

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JUNE 2, 2015 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:

**Present:** Brenda A. Holt, Chair, District 4  
Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1-phonied in  
Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2  
Gene Morgan, District 3-absent  
Sherrie Taylor, District 5-arrived late  
Robert Presnell, County Administrator  
David Weiss, County Attorney  
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Presnell had two items he added to the Agenda to the agenda.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.**

**9a Extension of Legal Contract**

**9b Right of Way Inter-local Agreement with the Town of Havana for Proposed 2014 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Project**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

**1. Presentation (Fracking)**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

**Amy Datz, Chair, Environmental Caucus of Florida**, appeared before the Board to ask them to join in with them to say no to fracking in Florida.

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

**Brian Lee, 1603 Sauls Street, Tallahassee, FL**, appeared before the Board and briefly explained the dangers of fracking.

**Ron Saff, Tallahassee physician**, appeared before the Board to express his view on the fracking ban.

**Diane Williams Cox**, appeared before the Board to express her view to encourage Gadsden County to keep the water clean for everyone and oppose fracking.

Chair Holt stated they would need to add this to a later Agenda to be able to vote on it.

Commissioner Taylor stated she had questions regarding the fracking and asked that everyone return (they had left the meeting).

Ms. Datz appeared before the Board to answer the questions.

Commissioner Viegbesie stated what fracking could do and read from his iPad what he had found.

There was more discussion concerning this matter.

#### **CLERK OF COURTS**

Ms. Blocker informed the Board members that Mr. Thomas was at the Clerk conference and there was nothing to report.

#### **CONSENT**

- 2. Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien(s) SHIP Program  
UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE  
BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

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

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

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 3. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of the 2015-2016 Tourist Development Strategic Plan**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for consideration of the adoption of the amended Tourist Development Strategic Plan.

**Allara Gutcher, Director of Planning and Community Development**, appeared before the Board to answer questions and presented Joe Burch, Chisano Marketing Group, who helped prepare the document.

Chair Holt stated there were no strikeout and unlined copy attached.

Ms. Gutcher said the old plan was written by the Chamber and that plan was being replaced.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his only concern was addressed by the Chair and it would be helpful to have the revisions attached to be able to view changes. He said he saw nothing wrong with the attached document, but would like to see the old document to be able to view the changes.

Commissioner Taylor asked if it was time sensitive and Ms. Gutcher said they needed it approved to work on this year's budget.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE**

**BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE FIRST MEETING IN JULY.**

**4. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance 2015-008 for the Amendment to Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Boards, Commissions and Authorities, Division 3, Tourist Development Council; and Chapter 74, Taxation, Article I, In General, Division 3, Tourist Development Tax, of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for consideration of amendments to Chapter 2 (regarding Boards and Commissions and Authorities) and Chapter 74 (regarding Taxation) of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances regarding tourism tax collection, the Tourist Development Council (TDC) and reference to the Gadsden County Tourist Development Strategic Plan.

**Allara Gutcher, Director of Planning and Community Development**, appeared before the Board and informed the Board that the amendment updated the Code of Ordinances and updated specific sections regarding Florida Statute requirements.

Commissioner Taylor asked if this had been before the Tourist Development Council and Ms. Gutcher said they had reviewed the plan but not the Codes.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he recalled from a recent meeting, they were still working on the approval of the appointment to the TDC and staff was instructed to go back and re-advertise and it come back for reconsideration and did not think that had been done yet. The Board said those positions were appointed at that meeting.

Ms. Gutcher explained the changes in the sections.

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

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

Commissioner Taylor asked since the Strategic Plan was tabled, if there would be any impact regarding this item and Mr. Weiss stated no, there was no reason to table, the old language was attached.

Commissioner Hinson commended the TDC.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he saw what was being replaced was more clear and straightforward and he had no problem with accepting what was presented.

Chair Holt said anything dealing with that Board should go to that Board, whether they have to approve or not, but had no problem with approving the item.

Chair Holt asked if there were comments from the audience and there was none.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**5. Approval to Confirm Appointment of UF/IFAS Gadsden County Extension Director**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this item was for Board confirmation of the employment of Shepard D. Eubanks as the new County Extension Director.

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

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

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**6. Public Officials Bond Reviews**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board review of the sufficiency of Bonds for County Officers.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**7. Pat Thomas Park Dock Replacement Bid Award**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to award the bid of the Pat Thomas Park Dock Replacement to Bayshore Construction, Inc. and said there was concern about the difference in the amount of the bids.

**Arthur Lawson** appeared before the Board to address questions of the Board.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his only concern was in line with concerns Commissioner Taylor had at the last meeting this was addressed and concerned the difference in the two bids. Mr. Lawson stated once the contract was signed there would be no additional change orders allowed.

**Justin Ford, Preble-Rish**, appeared before the Board to address concerns Commissioners had.

**COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND SUGGESTED IN THE FUTURE STIPULATIONS BE PUT IN PLACE TO PAY IN INSTALLMENTS. THERE WAS A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**8. Approval to Repair and Replace Electronic Locks at the Edward J. Butler Governmental Complex**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to repair and replace the outdated electronic locks at the Edward J. Butler Governmental Complex.

**Clyde Collins** appeared before the Board to address questions.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONERS TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD QUESTIONS.**

Commissioner Hinson asked if this had been advertised and Mr. Presnell said they called around

to Safetouch, and some others and it had to be a security company that provided the service. Mr. Lawson stated the policy did not require a bid if it was under \$5,000 and the total amount was approximately \$600.00.

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

Commissioner Hinson asked why this item came before the Board and Mr. Presnell stated because of the monthly fee, it was contractual and they did not enter into any contracts without Board approval.

**9. Request Direction from the Board on the Process of Reviewing the Legal Services Proposals**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board direction on the process the Board desired for the review of the Legal Services proposal.

Commissioner Viegbesie said when this was first presented he requested material and has since received it, reviewed everything and had no problem in proceeding.

Mr. Presnell said procedures Commissioner Viegbesie were referring to were the qualifications in the RFP that were required and then they were to report back to the commissioners.

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE OF THE EVALUATION PROCESS AND THERE WAS A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD COMMENTS.**

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**9a. Extension of Legal Contract**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for an extension of the legal services contract.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**9b. Right of Way Inter-local Agreement with the Town of Havana for Proposed 2014 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Project**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Havana for a proposed 2014 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Project.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**10. Update on Various Board Requests**

Mr. Presnell reminded them the second meeting in June was cancelled due to the upcoming Florida Association of Counties conference.

He said he had been working individually with commissioners regarding roads list and answering questions and would like to get the roads done in the near future.

**Retreat**

He asked for direction from commissioners as to when they would like to hold the next retreat.

He said Rutherford and Associates would start their inspection of the jail tomorrow and should have the report in a couple of weeks.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**11. Update on Various Legal Issues**

Mr. Weiss said he had emailed out the First District Court of Appeals decision regarding the casino in favor of reversing the denial of license for slot machines and there were things to still be determined.

Commissioner Holt said if no legislation came forward, We were good and there was a meeting scheduled for the next morning.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**12. Report and Discussion of Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County**

**COMMISSIONER SHERRIE TAYLOR, District 5**

Commissioner Taylor said she had nothing to report.

**COMMISSIONER ANTHONY “DR. V” VIEGBESIE, PhD., District 2**

Commissioner said some residents were upset regarding the Havana Highway and the bike lane and right of way intrusiveness of the property right of way and asked what the Board could do with FDOT to have them consider an alternative route and if that was appropriate. He asked if a workshop could be held regarding this and said no-one seemed to know how the project came into the FDOT work plan. Mr. Weiss said they had no control over FDOT projects on State roads, and they could ask for a workshop to have dialogue to alleviate concerns of the citizens, but was unsure how DOT would respond, but saw no harm in making the request.

Commissioner Viegbesie said a public hearing was held on May 12<sup>th</sup> and was packed with residents in opposition of the bike trail. He said he was looking for ways they could to this to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the County.

Chair Holt said this had been discussed among Board before and was pretty well accepted, along with the by-pass.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out this was the brainchild of former Commissioner Croley and she had had conversations with a citizen along the lines of Commissioner Viegbesie’s concerns. She added she thought people did not know all the information and were putting their own ideas on what was going to happen because no-one had formally told them how this would

work out.

Chair Holt said they needed to make sure both sides of views were heard.

Commissioner Taylor said she felt there needed to be a formal request from the Administrator on behalf of the Board to DOT to come have dialogue.

Mr. Presnell said he didn't think final designs had been completed and the Community Traffic Safety Team and the City of Quincy were against the project and there was still plenty of opportunities and it still had to go into the five year plan.

Mr. Presnell said he could request a meeting be held in this building.

**COMMISSIONER GENE MORGAN, District 3**

**COMMISSIONER ERIC HINSON, Vice Chair, District 1**

Commissioner Hinson thanked Administrator and Staff for super job being quick to respond to some issues that happened.

**Mosquitos and stray dogs**

He said the stray dogs were running people out of their communities where they could not enjoy the outside.

**Traffic lights in Concord**

He asked the outcome of that matter and Justin Ford appeared before the Board to explain the Traffic safety study that was requested in April, the application was submitted and is now in DOT's hands and it might be a few months before they heard anything.

He asked the Board to have dialogue with the Fire Department in Concord and asked that it be placed on the budget agenda.

**Gas Line that runs through Havana**

Commissioner Hinson asked if Mr. Presnell had spoken with a lady in Havana (name was inaudible) regarding an old gas line that ran from the old Havana Northside High School and through her home. Mr. Presnell said he had spoken with her several weeks ago and the line was a non-used line and had been inspected.

Chair Holt asked that Commissioner Hinson speak one-on-one with the Administrator.

**COMMISSIONER BRENDA HOLT, Chair, District 4**

Chair Holt said she would like to address attendance of commissioners and would like it placed on the agenda and a policy be written.

She further stated that Departments used to come before the Board and present their budget during budget workshop and hearings and would like to do that.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
June 2, 2015 – Regular Meeting

RECEIPT AND FILE

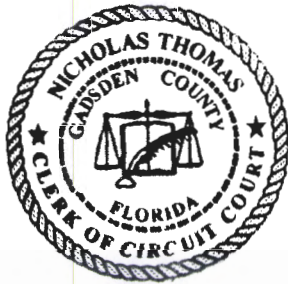
UPCOMING MEETINGS

13. June 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Cancelled

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLD DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk