

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON DECEMBER 3,  
2013 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Brenda Holt, Vice Chair, District 4  
Doug Croley, District 2  
Gene Morgan, District 3  
Sherrie Taylor, District 5  
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court  
Robert Presnell, County Administrator  
Deborah Minnis, County Attorney  
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. He then asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Sterling Barkley, pastor at Greater Tanner Chapel AME Church of Quincy came forward and gave the Invocation. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda and Mr. Presnell added Item 10-A and said Items 16 and 17 would be pulled from tonight's meeting.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO ADD ITEM 10-A AND TO PULL ITEMS 16 AND 17.**

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. ITEMS 16 AND 17 WERE REMOVED.**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

Chair Hinson introduced some guests tonight, Mrs. Ward and Mr. Andre Barnes, teachers from East Gadsden High School and Devonte Kenon, an art student from East Gadsden, who drew portraits of the Board members during the meeting.

**1. Pat Thomas Insurance Presentation**

**John Pat Thomas, Pat Thomas and Associates Insurance**, appeared before the Board and presented a return in premium check in the amount of \$38,816 and stated it represented that the property trust was profitable and the company returned money back to the members.

**CLERK OF COURTS**

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

Clerk Thomas had previously forwarded a financial analysis to the Board and explained the general fund balance.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the fund balance was an unrestricted balance and asked the

Board their opinion of taking a portion of the balance and setting it aside as an emergency fund.

Clerk Thomas liked the idea.

Commissioner Taylor commented that the fund balance was designed for emergency use and did not want to restrict funding because there were restrictions in place already.

Commissioner Croley commented if they would adhere to the budget that was set, they would achieve what Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Taylor were talking about.

Commissioner Holt agreed the budget was already set, but there needed to be a plan on how to make the money grow.

### **CONSENT**

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRINTED.**

- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills**
- 5. Approval of Proclamation Declaring the Month of November “Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month” in Gadsden County**
- 6. Approval of Resolution Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gadsden County Courthouse**
- 7. Approval to Accept the FY 2013 Preliminary 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report**
- 8. Approval to Accept the FY 2014/15 Proposed Budget Calendar**
- 9. Approval of 2014 County Commission Meeting Calendar**
- 10. Approval of Contractual Agreement Between Centurylink and Gadsden County**
- 10A. Letter of Support for Neighborhood Medical Center**

### **ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

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

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**11. Somos Uno, Inc. v. City of Midway and Gadsden County/High Bluff Court Quitclaim Deed to City of Midway**

Chair Hinson introduced the above item and Mr. Presnell explained this was the last order of

business with the settlement agreement regarding the lawsuit.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER CROLEY CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Croley asked the attorney if the deed had been obtained from the other party and Mr. Weiss stated yes.

**THE CHAIR CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM.**

Commissioner Holt said when the annexation takes place in Midway, the Board should be involved.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they had any authorization or legal right to involve themselves in such.

Commissioner Holt explained it had happened before with two other cities.

**12. Community Organizations-Budget Procedures for Requesting Funding**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was requesting the Board to establish a procedure to streamline non-profit requests for budgeting.

Commissioner Taylor had questions for the Administrator concerning the application packet.

Jeff Price appeared before the Board to explain the process and he and Mr. Presnell said this would help streamline everything.

There was more discussion among the Board regarding this matter.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.**

**13. Gadsden County Development Council Support Services Contract**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and added the correct total should be \$75,000 as opposed to the \$70,000 reflected in the attachment.

Commissioner Holt stated she was a little surprised by this item, there needed to be a plan in place for the County and then they could look at funding.

Commissioner Taylor said at the beginning of the year they funded the Economic Development Council to do economic development and they had not, as a Board, considered funding the Chamber and if both agencies were funded, it might send out mixed messages. She added jobs were not being developed and there were two entities that they were trying to fund with neither one having a plan, it was not functional and was not smart spending.

Commissioner Morgan asked the Board to consider a different approach and to try to maximize a return on the investment and one way was to invest in the economic arm of the Chamber for this

year. He added that the expertise of the Chamber was needed because each year they have been a partner and they had met the requirements of the agreement without exception.

Commissioner Croley asked if this money was in the budget and was told as a line item, no. He then asked had there been a formal request for funding from the Gadsden County Development Council and Mr. Presnell said no. Commissioner Croley then said he appreciated what the Chamber had done for the County in the past and a decision had been made by the majority of the Board that they were going in a different direction and they may need to re-evaluate at a later date. He further stated it was premature for the Board to consider this without some input from the Gadsden County Development Council and they needed to govern themselves by sticking to the budget and he would like to see this postponed until a later date until they received more information.

**David Gardner, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, 222 West Sharon Street, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board and said the Chamber had continued to work on economic development for the benefit of the County.

Chair Hinson had previously mentioned a retreat and stated he thought a retreat would be beneficial to give them an opportunity to further discuss economic development along with other matters.

**Commissioner Morgan made a motion to approve the item and it died for lack of second.**

**COMMISSIONER CROLEY MADE A MOTION TO TABLE UNTIL THEY RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE GCDC AND WAS SECONDED BY CHAIR HINSON. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD COMMENTS.**

Commissioner Holt stated she did not agree to table the item, but to have it brought back after the Chamber and the GCDC had a chance to meet and develop a plan.

Commissioner Croley said that was his intent with his motion.

Commissioner Taylor commented that the Chamber was already a part of the GCDC and the Chamber was seeking additional funding and the true focus needed to be to make a solid plan, come together as one and stick with the budget.

Commissioner Morgan asked the Administrator the title of Ms. Kirkland and what she was being paid for. Mr. Presnell said it would be settled on Tuesday and her business was Beth Kirkland and Associates and she had agreed to develop a plan, attend meetings, and work with stakeholders. Commissioner Morgan asked how much of her time and expertise would they get if she were not paid and Mr. Presnell responded not very much. He then asked how much time and expertise would be received from the economic development arm of the Chamber if they did not invest in their value.

Commissioner Croley stated he appreciated comments from Commissioner Morgan, this was not in the budget and there had been no request from the Chamber and it seemed logical for the Chamber to get together with the Council, a business plan be developed together and then it be presented to the Board for consideration and the sooner done the better everyone would be.

Commissioner Holt stated the reason she could not support to table this matter was it was not coming from the economic development council, whom they had hired.

Commissioner Croley asked to withdraw his motion and wanted to change the wording from “tabled” to “deferred”.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY TO DENY THE CONTRACT AT THIS TIME, BUT TO ALLOW THE STAKEHOLDERS TO MEET TO FORMULATE A CONTRACT, BUT BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD COMMENTS.**

Commissioner Morgan said if the Board did not choose to invest in the Chamber, they would not be able to spend a lot of time with GCDC without funding the Chamber, because they were being asked to take their efforts away from what they do as a Chamber and put their focus on this and the Board would be trading out their time and expertise for a dollar amount.

**THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.**

Commissioner Croley asked to clarify one thing before leaving this item and asked Mr. Thomas if something was not in the budget, would it require a public hearing before the money could be disbursed.

Mr. Thomas responded that the money would be taken from the budgeted reserve for contingency and was not the fund balance.

**14. Discussion of County Commissioners’ Travel Policy**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the Assistant County Manager had polled surrounding counties regarding their travel policies.

Commissioner Morgan said his thoughts were it was a sound policy and he would like to keep it in place.

Commissioner Croley said he would like to hear from the Clerk because it was his opinion the auditors had come up with this policy.

Mr. Thomas explained Finance goes by the Board’s policy and deferred this to the County Attorney because he wanted to make sure nothing conflicted with the Florida Statutes. He added if no-one approved the travel, then Finance would probably have to insist that once the line item for travel is expended, Finance would not cut a check until the budget was amended.

Commissioner Croley agreed with Commissioner Morgan that it has been a good policy and has worked well in the past.

Commissioner Holt said it had been both ways and then moved to a process where the travel was divided between the five commissioners and the Chair signed off when any commissioner was traveling and the Vice Chair signed off when the Chair traveled. She added that the reason some of the counties do it that way was so the public wouldn’t know when the Commissioner was

traveling and advertise the fact that their home might be vacant because of safety issues.

Commissioner Taylor agreed with Commissioners Croley and Morgan, but suggested the information to be limited that the public received and the amount of the expense be approved.

Chair Hinson said all the small counties were going with the policy they were discussing and Gadsden County was the only county in the State of Florida with this particular policy.

Commissioner Morgan asked outside of the information on the agendaed item, what was the problem with policy and Chair Hinson responded none.

Chair Hinson explained the only problem was, with the School Board and other counties, the Chairman signed off on it.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the general public had a right to know how their tax dollars were being spent and if the Commissioner was traveling. He suggested keeping the details out of the agenda item and keeping the policy in place.

Chair Hinson said he valued the Board and did not think any of them would take advantage of the system in that way. He further stated he thought the County needed to get in line with everyone else in the State and he did not think anyone would abuse it and it never happened with the School Board.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO KEEP THE POLICY, BUT ELIMINATE THE INFORMATION THAT WOULD COMPROMISE THEIR SECURITY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WAS DISCUSSION CALLED FOR BY COMMISSIONER HOLT.**

Commissioner Holt said they were skirting the issue and not fixing it and said if they took the name and date off so no-one knew who and when they were going, nothing was accomplished.

Commissioner Croley said he supported what Commissioners Taylor and Morgan have said and thought the issue was the public had a right to know who is spending their money, where they were going and the dates they were traveling. He added he thought the Chair's issue was it being advertised in such a way that a criminal element may result. He added that the travel policy covered the employees of the Board as well as the Commissioner.

Chair Hinson said the employees travel did not come before the Board.

Commissioner Holt asked if it worked for the employee, why not use it for the Commissioners.

Chair Hinson said to treat the Board members the same as the employees.

They asked for the attorney to interpret and clarify the policy.

Mr. Weiss said there were multiple ways to interpret it, the way it was currently written, it read "The Board shall approve the travel of Commissioners" and he interpreted that to be the whole Board would approve, but it did not specify when. He further added that they did not receive

advance pay and it should not be a problem to bring it as an agenda item after and ask for approval.

Both Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Taylor pointed out there was a motion on the floor.

**CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. CHAIR HINSON OPPOSED.**

Commissioner Croley asked that the Clerk's Office work with the Attorney and the Administrator to come up with what the Board meant by "approve".

Clerk Thomas added that nothing had changed what his interpretation was that it comes before the Board to be approved and if that was not the way the Board wanted, they needed to vote specifically to say it did not need to be approved by the Board.

**15. Approval of Contract with Capital City Bank to Purchase a New EMS Facility**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and reminded the Board this had been before them before and it sought board approval of the contract with Capital City Bank to purchase the Thomas Motor Cars property to be used as the EMS facility.

Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Croley moved approval simultaneously.

Commissioner Taylor said she had one question first and asked if there was a second since both Commissioners had made the motion to approve.

Chair Hinson said they would discuss it then they would move to the vote.

Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to make sure there would be no costs to the County and asked the status of the tanks in the ground.

Mr. Presnell said the tank had been removed and there had been an environmental study done of the site.

Commissioner Taylor wanted to make sure that the retrofitting of the building would be covered by the grant and would not be a cost to the County.

**COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER CROLEY SECONDED. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.**

She said tanks were removed, but asked about contamination of the area.

Mr. Presnell said an assessment of the site had been done by a certified geologist and the result should be in their agenda packets and it showed that the site was clean.

There was further discussion among the Board concerning contamination.

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

**Tommy Baker, EMS Director**, appeared before the Board to answer questions the Board had.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was a warranty on who would be liable if contamination was found and Mr. Baker said all they had was the study that showed the assessment did not identify or recognize any environmental conditions and based on the evaluation an additional evaluation of the property was not warranted.

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

Commissioner Croley informed the Board there was a form of insurance that could be purchased that would provide a long term effect of any pollution liability that the seller or the County could purchase and it could probably be part of the grant and there was a very niche market to protect the buyer in case pollution was later discovered.

Commissioner Holt stated the seller or the company needed to buy the policy, not the buyer.

**Walter McPherson, President, Capital City Bank**, appeared before the Board and explained the Board had hired a professional that inspected the property and gave a clean inspection. He informed the Board if the inspector suspected there was contamination, he would recommend ordering a phase two audit.

**Sterling Bryant, Capital City Bank, 1301 Metropolitan Blvd., Tallahassee, FL**, appeared before the Board and stated the Bank had an independent environmental evaluation done in 2009 at the time of the foreclosure and it came back clean and was done by a separate company from the one the County utilized. He added with that, there had been two environmental audits done and both showed it had not advanced to a Phase Two.

Commissioner Croley asked if they had a copy of the audit and if it had been made available to the Commissioners.

Mr. McPherson said the Bank would be happy to provide the Commissioners with a copy of the audit.

Commissioner Holt said she would still like to have insurance and said she could not vote for it because of safety issues.

Mr. Bryant pointed out the site was not on any DEP list for red flags for contamination.

**CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE.  
COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

~~16. Amendment of Chapter 66, Article II, Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) by Adoption of Ordinance 2013-009 Item Pulled~~

~~17. Appointment of Members to the Gadsden County Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) & Adoption of Resolution 2013-031 Item Pulled~~



**18. Approval of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Contract Modification #1 with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)-Canty Lane Disaster Recovery**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking Board approval in asking for an extension on CDBG grant for Canty Lane.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**19. Update on Board Requests**

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the upcoming courthouse celebration that was scheduled for Friday, December 6th at 3:00 p.m. and the Christmas celebration following at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

He commented that regarding the budget the building fund had not been sustaining itself and expenses had been removed in the current year budget and said the Administration was aware of the need to watch dollars.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**20. Update on Various Legal Issues**

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available if anyone had any questions.

Commissioner Croley asked if progress had been made regarding how to handle code enforcement violations and how to replenish funds that had been expended.

Mr. Weiss responded that the code enforcement procedure that had been adopted by ordinance and was a very specific procedure that was outlined by state statute and provided for collection, but that did not mean that monies would be recovered immediately and that the money may never be recovered.

Commissioner Croley asked if liens would cover all property owned by the offender and if they could collect if the owner should sell or attempt to dispose of other property owned by them.

Mr. Weiss responded yes and explained it effectively was a judgment that becomes a lien not only against the property in violation but also against other property owned by the violator.

Commissioner Croley asked if interest accrued on this and Mr. Weiss explained interest accrued in accordance with Florida Statutes.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**21. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County**

**Commissioner Taylor, District 5**

Commissioner Taylor said she had “heard rumblings” about possible grants for parks and didn’t know if that had been allocated already, but asked that it be placed on an upcoming agenda for further discussion.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THIS MATTER PLACED ON THE AGENDA.**

**Sidewalks**

She said this initiative had been started, but had run into a block wall because of lack of adequate funding and asked that they keep their “ears to the ground” and watch for grants and suggested the need for a survey to determine areas where sidewalks could be used; the most needed where foot traffic was the heaviest.

Commissioner Croley shared a safety program called “Community Traffic Safety Team” and said many areas in the county has been asking for sidewalks for children traveling to school safely. He encouraged the commission to send a representative to represent the Board to show where sidewalks are needed.

Commissioner Taylor said she appreciated the source that Commissioner Croley had identified, but asked that they not limit it to just the one source because so many areas needed sidewalks aside from school areas.

Mr. Presnell said pedestrian traffic qualified and schools helped.

**Private Roads**

She asked when this item was coming back and Mr. Presnell said hopefully would be on the next agenda.

**Economic Council**

She asked what municipalities were contributing to the Economic Council.

Mr. Presnell said a meeting was scheduled for Tuesday and he would get back with the board.

Commissioner Taylor said there still were a lot of unanswered questions and she felt like there needed to be a meeting set up with the board and the council to have unanswered questions addressed.

Mr. Presnell said the meeting scheduled for Tuesday was to finalize the contract with Beth Kirkland and the plan was to move forward and develop a plan and then have the Council appear on a regular basis to update the board regularly.

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

**Change in Seating Arrangement for Board**

*Before the start of the meeting, Chair Hinson changed the seating arrangement of the Commissioners and was faced with dissatisfaction from Commissioner Taylor.*

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

Commissioner Taylor expressed her feelings that the seating arrangement should have been addressed prior to the meeting and they should have received to discuss same. She added “if we want to see respect, then show respect”.

**Commissioner Morgan, District 3**

Commissioner Morgan stated he was embarrassed for the Board on how the meeting was started tonight, particularly with guests being present. He added he thought there was a responsibility as commissioners to respect their Chair and if there was an issue as to what happened, there was a time to work things out in private and then address it following the meeting.

**Ethics Training**

He reminded the Board that ethics training needed to be completed by the end of the year.

**TDC Appointment**

He also said there was a new TDC appointment that needed to be made by the Chair and he added he was currently serving on that Council and would not be a candidate and requested that he select someone else.

**Commissioner Croley, District 2**

Commissioner Croley said he did not want to get bogged down with details of where everyone sat, to move onward and upward.

*Commissioner Morgan left the meeting.*

He said he wanted to continue to ask the commission to please provide him with lists of roads and projects that the commission could formally approve so he could present it to the CRTPA and it needed to be connector roads that he could advocate for to be able to get state and federal funding.

He said the first phase of the by-pass was moving along and would it be around the Fall of 2014 before it was completed. He said there were three things The Board needed to help with the project and protect it:

- Make sure the area around it, even though it was a DOT road, had limited access;
- Environmental concerns-did not need people parking and fishing off bridges;
- Economic development aspect to help move truck traffic, need to make sure they keep the emphasis of limited access and protect the environment.

He asked if the Board had no objections, that Mr. Presnell review these matters with the Growth Management and made sure county had done what was needed.

Chair Hinson said Commissioner Holt’s comments were next, but asked that they pause for a moment for a picture with the teachers and the student from East Gadsden since they had completed their portraits and the teachers and student would be able to leave. He then asked them to step to the podium and introduce themselves.

**Andre Barnes, Art teacher, East Gadsden High School**, appeared before the Board and said this was his third year teaching there. He also said the young man present had competed in an international competition where he was designing a cover for the London branch of the iPad and had come in sixth place.

**Devonte Kenon**, 16 years old, eleventh grade art student at East Gadsden High School, appeared before the Board. He said he had been drawing his whole life.

**Mrs. Wade**, teacher at East Gadsden High School appeared before the Board and thanked them for allowing them to come and showcase some of their abilities.

Mr. Barnes and Mr. Kenon shared the portraits they had drawn during the meeting with the Board.

**Commissioner Holt, Vice Chairman, District 4**

Commissioner Holt mentioned the paving bond and asked about the possibility of doing a smaller bond with less payment so it could be paid off in less time.

**Economic Development**

She mentioned CDBG grants and said if it did not work out with the bank, she would like to see if there was something out there that would help foster economic development. She said they had discussed earlier the elementary school in Havana. If the school board was willing to let the County have that facility, could the County apply for a CDBG to use the school as a business incubator. She further stated if the grant was not obtained for the EMS facility, she would like to see one applied for this.

**Seating**

She said they had discussed earlier the seating arrangement and it was very disturbing simply because since she had been on board, the Chairman decided who sat where. She added it was the policy and procedure of this Board that the Chairman ran the meeting and hoped this could be taken care of. She added she hated sitting where she had previously been because the air blew on her and she was always cold, but added she was here for a purpose of taking care of business and if it were uncomfortable, it was only for a few hours twice a month. She also said she would like for them to work together, but bottom line was the Chairman had the say-so over the meeting.

**Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1**

Chair Hinson said his Grandmother, who had recently passed away, always told him “you could catch more flies with honey than vinegar” and all his life, he’s been positive and added he thought he had been one of the nicest commissioners on the Board and been fair. He said, “As a Commissioner you represent your district and how you act is a reflection of your district, the way you act as a commissioner; as a person, how you act and respond I’m pretty much a reflection of my parents, a reflection on my Grandmother. I don’t want to disappoint them knowing that I was acting wrong.” He added the reason he chose to change the seating arrangement was this was the way the Florida High School Athletics Association Board of Directors had it set up with the Executive Director on one side and the County Attorney on the other in case he had a question. He added that he was lucky in that he was one of the youngest persons to ever serve

on the school board and probably one of the few now youngest to serve as a Commissioner. He said he would hear things in the community and he was one of the most “popular brothers in Gadsden County, just as popular as anyone in Quincy, anyone in Chattahoochee, anywhere else because I’m always assessable, always helpful”. He said he didn’t want to make a scene tonight and everyone was here to work together. He added there was no reason for him to run for office if he knew he could not get anything and “that was the reason I did not run for State House, probably would have been a slam dunk, but I know I can’t get anything accomplished, but I can get things accomplished here because I’ve got four good board members on this board and we are going to work together...”

He then added that along with the paving, he would like to look at lighting outside because the buses come early and doesn’t drop the kids off until dark, and maybe they could partner with the School Board to see where lighting could be utilized.

He concluded with saying, “Shifts happen, which means you have to change with things, we can’t get upset, especially when someone’s positive to you. I mean, if I did something wrong to anybody, Lord have mercy, just tell me. Everybody know, I hadn’t done anything wrong. But I’m not gonna miss any sleep at night, of course. But shifts happen. I remember the story about the saber tooth tiger. I told the story when I was teaching ESE. I told the story about this saber tooth tiger, right? This saber tooth tiger was the king of Florida, (inaudible) Florida was still a wetland. This saber tooth tiger was the king of this area in Florida, right? The only animal he was going after was the mammoth and that was his favorite dish the mammoth. The mammoth knew that he couldn’t compete with the saber tooth tiger then he heard that the humans were coming in. So the mammoth left, right. The saber tooth tiger stayed in Florida ‘cause he said that’s how it’s always been, I’m gonna do what I can, right, it’s always been that way. So his only dish was the rats and rabbits and everything else. Even the rabbits adapted to change. They started blending in with the logs, the rats, everything started changing, blending in with the dirt, everything. Everybody blended in with the change except for who, the saber tooth tiger. Last time I checked, the rabbits are still around today, the rats still around today and also the mammoth, the elephant is still around today, right? The only person that is not here today is who, the saber tooth tiger. “

#### **RECEIPT AND FILE**

- A. November 5, 2013 letter from Florida Department of Revenue (Maximum Millage Levy Calculation Final Discharge
- B. November 5, 2013 Letter from Florida Department of Revenue (TRIM Certification)
- C. Clerk’s Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balance-Budget & Actual (FYE 09/30/2013)
- D. July 2013 to September 2013 Electronic Report from the Clerks of Court operations Corporation

#### **DECEMBER MEETING(S)**

- December 17, 2013, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
December 3, 2013 – Regular Public Meeting

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:46 P.M.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**ERIC F. HINSON, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**