

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON DECEMBER  
17, 2013 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric 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 6:01 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence in honor of Nelson Mandela, who had recently passed and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by the Deputy Clerk.

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

Chair Hinson said he had one award to present and the Board then recognized Robert Presnell for 15 years of service to the County.

**CLERK OF COURT**

**1. County Finance and County Clerk Issues**

Mr. Thomas said he had a correction to a statement he had made at the last meeting and commented at that time he was asked how much was budgeted for the 2014 reserve for contingency and the amount should be \$50,000 instead of \$200,000 and the second part of the question concerned spending and if the \$50, was spent within the general fund it would only require a budget amendment, but if it was spent from the reserves or cash balances, it would require a public hearing.

**CONSENT**

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

-November 19, 2013

3. **Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills**
4. **Approval of Resolution for New Chairman’s Facsimile Stamp**

**ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

**CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

**Emily Rowan, Chairperson of the Gadsden County Library Commission, 1200 Little Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board to give everyone a short snapshot of the county libraries at work. She shared that the Gadsden County Library now had a Facebook page and encouraged everyone to like the page. She also passed out a copy of a Gadsden County crossword puzzle that had been prepared by Andie Blount, a library staff member.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**5. Public Hearing-Amendment of Chapter 66, Article II, Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) by Adoption of Ordinance 2013-009**

Mr. Presnell introduced this item and said the only change on this was amending the number of members from an eleven (11) member board to a seven (7) member board advisory committee.

Commissioner Croley said he noticed that Exhibit A that showed the housing initiatives was followed by another Exhibit A and asked why and which one applied to the ordinance.

**Allara Gutcher, Director of Planning and Community Development**, appeared before the Board and explained one was the “clean” version so they could follow it better and the other had the red strikethrough that reflected the changes.

Commissioner Croley had other questions.

**Phyllis Moore, SHIP Administrator**, appeared before the Board to further explain everything and clarified that everything would remain as is; this was only changing the number of board members from eleven to seven and it would be a dual board to serve with Community Development and SHIP.

Commissioner Taylor asked if a new board would be selected at this time.

Ms. Moore explained that an advertisement had been published and they had applications from interested individuals and she further explained there were certain criteria that needed to be followed and individuals had to meet certain qualifications.

Ms. Gutcher explained the board members themselves was the next agenda item, this item was simply decreasing the board member number from eleven to seven.

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

**6. Public Hearing-Amendment of Chapter 5, Development Standards; Section 5800, Communication Towers**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated they were not asking to move forward with this, but Ms. Gutcher had said because of the ordinance change, Planning and Zoning had a lot of questions and requested a workshop regarding this matter.

**Michael Dorian, 145 Alligator Run, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board concerning the item and was sworn in by the deputy clerk. He said he had concerns regarding this ordinance. He added it was his opinion this proposal needed to be voted down, the ordinance was working as it was and was in favor of workshops being held regarding this matter.

**Ed Allen, 268 Chinquapin Way, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk and also said he was in support of workshops for this item.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out this was not a quasi-judicial hearing and citizens did not need to be sworn in.

**Wayne Hawthorne, 804 Frank Smith Road, Quincy**, appeared before the Board and stated he wanted to go on record to say he thought the cell tower issue needed to be voted down the way it was, but would like to see it go to a workshop so everyone could get involved in where the towers were placed.

**Marion Lasley, 5 Dante Court, Quincy, FL** appeared before the Board and was in favor of workshops concerning this item.

**Anthony Arnold, 28852 Blue Star Highway**, appeared before the board and stated he was on the original Planning and Zoning board and very much in favor of a workshop.

**Larry Ganus, 2174 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL** appeared before the Board and said the P&Z intent was to table the motion and somehow the word “table” was left out of the motion and he encouraged the Board to remand it back to P&Z for their decision.

Commissioner Morgan asked if Ms. Gutcher could step back to the podium to address questions he had.

Commissioner Croley stated he was of the opinion the process worked well and had a question for Ms. Gutcher. He asked if the County had a master cellular service plan as part of their comp plan showing where there were dark areas and the need for service. He added he thought the first process before changing the cellular tower process was to see where dark areas were in the county.

Mr. Presnell said they had been reviewing current codes and they were simply asking the Board to allow this matter to go back to P&Z to address.

Commissioner Holt said she felt there should be a joint workshop with P&Z and County Commission

Commissioner Taylor agreed with Mr. Ganus to remand this back to P&Z for them to gather more information and then meet jointly.

**COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE MOTION TO SEND BACK TO PLANNING AND ZONING AND MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.**

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY TO NOT ADOPT ORDINANCE 2013-011 AND TO NOT SEND BACK TO PLANNING AND ZONING, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Holt commented this needed to be work shopped jointly with Planning and Zoning and the Board.

Commissioner Croley added that he agreed with Commissioner Holt on having workshops, but under his time he would ask the Board to approve an effort to develop a master cellular communication plan for the County, which would help deal with and identify dead zones.

Chair Hinson asked Mr. Presnell the purpose for bringing this item back for a workshop. Mr. Presnell said their recommendation was for the Board to instruct the staff to go back and have a workshop with all interested parties.

**CHAIR CALLED FOR VOTE. BOARD VOTED 2-3. COMMISSIONERS HOLT, TAYLOR AND HINSON OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.**

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE OPTION TWO. COMMISSIONERS CROLEY AND MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.**

Commissioner Croley stated for a point of clarification, this did not change or adopt the ordinance, it would just send this back to P&Z for workshop.

Commissioner Taylor stated Planning and Zoning may send back a different item and to say the contents would be the same was not right.

**7. Public Hearing-Amendment of Chapter 6, Subdivision of Land, Section 6000, Establishment for Subdivision of Land, Subsection 6600, Family Exemption**

Mr. Presnell said this item was regarding land development regulations and subdivision of property when such property was deeded to an immediate family member. He further explained this item went before Planning and Zoning and their vote was 8-4 that it not be adopted.

**Michael Dorian, 145 Alligator Run, Quincy, FL** appeared before the Board and stated it was his opinion the County should go back to one subdivision per families. He was against going to three and felt three could cause urban sprawl and would threaten the aquifer; infrastructure would have to increase along with emergency services. He thought it would be beneficial to be work shopped, move slowly and look for alternatives.

**Diane Sheffield, 1291 Tallavana Trail, Havana, FL** appeared before the Board and stated she had served on the Planning and Zoning Board for a long time and the Immediate Family Exemption was sunsetted for very good reasons and many, many meetings were spent discussing this item. She added the way Florida Statutes laid this out, it was intended to divide land among immediate family members to homestead to live there, but it has not worked out that way. She asked that they not go backwards and re-adopt what was a huge problem, but to move forward instead.

**Ed Allen, 268 Chinquapin Way, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board and said the ordinance sunsetted several years ago and Planning and Zoning had discussed this in length during the EAR

amendments and they decided to let it sunset because there were too many problems the way it was.

**Anthony Arnold, 28852 Blue Star Highway, Havana, FL 32333**, appeared before the Board and stated he also was on the Planning and Zoning Board at time this was sunsetted and encouraged the Board to workshop this matter.

**Marion Lasley, 5 Dante Court, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board and said she agreed with everything the many Planning and Zoning board members had said.

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

She further stated she foresaw problems if this were not well planned out.

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

She also stated the minutes from the meeting had not been included in the packet so the Board was not aware of the discussions they had and what their concerns were and thought they should be presented in the future if it was going to be an issue that was to be discussed so they could read first-hand what was conversed at those meetings. She concluded by stating she was not in favor of the proposal and asked that they deny it.

**David Trauchand, 28 Blue Heron Ct., Havana, FL**, appeared before the Board and explained the reason there were no minutes was because there was no meet in December to approve the minutes from the November meeting. He added that the proposal for homesteading was turned down by the Planning Commission as they had no interest in doing a workshop on it, was not recommended for the Board to proceed with this and felt there were too many problems with this.

**Larry Ganus, 2174 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL** appeared before the Board and said this issue had been around as long as he has been on the Planning Commission and he was winding up his ninth year and felt whatever was written would be acceptable to too many people. He further added that this particular proposal had things in it different from any other seen on this issue, but was all based on the fact that this particular state law provision was still in our comp plan; however, the planning commission approved the removal of that section of the comp plan because it had been sunsetted. He added he personally felt this was a detriment and did not move to the country to live with people at his front door. He encouraged the Board to not approve this item and move forward with the EAR amendments.

Commissioner Croley said since he has been a commissioner he has seen problems with this matter, this was not workable and thought was a bad idea to go back to the way things were.

Commissioner Holt said people were crying now because they own nine acres of land and was unable to put a residence on it. She added there were two sides to this and they were here to represent all the people, not one or two.

Commissioner Morgan said there was a valid argument for both sides, but what he had heard consistently was the cons and problems far outweigh any benefits and he did not think this was the best solution to address those that needed the help and he did not support it. He asked the plan to move forward with the EAR amendments.

Mr. Presnell said they started working on the EAR amendments when Ms. Gutcher came on

board, but they had to update the data and analysis first. She then came forward to further explain.

Commissioner Taylor said in listening to the comments concerning urban sprawl, her issue was no more land was being made, but the population was growing and there was a need for smart growth and development for the county. She asked if something could be put into play to protect the property owner.

Mr. Presnell said there was a three year limit and after that time, there were no restrictions and the property could be sold to whomever they wanted.

Commissioner Taylor asked how to control clusters and added she was not in favor of clusters, but was in favor of smart growth and development and was in favor of this item.

Mr. Presnell stated this was for three acre tracts, not a ½ acre tract.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED COMMISSIONER MORGAN CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Morgan asked if this would require a simple majority or four votes to approve.

Mr. Presnell responded it was a text amendment and would require a simple majority vote.

There were questions regarding this being a text amendment, Mr. Weiss explained it was a text amendment and required a simple majority vote.

Commissioner Croley said he was very sympathetic, but in this county today, if all the subdivisions were counted that were approved, there were probably 100 years supply of lots with single family dwellings, showing there was no shortage of single family lots. He indicated by doing this, they were giving a “special right to a few not enjoyed by the many”.

Chair Hinson commented he thought an intense workshop was needed on this matter and he was concerned that the property would not be able to be sold at all and asked Mr. Weiss to explain that again.

Mr. Weiss explained the way it was written it says “The property solely as a homestead by an individual who is a relative” and the question becomes could it only be sold, if sold at all, to a relative or would this ordinance provide, after three years, that this no longer applies. He further added if they stated the property had to remain with the family for the rest of time, the potential would be created to not be able to sell the property to anyone.

**CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS MORGAN AND CROLEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.**

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **8. Appointment of Members to the Gadsden County Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) & Adoption of Resolution 2013-031**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it related to an earlier item and was to approve seven members to the Community Development Advisory Committee that was previously

approved.

Commissioner Croley moved for approval if there was no discussion.

Commissioner Taylor looked at some of applicants and commented that some were from out of town and asked if they did not want ensure that there were local residents and did not see applicants from every district.

Phyllis Moore appeared before the board and explained the process of advertising for the applicants.

Commissioner Taylor said she was not trying to abate the process; she just wanted to make sure there was equal representation.

Commissioner Morgan said it was always good when there were seven active people who wanted to serve. He added he did agree with Commissioner Taylor's point of view in having representation from each district.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, THE COUNTY ATTORNEY POINTED OUT THE BOARD NEEDED TO APPROVE MEMBERS.**

Ms. Gutcher appeared before the board and discussed the criteria for the appointed members.

Phyllis Moore appeared before the board to give the list of the needed members.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE BOARD MEMBERS. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.**

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2013-031.**

- 9. Approval of Reappointments/Appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council**  
**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**10. Accepting Existing Non-Maintained Roads**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said Staff was looking for private dirt roads where the citizens along the roadway were in 100% agreement and willing to deed land to the County at their expense to maintain the road that were 100% maintainable and had no up-front, out-of-pocket expenses to the County.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell if the dirt roads would be paved.

Mr. Presnell responded that they would not.

Commissioner Taylor mentioned millings and said she was not a supporter of millings, but it was better than dirt and asked the possibility of obtaining millings to use on the roadways.

Commissioner Croley said DOT was not cooperating with millings because they were now being used on resurfacing roads. He added that sometimes they might be successful in purchasing millings from some of the road contractors that were willing to sell.

Commissioner Taylor said the county was two to three years out from satisfying the paving bond.

Mr. Presnell confirmed there were 4 payments left on the bond.

**Larry Ganus, 2174 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL** appeared before the board and asked to speak because he had lived on a dirt road for 20 years. He added that there were 2.6 miles of dirt road and the property owners came up with homeowners' association dues to help with maintenance of the road. He added he had taken on using his tractor to help maintain the road and they have been using their money on crushed concrete, but it was expensive also. He added he thought the County owed them something for their maintaining the road and added they pay taxes like everyone else in the County but receive none of the services everyone else received. He encouraged the Board to continue on with this and maybe appoint a citizens' committee to help develop this.

Commissioner Holt said she took a beating when she suggested a \$10 Million bond and if they had done \$25 Million as she had wanted to do, they could have paved all the dirt roads.

Chair Hinson said they were not talking about paving with this item, just maintaining at this time.

Commissioner Croley said the issue that comes up was using county equipment to maintain private roads without being compensated by property owners and he did not think they should do so without someone on the private side paying for it. He added they were supposed to have a procedure in place to start the paving process, but whoever set up that Ordinance did not do it properly and the Tax Collector could not levy the liens, but that had since been corrected. He expressed the County was part of four other counties on maintaining roads and they have to justify what they do and they were not keeping up with the present roads and they need to keep up, but it needs to be done in the correct manner.

Commissioner Taylor said the County was spending \$900,000/year on this debt and concurred with Commissioner Holt to look into financing this debt a little longer to be able to obtain paving dollars. She asked that they look into the bond they have for paving and look into increasing it, reduce the debt service to lower amount of payment and borrow more to be able to pave the roads.

Commissioner Morgan said the fact of going on private property was not an issue, but the concern was the current financial position of the road department and in the weak financial position, did not understand how the Department could take on more debt. He then asked Mr. Presnell if maintaining the roads would decrease, increase or keep costs the same.

Mr. Presnell said it would be about the same, the same motor grader, same people, it would slow them down, just adding scraping of the roads.

Commissioner Morgan said they would be raising expenses year after year and there would be decreased revenue year after year.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO APPROVE OPTION TWO, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED THERE WAS**



**A CALL FOR DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Presnell if this made good business sense for the County to do.

Mr. Presnell said as long as they were not discussing the paving, it did not “give him heartburn”, but discussion of paving, bridges, culverts and clearing of right-of-ways scared him.

Commissioner Croley said Mr. Ganus had made the suggestion that citizens be involved and asked if it would be prudent for the Administrator to include someone such as Mr. Ganus along with others to provide comments.

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

**11. Vendor Performance Evaluation (Legacy Marketing) from the TDC and Continuation of Service**

Mr. Presnell introduced next item and said it sought Board approval for the continuation of the agreement with Legacy Marketing.

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

Commissioner Taylor said she did not heartburn either way, but for future reference, she asked that whoever they contract show actual impact. She added that there were things going on that no matter who was marketing, would have drawn people to our county.

**Matt Thro, 302 North Main Street, Havana, FL** appeared before the Board and said he was very thrilled to have Ms. Gutcher as a part of the Council.

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

(Two videos that had been prepared by the marketing company were played.)

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

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

Commissioner Holt asked the marketing company the costs of the videos.

**Mary Kelly, of Legacy Marketing**, appeared before the Board and explained the collection of the videos were \$20,000 and the first video was being shown on the Gadsden website and the second video was part of video free roll collection that they want to use on the internet to target specific markets for people that would come to town for a ballgame, etc.

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

*Commissioner Morgan returned.*

Ms. Kelly stated they had been at every event they knew about with the exception of the Fantasia concert and they were out of the country at that time and did not know about it beforehand.

Commissioner Holt said she could not see a difference in what they were contracted for and what

was presented outside of the contract. She added that she liked the video, but the problem she had with the video was the other three towns (Gretna, Greensboro and Midway) were not included.

Ms. Kelly stated they did shoot the casino in Gretna and at the time, there was no-one in Midway to contact, but they had since made contact.

Commissioner Taylor said someone had made the statement that Legacy was overwhelmingly approved, but there were comments in the evaluations that there were issues with the services and felt Legacy was “not in tune with the vision” and they could not see the direction that Legacy was taking TDC. She added, to be fair, at least a year was needed to prove things. She also added that she thought the video could be better-rounded with a diversity of people.

Commissioner Holt asked the status of kiosks.

Mrs. Kelly said that was never in their contract and she personally did not like doing kiosks, but suggested a mobile app since most folks used their mobile phones.

Commissioner Holt asked about the billboards and where they were.

Mrs. Kelly responded they were located in Marianna and Madison on the interstate.

Chair Hinson said when they have the retreat; they needed to identify what Gadsden County was about.

Commissioner Morgan said he had been the board representative on TDC (and pointed out Chair Hinson needed to appoint a new person at the next meeting) and thought it had been a very smart move to have a six month review to help give Legacy direction on where to direct their attention. He also said in response to Commissioner Holt’s comment concerning the kiosks, he had supported that some time ago and felt that was a way for visitors and citizens to understand what was going on in the county. He further emphasized the need to “brand the county” or to market it.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

Commissioner Croley said he was sick of hearing so much about TDC and if looking for a “brand” for the county, most everyone he talks to talks about the hunting and fishing in the area.

**12. Approval of Gadsden County Enterprise Zone Boundary Amendment Resolution**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for an expansion of the Enterprise Zone and there was a correction on the map.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION**

**13. Joshua L. & Sarah E. Rudd, Parcel ID No. 3-11-2N-3W-0000-00222-03000/Code Enforcement**

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and pointed out there was a typo on the Agenda request and the County Administrator’s recommendation was Option 1.

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

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**14. Update on Board Requests**

Mr. Presnell said he had a few items:

**Transportation loan**

Mr. Presnell said using \$15 Million as an example, 15 years at a rate of 2.75%, the annual payment would be \$1.7 Million and using the current payment of \$700,000 (since re-financing the payment is now \$700,000) there was still a need to generate approximately .5¢ fuel tax to generate the remainder of the payment. He added there was no way to do that at this time without paying off the existing \$4 Million owed or generating an increase in the gas tax.

**City Contributions to Gadsden Development Council**

He said Commissioner Taylor had requested a list of the city contributions to the Gadsden Development Council and it was as follows: Greensboro \$1500; Havana \$2500; Gretna \$5000; Quincy \$10,000; Midway \$3000; and did not have Chattahoochee's amount yet.

**Tree Trimming**

He said he had met with Talquin Electric twice and the ball was now in their court, but they were working on it.

**Canty Lane**

He informed the Board there was a ground breaking ceremony scheduled for Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

**Re-entry Center**

He stated there was a ribbon cutting this morning for the facility by the law enforcement academy.

**Affordable Care Act Workshop**

Scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup> and will be sending out information regarding that.

**LAP/Safety Projects**

List being put together and will be forwarded to Commissioner Croley for safety projects.

**Bus Stop Information**

Public Works Director working on lighting and bus stop information.

**Sidewalks**

Community Traffic Safety Team received approval from DOT for Martin Luther King out to Highway 90.

**FRDAP**

To apply for this money, you have to have land owned or under lease for 30 years.

**Beautification**

Commissioner Croley said they were sitting on several thousand dollars for beautification and

asked the status of that. Mr. Presnell said the Consultant was working on changing the language and when finished, it would go to DOT for approval and can be re-bid. Commissioner Croley pointed out \$100,000 being sat on and did not want time to run out on that.

**Disposing Surplus County Property**

Asked progress of disposing surplus county property, house that was built, etc. Mr. Presnell stated it had been a bad time and had not had any success.

**Courthouse**

Commissioner Croley also said that during the Courthouse ceremony, there was standing water on courthouse grounds and asked where it came from and wanted to make sure the source was found out in case there was a leaking pipe.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**15. Update on Various Legal Issues**

Mr. Weiss had nothing to report and wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

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

**Commissioner Taylor**

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell if they were in line for RFP for professional services and asked for it in writing so she could keep abreast of it.

Said Ms. Gutchner “seemed to be with it, very bright” and wanted to know her goal on updating the comp plan and land use map. Mr. Presnell said they were going through it section by section.

Mr. Presnell said they will have a land use change to bring before the board soon with a business looking to relocate in Gadsden County.

**Commissioner Morgan**

Commissioner Morgan wanted to say for the record he had completed the ethics course and provided a Certificate of Completion for the Deputy Clerk.

**TDC**

He reminded the Chair there needed to be a new TDC appointment made.

**RFP's**

He asked about Mr. Presnell's contract along with the other professional contracts and if that information would also be sent so they could consider that as well when they were looking at the other contracts.

**Commissioner Croley**

He said he would like to ask that they agenda a discussion to build a new building for the sheriff in front of the jail.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE A NEW BUILDING**

**FOR SHERIFF PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND REPORT.**

**Cellular workshop**

He added he was interested in getting a plan in place for cell towers instead of each company building a tower.

Commissioner Holt said that was still part of the comp plan and hoped they could look into meeting an hour earlier for a workshop sometime.

**EDP costs**

He asked the status of the EDP (electronic Data Processing services) costs and knew Mr. Presnell was trying to move to the cloud base on email, etc.

**Agricultural Multi-purpose Facility**

He said the Board had approved a new facility for the agricultural multi-purpose facility and as Chair at the time, had met with various representatives and senators and Senator Montford's office had come up with a budget request form that had been completed and needed to be returned to his office. He added he did not want to return the form without the Commission knowing about it.

**Community Control**

He also said it was his opinion that communities should make decisions of what they want in their neighborhoods.

He then took the opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Commissioner Holt**

**Workshops**

Commissioner Holt requested information to be brought back to the Board for workshops to start at 5:00 so some of the issued could be addressed.

**Enterprise Zone**

She mentioned the Enterprise Zone and said the property owners and businesses needed to know what their rights were regarding that Zone.

**Affordable Health Care**

She said she was glad Mr. Presnell had brought this up.

**Sheriff's facility**

She said she was in favor of this and they needed to look at benefits, if any, of the ICE program.

**Commissioner Hinson**

**Retreat**

He said he had been discussing a retreat and thought maybe the Board could meet on an odd Tuesday and meet in the Board Chambers or a place of their choice.

Commissioner Holt said Mr. Presnell could poll everyone to see what worked for them.

He added that when he was with the School Board, they had a staffing plan and was not sure how it was done here.

Mr. Presnell said there was an Organizational Chart in place and he would provide the Chair with a copy.

**Beautification Plan**

He said when they were discussing the beautification plan, maybe they could place some palm trees at the interstate exits and this would be something to consider.

**TDC**

He asked Commissioner Holt if she would serve on the TDC.

**Receipt and File**

- a. November 25, 2013 letter from Florida Department of Health (Award of State EMS County Grant ID Code C2020 for \$12,754)
- b. Interlocal Agreement with Gadsden County School Board for Road Maintenance and Special Project Activities (October 1, 2013 Board Meeting-note additional schools added)
- c.

**January Meeting(s)**

- January 7, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- January 21, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
December 17, 2013 – Regular Public Meeting

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR  
HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:38 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**