

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 7, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HELD, VIZ:**

Present: **Sherrie Taylor, Chair, District 5**
 Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1
 Dr. Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2
 Gene Morgan, District 3
 Brenda Holt, District 4
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. (Chair Taylor was present earlier for the Workshop but had not stepped back in at the start of the Board Meeting), asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. A silent roll call was done by Deputy Clerk, Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell said he had two amendments and would like to add Item 16a-2016 Paving Project Phase III-Change Order #2 and Item 16b-Approval of Resolution 2017-006, a Resolution of the Gadsden County BOCC Urging Members of the Florida Legislature to Oppose HB 17 and SB 1158 Which Pre-empt Home Rule Power to Take Certain Actions in the Best Interest of the Residents of the County Unless Expressly Authorized by the Legislature.

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. GCDC Update

Mr. Presnell said there was one Presentation and was an update by Mr. Jim McShane, Chair of the GCDC.

Jim McShane, Chairman of GCDC, appeared before the Board to give an update. He gave an updated list of the Board of Directors and who was on the Workforce & Education committee and on the Business and Industry committee.

Chair Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

Beth Kirkland appeared before the Board and said some of the recent activity was an amendment to Midway DRI to allow Four Star Freightliner and Anderson Columbia to move forward; positioning Four Star Freightliner, Commissioner Viegbesie and Dr. Sylvia Jackson to speak before the House and Senate about economic development and it garnered Statewide media for Gadsden County success with economic development bills. She further stated they had completed their deliverables for FL Makes/CareerSource Florida Manufacturers Business

Intelligence grant to GCDC. She said they had a \$10,000 from Enterprise Florida to help with marketing. She also mentioned they had been contacted by a consultant working with the Tallahassee International airport in preparing their application for the foreign trade zone; had been contacted by the Florida Chamber Foundation and they will be conducting a listening tour in each of the counties and it will be at the IFAS Center on March 15th.

Mr. McShane reappeared before the Commission and said they would like to improve communications with the Board and suggested making rounds with the investors and said he planned on meeting with each municipality. He said the Project Development Committee would be collaboration between the investors, i.e. County, Municipalities, Talquin, TCC and GTI and CareerSource and would be working on recommending policy, reviewing analysis of strengths and weaknesses and utilizing a sector strategy that would focus on potential opportunities. He also mentioned other things the committee would be working on as far as sites and talent. He then mentioned how they were focusing on the business retention and expansion. He also said the reputation of the county had been enhanced by the welcoming business environment and word was getting around that this was a county to take a look at in locating. He asked that a workshop be set up with the Commissioners before April 30th to have a roundtable discussion to see what they felt success was, what they should be doing or what might be missing and wanted full participation.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was any data on economic development dollar wise and Mr. McShane responded when they appeared before the Board a month and ½ ago showed approximately \$556,000 that was brought to the county and some required County match. Commissioner Holt said Senator Montford requested a list of things they felt were needed areas that they felt did not have accomplishment in so he could request funding for them that those areas.

Commissioner Hinson said it would be great to have a general phone number that could be called and he also had noticed they had her listed as chief consultant and thought she was the executive director. Mr. McShane clarified she was the executive director but she was the consultant under contract to do that. Commissioner Hinson then mentioned the BOCC was scheduled to meet with the School Board and felt they should meet with them as well.

Ms. Kirkland said she had spoken with Superintendent Roger Milton and he asked if they could be available the 4th Tuesday in April to meet.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they do anything in his district to please inform him so he would be aware of what was going on.

Commissioner Holt asked if there were any trainings going on at TCC now and Mr. McShane said yes.

Chair Taylor said she saw CareerSource all over activities with regard to the GCDC and in particular with business retention component and asked if they were being compensated and Mr. McShane said no, they had federal money that paid for them to do that. She said he mentioned earlier about the \$500,000 and a huge portion of that came from grants written in-house with the BOCC. Mr. McShane explained the County had to take the lead on some of the grants and they could not apply for them, the County had to do so. She added she felt the

GCDC had strong points and also felt it was an arm that could be used for economic development but thought they were going in different directions, especially given the fact they were funding two different entities, the Chamber and GCDC and they needed to have a central point that brought them together.

Commissioner Holt said they had not had this activity in the County since she had been here and they needed GCDC because the GCDC had pull within the towns and with CareerSource and the School Board.

Commissioner Viegbesie commended their efforts on the job they were doing.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was not present and the Deputy Clerk informed the Board there was nothing to report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

2. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Brenda A. Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she went to Atmore and they sent a bus to look at the facilities; they give students from the tribe money when they graduate from high school; give money to the school system, and they had a senior citizens villa.

Senate Bill 6 She urged citizens to call and support this bill and that it looked good for the Senate but may be rough for the House and it would give money to economic development.

She said there was a need to look at what they could do for Gadsden County at the Gretna facility that could help them.

Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie said he wanted to give a report or update on his trip to the legislative conference to Washington DC. He said as a member of the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Steering Committee, they discussed two Resolutions which would be fully developed before the next Congressional year began in October and one was a proposal to better support healthy and adequate eating habits; the other was a proposed emergency resolution preserving the Rural Development Program.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said they had talked about broadband and had an issue the previous night because it was slow.

He thanked the National Hook-up of Black Women and said he was selected as Person of the Year.

He also mentioned he was elected as Second Vice-President of the National Association of Black County Officials.

He then asked about Brickyard Road and Mr. Presnell said it was going to bid very soon.

He said on Highway 12, the Concord Road Bridge had a lot of cracks in it and Mr. Presnell said they would look into it.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan congratulated the West Gadsden Panthers on their State Basketball championship.

Commissioner Sherrie D. Taylor, Chair, District 5

Chair Taylor said the community would come together at West Gadsden on Thursday, March 9th to celebrate the Championship.

Commissioner Hinson asked about mosquito spraying and said they were taking over. Mr. Presnell said people should call 875-8672 and could request spraying and there would be two trucks through the Spring to help with the spraying.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

3. **Ratification to Pay County Bills**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **February 7, 2017-Regular Meeting**
5. **Approval of the Performance Evaluation Form for the County Administrator**
6. **Approval of the Performance Evaluation Form for the County Attorney**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Public Hearing-(Quasi-Judicial)-Consideration of an amendment to Condition #1 of Approval of Gussie's Garden Inn Assisted Living Preliminary Site Plan (MSP 2017-01)

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for consideration of an Amendment to Condition Number 1 of Approval of the Gussie's Garden Inn Assisted Living Preliminary Site Plan. He said they had applied for a CDBG to extend the sewer and hook it up and it was requested in the amendment that the Development Order be issued to complete the development and allow it to operate under a 'temporary certificate of occupancy' for a period up to twenty-four (24) months from the Board's approval. He further stated if the site was not connected to central water and sewer, at the end of the 24 month period, the temporary certificate of occupancy would be rescinded and all operations discontinued on the site unless extended by the BOCC.

Chair Taylor announced this was a public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak and

there was no-one.

Commissioner Holt said this was in her district and she was in favor of the project and he had done a lot of work on the facility.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked why 24 months and Mr. Presnell said one year was not enough time.

Chair Taylor said her only concern was what if things happened within the 24 months he had no control over and the time expired. Mr. Presnell said this was the only option he could find to bridge the gap and get the business up and running.

Commissioner Hinson asked if this would affect other applicants applying with the CDBG grant and Mr. Presnell said no this was an economic development GDBC grant.

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to hear insight from the Attorney regarding some of the things that had been mentioned and he certainly wanted to support the project.

Mr. Weiss said the reason 24 months was determined was because the Comprehensive Plan policy said it had to connect within 2 years and they were consistent with the comp plan by approving this amendment. Commissioner Morgan agreed he wanted to find a way to make this move forward and would support it but felt they were rolling the dice to come extent and felt more important than ever to be kept abreast of the progress on a regular basis and if there was an issue, wanted to know sooner than later to figure out a way to minimize any discomfort.

Commissioner Holt said it was not unusual, they did this with the hotels on Lake Talquin Road.

Chair Taylor asked again if there was any input from the audience and there was none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

8. Public Hearing-Consideration of transmittal of the Capital Improvements Element to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (LSPA 2017-01)

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was presented for the Board to consider transmittal of text amendments to the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) of the Comprehensive Plan to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. He stated the amendments were to replace Policy 8.2.2 and remove Table 8.3, the Five Year Capital Improvements Schedule (CIS) from the CIE so that it could be adopted by ordinance on an annual basis.

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

Commissioner Morgan said he had questions for Jill Jeglie.

Jill Jeglie, Interim Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Morgan asked what concerns had been expressed and she said it reflected changes to the Statutes.

Commissioner Hinson asked the difference between 8.2 and 8.2.2 and Ms. Jeglie explained the difference.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS

9. Approval to Confirm Appointment of the Assistant County Administrator

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for approval to confirm appointment of Lee Bradford Johnson as the new Assistant County Administrator.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND WITH A COMMENT.

Commissioner Viegbesie pointed out this was only procedural and there was really no need for the motion.

CHAIR TAYLOR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT.

Mr. Johnson appeared before the Board and said he was honored for the opportunity.

10. Approval of Resolution 2017-004 to Rename South Atlanta Street

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to rename South Atlanta Street to Barack Obama Boulevard.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION ONE AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan said in looking through the item he saw Commissioner Holt requested this to be done and asked about the feedback from the citizens in the area. Commissioner Holt said she spoke with citizens on South Atlanta Street, people on the City Commission and individuals in the City of Quincy and citizens in the Friendship area was excited and asked if they needed to come. Commissioner Morgan asked if there would be anyone to say they were not aware of this and Commissioner Holt said she was sure there would be someone because it was hard to get 100% of anything. Commissioner Morgan said he wished there had been a petition or something in the record.

Mr. Weiss said he noticed in the Resolution "Barack" was spelled wrong.

Chair Taylor asked if the county policy and procedure was followed in renaming the street and Mr. Weiss said he was not aware of any county policy or procedure that governed this.

CHAIR TAYLOR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

11. Approval to Award Bid #17-04 for Security Guard Services for the William A. "Bill" McGill Library

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to award bid #17-04 for the William A. "Bill" McGill Library to Barkley Security Services.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. EMS Consultants Annual Support Agreement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the EMS Consultants Annual Agreement 2017.

Commissioner Hinson asked since it was under \$5,000 why was it coming before the Board and Mr. Presnell explained it was a contract and the Board approved all contracts.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON ASKED FOR A COPY OF THE POLICY.

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

13. Approval and Signature on the Spring 2017 E911 Rural County Grant Application for E911 System Annual Support

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval and signature for the Spring 2017 E011 Rural County Grant Application for the E911 System Annual Support.

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

14. Approval for Gadsden County Probation Division to Conduct Court Ordered Anger Management Classes

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and explained it had been farmed out in the past to other vendors and staff of the Gadsden County Probation would not start teaching the class. He explained there would be some overtime and the probationer would be responsible for paying a \$50 fee for the class and would cover the costs.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Morgan said he had read this item and saw what was stated under the Fiscal Impact and asked if they would be requesting more money in the upcoming budget year because of the changes and Mr. Presnell said not because of these changes. He explained he met with the Probation Manager; the citizens would be paying a \$50 fee and would cover the overtime incurred by probation staff.

Hinson asked about overtime with the fiscal impact.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Temeka Chaney, Division Manager Gadsden County Probation, appeared before the Board and said numbers were based on the number of people that were ordered to the program last year and were projected numbers but could be greater than last year depending on who was ordered to attend the class. She said there were 33 people last year. Commissioner Hinson said he was asking about the overtime and Chair Taylor said the persons attending the class would be paying a fee that would cover the overtime incurred.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

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

15. Request Approval for Bid Award for Jail Plumbing Maintenance

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item said it was for Board approval of the bid award and to authorize the Chair to sign the service contract for jail plumbing maintenance to Keith McNeill Plumbing. He said there had been plumbing issues for a while and people chose to not to want to work there and had only received two bids.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Hinson asked why only two people were part of the bid process and felt personally they should re-bid this out and needed more than two people looking over this and would like to see five people at every bid process and did not feel comfortable with this and had brought this up at a previous meeting. Mr. Presnell said they had made those changes to the bid process after the last meeting. Mr. Collins explained this was opened prior to the changes taking place.

Chair Taylor agreed and said it was puzzling not have an odd number there to make a decision.

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

16. Approval to the Proposal of Consolidating the Building Inspection Department and the Planning & Community Development Department

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of the proposed consolidation of the Building Inspection Department and the Planning & Community Development Department to form the Building & Planning Department.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16a **2016 Paving Project Phase III-Change Order #2**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said for Board approval of Change Order #2 to CW Roberts Construction to include the addition of \$34,224.00 to pave Bowling Green Road and Ebro Avenue to this paving package as per the request of Commissioner Viegbesie.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. CHAIR TAYLOR OPPOSED.

16b **Approval of Resolution 2017-006, a Resolution of the Gadsden County BOCC Urging Members of the Florida Legislature to Oppose HB 17 and SB 1158 Which Pre-empt Home Rule Power to Take Certain Actions in the Best Interest of the Residents of the County Unless Expressly Authorized by the Legislature**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was presented to the Board for approval of Resolution 2017-006.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Holt said the reason she brought this forward to oppose House Bill 17 and Senate Bill 1158 which pre-empt Home Rule Power to take certain actions in the best interest of the residents of the County unless expressly authorized by the Legislature.

Commissioner Hinson asked that the bills be explained so the constituents would understand that it was about.

Mr. Weiss said it was a very broad pre-emption bill and basically said that a local government could not adopt or impose new regulations on businesses, professions and occupations unless it was expressly authorized by general law.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

17. **Update on Various Board Requests**

Mr. Presnell reminded the Commissioner of the joint meeting Thursday at the IFAS center at 6:00 p.m. with the School Board.

He said on April 10th they were funding a fire class and have fifteen people signed up for the firefighter class to become certified as a Firefighter I and was enough interest a second class may be starting very soon. Commissioner Morgan asked if the County was paying the fee and Mr. Presnell said yes. He asked if there was any recourse for anyone that did not complete the course and Mr. Presnell said they could do what the Board wanted to.

He said there would be a Program at West Gadsden High School for the State Champions

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
March 7, 2017-Regular Meeting

Thursday from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked the Administrator for an update on the succession plan and where they were now and did not want to see things in quagmire. Mr. Presnell said it was on the next agenda and he had someone coming from Escambia County.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

18. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available for questions.

Receipt and File

19. Resolutions for the week of February 20th

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 9, 2017-Joint Workshop-BIOCC/Gadsden County School Board - 6:00 p.m.

March 14, 2017-Joint Workshop-BOCC/Town of Greensboro- 6:00 p.m.

March 21, 2017-Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

March 28, 2017-Joint Workshop – 6:30 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
March 7, 2017-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR TAYLOR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:57 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA





SHERRIE D. TAYLOR, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk