

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JUNE 4, 2013, AT 6:00 P.M., THE  
FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Doug M. Croley-District 2, Chairman  
Eric Hinson-District 1, Vice Chairman  
Gene Morgan-District 3  
Brenda Holt-District 4 (arrived late)  
Sherrie Taylor-District 5  
Deborah Minnis, County Attorney  
Robert Presnell, County Administrator  
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Croley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

*Commissioner Hinson arrived at this juncture of the meeting.*

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Croley asked Mr. Presnell if there were any amendments to the Agenda and Mr. Presnell responded there were.

Mr. Presnell informed the Board there was Item #7 to add to the Consent Agenda-Support of a Grant Proposal for Second Chance Act Two-Phase Adult Reentry Demonstration Program: Planning and Implementation FY 2013 Competitive Grant Announcement

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

**1. Presentation on the Florida Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Funding Agency Program**

Mr. Presnell stated the first item was a presentation of the PACE program.

**Jonathan F. Schaefer, Program Manager, Third Party Administrator for the Florida PACE Funding Agency and David Ash, Acting Regional Adversary,** appeared before the Board to present the item.

Mr. Ash explained one of the things this program would do would give people the opportunity to retro-fit their homes or businesses to be more energy efficient or to retro-fit their properties in case of a natural disaster.

*Commissioner Holt appeared at this juncture of the meeting*

Mr. Schaefer gave a brief overview of the PACE program and the benefits that it provided and said the program was statutorily governed. He explained this was a local government entity that made financing available to property owners within their jurisdictional limits for installation of qualified improvements and that it was financed for property owners and was repaid through property assessments. He listed several advantages of the program available to local governments, contractors and property owners.

Commissioner Morgan asked questions regarding the program and statutory requirements and the range of interest rates.

Commissioner Holt asked that Mr. Schaefer explain the payback of the loan.

Mr. Schaefer explained by statute, mortgage lenders had a way to escrow the amount and there are no penalties for full payoff and no opportunity for partial payoff at this point.

Commissioner Taylor stated she had sat in on the presentation to the City of Quincy and asked Mr. Schaefer if all he needed was a vote of approval and then stated once that was done, the County had no control over the process and it concerned her. She added once the Board approved this, there would be no recourse.

Mr. Schaefer explained, in terms of control, before any assessments are placed, the County has the right to get out of the contract; after the first assessment is placed, the contract may be terminated at any time for cause without cost or obligation.

Mr. Presnell stated there was more information that was distributed at the meeting and thought this was a good program if used responsibly, and was an opportunity for someone to be able to put in a new air conditioner or a new roof without a lot of out-of-pocket.

Chair Croley spoke and said there had been a lot more time spent on this than planned and if the Commissioners wished to consider this further, it needed to be added to the agenda at a later date.

Mr. Schaefer asked to leave the commissioners with a couple of statements:

- The more control the County has, the more liability they have. The agency has been set up in a way to shield the county from liability.
- Please consider what other options the property owner would have, if they are a business and could not get a commercial loan, what would their other option be?

## **CLERK OF COURTS**

### **2. County Finance and County Clerk Issues**

Clerk Thomas was not present.

## **CONSENT**

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA.**

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

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4. **Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills**
5. **Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract-State Housing Initiative Partnership "SHIP" Program**
6. **Approval to Sell Surplus Vehicle to the City of Quincy**
7. **Support of a Grant Proposal for Second Chance Act Two-Phase Adult Reentry Demonstration Program: Planning and Implementation FY 2013 Competitive Grant Announcement**

#### **ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

*Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.*

**Paisley Pryor, 352 Ashton Court, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board regarding an unpermitted soccer field that was in the neighborhood and tournaments were held weekly there causing a disruption with heavy traffic in the neighborhood. She read a letter that addressed the concerns of the area residents and it was signed by the residents, along with photos of the events that were in progress that were date and time stamped.

*Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.*

Chair Croley asked Mr. Presnell to look into the complaints of the area residents.

Mr. Presnell asked Ms. Pryor to see Clyde Collins to give him her contact information and stated the matter would be looked into.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

##### **7. Update on Board Requests** **Emergency Management**

Mr. Presnell informed the Board that the Emergency Management Agreement had been signed by the Chair and the Sheriff and he would be proceeding with the requirements of the agreement to implement everything.

##### **SHIP Money**

He informed the Board that the Legislature had funded more SHIP money and Staff would be updating the SHIP by-laws and committee.

**Community Surveys**

He said there were people out doing some community and business needs assessments and gathering statistical data and a document would be put together for strategies.

**Privatization of Probation**

Mr. Presnell stated that during the Budget Workshop that had been held earlier, privatization of Probation was mentioned and he has had conversations with Judge Garner, Nicholas Thomas and probation people and thought it was worth bringing it to the table. He stated there was another budget workshop scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

Chair Croley said historically, because of the FAC meeting, it had been customary in the past that the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in June be waived because of the conference and he asked if anyone had a problem with the meeting scheduled on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Holt said she did.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 THAT THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 18, 2013 WOULD NOT BE HELD.**

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE THAT THE BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 20, 2013 SHALL BE RESCHEDULED FOR JULY 2, 2013 AT 4:30.**

Mr. Presnell informed the Board of a Rural County Summit that would be held at the Pat Thomas Academy on July 9 & 10, 2013. The first day will be concerning school safety and the second day will focus on emergency preparedness.

Chair Croley thanked Mr. Presnell for the leadership shown in getting the emergency management agreement signed and in the code enforcement and magistrate proceedings that had been held thus far.

Chair Croley asked Mr. Presnell what precautions were being taken in securing the parking lot behind the Edward J. Butler building regarding public drinking and other problems that have resurfaced.

Mr. Presnell stated that some time ago overhead lighting had been placed there and signs were erected.

Chair Croley stated that he comes to the office after Church on Sundays and for a period of time the situation was a lot better, but there had been some changes in the neighborhood that has reversed and it was not a good situation. He asked that the level of attention be raised and hoped that things would improve.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**8. Update on Various Legal Issues**

There were no updates.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**9.**

**Commissioner Taylor, District 5**

Commissioner Taylor asked to have the emergency agreement placed on the agenda for an update and review because of the length of time it had been since it was last discussed.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO PLACE THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT ON THE AGENDA FOR A REVIEW.**

Commissioner Taylor also said because the hurricane season was upon us, she was not clear of the actual plan in case of a hurricane or extreme weather and asked for an update regarding that also.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO PLACE THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT ON THE AGENDA FOR A REVIEW.**

**Privatization of Probation**

Commissioner Taylor asked if the Judge and/or a representative from probation would attend the workshop to present the pros and cons for the board.

**Commissioner Holt, District 4**

Commissioner Holt asked if any of the economic development groups that had been given funding brought any reports, i.e., Chamber, Small Business Development on what had been done thus far.

Mr. Presnell responded no.

Commissioner Holt stated that they were to bring in reports every so often, now the Board was preparing to go to the Conference and the information would be helpful.

Chair Croley asked if the Board would like the Administrator to make a request formally to the groups for an update.

The Board responded Yes.

**Jail locks**

She asked the status of the Jail and the facility next-door and if it was vacant or going to be vacant.

Mr. Presnell commented that it was not vacant, but there were plans to move the inmates to the newly constructed building in Midway possibly sometime in January.

She added that the Board needed to make a decision if they wanted to replace the locks at the jail or wait to go after another facility after Department of Corrections decided what they were doing and when.

Mr. Presnell stated the locks were going out for bid and after the bids were received, it would be

an action item to come before Board.

**Commissioner Morgan, District 3**

Commissioner Morgan asked to have the PACE program that was presented be placed on the agenda for discussion and decision. He stated he understood the potential concerns, but he thought in this county there were some folks that could benefit from the program and if that was something that was out there for an opportunity, the Board did not need to penalize those who could take advantage of it and it might help increase revenues for the County by potentially increasing property values as well.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO PLACE THIS ITEM ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DECISION. COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.**

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Presnell for a copy of the mowing schedule.

**Commissioner Hinson, Vice Chairman**

Commissioner Hinson stated he had spoken with Mr. Presnell regarding concerns he had with the advertisement for the Summer Youth Program and he had a problem with wording of advertisement.

Mr. Lawson came forward and said initially the Board had approved 50 slots and he specifically remembered the Board asked that the Administrator set criteria for selection of children for program and the same criteria was used for the second round. He went on to state if the Board chose to change the program at this stage, it might as well be scrapped for this year because there was no time to review all of the applications and start from scratch.

Commissioner Hinson spoke passionately concerning the program. For more details, please review the audio/video that can be found on the Clerk's website at [www.gadsdenclerk.com](http://www.gadsdenclerk.com).

Chair Croley asked Commissioner Hinson to write out his thoughts and to furnish them to the Administrator to incorporate it for future programs.

**Commissioner Croley, Chairman**

Chair Croley said an email had been received that the lighting for the Greensboro, Gretna and Midway interchanges will be designed this month and then construction monies should be developed after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

He added that positive things are going on with regards to the port in St. Joe, which an agreement has possibly been entered into with St. Joe Paper and this would be beneficial to economic development.

**Receipt and File**

10.
  - a. For the Record: May 13, 2013, FY2012 Audit Result Letters to Constitutional Officers from Chairmen Doug Croley

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
June 4, 2013-Regular Meeting

**June Meeting(s):**

- June 18, 2013-Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- June 20, 2013, Budget Workshop, 4:00 p.m.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR CROLEY DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:25 P.M.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**DOUGLAS M. CROLEY, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**ATTEST:**

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**MARCELLA BLOCKER, Deputy Clerk for  
NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK OF COURT  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**