

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 1, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M., THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: **Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4**
 Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, Vice Chair, District 2
 Eric Hinson, District 2-arrived late
 Gene Morgan, District 3
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5
 Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt welcomed everyone, asked that they place their phone on mute or vibrate; asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

Commissioner Hinson arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Morgan asked to add discussion of the County Administrator's position.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, CHAIR HOLT, AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, AND APPEARANCES

1. Proclamation Honoring Mr. Courtney Wester

Commissioner Hinson read aloud the Proclamation and it was presented to Mr. Wester.

2. Presentation of Gadsden County Audit

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item.

Mr. Ryan Tucker, Purvis, Gray, and Company, appeared before the Board and presented the result of the audit period ending September 30, 2017. He said the process began in October; they did the Board audit, moved to the Clerk's audit, Tax Collector and Supervisor of Elections, the Property Appraiser, and the Sheriff's audit was completed in mid-March. He said there were six different audits that were completed and were included in the bound report. He went through some of the highlights of the audit. He said they reviewed the internal controls of the County's financial operations. He said if the County spent more than \$750,000 in Federal or State financial assistance during the fiscal year, they have to do a State or Federal Single Audit and they had to do both State and Federal this year and required them to look at additional compliance requirements over major

programs. He said this was an unmodified opinion, meaning there were no modifications of their opinion that the financial statements were fairly presented in all material respects. He said the Unassigned Fund Balance was just under \$4.5 Million and was about where it was this time last year. He said the GFO recommended keeping a minimum of 2-3 months in reserve and they were just in that range. He pointed out the Miscellaneous Revenues showed \$705,138 and were a one-time revenue source from insurance on the Stevens School fire. He said there were several loans paid off during the year and no new debts were added during the year. He said there were a number of grants on the Federal level and almost \$836,000 was spent. He said there was over \$4.5 Million on the State grants and most were related to the County Road grants from DOT. He said they had to do some additional compliance testing and had a couple of findings he touched on. One had to do with the SHIP Program, the first was related to eligibility of one particular participant who did not meet the criteria spelled out in the LHAP Plan and the second was related to not selecting the lowest bidder for a couple of the contracts for the program and final item was the Annual Reports that were submitted to the State that did not agree with the accounting records. He said the County had issued their response; discussed the matters with SHIP and the issues have been resolved. He said the other findings were in the Sheriff's audit, one related to getting the books closed out in a timely manner, the books were not ready for them to audit when they came to perform the audit and they needed to go back through some confiscated funds in their Evidence Room that they need to determine the ultimate resolution of those cases and submit funds to the appropriate parties. He said the Sheriff has issued his response and was included in the document as well. He said overall the Audit went well, Staff did a good job of pulling the financial records together and the books were in good shape.

Commissioner Hinson asked how they determined if a person was eligible for the SHIP program and Mr. Tucker said they had to get income verification for each participant and keep that in the file and it was found that the one did not meet with the low-income requirement, but met with the moderate requirement. Commissioner Hinson asked if it was a County employee and was told yes.

Commissioner Viegbesie said a thorough job was done and wanted it clear on the record with regard to the confiscated funds from the Sheriff's Office, it was reported there were some issues and the Sheriff responded and his response was satisfactory. Mr. Tucker said they had not verified what they had done since the Auditors recommendations but it would be looked at next year.

Commissioner Morgan asked him about the term "unmodified audit" and in the past, they had used the term "unqualified audit" and was it still considered a clean audit. Mr. Tucker said it was considered a clean audit, the terminology had been changed a couple of years ago. Commissioner Morgan said he had pointed out their "assigned" and "unassigned" Fund Balances and he had mentioned they could not include the \$500,000 insurance funds received due to the fact it was a one-time thing. Mr. Tucker said that money was sitting in the "unassigned" fund of roughly \$4.5 Million and in Fiscal Year 18 was transferred out so it was probably closer to \$4 Million now. Commissioner Morgan said the reason he wanted to mention that to the Board was that they were trending in a direction where the fund balances were going down and he knew the Board was aware of the issues that they could fall into when that happened. He said in 2008 and 2009, they were actually down to \$1.9 Million in unrestricted Fund Balances and had serious cash flow issues. He added he felt they were still financially healthy but just two years ago they were \$5.5 Million in unrestricted fund balance and it was recommended by their firm that based on a budget of the County's size, they needed to stay within that \$5-\$6 Million range.

Chair Holt said when it was mentioned that they were down before in 2008 and 2009, it was because they built libraries and people were now using them. She said with regard to the Housing issue, the County's policy said they could be low income but the Granting agency said it was low to moderate and they had to adjust what they were doing to make sure people were qualified. She said they could not have County employees getting low wages and it must be open to the public. She said some of the employees were low income and until they true up the salary base, some would fall in the moderate to low income of housing. She added if they qualified, it was almost penalizing them if they do not allow them to apply.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS MOTION.

CLERK OF COURT

Mr. Thomas was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Morgan asked to move Item 6 off for discussion.

CHAIR HOLT SAID THERE WAS A MOTION TO EXCLUDE ITEM 6 AND ASKED IF THERE WAS A SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Morgan said he wanted to pull the item for discussion. Commissioner Morgan stated he wanted to vote no on the item.

Commissioner Hinson asked if there was a reason why he wished to vote no on it. Commissioner Morgan said comments had been made previously; he wanted to vote no on it.

Commissioner Hinson said he always voted no on the Consent Agenda and that included today and he wanted to vote no also.

Commissioner Morgan said he wished to pull the item for discussion.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AMENDED HIS MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS 3-5 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

- 3. Ratification Memo**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. January 29, 2018-Special Meeting**
 - b. February 5, 2018-Special Meeting**
 - c. March 20, 2018-Pre-Meeting Workshop**
 - d. March 20, 2018-Regular Meeting**

- e. **April 3, 2018-Pre-Meeting Workshop**
- f. **April 3, 2018-Regular Meeting**

- 5. **Ratification of approval and execution of Transfer Agreement for the transfer of water and sanitary sewer distribution system to serve Four Star Freightliner Property, and instruction for the Clerk to record the Transfer Agreement**
- 6. **Ratification of approval and execution of DEP Grant Agreement for St. Hebron Park “Walk and Bike Trail”**
Pulled for discussion

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

- 6. **Ratification of approval and execution of DEP Grant Agreement for St. Hebron Park “Walk and Bike Trail”**
Commissioner Morgan disagreed with the process they went through regarding this.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT OPTION 2. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Gary Murray, 108 S. Shadow Street, Quincy, FL-Woodberry Road

Mr. Murray appeared before the Board and said he was present because there was a meeting regarding Woodberry Road and felt they were “forgotten people”. He said they had raised \$10,000 of the \$17,000 they hoped to raise to get the road fixed. He said they have been working on this for over 20 years. He asked the Commissioners what they could do for them and said something needed to be done.

Chair Holt said she met with the people on Woodberry Road in 2000 and have met several times since; it was private property and the County could not do maintenance on private property with County equipment and County labor. There was more discussion about the private road.

Commissioner Taylor said the County had a process to adopt private roads and suggested he meet with the Administrator to further discuss this matter.

Paul Hoppes, 150 San Bonita , Havana, FL

Doug Hall, Esquire, 215 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 7. **Public Hearing-(Quasi-Judicial)-Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) High-Speed Test Track Special Exception Use (SE-2017-02)**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said this was a quasi-judicial hearing for Board approval for an application for a Special Exception Use (SEU) to allow the Florida Highway Patrol to construct and operate a high-speed test track south of the main FPSI campus.

Jill Jeglie, Senior Planner appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. She said this was heard and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission (PC) on a 7-1 vote at the September 14, 2017 meeting. She added that the applicant filed another application to address the PC conditions of approval including buffer requirements and to propose an increase in the proposed hours of operation. On December 14, 2017, the PC voted 6-3 to recommend approval of the SEU with conditions and the requirement of a noise study to be considered by the Board. A noise analysis was provided and was attached to the Agenda item. She said there was a table included in the Staff report that provided a summary of the adjacent FLUM categories; to the north was property designated Rural Residential as well as the FPSI Main Campus; 317 acres to the north owned by the Suber family was designated Timber II; to the east was designated Agriculture 3 and indicated as Timber III owned by Bradley Road Partnership; to the south was infrastructure which was Interstate 10; to the west was Agriculture 3 which was 367 acres, 72.88 acre, and 50 acre tracts in Timber II owned by St. Joe Timberlands. She explained the rest of the Staff report to the Commission.

Mark Brown, Chief of FHP, appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. He said he has made it his mission to build this training track here where they do their training and in 2016 they were awarded \$2.8 Million to use to build the track. He said that initially, he wanted a 2-3 mile driving track and due to constraints of the facility and wetlands, they came up with a 1.4-mile driving track and was double of the driving track currently there. Because of costs, they reached out to the Florida National Guard and their engineering battalion with help to build and they agreed to do so as a training exercise. He said this would save the State a substantial amount of money and would provide them to do the first large-scale training exercise in the Southeastern United States. He said this would be the first of its kind in Florida. He said over the past two years they had averaged more than \$100,000 per year on hotels for training in this County and their intention was to house the Florida National Guard in Gadsden County while they build the track, roughly 50 members for 50 days or longer. He said the plan was, once the track was built, to have every FHP member come and train on the track over a four-year training cycle. They anticipate in the future for law enforcement officers across the State to come train on the track as well. He said they had attempted to mitigate the impact with the landowners and have been unable to come to a compromise. He listed off what had been agreed to thus far. He said they would like to alter hours of operation to Mon-Tues 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; W-T 8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.; F-S 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and no use on Sunday. He asked that in the future, if they add a restroom, they be able to put a floodlight there to be able to see to get to the restroom.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he needed to make a public disclosure statement and that he was a Professor at TCC and has 32 years on as Staff. He said there was no conflict of interest but felt he needed to state this publically before going further.

Chair Holt asked if there had been any ex parte conversations regarding this matter between any Board members and TCC or from citizens.

Commissioner Hinson said Eugene Lamb, Trustee at TCC (and former County Commissioner) contacted him and informed him that someone might be calling him regarding this issue.

Commissioner Morgan said he had spoken with folks on both sides of this issue; Harvey Suber, Paul Hoppes, Herb Sheheane, Mike Dilger and Chief Brown, Mike Dorian, and Commissioner Lamb.

Commissioner Taylor said it had been a while and she had been contacted by some of the residents regarding the noise issue.

Robert George, George, and Associates, appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. He gave an overview of the details of the proposed track.

Doug Hall, Esquire, Carlton Fields, appeared before the Board and informed the Board his firm represented Harvey Suber and Bradley Road Partnership.

Paul Hoppes, the Managing Partner of Bradley Road Partnership, appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. He said they bought the property in 2003 with the intention of building single-family homes. He said he did not believe the track was compatible with the neighbors. He said TCC owns and controls 1,296 acres and said this project would kill his project. He said there were several locations in the State that could house this training facility.

Mr. Hall reappeared before the Board. He said they tried to reach an agreement and it had fallen apart over the past week over a couple of things. He said Mr. Hoppes did not think the track met the compatibility requirements and they agreed it was a special exception use and was not permitted as is for this piece of property. He added that the only way it could be permitted was if the Board approved it as an exception from the permitted uses on this property and one of the lynchpins of the requirements that have to be met to satisfy that criteria are that it be compatible. He said when it went before the PC, one of the conditions that they imposed was that the applicant prepared a noise study and they did not have the results when they made their recommendation. He pointed out some of the points from the noise study. Mr. Hall said they felt if this was going to be approved the conditions should be very strict.

Chair Holt asked if anyone else wished to speak in opposition to the item and there was no-one.

Chief Brown reappeared before the Board and said the proposed conditions have become more restrictive since he first saw them. He talked about some of the challenges and issues with the proposed minimum conditions of approval that were proposed by the adjacent landowners.

Commissioner Viegbesie said in hearing both sides, felt the differences could be resolved if they would speak and listen to each other and said he was not hearing “no way” from either party involved. He asked if there was any way this could be tabled to see if it would help with amicably resolving the issues between the parties.

Chair Holt asked Chief Brown to step back to the podium and asked if there was a time limit with the funding and he said they had secured the funding and as far as he knew, time was not a problem.

Commissioner Morgan thanked everyone that had participated so far. He had questions for Chief Brown. He said he heard him say originally they were looking at the track to be 2-3 miles and this was much smaller and even if there were no opposition, was this the ideal spot for this tract. Chief

Brown said yes, the land was given to them. He said the best location was no wetlands and no restrictions.

Commissioner Taylor said they were close and wanted to see both come to fruition and was just a matter of working out the details. She said obviously they would like to have the best of both worlds. She said she was for them meeting to try to work this out.

Mr. Weiss said staff had done a great job in explaining the criteria to the Board and pointed out to the Board members what was needed to vote on this item.

Chair Holt said in this, they were going to have to make some decisions.

Harvey Suber appeared before the Board and was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. He said if the track was opened up for all the State to use for training, it would be a busy track and was not intended for all of the government to use, only the Highway Patrol. He said he had spent \$50,000 getting his property approved for 1:1 housing and was waiting for the economy to recover.

Commissioner Taylor said it did not matter to her which route this took to come back to them but that they resolve their differences.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW THE TWO ENTITIES TO WORK OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES AND ONCE WORKED OUT, TO RE-AGENDA THIS ITEM BEFORE THE BOARD AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Weiss if he had any issues with how they were proceeding and Mr. Weiss responded no.

Commissioner Morgan asked that they put a time certain for the Board to re-address the issue.

Mrs. Jackson said they would not be able to bring this back at the next meeting but could on the first meeting in June.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AMENDED HER MOTION FOR THIS TO BE TABLED UNTIL THE FIRST MEETING IN JUNE AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AMENDED HIS SECOND.

Doug Hall reappeared before the Board and asked if this item would pick up where left off with Commission deliberations or be reopened for public testimony. Mr. Weiss said that was a question for the Chair and she said she did not think they needed more evidence, they just needed to make decisions. Commissioner Morgan agreed.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONTINUANCE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING UNTIL JUNE 5TH.

Ms. Jeglie asked if the next item (Preliminary Plat) would also be continued.

Mr. Weiss said they would need to open it and then they could continue it.

8. Public Hearing-(Quasi-Judicial)-Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) High-Speed Test Track Conceptual & Preliminary Site Plan (SP-2017-003)

The Chair said they had overlooked Mr. Murray who wished to speak during Citizens Comments. (Please see Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items)

Chair Holt said since the previous item was tabled, this item should be tabled as well.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THAT THE ITEM BE TABLED UNTIL THE JUNE 5TH MEETING.

9. Public Hearing-Adoption of Ordinance No. 2018-001, An Ordinance of the BOCC of Gadsden County amending Chapter 6 of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, regulating the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages; providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and correction of scrivener's errors.

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said this was for adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances regulating the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Chair Holt stated this was a public hearing and asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to speak on this item and there was no-one.

Commissioner Taylor asked for clarity regarding this item and said they would be reducing 1000 feet to 500 and this was being done in hopes of generating businesses as well as economic development. She asked what the existing businesses thought about the change and they were now putting competition in their front door.

Mrs. Jackson said she was being told the County was out of the norm by having the 1000 foot restriction from a Church or school and this was basically to change to allow restaurants to be able to come into the area.

Commissioner Taylor asked if it was specific to restaurants or could a bar come in?

Mr. Weiss said he wanted to mention the change to the Ordinance was due to 1) reducing the 1000 feet to 500 feet from schools, houses of worship and government-owned and operated playground areas; but the other thing was actually exempt certain license holders from the 500-foot requirement as well and listed the exemptions.

Commissioner Morgan asked if GDCD brought this and was someone present to talk about this item. Mrs. Jackson said Ms. Kirkland was at a workshop and Mr. Jefferson was at a Board meeting. Commissioner Morgan asked if there was a way to do this without changing the Ordinance and do this on a case-by-case basis. He added he thought there was a reason they had the 1000 foot restriction from churches, schools, and parks.

Mr. Weiss said there is or was something in the Land Development Code and did not remember if was currently there or was deleted when some revisions were made the past few years that were

related to alcohol sales. He said without changing the Ordinance they would not be able to grant this on a case-by-case basis.

Chair Holt said that there was nothing in an Ordinance that said a school or church could not be near a place that sold alcohol.

Commissioner Morgan said he felt that this warranted further discussion and was not going to vote to approve based on this.

Chair Holt said she was in favor of this item because when they advertise those exchanges, U. S. 90 or (Highway) 27, they do not go by what they had to do for the process; they go by what was on paper.

Commissioner Taylor said she was kind of on the same lines as Commissioner Morgan and had heartburn with putting alcohol next to a school or church. She added she thought the only exchange that would have an issue was the Lake Talquin exit with a church there.

Chair Holt said she believed they had annexed that into the City of Quincy and Commissioner Taylor said she believed it went as far as Wal-Mart and not past.

Mrs. Jackson said they were talking about the unincorporated areas of the County and was something that was discussed at length at the TDC meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie said in listening to the conversation, he did not think the 1000 feet made much of a difference and personally did not believe that morality could be legislated. He said if everybody was for economic development; they needed to move in the direction that went with others. He said he did not see any difference in 1000 feet or 500 feet.

Chair Holt asked the will of the Board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE THAT THIS ITEM BE BROUGHT BACK IN THE SECOND MEETING IN JUNE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

GENERAL BUSINESS

10. Approval and Execution of Satisfaction of Housing Agreement

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval and signature to satisfy the Special Assessment Lien that was agreed upon by the Homeowner and Community Development State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Housing Rehabilitative Program.

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

11. Approval of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Revised Annual Reports

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval for the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Annual Reports and for authorization for the Chair to execute the certification on FY 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

Commissioner Viegbesie left at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson had questions.

Sonya Burns, the Housing Coordinator, appeared before the Board and gave a brief explanation of the item.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. CDBG Housing Assistance Plan (HAP) Revision Request

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval and adoption of the newly revised Community Development Housing Assistance Plan CDBG (HAP).

Commissioner Morgan asked what they were doing here.

Andy Easton, Andy Easton, and Associates appeared before the Board and explained this item. He said they were the Grant Administrators for the Housing Program. He added there were some missing exhibits in the attachment.

Commissioner Morgan asked how they knew what changes were made from the previous item and Mr. Easton said Attachment A was missing from the previous package.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned to the meeting at this juncture.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND THERE WERE QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Hinson said he concurred with Commissioner Morgan that changes should have been highlighted.

Mr. Easton said with the CDBG program, there were a lot of policies that needed to be adopted.

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

13. Approval of Off-System Project Maintenance Agreement-County Road 268 Shoulder Construction

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval and execution of the design phase of the attached Off-System Project Agreement for County Road 268 (High Bridge Road) between Joe Adams Road and Brickyard Road for shoulder construction and other minor related improvements for acceptance of State of Florida funding.

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

14. Discussion and Direction of the Continuing Service Contract for Architectural Services

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board discussion regarding the

Continuing Service Contract for Architectural Services.

Chair Holt said she asked that this is brought back. She said this item prevented other architects from bidding on items.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if this was the architectural firm the County was currently working with and was told yes.

Mrs. Jackson said a need for an architect was required when she was in the Grant Writing position. She said this was bid out and the person that won the bid was Joel Sampson and Associates.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if this firm was not the only architectural firm that the County had and if there were some major architectural designs that needed to be done, those could be bid out and this was one retained for urgent matters.

Mrs. Jackson said they had an engineer that had architectural services built into his contract as well and when there are projects that they need architectural services, it is sent to both DPB and Associates and Joel Sampson to request a quote and given to the lowest quote.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked how dependable their speed to the response to the County's sense of urgency for and Mr. Jackson said they were talking about Joel Sampson and Associates tonight and had had no problem with services that had been provided.

Chair Holt said it was not due to the speed of the item, it was due to the fact that they not only have just him but could be opened up to other architects.

Commissioner Morgan said they had a local architect firm that they have a contract with and he had never heard anything but glowing remarks with his services. He asked why they would want to do anything that might hamper the relationship if no reason.

Chair Holt said she was questioning the Board's process, but she had no problem with Mr. Sampson. She thought he was doing a great job; she just wanted to look at the Board's process.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he agreed with Commissioner Morgan, this firm was doing quality work.

Chair Holt said she only wanted to discuss their process.

15. Approval to Conduct a Classification and Compensation Study

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to pay for services to conduct a compensation and classification study of positions with the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked Mrs. Jackson if the compensation plan would involve a reorganization of the County.

Lonyell Black, Human Resources Manager, appeared before the Board and said they had a study done approximately ten-twelve years ago. She said this was a two-part process and they were

here tonight to ask for funding to start the preliminary study. She said the findings would be brought back to the Board and be inclusive of the costs to implement, if it meant to change classification of current positions to bring them comparable to what the market was; and then would be up to the Board as to whether they wanted to approve the findings and what the fiscal impact would be.

Commissioner Morgan said he had no problem with a feasibility study and asked if they were currently only approving funds for the study. He said he had no problem with this but they needed to understand that this in no way meant they had to accept their recommendations.

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

Commissioner Hinson said they needed to make sure this money was budgeted last year. He said he had a great idea every year of what the starting salary should be but at the same time, if they were not going to move forward, what was the purpose of paying \$18,500. He said they needed to figure out what direction they wanted to move first.

Chair Holt said she was in favor of this study “because you always true the system” and some do it before ten years and they could see where they were. She added that every time they look for someone for a position, they were trying to guess. Commissioner Hinson asked if they interviewed others or assumed this would be the one. Mrs. Jackson said they had three quotes.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

16. Update on Various Board Requests

Mrs. Jackson thanked them for approving the salary study. She said they were losing a very valuable employee, Clyde Collins, on June 18th and this study would help them to recruit and retain the best staff.

She requested a Proclamation for National Public Works Week for the May 15th Board meeting.

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

She said in the Receipt and File was a letter from FAC congratulating the CCC graduates and ACC graduates.

She reminded the Commissioners that on May 8th at 4:30 would be a Travel and Internet Workshop. She said that last week they conducted an Emergency Management Workshop and was very productive.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he felt the workshop was very informative, suggested Staff look at hybrid options for the EMS services and see what would work for them and the County because two different models were presented and know there were others out there.

Chair Holt said they were looking at the Hospital Trust Fund at the interest only so they would not disturb the principal for EMS funding until they were able to collect some of the debts.

Mrs. Jackson said they put a list of the 2017 Summer Youth Employment recipients before them and it listed the names and where they were placed.

Commissioner Taylor said there was a request for striping on Joe Adams Road and Lakeview Road, was there a reason why it had not been done yet. Mrs. Jackson said she would check on that and get back with her. Commissioner Taylor said there were three recipients for her district for who received services for emergency repair and she asked her to follow-up with her as to who received the services.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he knew they had approved some roads to be striped.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

17. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he wanted to piggyback on the emergency services and the Hospital Trust. They were getting to a deadline if they wanted to discuss the contract and he asked for direction on how they wanted him to approach it.

Chair Holt asked for some information that they could look at.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

18. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he would like for the Board to get the Gadsden County Hall of Fame here on the May 15th Agenda and wanted to recognize them, along with Willie Simmons and Willie Taggart. He also said they needed to write the school a check as well for the football team.

Mrs. Jackson said when she spoke with him before, she told him there were already quite a few presentations for the May 15th meeting and when they received his information, she said it would have to be the first meeting in June. He told her “We are the boss, not the boss; we are the leaders of this County. What you told me that you can do and I agreed with that, you came back and you made the motion to put somebody here to do that and I agreed with them showing up. But I think you should be sensitive to the fact that I asked you first and you come here today and made a motion, I’ve been asking for these folks to come here for the last 3-4 meetings and I apologize, I hate the word Boss, I can’t stand for people to say the work boss. I tell everybody, don’t call anybody boss. To me, it’s derogatory to say, boss. Whatever, I hate to use that word but I apologize for that. I tell everybody don’t use that word, it’s a crazy word to use. But I asked you and we talked, you said we have a lot of stuff on the Agenda and I agreed with that but you came here today and put something on that same date that for months I’ve asked you for these other folks. The reason why I calculated that date is because of Havana’s May Reunion, right? They gonna be in town. Some people may have to come into town that day anyway and just make sense they come that same week that all this gonna be in and that’s the reason why I proposed

that.”

Chair Holt said when he had something to say to her, make it directly to her and if there was any way they could work on getting it done, get it done. She said to do it without badgering.

He said he was not badgering, he was talking generally.

He said he had no problem with her when he asked for something, he expected it to be done.

Commissioner Hinson said he wanted to recognize Staff for some things they responded well on. He said the reason he stayed back today, he was trying to look over some stuff and felt they needed to reflect on just being here sometimes and needed to be careful as to who they listen to as well. He said they had to be careful about which spirits they were dealing with sometimes and who they were dealing with and the person they thought might have an issue might be the person that loved them the most.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said with the EMS issue, he applauded the Board for looking at a new EMS model moving forward and thought they were doing a great thing.

He said there was some discussion about the hospital contract and the Trust Fund. He encouraged a conversation to be had with the Chair of the Hospital Board and Mr. Glazer.

He said they really needed to button down the County Administrator’s position. He said they had a serious issue with day-to-day operations currently as far as leadership and was not an individual issue. He said he supported what the Interim County Administrator was attempting to do and they needed to support her in that position. He said there was key staff that had left and others were considering that and did not have folks with tenure to be able to address some issues they have moving forward. He said it was their responsibility to make sure they had folks in place and someone with assurances that they could move forward in whatever direction they want to go.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor had no comments and started to leave the meeting.

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, Vice-Chair, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie said he would like to make a motion for a Resolution.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR A RESOLUTION TO HONOR AMANDA LIGHTFOOT WHO OWNS SPLIT ENDS AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Taylor left at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie then said that Gadsden County was their responsibility and they should put the people of Gadsden County before politics and whatever they discuss and do in the dark at some point comes to light. He said they needed to take politics away and do what was for the good of Gadsden County.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
May 1, 2018 – Regular Meeting

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Chair Holt asked that if they had any questions about the Agenda, to please start calling the Administrator to give them the opportunity to do research and get the documentation to them by the time of the meeting.

She reminded them that May 12th was the May Day celebration and informed them that Curtis Sconiers was to direct a play that was to be put on that day but he died today.

She said they did a good job tonight on the public hearing.

Receipt and File

- 19. April 5, 2018-Florida Department of State Letter**
- April 5, 2018-FAC Memorandum**
- April 12, 2018-Department of Economic Opportunity Letter**

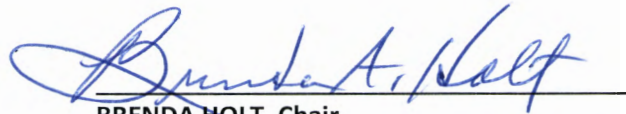
UPCOMING MEETINGS

- May 8, 2018-4:30 p.m. Travel Workshop**
- May 15, 2018-4:30 Pre-Meeting Workshop**
- May 15, 2018-6:00 Regular Meeting**
- May 17, 2018-4:30 Development Order Process Workshop**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:09 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



BRENDA HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk