

**AT A BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 2, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS 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
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

Brief Overview by Requesting Groups

John Grayson, Bond Community

John Grayson, CFO, Bond Community appeared before the Board and said they were requesting funds to help with their mobile unit and request was for \$150,000 for medical care in Gadsden County. He said it would be staffed with a Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Support Staff, Case Manager and Transportation Specialist.

Commissioner Morgan appeared at this juncture.

Chair Holt asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Lee Wagner, Boys and Girls Club

Lee Wagner appeared before the Board and said they had a wonderful partnership with the County and hoped it would continue. He explained their services which impact the youth of Gadsden and surrounding Counties for almost 10 years. He said they serve a little over 400 kids in this community annually, which equates to about a 130 kids per day. He mentioned the locations in Chattahoochee, Havana and in Quincy. He said they focus on character, leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, arts, culture enrichment, sports, fitness and recreation.

Kenneth Bender, Boys Town

Ken Bender, Director and Marcus Lampkin, Senior Program Operations Manager, appeared before the Board. They gave a brief overview and stated they are celebrating 100 years of service and said they had been in the North Florida area for 33 years serving Children and Families. He said they are proposing to bring their In-home Services Program to this area with 1 staff member to work with the two schools. He said the schools will refer the kids that have behavioral issues, attendance and family engagement issues. The staff works with the families from 8 – 10 weeks in their homes for 2 – 3 times a week. The goal is to help with the engagement to schools, teach parenting skills, and connect family to community support. It ultimately will improve the performance in school with academics, attendance and reduce their disciplinary actions.

Devon Marrett and Rosemary Evans, Capital Medical Society Foundation (CMSF)

Devon Marrett, Case Manager, WeCare, appeared before the Board and explained their services. He said their program was started in 1992 and expanded to Gadsden County in 1995. CMSF wanted an organized and coordinated approach to provide charity care in their offices. He the members are referring and donating providers in the WeCare network. He said their mission is to provide a safe network to those low income uninsured residents in the community who are most in need of medical and dental care.

Commissioner Hinson arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

He explained they provided for the uninsured and underinsured.

Rosemary Evans, Program Director, appeared before the Board and read a letter from one of their patients about the benefits and services.

Ben Chandler, Chattahoochee Main Street

Ben Chandler, Executive Director of Chattahoochee Main Street, appeared before the Board to ask for continuation of project they were funded for last year. That project being a building facade enhancement program for the downtown parking and business. He said the Main Street purpose was economic development through historic preservation. He said with the current funding we have 3 projects we plan to fund, where each one has a matching grant of \$2,500 per project. He spoke of the great happenings in Chattahoochee. He said two of those projects are funded by the County funds and they are funding one through their downtown beautification fund. He said the main goals are to enhance the look and to promote economic development in the downtown area.

Grace Robinson, Gadsden Arts Center

Grace Robinson, Executive Director, appeared before the Board and said the Board support had helped them to grow and asked for their continued support as they are now nationally accredited. She said they were committed to improving the quality of life for all here. She highlighted Art and all of the positives of it. She spoke of both of her funding requests. She highlighted the request for expansion. She gave history on her request where the BOCC supported it, but lacked agreement where the funds should come from. She said the second request was made through the Gadsden County Non- Profit Grant Application. She said it was really important that the onetime Capital Funding Request not interfere with the program funding. She said it is important to sustain the current programs before they grow.

Wilbert Butler, Havana Community Development Corp.

Mr. Wilbert Butler appeared before the Board to explain their services, were the growing of plants and raising fish over the last 3 years. He said they would like to expand their Aqua Farm.

Chair inquired about employees.

Mr. Butler said they don't have any employees right now, only volunteers. He said with funding hopefully in the near future it would be possible.

Commissioner Hinson thanked them for partnering with the County for the Summer Youth Program.

Carolyn Ford, North Florida Education Development Corp,

Mrs. Carolyn Ford, Executive Director, appeared before the Board with a brief presentation. She said she was requesting funds for Hope Freedom School, which is a literacy program. She said they had 71 kids and they mostly target the east of the County. She highlighted her program with read aloud. She said it has parents and their kids working together. She said this year they learned about voting and how bills became a law.

Joe Munroe, Quincy Main Street

Joe Munroe, Executive Director, appeared before the Board. He thanked them for the grant they received last year and said their grant was influential in the lamp posts around the Square being repainted. He highlighted the program had been in operation for 30 years and was the 5th oldest Main Street in the State. He said it was important to know the goal of the National Main Street is to promote economic vitality within the content of historic preservation. He said they wanted to promote the luminaries and asked for their continued support. He also, commented they played a very key part in the Division of Historic Resources awarding Gadsden County the \$500,000 to revitalize the Courthouse. He said they are supporting the luminaries of the County. He said their goal is to clean up and make the town beautiful because, first impressions do matter.

Commissioner Morgan asked about Quincy being the 5th Main Street in the State.

Mr. Munroe said that is correct. The Quincy Main Street has been kept in continuous operation since 1987.

Chair Holt inquired about City funding.

Mr. Munroe stated they have an operational budget from the City of Quincy around \$13,000 per year. He said their focus this year was to apply for grants to revitalize downtown Quincy. He said hopefully soon you will be able to walk downtown Quincy with a GIS smart phone walking tour of the City to find historic facts. He said an additional grant deals with the historic cemeteries in the City being First Elizabeth Cemetery, Eastern and Western Cemeteries. He said they ranked 23 out of 71 with the grant.

Commissioner Taylor arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

Bill Mock, Managing Director of Quincy Music Theatre

Mr. Bill Mock of the Quincy Music Theatre appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Hinson thanked them for the great productions they had produced throughout the years.

Joyce Dove, Development Director for Rotary Youth Camp

Joyce Dove appeared before the Board and said this was their first time asking for funds. She said they provide a summer camp for handicapped children and they rent the Boy Scout Camp. She said they provide 3 basic programs.

Discussion of Funding

Commissioner Hinson said he missed the presentation from the Boys and Girls Club.

Chair Holt gave a recap and said they were looking at 5 groups that were applying for funding for children, 2 for health, 6 for government and out of the ones listed there were 8 no-shows. She said that currently there was a deficiency in their budget.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he had listened to the presentations and since there was a deficient in the budget. He suggested not giving what they were asking, but hopefully they could give a portion if need be.

Mr. Presnell said the current budget was \$286,500, which is the same level as last year. He said there were 5 entities this year that had not made requests, which totaled \$25,000. He said they were Greensboro Main Street; Gretna Main Street; Havana Main Street; Midway Main Street and Redeemed Inc. He said right now they are at \$261,500.00.

Commissioner Viegbesie presented his figures: We Care \$7500; Chatt Main Street \$5000; DYG \$2500; Gad Art Center \$5000; GAC Capital \$15000 and consider \$10000 next year; Havana Comm Dev Corp \$10000; LSNF \$6500; NFEDC \$6000; Quincy Main Street \$5000; QMT \$5000 and Rotary \$5000.

Commissioner Morgan asked for clarification on Art Center Capital funds.

Grace Robinson re-appeared before the Board and clarified what had transpired with her additional request for \$5,000 in funding.

Commissioner Morgan asked where they are considering securing the funding from.

Mr. Presnell said this would be general fund dollars.

Commissioner Morgan suggested those funds should come from the TDC and this was the wrong place for that additional request.

Commissioners Hinson said they need to let the Administrator cut back what he could first. He said with the Havana Community Development Corporation if \$45,000 caused heartburn, maybe they could look at \$25,000.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out they agreed to budget \$25,000 for the 2016-17 year. She said she heard the presentation from We Care, along with other requests. She added that last year they had to go into the general funds last year and they did not want to make a habit of it. She suggested they go through the budget and see if they could find additional funds. She said once they add ones that did not

apply, it totaled \$30,000. She added that once Mr. Presnell looks over may be additional cuts.

Chair Holt said she was interested in looking at a 3 year rotation and they had no system in place.

Commissioner Hinson said he asked 2 years ago regarding the TCC building and they never gave a counter on the building. Commissioner Hinson said the County is not broke. He pointed out that funds were set aside in the amount of \$700,000 for GCDC-Economic Development.

Commissioner Hinson asked if with Havana Community Development if they could use FRDAP funds to help them.

Commissioner Morgan said he understood Commissioner Taylor's math. The County is in good shape, but it took many years to get there and he asked the Administrator to comment about the \$700,000. He said the Ad valorem tax dollars are going down, healthcare for employees is going up and need to be diligent in how they are spending taxpayer dollars.

Chair Holt commented on the \$700,000.00 that it was there until September 30 and they needed to decide cap for non-profits.

Commissioner Taylor said here are the citizen's dollars, where are the dollars earmarked.

Mr. Presnell said the policy the Board approved was based on the investment on machinery and employees. The taxes that they pay they can get up to 75% in cash. .

Commissioner Taylor voiced it was more of an incentive back to them and Mr. Presnell concurred.

She then stated she did not think that the 5 million is realistic and it concerns her that they are trying to say that 1.1 million dollar shortage. "It is not realistic."

Mr. Presnell added this is just informal, he is not advocating spending 1.1 million.

Chair Holt asked if they had received clarification on Constitutional Officers.

Mr. Presnell said they had received the requested information from the Constitutional Officers and it would be addressed at another meeting.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this point.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Holt asked if there was anyone that wished to speak that had not spoken and there was no one.

Commissioner Taylor said she would like another workshop to discuss non-profits.

Mr. Presnell said that an additional workshop had been scheduled for August 23, 2016.

Other Budget Issues

There were no additional issues discussed.

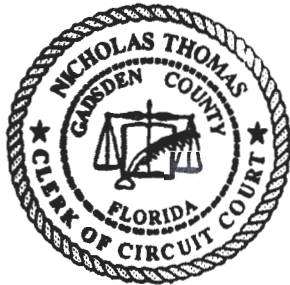
MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

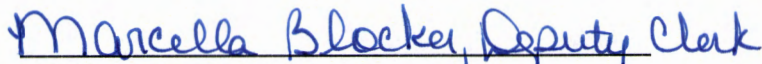
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



SHERRIE TAYLOR, Chair
Board of County Commissioners



ATTEST:


NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk