

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 15, 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

Chair Taylor called the meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m., asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. She then asked everyone to make sure phone was on vibrate and if they wished to speak to fill out a Speaker Request form and give it to the Deputy Clerk..

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell said he would like to remove Item 10 and 11 from the Agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD APPROVED THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Resolution Honoring Mr. Keith Albritton

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and Chair Taylor asked him to come forward.

Commissioner Viegbesie read the Resolution aloud and presented it to him. Mr. Albritton thanked the Board.

CLERK OF COURT

The Clerk was not present and there was nothing to report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

2. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Brenda A. Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt asked the Attorney to research what they were to do about per diem for mileage for travel.

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie announced he had been accepted to ACC program for this year and

offered a scholarship so the County would not have to pay her way for registration.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he was able to attend the School Board meeting last Thursday and they talked about building a new school. He said he thought it would be great if the County and GCDC be part of that discussion and said he felt when building a school it needed to be where growth and economic development could occur at the same time.

He also said he had received an email today from Williams Communication where they had requested information and had not received the requested information from the Board and the County and wanted to make sure they received what they needed and not be placed in a "legal situation". Mr. Weiss said he had not seen the email and could assure them they had responded, a bid protest and a Public Requests request was filed and staff was working diligently to respond to the Public Records request and they had responded immediately and were gathering documents and would respond in a timely manner. Mr. Weiss also asked if the email went only to the Commissioners for them to please forward to Mr. Presnell and himself so they were aware of any issues. Commissioner Hinson said he thought the email was sent twice, Mr. Presnell sent it first then at 5:03 today another was sent to explain the situation and he was curious about it.

Commissioner Holt said she co-chaired on the Rural Commission on Rural Caucus for the Association of Counties and said if any Commissioner or citizen had any input on what they felt the County needed, she needed to get things ready for the Legislative Session.

Commissioner Hinson said he also attended the Freight Logistics Zone meeting today that was in Liberty County and was very interesting and would improve things between Gulf, Franklin, Liberty & Gadsden Counties. Mr. Presnell said local folks would get some of the jobs. Commissioner Hinson also said the job fair was held in Gadsden County and almost 200 people attended.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had no items.

Commissioner Sherrie D. Taylor, Chair, District 5

Chair Taylor said she had seen no movement on clean-up at the Stevens School. Mr. Presnell said the contract was finalized Friday and should start the next day or so. Chair Taylor said some of the citizens in the area would like to form a committee to determine what would happen after clean-up. Mr. Presnell said that item was on the agenda to be discussed this evening.

Chair Taylor then said for point of clarity with regards to the County Administrators that applied for the position, she understood that some of the three were no longer interested now. Mr. Presnell said Ms. Black could come forward and update Board.

Lonyell Black, Human Resources, appeared before the Board. Ms. Black said at the previous meeting they were given direction to set up additional interviews for the three applicants. When they were contacted, Mr. Collins declined because he had accepted another position elsewhere. The other two accepted at the time but Mr. Arrington contacted them yesterday and was no longer interested and declined and that left one applicant. Chair Taylor said they

may want to go back and see if they want to re-advertise or move forward but at this point it took away options. Commissioner Holt said she would like to see where they stood legally regarding the process. Mr. Weiss said he would look into it and felt there was no obligation to hire if only one person was standing. Commissioner Holt said her question was that that they had to hire, they would decide that but how they stood legally for the process of having one candidate. She said the other thing was she would like to have the information and would like to know if people decided not to come, she would like to do a follow-up on that because they should do that when they have businesses that change their minds about coming and that type of thing and she would like to have contact information on the individuals that decided not to come. Commissioner Hinson felt a survey would be good too and would give the reason as to reason why.

Chair Taylor said that was not a problem and that could be done; one already indicated he chose a different job and the other just chose not to so she had no problems with that but felt they needed to come back with better directions on what to do and that would give the attorney an opportunity to do the research as well as give Staff a chance to survey the candidates as to the reason, if any, as to the withdrawals from the position.

Chair Taylor said she wanted to take a look to see if they needed a second budget workshop because there were still quite a few items to be discussed. Mr. Presnell said they could see how things progressed Thursday at that workshop.

Commissioner Hinson mentioned that he read an article regarding EMS and the shortfall and asked where that came from. Mr. Presnell said it was nothing that “snuck up” on them; he and Mr. Price had been discussing it because the shortfall had been increasing each year. He said they had taken measures; one being the new contract amendment with the Hospital, there would be \$175,000 additional revenue cost-saving measure paying off the ambulances but it continued to grow. He said it was the same money, they pay on the front end and on the back end and had split the difference-it was a \$300,00-\$400,000 loss they budgeted as a loss and there was no special fund for EMS, it came from General Revenue. Commissioner Hinson said the increases were \$175,000 for the hospital. Mr. Presnell said it was new revenue, they started charging for trips. Commissioner Hinson asked how it got to \$600,000. Mr. Presnell said the reimbursement rates; that 70% of the hauls were uninsured; they did receive some Medicaid and Medicare from the Federal Government that would reduce that but did not see any improvement on the horizon and this was something they would need to discuss and deal with. Mr. Presnell added the hole was widening faster than the few dollars they could save and the \$175,000 thought would help fix the deficit but when the hole was widening by hundreds of thousands, the \$175,000 was not noticeable. Commissioner Hinson said this was why he asked the Board when they were talking that they should look into it before they were doing the budget and asked last year about having an audit of EMA so they would know exactly what was going on. He said he asked the auditor what the issue was with that and the auditor brought something to him at the beginning of the year saying there was \$675,000 based on increase for overtime.

Chair Taylor said overtime was discussed in one of their regular meetings and was one of the ways to get quality service because their base salary was around \$8.00/hour and overtime would give them around \$12.00 and was almost impossible for them to not get overtime because of the 24 hour shifts they worked.

Commissioner Holt said they should look at a base salary increase compared to overtime as a way out also.

Commissioner Morgan said regarding this issue if they looked at trends, not just here but other rural counties, these costs were sky-rocketing and if they maintained the existing model that they currently had in place, it would not fix the problem; it needed to be approached in a different manner, as other counties had done successfully.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. June 20, 2017-Regular Meeting

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Zach Annett, LEPC Coordinator, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, appeared before Board. He said they were one of ten regional planning councils located throughout the State and their core function was to provide technical assistance to the nine counties, of which Gadsden was one. He said they dealt with hazardous materials and have Federal programs that guide them but one of the main goals was to provide their citizens with information on what materials in their county and how to react if there were a major spill and use their funding to assist or facilitate with hazardous removal material related exercises and to provide training to local EMS, police and fire departments on hazardous material response.

Commissioner Holt said she served on the Planning Council and they contacted her about doing a presentation. She said they supported all the economic development projects that were inside the area

Commissioner Hinson had comments regarding the EMS situation that was discussed earlier. He said "Ending September 30, 2015 was as follows: a) EMS-\$655,000 overtime, not how much they made in addition to \$655,201. This is due to the shift of EMS employees being 24 hour shifts and is built into the budget annually. Staff worked 2 24-hour shifts in a week which resulted in 8 hours of overtime each week for each staff person. In addition there has been some staffing shortages in that department and some unfilled positions which resulted in additional overtime."

Commissioner Viegbesie said having heard what Commissioner Hinson and Commissioner Holt said, felt they needed to look at "creative financing" in regard to the overtime to retain the quality EMS workers. Chair Taylor said this was a budget issue and they needed to move the Agenda. Commissioner Hinson said this was in the newspapers and they had to address when people put something out there and it needed to be clear that it was not a County Commissioner decision; it was \$655,000 that the Staff made the decision of additional overtime. Mr. Presnell said that was the total amount and was not new overtime; they could look back in

past budgets the figure was still there. He said it was Federal law, in 1992 the County paid a hefty fine for trying to get around the overtime; it did not have to be paid for law enforcement but did have to be paid for EMS. He said the only way around it, and they were doing more of it now, was to have part-time employees and they worked one shift each week-24 hours and was the only way to get around it. He continued by saying the overtime was nothing they wanted to do but with EMS it was unavoidable as long as they were on 24 hour shifts.

Chair Taylor asked that they move the Agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-004, An Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County, Florida, adopting revised Bylaws of the Tourist Development Council; providing for repeal, severability, modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and correction of scrivener's errors; and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for adoption of Ordinance 2017-004 adopting revised by-laws of the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council (TDC).

Mr. Weiss said the revisions were not substantial in regards to substance. He said TDC started this process by requesting a couple of changes and the substantive changes were noted and was a recommendation to meet every other month rather than every month because of issues with all council members to be present on a monthly basis and allowing Staff to determine if there would not be a quorum present in order to address the lack of attendance issue. He said the other was a slightly revised procedure for removal of members for lack of attendance and was also intended to address lack of attendance and failure to get a quorum and to allow the election of a Chairperson from any of its members rather than limiting that to a bed-tax collector, which the current By-laws required.

Commissioner Morgan asked the term was for one year and asked if it had always been a one-year term. Mr. Weiss asked for the Officers or the Board Members. Commissioner Morgan said the Board members. Mr. Weiss said it was one year for officers, they were elected annually. He said statutes governed them and they really needed the By-laws for procedures. Commissioner Morgan said it sounded like the reason for the revision was the inability to get a quorum to meetings and if it would make more sense to look at the root cause of that before starting to change the By-laws. He said he did think they needed to adhere to the policy they had in the past where the Chair was a bed-tax collector and the reason he felt that way was because of the purpose of the tax and it helped to ensure there was always a bed-tax collector at the meetings that presided in case there were any questions centered around that. He reiterated he did not feel they were at the point they needed to look at updating the By-laws until they knew why there were problems with attendance.

Commissioner Holt said she served on that Board and members looked at the concerns he mentioned and they suggested starting to meet every two months because everyone had jobs and businesses and was hard to come every month and the other was on the Chair position, members said they wanted everyone to be able to serve as Chair and it not be limited to a bed-tax collector.

Chair Taylor said she was always leery when they change things and she knew there was a lot of money there and a lot of things that could be done through that Board for Economic Development. She then announced this was a public hearing and asked if anyone wish to speak and there was no-one.

Commissioner Holt said this was the second time this item had been before them and was nothing new.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM, COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE SAID COMMISSIONER HOLT ADDRESSED MOST OF HIS CONCERNS AND MADE THE SECOND. CHAIR TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Chair Taylor asked if they could get information on the terms that were being served because there were Stat6e Statutes they needed to be mindful of in making the revisions.

Commissioner Hinson said the TDC was one of the most important boards in the County and he was concerned with them wanting to meet every 2 months.

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

Commissioner Holt asked for direction and Chair Taylor said the By-laws stayed the same until they could come back and look at it as a group. She also said the TDC needed to see who wanted to continue to serve and who did not.

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. Approval to Apply for the State Funded Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant #18-BG-XX and the Federal Funded Emergency Management Performance Grant 18-FG-02-30-01-XX

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval for the Board to accept the State Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant and Federal Emergency Management Performance Grant and for authorization for the Chair to execute all documents.

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

Tashanda Whaley appeared before Board and Chair Taylor asked why apply instead of accept. Ms. Whaley said when she first started that was the way it was but now should be to accept because it was a reoccurring non-competitive grant.

Commissioner Holt asked about the grant and Ms. Whaley said it was for Emergency Preparedness for the functioning of Emergency Management and there was a Federal portion and a State portion.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his concern was the approval of the item should be contingent on

the correction from “apply” to “accept” of the document. Mr. Presnell said the contract attached was correct and wanted the verbal motion to match the acceptance of the grant. .

Mr. Weiss concurred that the motion needed to be to accept the grant and to authorize the Chair to sign the documents. Chair Taylor asked that the motion be restated.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION ONE TO ACCEPT THE STATE FUNDED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS ASSISTANCE GRANT #18-BG-XX AND FEDERAL FUNDED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT #18-FG-02-30-01-XX AND TO APPROVE THE CHAIR TO SIGN AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Chair Taylor then said she would see the Emergency Management tents all over with vehicles under it and it was under the Board and the Board should be made aware and given an opportunity to participate.

6. Approval to Accept the FY 2017 3rd Quarter Report

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to accept the third Quarter Report for FY 2017.

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

7. Discussion of Future Memorial Ideas, Site and Facility Usage of the William S. Stevens School

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to provide an update of recent activities at the W. S. Stevens School and to discuss future memorial ideas as well as the future site and facility usage. He said the first grant was to put a new roof on the remaining structure and a second grant, if approved tonight, was to do further renovations to the remaining building that would include new air conditioning, doors but the main reason for this item was to get Board direction to clean up and received an update from Staff that the Contractor had been there with the City to identify all gas, electric and water lines before putting his equipment there. He asked how they wanted to proceed, form committee, for them to meet or what the Board wanted to do with the site after clean-up.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if the additional \$50,000 for the building ventilation system was the same as Item 17. Mr. Presnell said there were two separate grants-the first had been spent.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if of the \$50,000, that they had spent \$28,273.30 and they had \$21,726.70 left and Mr. Presnell explained that ended June 30th. Mr. Presnell explained this item was for discussion; the old grant had ended and was closed out. He further explained the new grant had been awarded and had to be used for air condition, ventilation and doors.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he did not think this Board itself should determine what to do with the site and leaned in the direction of forming a committee that would involve people from the

community, citizens in the City and some from the religious community that would come up with ideas and options as to what they would like done with the site and the Board could then decide from the options the Committee came up with.

Commissioner Holt said groups were already meeting regarding this matter.

Commissioner Hinson felt Chair Taylor needed to be the one to take charge because this was in her district.

Chair Taylor said she agreed on forming a committee and Commissioner Holt said a committee was a good fit.

8. Approval of Change Order #2 for McDonald Avenue Sidewalk Project

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of Change Order number 2 to decrease funding for the McDonald sidewalk.

CHAIR TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson said they were doing change orders and there were a slew of different projects and had questions regarding that. Mr. Presnell sometimes costs go up for unforeseen reasons but this project, low bidder was awarded the project and as they were doing the work, found that the quantities were substantially less than what they had bid and were able to decrease the contract by approximately \$30,000.

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

9. Approval and Award of RFO 17-17 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Lead-Base Paint Inspections, Risk Assessment and Clearance Testing Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval and award of RFP 17-17 to Associated Consulting Professional, LLC for Lead-base Paint Inspector services and for authorization for the Chair to execute the contract.

Mr. Weiss said the contractor was provided a copy of the proposed contract and it went into the agenda packet before minor revisions requested by the contractor was made.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked the Administrator of the two bids submitted, he saw a tremendous difference and had questions regarding same. Mr. Presnell said the only way they could increase their amount was if houses were added and they did not anticipate that at this time.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH MINOR CHANGES TO WAIVE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE, HAVE DOCUMENTATION TO SHOW PROOF OF AND REDUCE INSURANCE COVERAGE FROM \$1 MILLION TO \$500,000. CHAIR TAYLOR AND COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

10. Approval and Award of RFQ 17-21 Brownfield Community Wide Assessment Grant for QEC Services to Cardno TBE

Pulled

11. Approval of Contract between Gadsden County BOCC and DPB Associated LLC for Environmental Services

Pulled

12. Approval of Health Insurance Rates

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it provided the Board with proposed health insurance 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 share the premium increase between employee and the employer at the current percentage contribution.

Commissioner Hinson felt a workshop was needed regarding this matter and Mr. Presnell explained they were facing a deadline; they received this information in mid-July and there were two meetings with the Constitutional Officers

Lonyell Black, Human Resources, appeared before the Board. Commissioner Holt asked when this was received. Ms. Black explained every year they ask for the renewal rates and was told because they also handle the State of Florida's contract as well, their focus was getting their renewals out and they then get to us. She said inquiries were made several times as to when the County would receive their rates because of the need to present it to the insurance committee and to the Board for approval before the Open Enrollment. She added because the information was received late, she had to change the Open Enrollment dates.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if the County ever considered going with cafeteria-style coverage AND Mr. Presnell said there were a number of employees where spouse worked with State and they go with SES but they were not compensated.

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

13. Approval of Life Insurance

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this provided the Board with proposed life insurance information as it related to the County's current basic life and AD&D coverage and was for Board approval to accept the Insurance Committee's recommendation of remaining with the current life insurance company, Minnesota Life and to accept the premium increase.

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

14. Extension of Memorandum of Understanding regarding the possible provision of economic development incentives for the development of an Indoor Amateur Sports Complex

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for a 90 day extension to the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the possible provision of economic development incentives for the development of an Indoor Amateur Sports Complex.

Commissioner Morgan asked what the hold-up was regarding this item. Mr. Presnell said they ran into problems with zoning; the property was annexed into the City of Midway.

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

15. Approval of Local Agency Program (LAP) Supplemental Agreement for Design of the Havana Middle School Sidewalk Extension Project

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of the Local Agency Program Agreement for acceptance of State of Florida funding for the Design of the Havana Middle School Sidewalk Extension Project and for authorization for the Chair to sign all related documents.

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

16. Approval of Change Order #1 for Bettstown Road Project

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of Change Order #1 to increase funding for the widening and resurfacing of Bettstown Road.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if the difference of \$10,813.50 would still be covered by the grant and Mr. Presnell said yes.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD QUESTIONS BEFORE VOTE TAKEN.

Commissioner Hinson asked how they could not see the wing wall and Mr. Presnell said the bid was based on the engineer's design.

CHAIR TAYLOR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. CHAIR TAYLOR OPPOSED.

17. Grant Agreement Execution for Renovations to the Historic Stevens High School

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of a grant award agreement between the State of Florida, Department of State, Florida Division of Historical Resources and the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners in the amount of \$50,000 in which all deliverables must be completed by June 30, 2018.

Chair Taylor asked when the renovation was done, would the building be open for rental or lease from anybody or if it went back to who had it before the fire. Mr. Presnell said that would be for the Board to decide and the previous lease on the building had expired.

Commissioner Hinson said he had talked to Mrs. Kruize and she had a lot of artifacts and there was history there and even though a lot was burned in the building, he felt she deserved to have the building to use for a museum and people could archive things there.

Commissioner Viegbesie said the use of the facility was not what this item was concerning right

now by the seconded the position of Commissioner Hinson.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT AND FOR THE CHAIR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt asked if it included air conditioning AND Mr. Presnell said yes, there would be 3 5-ton units there.

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

18. Approval to Execute Documents for FFY 2015 Economic Development Block Grant

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to sign and execute all related documents pertaining to the FY 2015 Economic Development Community Development block Grant award.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

19. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said going back to things that were in the press, he read where a deal had been made with Midway and BOCC for animal control and that was not true. He explained a contract was sent to them for their approval to come back to the Board, they made some changes to it and it was told to the press the County had accepted it and that was not true.

Building Code

Mr. Presnell said he was very proud of this, they had continued over the last few years to increase the ISO ratings and they were above the State and National average and average of all other counties and positively affected the insurance rates in the County.

Commissioner Viegbesie commented on the length of grass being cut and said he was hearing a lot of comments that it was not being cut low enough. Mr. Presnell said the mowers were set as low as possible for those mowers. Commissioner Hinson said it was interesting

Hinson said interesting because he brought this up at the last meeting and was curious because someone made the comment with all the roads being paved, there would be no work for Public Works. He said with that being said, why is there less dirt roads but more people on the work program, how could they increase the efficiency and they should never worry about the roads getting cut. Mr. Presnell said their option was they could buy additional tractors and mowers and rotate the guys on Friday to cut grass. Chair Taylor asked why not budget to lease equipment for three-four months during the busy time instead of purchasing it. Mr. Presnell said if the equipment was not used on a regular basis, they would have problems with it.

Commissioner Holt asked if money was only available for sidewalks outside the city and did the City have to apply for the grants? Mr. Presnell said FDOT makes those determinations like they did with the Atlanta Street sidewalk.

Commissioner Holt said she asked because she had a request from Gretna going out Hardaway Road going into the County. Mr. Presnell said they would look into it.

Stevens School

Commissioner Holt said she would like to see the habitants that were there back in there,

Candidates for Manager

Commissioner Holt said with regard to the candidates for the Manager position, if the Board decides to re-advertise for the position, she asked for five last time and said if they decide to go with who was left, that would be a decision for the Board. She made an official Public Records Request for documents on the last advertisement for County Manager, all scoring sheets, evaluations, all documents.

EMS Overtime

She said earlier she would bring this up under her comments and they would only do overtime if went over the 40 hours and there were options:

- If did 24 x 24, they did no more than others did;

TDC instruction

She asked what else they wanted because TDC needed to know so they could move on with projects they had. She also mentioned if they had bed-tax collectors that did not want to be Chair, what then?

Commissioner Hinson said when talking about EMS-they need someone who can defend the Board if something was going on and felt they needed look at other options and felt they needed to hire a Public Relations person.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the second candidate interview cancelled and Chair Taylor said they were looking to reach out again.

Commissioner Morgan said he was posing this to the Chair, Administrator and the Attorney that they were not adhering to the agenda and needed to be addressed and needed to work on how if they question an item, it be done in a manner that does not assume another person's position and that they were in bad spot already in getting vendors to respond to RFP's.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

20. Update on Various Legal Issues

Receipt and File

- 23. Death Resolutions**
Canter Brown Proclamation
New Bethel AME Proclamation
United Way

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 5, 2017-Regular Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR TAYLOR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:41 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**SHERRIE TAYLOR, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk