

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 4, 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
 Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2
 Gene Morgan, District 3-arrived late
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5-arrived late
 Nichols Thomas, Clerk
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence.

Commissioner Morgan appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

She 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

Chair Holt asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda. Mr. Presnell said he would like to add Item 1a Legislative Report to the agenda.

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

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition Sustainable Water Management Plan
(Chad Taylor, Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition)

Chad Taylor, Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition, appeared before the Board and gave a brief update.

Commissioner Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

1a Legislative Report

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

Al Lawson and Chris Doolin, Lobbyists, appeared and Mr. Lawson spoke to the Board and gave a brief Legislative Report to the Board concerning the Legislative Session and said Gadsden County had a strong presence there. He said they were very successful in obtaining another \$250,000 to go with the previous \$250,000 for the Ag Center. He added that they were able to get funding for transportation projects, park projects and water projects and the only one that was vetoed was the Chattahoochee project that they felt was in a good position. He added they

were disappointed in the Medicaid cost share program that was taken from the budget as well. He also informed the Board that the Legislature would be meeting early and committee meetings would be starting in the early part of September. He asked the Board to prepare their legislative agenda early because Session would start in January and February.

Chair Holt asked if a workshop needed to be scheduled to prepare.

Chris Doolin appeared before the Board and said the budget process had moved up as well and agencies' budget requests needed to be submitted by September. He said the Board had "a pretty strong legislative agenda and setting your priorities is important". He also added there were some continuation issues, the Ag center project, but they had to get a handle on the Medicare cost share because it would start hitting them hard every year. He advised them to make sure their departments were getting the applications where they needed to be.

Commissioner Morgan stressed to Board the need to have the Administrator reach out to all the municipalities so they could move forward with their input.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they had looked at community centers. Mr. Lawson said they would look at whatever the County had down as a priority, but it was real difficult with community centers.

Commissioner Viegbesie thanked them both for their due diligence and good work.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was present and had nothing to report.

CONSENT

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND AND ASKED TO PULL ITEM 2 FOR CLARITY. COMMISSIONER MORGAN AMENDED HIS MOTION TO REFLECT ITEM TWO BEING PULLED. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BE VOICE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

- 2. Request Approval to Renew the Collective Bargaining Agreement between IBEW Local 2152 and Gadsden County BOCC**
- 3. Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract-SHIP Program**
- 4. Request Approval of Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan**
- 5. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. May 19, 2015-Regular Meeting**
 - b. June 30, 2015-Special Meeting**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

- 2. Request Approval to Renew the Collective Bargaining Agreement between IBEW Local 2152 and Gadsden County BOCC**

Commissioner Viegbesie said the IBEW was the local union group representing the Public Works Department and asked if there were other union groups representing the other professions in the County and if not, why not. Mr. Presnell said IBEW was the only union and they represent the non-supervisory personnel at the Public Works Department.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

6. Selection of Legal Services for Gadsden County BOCC

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for selection of legal services.

Commissioner Viegbesie said they (the Board) had talked quite a bit about this item and said “I do not have a dog in this hunt”. He said the evaluation committee, in using the criteria listed in the RFP to evaluate each firm, listed the firms that met criteria and commended and applauded the committee for doing a stupendous job. He added that to be equitable and stay within the Equal Employment Opportunities guidelines as established by Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act he felt they should, as a body, look at that item based entirely on the information submitted from each of the firms, information provided by the evaluating committee and they should be cost efficient in their selection their selection of the firm to be considerate of the taxpayers’ money and based on the information submitted, the most cost efficient firm is the Williams’s firm.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FIRM WITH THE LOWEST BID PROVIDING THE SAME SERVICES AS LISTED IN THE MATRIX OF QUALIFICATIONS AND THE ABILITY PROVIDED BY THE EVALUATING COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY.

Commissioner Hinson stated that after carefully looking at the situation, he concurred that the Williams’s firm was a sensational firm, but at the same time, too, like I said last time, I believe in doing what was right and doing what’s fair and I thought about something. I said, ‘Well, I really didn’t really get a chance to listen to the first one or one and a half and also when they called for the meeting to, for that date, but I showed up after I finished my other meeting just to show up, just to listen to one or two and it wasn’t fair for the guy like myself who scheduled the meeting wasn’t there to listen to all the attorneys that were there, and so, I thought about something. Well, maybe we need to a) I’m not sure how y’all will look at this, but ah, look at the other two options. Wait until I listen to other firms or, because I was the one that scheduled the meeting and I said when y’all came back to me, I said, that, I sent the letter, statement, back to them saying that we, if I’m not mistaken Mr. Presnell, I sent the letter back to you guys and I wasn’t able to make it to that meeting. But since someone decided to have the meeting anyway, I showed up because I know I was going to be a few minutes late. And so, ah, ah, that was a special meeting, so just wait until I listen to the other firm, I think it’s a fair thing to do, or b) We can make a vote based on what I believe today. So that’s just my humble opinion. Ah, so, if we

do the vote based on what I believe today, then maybe a different option, I'm not sure, but I like that option though.

Chair Holt asked if his second stood and he responded that his second stood "just for discussion, but my thing is that is, wait until we, at least until I hear the first one and a half first, because I don't think that's fair to them for me to make a decision based on ah, and I didn't get a chance to hear them speak. That's just my humble opinion about it, so, and I was the one who called the meeting and when they sent the word to me I said that, I sent a quick response to them that I would not be able to make it to the meeting." He went on to state that he wanted to be fair and he agreed he did not "have a dog in this fight here, it doesn't matter. It matter, I think all four attorneys is sensational, so whoever you get, you gonna have some great people anyway. Ah, but I think we can do that or, even with, I told somebody today I, I don't have no problem with David, I'm the only person on the board that like David."

CHAIR HOLT MADE THE SECOND FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Weiss stated it had been properly seconded.

Commissioner Morgan said he heard Commissioner Viegbesie say "a penny saved is a penny earned and I agree with that and I can tell you that from my experience on this Board several years ago, a penny collected was two pennies spent. We had a serious issue of how much we were spending on legal services. So I want to remind the Board of that, I'm very appreciative of those who responded to our RFP, I think we were fortunate to have learned, ah, some really good things about the firms that applied here and I am sure some of them are very qualified to represent us. I also heard that 'I don't have a dog in the fight or I don't have a dog in the hunt', well we all have a dog in this hunt because we are representing the taxpayers of this County to hire a qualified firm at a reasonable price to provide quality services and I think it's very, very important to understand that because we hire three people in this position, one of those is the County Administrator and the other one is the County Attorney. I said three and I meant two. So, it's really important we take this very seriously. That being said, I am very appreciative of the representation we have received from Ausley McMullen during the past six years, in particular regarding how they have represented us through the opening and of the hospital and the growth of the hospital. I think we are very fortunate that David and the rest of the firm has represented us well and as long as, I've just always been a person that if we, if I'm getting good service for a reasonable price, I don't see a need in changing horses and that is what I would bring to your attention tonight. I think, again, We have gotten very good representation and is in no way a slight to any of those that responded to our RFP. But I would ask this Board to really consider that and to think down the road as we continue to grow with that Hospital, we need excellent, specialized legal advice and we've got the best in the business right now and we are getting it at a very good rate for his services."

Commissioner Taylor said two things came to mind, one was local; investment in those that were local because they helped the economy in several different ways by paying utility bills, rent, etc. She said Commissioner Morgan brought up fine points regarding the hospital. She said she was hoping the Board could look at having two firms, the local firm and using the representative (Mr. Glazer) to continue for the hospital to be able to have the best of both worlds. She said the contract she was looking at was \$10,000 higher than the contract Commissioner Viegbesie was looking at, but this Board had an opportunity to negotiate with

that firm to bring the dollars to where they were comfortable. She also concurred with Commissioner Hinson that he called the meeting and he missed two of the speakers. She also said there was no urgency in this because they had an extended contract with the current county attorney and needed to take their time to see if they could come up with a 5-0 vote around the board. She agreed with Commissioner Morgan regarding the dog in the hunt and said there was 47,000 plus people that were expecting them to hunt that dog and to an effective job of capturing him and make sure they did their due diligence.

Chair Holt said there was a motion and second on the floor and they must vote on that. She said they could only look at the RFP for what was turned in by that deadline, workshop was scheduled and they came to it and they had taken up their time. She further stated the taxpayers would get their dollars' worth because they were all credible law firms and the time had come to vote.

Chair Holt then asked for a roll call vote by district:
Commissioner Hinson voted no;
Commissioner Viegbesie voted yes;
Commissioner Morgan voted no;
Commissioner Holt voted yes;
Commissioner Taylor voted no.

Chair Holt said the motion for the Williams' Law firm failed.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO RETAIN THE SERVICES FOR THE AUSLEY MCMULLEN LAW FIRM FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO HAVE AN ADVERTISED WORKSHOP TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE TWO ATTORNEYS HE MISSED AT THE ORIGINAL WORKSHOP AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. THERE WERE COMMENTS.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his only concern was if they went back to the consent agenda items, they approved their request to approve tied to 6 nondiscrimination policy and plan of the 1964 Civil Right act. He stated the same act created Title 7 of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the process the Board was currently doing was borderline in violation of that process. He added that if they were going to redo it, all firms had to be given the same opportunity and information used by all firms had to be provided for all firms. He further stated that his understanding was they could not use what they knew of a firm against the firm when they did not have the same information on the other firms.

Chair Holt said Commissioner Viegbesie said very eloquently they were about to be sued because they had not re-advertised, sent out new RFP and they could only go by what was turned in that day.

Commissioner Hinson said if they did not understand what a person asked, they should ask for clarification because to make the assumption he was trying to go against the 1964 law was farfetched. He then withdrew his motion. Chair Holt asked if Commissioner Taylor would withdraw her second and she said yes, she had no other choice.

Commissioner Morgan said he did not think the Board was violating anything and their responsibility was to give the different firms equal opportunity to respond, but they were not limited in what they gather on their own as public information that they may want to use in their decision. He asked the attorney if he was correct.

Mr. Weiss said they could not discuss among themselves any decision that was to be made there, but they could not ignore their personal knowledge.

Commissioner Morgan said he appreciated Commissioner Viegbesie's argument but it was not accurate. He then stated he thought he could solve the problem.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO HIRE THE SLIGER LAW FIRM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NABLOR GIBLIN & NICKERSON FOR GENERAL COUNCIL FOR THE BOARD FOR THREE YEAR PERIOD AND AUSLEY MCMULLEN TO HANDLE THE HSOPITAL ISSUES FOR THREE YEAR PERIOD. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. THERE WERE COMMENTS.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if that was a part of the Request for RFP that they were to get one firm for this service and another for other service. He said he was "a stickler for what the book says so when I refer to the Civil Rights Act and when people hear the word discrimination, I am, it just happened to be that one of those firms is majority African-American, if that firm were to be \$10,500 higher than any other firm, the firm with the lower bid, the lowest bid would be the one I would be selecting because the matrix said two of the firms meet all of the requirements needed in the evaluation and those were the Ausley Firm and the Williams firm. That's what the matrix that was provided to us said; these two firms meet every condition. The Sliger Firm, it says, meets capability requirements through partnership. So based on this evaluation, two of those that specifically meet the entire criteria. One met it though partnership and that one was \$10,500 more than the lowest firm that met all of the criteria. Now, I am going to go back to this, the only dog I have in this hunt is the taxpayers of Gadsden County. That is why I am saying a penny saved is a penny earned and that is what I am going by."

Commissioner Taylor asked him to understand what he was comparing with the retainer costs and said there was an area within each attorney's retainer costs where they could get surplus and if his retainer services were limited then all else would get charged additional for and they were not looking at everything from A through Z. She added that they needed to compare apples to apples. She pointed out that they had history and facts that they could put in place.

Chair Holt said she brought up what they should have discussed in the workshop and they needed to look at the retainers and they did not in the workshop. Chair Holt said another workshop would not do any good.

Commissioner Taylor said Chair Holt "was a seasoned Commissioner and you are well aware of the fact that every Commissioner on this Board has the authority and the right to turn down any bid at any time. We don't necessarily have to carry anything through; it is the will of this Board. We have that right. So, if what's happening before us now if we don't agree to it, if this gentleman says 'Hey, I want them to come back', then we offer all four the invitation to come back, not just the one or two he did not hear. If they choose not to, then we hear who comes back. But this Board has the authority and the right to say 'No, I don't want this set, if a majority

of three says they don't want it then we can toss this out. Now you also being a seasoned commissioner know this for a fact. You are also well aware that being sued is just part of the game. You can't stop it. They sue you know just because the way you part your hair. So it doesn't really matter to me, I don't want to be, don't get me wrong, I don't want it don't want to submit to anything of that nature. Be we have rights around this Board and we cannot be intimidated because of people threatening to sue. Let's make some intelligent decisions. You said this, one last statement, you said this, and yes you and I have battled, Eric Hinson, ever since you've been up here, but you have been consistent about something and I respect consistency. That if a person is not thoroughly vetted on a subject, bring it back for discussion and table it. But I've got a second out for your motion, I don't like those number of years because it scares me with those number of years, but I've got the second out and we can call for the motion."

Chair Holt asked the will of the Board, but added she was not in favor of three years and felt that was too long.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN AMENDED HIS MOTION TO ONE YEAR AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AMENDED HER SECOND. COMMISSIONER VIGBESIE ASKED OR CLARIFICATION.

Commissioner Morgan explained it would be for the Sliger Law Firm for one year for the Board and Ausley McMullen for the Hospital for 1 year and Commissioner Taylor said she made a second. Chair Holt asked the County Attorney if they were following the RFP and if they were covered legally and Mr. Weiss said yes.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED THE MOTION. MOTION FAILED.

Commissioner Hinson said all he had was his integrity and mentioned things he had fought for in past and said that he was a "champion for the people".

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO CONTINUE THE CONTRACT WITH AUSLEY McMULLEN FOR ONE YEAR.

7. Appointment to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for direction for the appointment of the Gadsden Municipal Representative position on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked how many municipal elected officers expressed interest in serving and Mr. Presnell said a letter was received from the Planning Council and the agenda item was prepared. Commissioner Viegbesie asked how many of the municipalities were made aware of this and other opportunities to serve county-wide and said there was also a vacancy in CRTPA that would need to be filled and asked how the municipalities were informed of positions that needed to be filled.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION 1.

8. Appointment of Adrian Cooksey, DrPH, MPH as the Administrator of the Florida Department of Health in Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the Florida Department of Health in partnership with the Gadsden County BOCC provided public health services to the residents and visitors of Gadsden County. He further stated the Administrator of the Gadsden County Health Department was appointed by the State Surgeon General with concurrence of the BOCC. Their selected candidate was Adrian Cooksey, DrPH, MPH.

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

Kim Barnhill, Deputy Secretary of the Florida Department of Health, appeared before the Board and said Dr. Cooksey came with high recommendations and presented Dr. Adrian Cooksey Wilson to the Board.

Dr. Cooksey appeared before the Board and thanked the Board for this opportunity.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. Approval of Health Insurance Rates/Options

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was to seek board approval to accept the Insurance Committee's recommendation of remaining with the current healthcare plan (Capital Selection) under Capital Health Plan and share the premium increase between the employee and the employer at the current percentage contribution.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE MOTION TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson and Commissioner Viegbesie had questions.

Arthur Lawson appeared before the Board to address questions.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A SECOND FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if other healthcare provider plans had been made available to employees and why could they not provide employees with a list of other healthcare providers and let them choose the one that fit their plan and expenditures.

Mr. Lawson said the agent had surveyed the area for other insurance options and prices were not comparable to CHP and secondly, the County was not a very large group and they required a certain percentage of the workforce in order to provide the coverage that they did and if it were split the rates would probably be astronomical.

Commissioner Morgan said committee meets every year to discuss this matter and makes a recommendation to the Board. He asked if they had ever inquired about an agreement longer than one year and Mr. Lawson stated no because CHP rates their coverage annually and if they were locked in and rates fell they would be locked in the at higher rate. Commissioner Morgan then said they were required to have a certain number of employees enrolled in the plan to be

able to receive the rates they did and asked what the percentage was and the number of employees in the policy. Mr. Lawson said they had total group because they cover the Board along with the constitutionals and there was approximately 300 plus employees and did not include the families, but the percentage was between 75-80 percent.

Chair Holt said if they let employees opt out that would reduce the pool and Mr. Lawson said that would reduce the pool but as long as they stayed at a certain percentage, they would be ok.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they had thought about joining forces with the School Board and Mr. Lawson said that had been discussed with CHP but the pool makeup was different and could cause the County rates to escalate because they looked at the age factor as well as the retired teachers and was not feasible.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FO THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

10. Dental Equipment Lease Between Gadsden County BOCC and the School Board of Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced item and said it was for Board approval to lease dental equipment that was currently located in Chattahoochee at the Health Department and the School Board wanted to provide services at the Gadsden County Magnet School in Havana and expressed an interest in leasing some equipment.

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

Commissioner Taylor asked to recognize School Board Chair Audrey Lewis and she appeared before the Board and thanked them. Dr. Shirley Aaron thanked the Board for making this possible.

11. Resolution Requesting Land Use Agreement

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this was a request to enter into a lease agreement that would expand Pat Thomas Park.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIOENR MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan said he had looked through the item and said they would not be able to understand the costs to the County until they submitted the resolution. Mr. Presnell responded they were anticipating no costs to the County and added that at this point the State was giving one section of the property and the other section they wanted to do a joint project with the County.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. Request Approval to Extend the Current Lease Agreement with USDA for the FSA Service Office

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to extend the current lease agreement with the USDA for the FSA Building.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

13. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said another budget workshop was scheduled for August 27th but the Chair and Vice-chair would be at the FAC meeting and recommended they have a special budget meeting on August 18 at 4:30 before the regularly scheduled meeting because they needed to vote on a few items.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE SEPCIAL MEETING AT 4:30 P.M. ON August 27th.

Legislative Agenda

Mr. Presnell said the lobbyists touched on this matter earlier and they were working on it and it would be brought back, but to save time, if any of the commissioners had anything in particular, to please send him an e-mail or call him. Chair Holt said this was very important. Commissioner Hinson asked about infrastructure and if they could improve on infrastructure around the County and Chair Holt said they needed a project itself.

Commissioner Taylor said one thing they could do to make the County look more favorable and perhaps to get funding and projects looked at seriously was to bring in the sister cities and go through the Manager and send one message to Tallahassee.

Commissioner Morgan said that was a great idea but the issue with municipalities was getting everyone scheduled and together.

Commissioner Viegbesie said what Commissioner Taylor's was saying was a very good idea and believed there was a way to get around and get that done and said they could begin by having an annual retreat that involved Commissioners and elected officials of the municipalities and get one solid agenda to submit.

Mr. Presnell said he wanted to update them on the medical records they approved to be shredded had been completed as well as the x-rays and would now be working on getting some of the old metal and furniture out.

He told them this Friday at 6:00 p.m. at New Bethel AME, they were having an appreciation event for the summer youth and the liaisons would be in attendance as well.

Commissioner Morgan asked for clarification on the request for the date for the budget meeting and asked if he was asking for a special meeting as opposed to a workshop and asked for reasoning. Mr. Presnell said that the budget was basically done, but there were five outstanding items and with the special meeting they could vote as with the workshop they could not and

things would be settled going into the public hearing. Commissioner Morgan then asked for an update on the road paving project and Mr. Presnell stated it was out for bid and closed around the middle of the month and would come to the Board for approval around the end of August or first of September.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

14. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss thanked the Board for the opportunity to represent the Board for another year.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

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

COMMISSIONER SHERRIE TAYLOR, District 5

Commissioner Taylor commented on the legal services and said she appreciated the firm but was very definite on negotiations and her biggest concern was getting information back in a timely manner and said his maturity around the Board had shown itself to be commendable but still thought they needed to negotiate the contract regarding turn-around services.

COMMISSIONER BRENDA HOLT, Chairperson, District 4

Chair Holt said they needed to put information out for the general public to see concerning the Boards and Committees so they would know when positions were available and if they were interested in serving.

Commissioner Taylor asked if it was clear to Mr. Presnell to begin planning meetings with the sister cities to bring them together, while they may not be able to arrange it in time for this Legislative Session, they could begin for next year.

Chair Holt said other Counties do workshops all year with sister cities to know what they wanted to take to the Legislature.

Commissioner Hinson said in talking about the cities, he thought they could go back to what she brought up last year about meeting with the Chamber, TDC and the Industrial Development Board at one time to have one focus.

Chair Holt mentioned projects the Apalachee Regional Planning Council was doing: Liberty County and Jackson had projects, but Gadsden County had no projects.

Mr. Presnell asked that they recognize the guest from Gwen Graham's office.

COMMISSIONER ANTHONY "Dr. V" Viegbesie, PhD, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie said he had nothing to report but was glad to see the road paving and resurfacing projects were about to get started.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER ERIC HINSON, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson thanked Staff for doing a sensational job concerning the citizens with clearing the landscaping and everything else.

He thanked the Board and said it was one of the best Boards in America and they agreed to disagree sometimes and he sometimes gets excited and it was good to be passionate.

RECEIPT AND FILE

- 16. a. Florida Department of Transportation Letter
- b. Florida Department of Health-Gadsden County Quarterly Progress Report

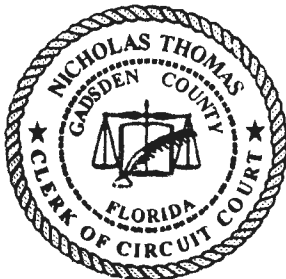
UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 17. August 18, 2015-Regular Meeting
- August 27, 2015-Budget Workshop

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:01 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk