



Gadsden County, Florida

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners and Chattahoochee City Council Joint Workshop

JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2016 at 06:30 PM

Apalachicola Arsenal at Florida State Hospital

Present: County

Brenda A. Holt, Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1
Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2 (absent)
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5 (absent)
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Steven M. Hogan, County Attorney
Beryl H. Wood, Deputy Clerk

Present: City

Champ James, Mayor
Annette Bates
Christopher Moultry
Ken Kimrey
L.B. Howell
Jerry Wynn
Elmor "Lee" Garner, City Manager

AGENDA ITEMS

**1. Call to Order
(Brenda A. Holt, Chairperson)**

Commissioner Holt explained the reason for the meetings with the different municipalities. She said she was trying to have common goals when we get to the Capital.

Awards, Presentations and Appearances

**2. Recognition of Mr. Norman S. "Champ" James
(Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners)**

Commissioner Morgan presented Mr. Norman S. Champ James with a Resolution for his years of service. He will be retiring after many years. The Board congratulated him for his public service to Chattahoochee and Gadsden County. The Commissioners posed for a picture with the retiree.

Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3 minute limit)

Ben Chandler, MainStreet addressed the Board. He announced the banner program is an unofficial outstanding promotional award which will be presented to Chattahoochee MainStreet 8th– Aug. 10, 2016 in Deland, Florida.

July 4, 2016 Celebration activities all day long, exciting activities all over the river.

General Business

3. Legislative Priorities -(Robert M. Presnell, County Administrator)

Mr. Presnell discussed the Legislative priorities to get input from the different municipalities. He asked that they submit 3 projects of importance. He mentioned some of the projects they have help Chattahoochee.

He mentioned Gadsden County Day at the Capital and discussed the impact if they were all on the same page.

Chair Holt talked about Franklin County and there big thing was seafood. She explained the process to get the committees formed.

Lee Garner presented a wish list that had 12 items: Florida State Hospital; Rosedale, Water Management District, Trail between Chattahoochee and Bristol (State Funding – Dale Cox spearheading), Economic Development and the Boys and Girls Club. He said any assistance that can be given would be greatly appreciated.

He congratulated the County for taking the lead in getting this together. He mentioned all the positive things he has heard about Gadsden County.

Mr. Presnell asked would it be better if they get with their Council.

Mr. Garner said they could.

Commissioner Morgan said it was previously mentioned that each municipality was to submit 2 items. The relationship between the municipalities has improved. If there is a win for one, it's a win for all. Talked about the great opportunity of the Apalachicola Arsenal Museum, Florida State Hospital we are competing very well, they are funding more positions. They are aware of our facilities. The greatest assets are Senator Bill Montford, they listen to him. Annex out to the interstate he said that was good, because lighting is coming to the interstate (exchange) and complete as quickly as possible.

Jerry Wynn said they need help to grow eastward, Highway 90. He said there is a template of what they need to do.

Mr. Presnell said they would work with them on that.

Mr. Garner said the property was dedicated

LB Howell said he was in favor of the annex of the east.

Christopher Moultry said they need more businesses. He said the Recreational Department needs help.

LB Howell said they were fortunate to have inmate labor to assist.

Mr. Presnell said he felt that was workable.

LB Howell mentioned the Indian Mound. He said it would be on the National Register. He spoke on the Tourism that could come from that. He also discussed the MainStreet placement of two historical markers. He mentioned projects River Landing which is the gateway to Apalachee River, the history of the river.

Chair Holt mentioned the Indian Mounds and to get the knowledge out. She stated Chattahoochee has early history, oldest county in Gadsden County and people need to know the history.

Jerry Wynn commented on the property between River Landing and the Dam belonging to the County. He asked for help with maintenance for that area when it rains.

Mr. Presnell said he would contact DOT and then go for there.

Mr. Moultry said he would like a rehab program for the older homes. He spoke of the great things that came out of the program in the past. He said there are a lot of older people in the City.

Chair Holt said the funds aren't there like they use to be, she asked that they contact the Ship Program at the County.

Mr. Presnell boasted on the \$750,000 CDBG. The County and the funding the County would receive soon and could possibly assist. He said currently there is a small amount of funding, for such things as a wheel chair ramp.

Chair Holt mentioned murals and their attraction and the importance of them.

Mr. Garner will get with Council and get back with the Manager on the priority list.

Chair Holt asked about the old high school and stated the field could be a great asset to be used by the City.

Mr. Garner said some church bought the school, but he would love to see it refurbished.

**4. Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) Appointment
(Robert M.Presnell, County Administrator)**

Mr. Presnell said Dr. Viegbesie is asking that they make an appointment. He explained the process. He said the municipalities are to make an appointment.

Mr. Garner said he would work with the other Managers.

5. Infrastructure (Robert M. Presnell, County Administrator) –N/A

6. General Discussion

(All Board Members) – Joint meeting with all municipalities.

Mr. Moultry also discussed the Old Southside Building it is dangerous and we need help to tear it down.

Chair Holt asked are their grants for abatement.

Commissioner Hinson spoke of historical preservation of schools. He mentioned that was how they saved the Quincy Middle School. He advised them to contact Emergency Management.

Mr. Presnell said the Strategic Planning Workshop would be in July.

Congresswoman Gwen Graham will be at IFAS next Tuesday, June 28, 2016.

Mr. Garner announced that Envision will refurbish sign at the Florida State Hospital Entrance. He also discussed Credit Unions not being able to receive public funding. He said that the League of Cities, etc. are working on it.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

**Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Gadsden County, Florida**