “Also concerning that, what do State Statutes say, what does State law say on that, what the Board’s obligations are.” She also said the County needs to get together to set some type of goals and objectives as to where the County is going -- because that is a concern of the citizens – they want to see what the County’s needs, goals and objectives are and they want to know about jobs – very concerned about jobs – job training, etc. She asked for an update, information on Medicaid rebilling and Mr. Price explained he is still working on this issue, is waiting on more figures and hopes to have additional information for the Board within the next month.

Chair Taylor responded to Commissioner Holt’s comments by saying that she knows the Medicaid issue is being addressed and worked on and that she doesn’t believe the dollar amount of those claims (when administration decides not to pay a claim and it is sent back, then you are dealing with 10 years of claims) will be at the magnitude that Commissioner Holt is anticipating they will be.

Commissioner Holt said she has spoken with Ms. Lombardi with the State and Ms. Lombardi has assured her \$600,000.00 probably is not going to be enough per year to cover the County’s costs.

Ms. McLendon said she is not certain of what the dollar amount will be that is forthcoming. She has given Mr. Price a printout of what has been paid out in past years and it has not exceeded \$600,000.00

since 1994. She said that is all she can tell the Board as she doesn't know the amount that has to be re-billed at this point. Ms. McLendon asked if the bills will all be coming in all at one time, because lately they've been coming in a few at the time, and Commissioner Holt said in looking at the re-bills, it was her understanding from Ms. Lombardi that the last billing was just \$15,000.00 short of the \$600,000.00 and that Ms. Lombardi stated they will be going back to 2001 (rather than just 3 years as the County had anticipated). The State now has a new computer system and that is why they had not been sending the re-bills, but now their computer system is up and running. She said she is looking at the backlog and the State going back to 2001 -- if there is any type of statute of limitation on how much they can go back and charge the County -- just like other counties are doing in trying to nail down an amount they will be billed. Commissioner Holt said in doing that, the County will know how to budget for it -- do we have enough to pay for it, do we need to pinch off some from somewhere and save up (which the County is not currently doing) to cover these costs? She also said Ms. Lombardi said the bills will not ever go down. Ms. McLendon explained if the State goes back to 2001 those claims will also have to be reviewed to see if they qualify at this point and she agreed with Commissioner Holt's statement that if the County does not pay, the State could take the County's tobacco/cigarette revenues, but that is only if the County should ever fail to pay.

- Commissioner Holt asked the County Administrator for numbers on what it cost the County for the preparation and care coming up to the trial on the horse; what it cost the County for the horse -- not the cost of the trial. She said she has e-mails from individuals requesting that.

The County Administrator responded he wasn't sure he has that information and that he believes it's been addressed to the Clerk of the Court before for the same information."

Commissioner Holt said she was asking him -- said she was asking Madam Chair that the County Administrator give her the information she has requested. She said that would be the total it cost the County -- the Sheriff's Department will also be asked for the same information.

Chair Taylor addressed the County Administrator that on the request for costs that she believes it's public information because any time County money is spent it becomes public information and that she doesn't believe Commissioner Holt's request is outlandish and Mr. Williams said he isn't sure the County actually ever spent any money.

After additional clarification and discussion as to exactly what Commissioner Holt has asked for, Chair Taylor asked that the Administrator provide the information as requested by Commissioner Holt.

Commissioner Croley -- "Thank you Madam Chair for allowing me additional time to find the e-mail I was looking for, but before addressing this particular subject, I want to recognize the Tallavana school students and their instructors. Thank you for attending this morning." He said Tallavana School is in his District (District 2) and the Tallavana School's church facility has been gracious for several years now in hosting an annual Spring Report Back District Meeting -- District 2 and hopes they will be able (said he is sure they will) to do it again this year; that he hopes the students will be able to attend and learn more about County government, and issues that are going on. He said the item he wanted to bring up is an item going through the Capital Regional Planning Transportation Training Program Agency that has a deadline of February 24th. He explained CRPTA is soliciting transportation enhancement applications for non-motorized transportation so it enhances opportunities used by bicycles, sidewalks; things of that nature. He explained e-mails have been sent out to all officials throughout the County, but if any one has anything in their District that they can let the County Administrator know and maybe get that in on

the 24th. Commissioner Croley explained his last item as being a letter from the Soil and Water Conservation District pertaining to the roofs. He said it ties in with questions he has had before (as well as other commissioners) about roofs in critical condition, for example the Records Center that is leaking on records of the Clerk's Office, etc., -- He said all of these leaking roofs need to be addressed prior to getting into the summer monsoon season and he hopes a report will be brought back letting the Board do what needs to be done.

Commissioner Morgan, Vice Chair District 3 -- Absent

Commissioner Taylor, Chairperson District 5 – Discussion of Future Meetings with Municipalities
(Individually Regarding Lobbying Services Covering: Goals and Objectives, Growth and Development, Public Safety and Health Issues

Chair Taylor said they need to begin scheduling community meetings with the other municipalities (City of Gretna , Chattahoochee, Greensboro, Midway, Quincy, Havana)so they can begin establishing goals as a County -- one goal going forward in establishing goals and objectives for jobs, growth, public safety and health issues; they need to know what each other is doing and what each other may need help in doing. The Chair and the Administrator will get together to work out the details and will bring it back before the Board before starting to schedule in order that everyone has an idea of the concept they will be looking at in scheduling those meetings (Agenda will be provided). She briefly mentioned the KISS Program (two or three new programs the Sheriff wants to introduce to the Community)and invitation from the Sheriff and said she hopes everyone will attend but she reminded them they need to RSVP the Sheriff. Chair Taylor addressed the roof issue and said it is imperative that the roofs be repaired and if they can't find the funds to do it that they may have to go into reserves – roofs must be fixed. She said she had attended (chaired) her first Apalachee Transportation Disadvantaged Meeting—very well organized meeting and one of their main issues is that they will need additional funding to keep the shuttle going between Quincy and Tallahassee. She said they have been doing an outstanding job in getting people to and from work, to and from school, to and from the mails, etc. and it has proven to be a need as opposed to being a want because of the ridership they have shown. She said she has asked them to come in a little later on to do a presentation and they will be looking for somewhere in the neighborhood of \$35,000 and Chair Taylor said she certainly wants to support that because it is an opportunity to bring revenues back into the County.

Chair Taylor said in the one meeting she missed in going through the budget process they took out the funding for emergency repairs. She asked that the Administrator look at and bring back some ideas (said she spoke with Co. Administrator yesterday and that Mr. Price (OMB) has identified a funding source) – She asked for a motion to have this item be placed on the agenda – For Emergency Repairs to be Agendaed for Discussion Later for putting funds from another area into Emergency Repairs to help folks that can't afford to fix floors, windows and doors.

COMMISSIONER LAMB SO MOVED AND UPON A SECOND BY COMMISISONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Chair Taylor said the County's Constraint funds are in the County's coffer -- \$189,000.00 has arrived.
CHAIR TAYLOR MOVED TO HAVE THIS ITEM AGENDAED SO DIRECTION CAN BE GIVEN TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON HOW HE IS TO MOVE FORWARD ON WHAT THE BOARD COLLECTIVELY WANTS

TO DO WITH THOSE CONSTRAINT DOLLARS AND UPON A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAMB, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Chair Taylor briefly addressed concerns over issues that have gone into the community on various law suits, etc., and she stressed the importance of working together. She said "One thing I would like to say to my colleagues -- creating them and influencing citizens to file for them does not stop at just you or just us. Any time we create a law suit by walking or stepping outside of our authority as Commissioners we cost the people that are sitting in front of us money. Any time we motivate people to file law suits it does not stop at you. It costs the citizens. Every time we create this obstacle for this Board and for this County it costs the people that we are representing, so to all of my colleagues sitting on this Board, I have preached from day one, let's work together. Mr. Administrator, there are five commissioners that must be respected at all times. Not one, not two, not three, but five of us so any time we reach beyond our authority and our authority as we walk out there on our daily journey is nothing. We are no more than commissioners -- we can't move anything, we can't recommend anything, we can't tell anybody anything. We are power in numbers and that's the five of us and that's the only time that we have authority. Anything outside of that causes concerns and issues for this County; for the 49,000 plus citizens that we represent. We need to be mindful before we take these actions. Please, let's try and work together. I pray for every one of you all during the week that our minds and our hearts think of the 49,000 plus before we think of ourselves."

Receipt & File

14.

- a. For the Record – Letter to Leon, Calhoun and Liberty County regarding Florida State Hospital Lobbying Cost
- b. For the Record – Letter to DOT Regarding Safety Enhancement Lighting Improvements at Gretna Greensboro and Chattahoochee Interstate 10 Interchanges

February Meeting – Tuesday February 22, 2011, Joint BOCC/GHI Board Meeting at Hospital 5:30 PM

March Meeting (s)

March 1, 2011, Regular Meeting 6:00 PM

March 15, 2011, Regular Meeting, 9:00 AM

Motion to Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS TIME, CHAIR TAYLOR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:45 AM.

SHERRIE TAYLOR, CHAIRPERSON

Jean Chesser, Deputy Clerk