

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 2, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD, 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
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 Elizabeth Barron, Assistant County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked for moment of silence and led in the Pledge to US Flag. A silent roll call was conducted by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

Commissioner Hinson appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell said there were no amendments to the Agenda.

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

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

There were no presentations.

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Thomas was present and asked for a few minutes and spoke about intergovernmental relations. He said the County was a subdivision of the State and there were a lot of State rules and regulations they had to follow and in turn the State shared revenue with the County. He added that the Legislature and Governor had been good to counties and especially to small counties. He further stated it had been a different story when it came to Clerks, especially since 2009 during a recession. He said the Legislature raided a bunch of trust funds, and eventually had to pay most of that back because the law required, but they also seized the revenue of the Clerk and declared it as State revenue and put the Clerk in the State budget. The Governor slashed the budgets and in 2009 it was cut \$225,000 during course of fiscal year and the Clerk had to lay-off four people with furloughs. He further stated they later took the Clerk out of the State budget and were now ultimately approved by LDC (Legislative Budget Commission). He went on to say the past two years in a row, last year he was cut \$96,000 and additional \$55,000 this fiscal year. He said last year there were two people retired that he never replaced and he had to lay off people the day before and was now down eight people since 2009, the budget was roughly \$375,000 a year short, roughly little over \$2 Million that would have gone to payroll in Gadsden County. He told them the Clerks go to the Legislature every year and will be back next year with an agenda and will push it.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped in at this juncture of the meeting.

Clerk Thomas told the BOCC he had great people and they would continue to work hard. He said when they think of intergovernmental relations it is governments working together. He said a lot of people do not realize it was the Clerk that sent mental health records and criminal conviction records to FDLE so they could do state-wide background checks for gun purchases. The Clerk sent commitment papers to Department of Corrections, sent DUI information to DHSMV, sent information to Department of Vital Statistics and collected money, documentary stamps tax and sent it to the Department of Revenue and lots of other money that was collected, approximately \$435,000 out of civil fines and fees paid by the citizens of Gadsden County that goes to State general revenue that they use for what they choose to use it for, another \$630,000 goes to 45 various state trust funds. He said a lot of State agencies that could not do their work without the Clerk, not to mention the judiciary, the Judges, the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender, Probation and Parole, but none of them were cut. He said it was a matter of understanding and having a legislature that understood the important role of the Clerk. He said the cut he mentioned, his portion was \$55,000 but State wide it was \$25 Million and if this was a regular State employees, the Tallahassee Democrat would be jumping up and down. He said they would continue to pursue an agenda with the legislature and would see how the lawsuit goes, but felt it was important that people knew that the Clerk's office would continue to work efficiently; he had very dedicated people with no raise since 2008. He said some of their people had received raises several times, and said he so appreciated his staff, even though the Legislature did not seem to. He further stated even the Governor made disparaging statements regarding efficiency. He said the late 90's, the Federal Government passed a Welfare Reform Act, and one of the things they did, they said every state had to create a Central Child Support Disbursement unit and the Florida Clerks created it; once it was developed the software, it was given to DOR and they then subcontracted it out. He said the Clerks created a state-wide database, CCIS that allowed Judges and law enforcement to look at court records and the Clerks developed the current E-filing that was approved by the Supreme Court. He added that many Clerks were in the process of making certain records available for on-line for public to view. He publicly thanked his staff for their efforts. He added that he would make a budget request to them that was separate from what he talked about tonight.

Chair Holt asked why the Clerks' Association was not using the media to their advantage in the lawsuit. Mr. Thomas said some Clerks decided not to join the lawsuit and they were concerned about constitutional revisions, legislative retributions, and they were promised in the last session that this issue would be resolved, had great support in the Senate but no House support with effort; basically only received money for juries and there was a caveat to that. They basically said when it ran out; it would be paid for out of the Clerk's budget. He said they would continue to pursue on multiple fronts. Chair Holt said their Association put lobbyist out and used the media.

Mr. Thomas said the Clerks of Court were a little different in that they just wanted to do their job and not be in Tallahassee.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD APPROVED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

1. Ratification to Pay County Bills

2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **June 9, 2016-Joint Workshop**
 - b. **July 5, 2016-Regular Meeting**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. PUBLIC HEARING-(Legislative) Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2016-013 for a Text Amendment to Allow Solar Power Generation Facilities (Solar Farms) (LPS-2016-002)

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to adopt Ordinance 2016-013 for the amendment of the Future Land Use Element of the Gadsden County Comprehensive Plan to allow solar generation facilities in the Agriculture 2 and Agriculture 3 Future Land Use Categories.

Chair Holt asked about if there was a way to get them closer to the power lines because they had to feed into the power lines.

Mr. Presnell said a lot of the land use categories in the Ag 2 & 3 category were along the generation lines and had to be the larger transmission lines.

Chair Holt announced that this was a public hearing and asked if anyone present wished to speak and there was no-one.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there were any fallout, damages or effects from the panels and Mr. Presnell said only thing he heard was about was reflectivity and glare from the panels.

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

4. Public Hearing-Approval to Refinance the 2016 Hospital Loan and the 2006B Library Loan

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was approval of BB&T bank loan proposals and ordinances to refinance the 2013 Sales Tax Revenue Refunding Bond currently with BB&T Bank for the hospital and to refinance the 2006B Revenue Bonds currently with Florida Municipal Loan Council for the library and to authorize the Gollahon Financial Services, Inc. and Bryant, Miller, Olive P.A. to work with staff to close these loans timely.

Jim Gollahon, Gollahon Financial Services, Inc. appeared before the Board and explained the loans before them and the savings to the County regarding the refinancing of the loans.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the County signed off tonight on these loans if there other options if the rate lowered and Mr. Gollahon said yes, it could be refunded later.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson said there seemed to be a lot of questions and this was a serious situation and maybe they should start having workshops regarding these items.

Commissioner Morgan said Commissioner Taylor may have alluded to this earlier but there was one public hearing and one vote regarding two items.

JoLinda Herring, Esquire, Bryant, Miller, Olive appeared before the Board and said they recommended the Board do two separate votes, one for each order.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL FOR THE LOAN FOR THE HOSPITAL AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, CHAIR HOLT ASKED IF ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WISHED TO SPEAK AND THERE WAS NO-ONE. CHAIR TAYLOR THEN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL FOR THE BB&T BANK LOAN AND ORDINANCE TO REFINANCE THE 2013 SALES TAX REVENUE FOR THE HOSPITAL AND SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HINSON. COMMISSIONER MORGAN ASKED THAT IT BE NOTED THAT HOPEFULLY THE BOARD WOULD PURSUE AN AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE TO SEE IF ADDITIONAL SAVINGS COULD BE MADE IF ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL WAS PAID. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MOVED APPROVAL FOR THE REFINANCING OF THE 2006B LIBRARY BOND WITH FLORIDA MUNICIPAL LOAN COUNCIL AND TO AUTHORIZE GOLLAHON FINANCIAL SERVICES AND BRYANT MILLER OLIVE, P.A. TO WORK WITH STAFF TO CLOSE LOAN. SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. COMMISSIONER MORGAN ASKED HIS SAME REMARK MADE PREVIOUSLY REGARDING ADDITIONAL SAVINGS BE NOTED. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. 2016 Paving Project Phase II-Change Order #2

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of Change Order number 2 for the 2016 Paving Project Phase II to Peavy and Son Construction for the amount of \$447,134.00.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MOVED FOR APPROVAL.

Chair Holt asked why there was a change order and Mr. Presnell said roads were added in certain districts.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he understood why for the change order but this was for \$447,000 was a tremendous amount of money just to roll over to the current contractor; that he would vote for it but felt there was still another phase of road projects.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Holt said Commissioner Viegbesie was right and asked the reason they were rolling this over.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Presnell explained it was an interest of time mainly and some roads in one commissioner's

district that the Commissioner decided to spend more of his payment allocation in the same area and handling it this way cut down on some of the mobilization costs. There were roads added in a certain neighborhood that were close to roads already selected. Chair Holt stated they had talked about that and also discussed bringing maps in to they could see the areas on Phase III.

Commissioner Morgan asked if price per ton was the same and Mr. Presnell said yes.

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

6. Approval to Apply for the State Funded Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant 17-BG-83-02-30-01-026 and the Federal Funded Emergency Management Performance Grant 17-FG-02-03-01-093

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to apply for the State Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant and the Federal Emergency Management Performance Assistance Grant and for authorization for the Chair to sign.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor said she understood at one of the community meetings, information about the about the Emergency Management Preparedness as a whole may want to do more with sending information out to the community about some of what they do.

Tashonda Whaley, Emergency Management, Sheriff's Office appeared before the Board. She said this was their big grant for emergency management and they try to get out as much information as possible.

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

7. Consideration of Resolution 2016-017 to Adopt the Highway 90 Corridor Plan

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was presented to the Board to adopt the Highway 90 Corridor Plan as developed through a Technical Assistance Grant from the Department of Economic Opportunity. He said this would create stops along Highway 90 in Walton, Holmes, Washington and Jackson Counties and would outline strategies to attract travelers through North Florida.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN.

Chair Holt said if anyone wanted stops on Highway 90 for historical information or wanted to show cultural history along U. S. 90, they had to bring the information forward.

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

8. Approval of Health Insurance Rates/Options

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this item provided the Board with proposed health care information as it related to the County's current health care coverage and was for Board approval to accept the Insurance Committee's recommendation of remaining with the current healthcare plan (Capital Selection) under Capital Health Plan and to share the premium increase between the employee and the employer at the current percentage contribution. He reminded them they developed a few years back a distribution where the County picks up part and the employee picked up part and this year there was an increase of 8.5% and there was much discussion with the health insurance committee regarding the cost and was rather expensive for the County to pick up at the current split. He explained the options before them.

Commissioner Taylor asked the Administrator which he budgeted for this year and he said they currently had budgeted the 8.5%.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan said he heard in the budget workshop they were \$1.1 Million short and there was a viable option to cut the increase in half. He said he understood the concerns mentioned earlier about the increase and recommended the alternate option be selected to cut down the overage they currently had in the budget and would also be allowing the employees to keep their existing insurance and out-of-pocket co-pays. He said healthcare was rising every year and affected everyone.

Chair Holt said she was in favor of option 1 because if a person was making minimum wage they would not be able to afford the increase in insurance.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

9. Approval of the Services Contract with Deer Oaks EAP

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it sought Board approval for a services contract with Deer Oaks EAP to provide employee assistance program services for the upcoming fiscal year and for approval for the Chair to execute the contract.

Commissioner Hinson asked the purpose of bidding this item out when it was only \$4,000 and thought the threshold was over \$5,000 and Mr. Presnell said anything over \$5,000 had to be a formal bid and because this was a contract, it had to come before the Board.

Lonyell Black, HR Analyst, appeared before the Board and said the previous contractor was no longer in business and was another reason why it was bid out. She also said this provider would provide six

Ms. Black explained there was a difference and this provider provided six (6) paid visits instead of three, have 26 local providers in the area and once the 6 visits were exhausted, they could continue with their healthcare provider.

Commissioner Viegbesie said in looking at the Bid Tabulation form, the bid from New Directions

Behavioral Health was lower and was concerned because the contract was being offered to Deer Oak EAP that was higher. He asked if there was a difference in the services provided.

Ms. Black said there was a difference because this provider provided 6 paid covered visits, allowed services to immediate family members and to anyone living in the household as well as providing services 6 months from separation from employment to the employee and had contract providers in the area and the lower bidder did not.

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

10. Selection and Appointment of a Member to the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said there was a resignation, Mr. Clarence Jackson, from the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council and there was currently a vacancy.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if the listed names had been vetted and Mr. Presnell said any one of the listed persons were in compliance with the By-laws.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF. CHAIR HOLT MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER MORGAN AS FOR MORE DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Morgan said in looked at the existing members and one's term expires December 31, 2015. Mr. Presnell said as each one resigns, they had to bring a different list because of the seats they hold. Commissioner Morgan asked if Mr. Patel was currently serving and Chair Holt said yes, he was currently the Chair. Commissioner Morgan said that may be a typo.

Commissioner Taylor asked if one name from the list provided was to be selected and Mr. Presnell said yes.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he intended to select the City Representative to represent the elected officials of the city and Chair Holt asked him to withdraw his motion and restate it and he withdrew his motion and she withdrew her second.

Commissioner Hinson interrupted and said Matt Thro was a City Commissioner and Commissioner Viegbesie said Matt Thro was already on there, Commissioner Jackson was an elected official and he suggested an elected official replace him to keep the composition as was. Commissioner Hinson asked how many elected officials were supposed to be on the Board and Commissioner Viegbesie said currently there were two. Chair Holt said she wanted to clarify something and Commissioner Hinson interrupted. She asked him to let her finish. She said Matt Thro was not on the Board as an elected official, he was there as a merchant.

Commissioner Hinson said "Trust me, every dog has his day but I'm just saying, I would like to know, it's a question real quick. How many elected officials need to be on the Board? How many..."

Mr. Presnell said for them to look on page 34.

Commissioner Hinson said if there were two then they needed to go with the other guy, but if not,

they needed to at least talk about it.

The attorney said they needed to replace Mr. Jackson with an elected official. Commissioner Hinson said Mr. Thro was an elected official and Chair Holt pointed out he was not serving in the capacity as an elected official, he was a business owner.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Ms. Barron pointed out each was serving in a certain capacity. Commissioner Hinson said he had no problem, but wanted to make sure they went the right way and he said he “understand y’all’s strong concern though”.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he understood where Commissioner Hinson was coming from.

Commissioner Hinson started to make a motion to accept and Chair Holt said a motion had not been made yet. Chair Hinson said he seconded it. Commissioner Viegbesie said he made a motion and Commissioner Hinson said he made the second and they could move on.

Commissioner Taylor asked that the motion be restated so it was clear.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT THE ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM MIDWAY, JERROD HOLTON, TO REPLACE THE ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM GRETNA. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Hinson said there was already an elected official on Board and asked if the person already on board satisfied the policy even though he served in another capacity. He said Matt Thro was already on Board and if they wanted to put in someone else that was not an elected official, if it would satisfy the policy. Ms. Barron said she had not read the By-laws but in looking at the Agenda Request, it showed that Matt Thro was serving on the Board as a Merchant, not as an elected official.

CHAIR HOLT SAID SHE WOULD MAKE THE SECOND AND CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CHANGED HER VOTE TO OPPOSE THIS ITEM AND THEN COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED IT. VOTE CHANGED TO 3-2. MOTION PASSED.

11. Approval of Resolution 2016-016 Piggybacking the Leon County Agreement for Bond Counsel

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval for Resolution 2016-016 to approve piggybacking the Leon County agreement for professional services with Bryant Miller Olive, P.A. for Bond Counsel to complete the transaction on refinancing the two loans.

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

12. Approval of the County Administrator’s Position Description

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of a new County Administrator

position description and for authorization from the Board on a date to advertise the position.

Commissioner Viegbesie said this was a very good ad for the position but wondered if could insert the objectives or missions the County Administrator should be striving for and to include health, safety, welfare of the County and wanted to add an objective performance evaluation to have some quantifiable measure of productivity.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a stipulation of residency and Mr. Presnell said that was a State statute.

Commissioner Morgan said it was important to remember they were discussing a job description and not necessarily how the employee was evaluated and recommended adding some sort of proficiency in computer and related technology skills.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MOVED FOR ADOPTION OF THIS ITEM WITH THE SUGGESTED CHANGES. COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE THE SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to see the document with the suggested changes before it being approved and Commissioner Taylor agreed. Chair Holt said she did not, the changes were not that much.

Commissioner Viegbesie said one of the suggestions he made was the objective criteria should be included either under the Summary or could be included in the Performance evaluation part working toward the achievement of County objectives to be added in the performance evaluation or the in the summary and that would take care of the suggestion he made.

Commissioner Morgan said they were defining responsibilities within a role and Commissioner Viegbesie was discussing how they would evaluate how the Administrator was carrying out the responsibilities. Chair Holt asked if they would go together and Commissioner Morgan said he did not think so. Commissioner Morgan said that would come under the Duties and Responsibilities in which they were defining the role and how the person was evaluated should be in a separate document and this was his opinion. Commissioner Viegbesie said if this said all the Administrator would be evaluated on was a subjective evaluation and then end up with an objective evaluation, would if come out as false advertising the position.

The attorney said if they were going to amend this or have a motion to approve with amendments, they needed to be able to make the amendments clear or else this needed to go back for more work and the motion and second should be withdrawn.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN WITHDREW HIS SECOND. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE WITHDREW HIS MOTION.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THIS ITEM AND SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR.

Chair Holt asked if there was more discussion and Commissioner Morgan recommended they talk with Mr. Long's group and he might have a suggestion on how to specifically lay this out. Chair Holt said she would like this in the document so the person knew before they applied exactly what

they were responsible for doing.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

13. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said the Bike event has been scheduled for October 27th and October 28th in downtown Quincy and a huge crowd was expected.

He said he had his first meeting after being appointed to the Area Agency on Aging and found out they helped with utility bills during the cooling season and the heating season and would purchase an air conditioner or heater or repair them if the person met the guidelines. He added that anyone that wished to apply could do so at the Senior Center locally.

He said the next Budget workshop was scheduled for August 16th prior to the meeting and Commissioner Taylor asked if that was with the Constitutional Officers. Mr. Presnell said they would have them at the front but didn't anticipate spending a lot of time with them. Commissioner Taylor said the Clerk had just made a great plea for more money and she wanted to support him.

Mr. Presnell said Friday night, August 5th, they were having a banquet for the summer youth workers at Carter Parramore.

He said at their Retreat they identified seven items they agreed upon and there was still one outstanding and was the marketing plan for the County and he wanted some direction regarding that. Chair Holt said she wanted to sit down with the School Board

Commissioner Taylor said with regards to the School Board, she did not think they had formally reached out and asked them to come and maybe reach out in form of a letter.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

14. Update on Various Legal Issues

Ms. Barron said she had nothing to report for Mr. Weiss and asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if she knew the status with the closing of the property for the Dogtown fire station. She said she did not know and Mr. Weiss did not inform her of anything.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

15. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan reflected on the Clerk's comments and said they needed to seriously consider finding the dollars and said while not earth-shattering to their budget; it was to his and would prioritize that as a need over a want. He said they were in a position where they were going

to have to make some tough decisions: 1) With healthcare costs for the employees and felt that would have funded the request from the Clerk by selecting the separate option ; and 2) they were going to have to look at other cuts because he felt the Clerk had gotten past the bone in his office and it was a critical service to not only the citizens but to a number of other people that depend on the information that comes from his office. He urged them to look at the request and find a way to help.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she understood there was a meeting with the Senior Services and addressed some of the concerns that were shared earlier with regard to the By-laws being followed appropriately. She said the services and participation was decreasing and there were some issues and concerns. She did not feel they were taking the position and the By-laws seriously and there were complaints and felt they needed to let them know they expected compliance and the rules to be followed. She asked if they could give direction that they wanted them to comply with the By-laws and asked that they give the Manager the latitude to ensure that was done.

Chair Holt asked if they could get a copy of the complaints and the By-laws together ahead of time. Mr. Presnell said he was there today when they made a motion to get in compliance with the By-laws.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if this was the By-laws that governed the Board members and Commissioner Taylor said yes.

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie asked where they stood on the speed bump for Charlie Harris loop. Mr. Presnell said the machine was there to calculate the speed of the vehicles to get the data to the engineers to review.

He said he saw there was an inscription on the entrance door identifying it as the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners and asked if they could look into having it written on the big window so people driving by would know where the meetings were held at and where to enter.

He asked if the GCDC knew of the “E3B” program of Economic Development and if not, suggested they explore that. He said he came to understand how vital this program was during the NACO conference.

He requested a list of all bridges in the county, the age, sufficiency rating and structural rating to take to CRPTA to prioritize their projects.

He requested they take action on Dr. Cooksey’s presentation for the proposal for an endocrinology service and would like it placed on the agenda in the immediate future.

He then said he was glad to hear Commissioner Taylor mention something regarding parks and recreation and would like to see in the future of this County a whole scale park and recreation facilities all over the County. He then asked for a creation of another Board to form the Park and Recreation Improvement Authority for the County and said the Authority would aggressively assist the Board with the building of park recreation facilities and other related projects in the County. He said the Authority should be made up of seven (7) members that would consist of one Board

member, the Director of Parks and Recreation for the County and five citizens who have demonstrated an interest and involvement in sports and recreational activities in the County, coming from each district and selected by BOCC members.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION FOR THE PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE FAMILY OF BEN BROWN THAT PASSED AWAY AND WAS FUNERALIZED LAST WEEK. COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson thanked Commissioner Viegbesie for saying what he did and said last year he brought up a proposal to bring in a community center in Havana and Commissioner Viegbesie said he wanted to be conservative and was glad to see the change of heart and mind.

He said when talking earlier, he made the motion to give the position to Mary Brock and said he had to stand firm when he gave his word.

He then thanked the BOCC for approving some roads in his district and named some of the roads and said they needed to figure how to get the word out for the private public roads, there were people that wanted to get it done but did not understand the process and was difficult for some.

He then asked about the road in Midway that was by the store, if it was a county road or city road. Mr. Presnell asked if he meant Brickyard Road or High Bridge Road. Commissioner Hinson said it was the one in a circle going directly to the store; store was on the right and City Hall on the left. Mr. Presnell said the State maintained it back 100 feet and then was a County maintained road and tied into High Bridge Road. Commissioner Hinson asked if the majority of the road was a county road and Mr. Presnell said yes. He said his daughter's best friend lives there and the road was in terrible shape and needed lights. He said there was too much traffic coming from the store and needed to have lights there. He asked how quickly lights could be put there. Mr. Presnell said if it was on the FDOT right-of-way it was a process that would take years-would have to come through CRPTA, then into a five year program and would be six years minimum. Commissioner Hinson asked if he paid for it, it would not need to go through DOT. Mr. Presnell said if it was on the county road, they could look into doing something with Talquin Electric. Mr. Presnell said they could look into options and see what might be available.

He asked if they could cut the grass in District 1 every once in a while also.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Chair Holt said regarding the Health committees and different groups providing healthcare, she set in on a workshop and would be bringing information back to the Manager of who was providing what service.

She said she looked at a mapping program that you could click on your county and get information needed for grant writing.

She said she agreed with the grass cutting, she had to run a young boy out of the grass on Uptain Road, afraid he was going to get on a snake. Mr. Presnell said they had been working overtime on mowing and would send everyone the mowing schedule.

She said the Gulf County Director called and said they had received \$65,000 for logistics grant on the Railroad coming from the gulf when they do the port for phase 1 and said their phase 2 connected to the line.

She also said Commissioner Hinson was on the Safety committee and they needed to look at the Safety program for people that had penalties and tickets for minor offenses to set up a day where they could pay pennies on the dollar to get their licenses back. Mr. Presnell said they have had a meeting with the Tax Collector that did the drivers licenses and they were looking into it.

Receipt and File

16. a. Florida Department of Health-Gadsden Quarterly Progress Report for ½ Cent Sale Tax Prevention and Education Program

UPCOMING MEETINGS

16. August 16, 2016-Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:58 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA




BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair

ATTEST:


NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk