

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY ON OCTOBER 16, 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  
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 called the meeting to Order at 6:01 p.m., asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence, and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Jackson announced she would like to pull Agenda Items 1, 2, 11, and 15 and she had two items that needed to be added, an Update of Hurricane Michael and Approval of Updated Resolutions Declaring Gadsden County to be in a State of Emergency and would be added as Items 7a & 7b.

Commissioner Hinson had a question; he said he asked two weeks ago for three things to be added; Veterans Services, Emergency housing repairs and Summer Youth employment.

Mrs. Jackson addressed that; two of the items would require budget amendment and Veterans Services was on the agenda for discussion. She explained there were special advertising requirements for budget amendments and there was not enough time for it to be placed on this meeting.

Commissioner Hinson asked why Veterans Services was on the agenda and Mrs. Jackson explained it was on the Agenda for discussion. She added that \$50,000 was allocated previously for a Veterans Monument to be placed on the Courthouse lawn and unless it was the will of the Board to spend another \$50,000 for a monument, they could proceed with it. Commissioner Hinson said that was very clever and they had been talking about this matter forever and this was the first time hearing this explanation and he was impressed by it. Commissioner Taylor pointed out this request was from two meetings ago so the timeline should not have been an issue and she was talking about the Planning and Zoning Board members. Mrs. Jackson explained that was the Public Hearing that is on the Agenda.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

- 1. Resolution Honoring the Havana North Side Class of 1968-50<sup>th</sup> Reunion**  
Item pulled
- 2. Resolution Honoring James A. Shanks "Be Out Day"**

Item pulled

**CONSENT**

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

3. **Ratification Memo**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. **May 8, 2018 Workshop**
  - b. **September 4, 2018 Regular Minutes**
5. **Approval to Sell Surplus Equipment/Vehicles at Auction**

**ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

**CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

6. **Public Hearing-Adoption of Ordinance 2018-017, An Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County, FL, amending Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2 of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, regarding the membership of the Planning Commission; 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; and providing for an effective date.**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2 of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, regarding membership of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his question was if they would be able to add a member of the commission given the fact that one in his district has decided to no longer continue and could he add another member of his community.

Chair Holt said her tow appointees did not live in her district but she appointed not by address but by intelligence.

She announced this was a Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments and there were none.

Commissioner Taylor said she did not think the audience had clarity on this item and asked the Administrator to explain and she did so.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he understood Commissioner Taylor's position.

Commissioner Morgan said he felt first they should discuss the importance of this Planning Board not only to this Board but to the citizens of the County and felt it extremely important to have equal representation across all five districts and thought they needed to appreciate the folks

willing to serve and understand that not just the district they represent but the impact their decisions made across the entire county.

Commissioner Hinson said 42 years ago Henry McGill and NAACP fought against single, at-large seats in Gadsden County and if they go opposite that it would go against what they fought hard for.

Chair Holt said her two that they were discussing did not live in her district was Ed Dixon and Gail Bridges-Bright. She said if they were going to address this, the substantiation of attendance of their Commissioners were not stated; some have not been to a meeting and said if they were going to do this, address everything at one time of the ones that have not met the criteria of four regular meetings in a year, they would not be on the Board also.

Mr. Weiss said this impacted appointments but not existing, sitting members. He said once their term was up, the next appointment would have to be in accordance with the Ordinance. He said there had always been a provision in the Ordinance that stated “The County Commission...may remove any member for cause after written notice and public hearing. Cause for removal shall include, but not be limited to, misfeasance, malfeasance, or neglect of duty, where unexcused absences from more than two consecutive regular meetings or four regular meetings in a year shall constitute neglect of duty.” He said he added a couple of sentences that defined what cause for removal would be. He said it would still require this Board to take action to remove them. Mr. Weiss stated that in *Section 2-174-Membership* it read that the County Commission shall appoint two members from their district. Chair Holt pointed out her two Commissioners had 100% of attendance and did most of the legwork on the Planning Board.

Commissioner Hinson said they had people displaced, injured, everything else and wish they could come back to all of this unless it was something real pressing because they had real issues they needed to deal with. Chair Holt said if they wanted to table it, to table it.

**COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND CHAIR HOLT OPPOSED.**

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **7. Approval to Confirm the Growth Management Director**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for confirmation of employment of Suzanne K. Lex as the Growth Management Director, formerly titled Planning Director.

Suzanne K. Lex appeared before the Board and spoke a few words.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was conflicted with this item because she was the FDOT liaison and was sad that she would be leaving FDOT and would be an asset to Gadsden County.

Commissioner Taylor said she heard briefly about her background information from the Administrator and had been here 10 years and have seen 4-5 Planning Directors and most did not match Gadsden County and one was the desire to see growth. She said there was so many obstacles there that were placed in the way of businesses for them to open their doors seemed to

take forever.

Ms. Lex said she was a small business owner before going into the public sector and understood growth needed to be managed but also understood permits should be gotten in a timely manner and should be a very efficient and cost-effective.

Commissioner Hinson asked about the contract that the former Planning Director now had and Mr. Weiss explained. Commissioner Hinson said he thought Allara Gutcher did an excellent job and was a great person. Mrs. Jackson said the person before them had more experience.

Commissioner Morgan said he thought she would find a good opportunity in Gadsden County.

Chair Holt said everything was dictated by them.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.**

**7a. Update on Hurricane Michael and the Aftermath**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the item and said Gadsden County declared a local State of Emergency and ordered a mandatory evacuation from mobile homes.

She started with an update from the Town of Havana.

**Howard McKinnon, City Manager**, appeared before the Board and gave a Town of Havana report, said the day after the hurricane Havana brought in 4 crews to help with their electrical problems and by mid-late afternoon Saturday they had all the damage that they could see with inspecting the lines repaired and the main transmission line from Duke that served the Havana Substation was down and did not restore that service to them until late Saturday night and was too late for his crew to safely start turning people on. He said early Sunday morning they began a deliberate process in restoring by sections the electrical grid in Havana. He said by 5:00 Sunday they were 100% restored. He said not everyone was receiving power, they had 12-15 customers, because of the ferocious winds, their service was ripped off their house and was the property owner's responsibility to get that repaired. He said they were probably down to less than five today. He said with the Water system, the back-up water generator worked as it should and they never lost water pressure. He said when power went off; they had issues with the sewer system. He added there would be food/water distribution at East Gadsden on Saturday.

Jack McLean appeared before the Board for the City of Quincy report. He said they were dependent on Duke Power to get their system into position so they could deliver power so the City could then convey power to their citizens; they had more than 60 poles that were taken out; many roads were blocked; trees were entangled in their above-ground system and were difficult to remove them. He said there were 30 individuals that came in to help them and after bringing in an engineer, it was decided to bring in additional crews to assist.

*Commissioner Hinson stepped out at 6:51 p.m.*

Mr. McLean said they will have 33 additional crews come into town tomorrow to help; they were having problem with housing because local hotels being down; they opened up the Rec Center and

they did cooking out of the fire station to serve everyone. He said they will have available 44 rooms tomorrow, with 2 beds in each room. He said they had 35% of the town up and by tomorrow night should be up to 45%.

*Commissioner Hinson returned at 6:53 p.m.*

He said with the additional crews coming in, it will cut the restoration time in half; they have supplies and resources needed and said it was an expensive undertaking. He said they were now turning to the FEMA program and have been educating everyone to get them money regarding the hurricane. Ice had been Distributed and there will be a feeding program at Shanks on Thursday.

Mr. Tracey Beasley from Talquin Electric appeared before the Board. He said there has been a historic restoration effort by TEC and they had 99% of their system down in four counties. He said they began working on the facilities getting the transmission system up. Duke started bringing their substations up on Friday evening and as of now there was around 36% restored in the County and overall approximately 72%. He said they have 63 crews working in Gadsden County and bringing in additional crews tomorrow and had approximately 1000 broken poles system wide and approximately 400 broken poles in County. He said he felt they would hit the 90% number by the week-end.

**Mr. Gerard from Charlotte County** appeared before the Board. He gave a list of people that traveled here to assist.

**John Elias, Charlotte County**, appeared before the Board. He said the Debris team has done a phenomenal job with clean-up. The initial push is road clean-up for vehicles to pass and debris pick-up should start tomorrow after being certified. He said there will be PSA's on things public will need to know.

**Wes Holden, Thompson Consulting Services, Contract Debris Monitor for Gadsden County** appeared before the Board. He said they will be providing monitoring and documentation oversight of debris removal operations that D & J Enterprises will be providing and will be hiring local residents to help perform jobs, they were already looking to hire 100-200 local in this community. He said the phone number for the recruiter is 850-661-6166 and they will utilize CareerSource as well.

**Chip Starr, D&J spokesperson** appeared before the Board. He said they will bring in large, self-loading grapple trucks to handle the downed trees and will try to give resources in every area. The website is [Admin@DJEnterprises.net](mailto:Admin@DJEnterprises.net)

Mrs. Jackson said Gadsden County will not have to pay for anything.

#### **Structural Damages**

Mrs. Jackson said the Butler Building has roof damage; St. Johns Park had fence damage and trees down; Greenshade Fire station has roof and side damage; Facilities Maintenance Warehouse is completely destroyed; Chattahoochee EMS Building has roof and window damage and trees down; Lamar Massey Building has roof, walls, lights and parking lot have damage and trees down and Quincy EMS has been deemed unsafe to occupy and was a total loss and cannot be occupied. She said they have been in conversation with the insurance company and they are advancing \$1

Million and will speak further about accessing other damages. She also said there was significant damage to the historical Courthouse.

**Beth Kirkland, Gadsden County Development Council**, appeared before the Board. She said with regard to the Emergency Support Function 18 for business and industry, the GDC has been in communication with the Department of Economic Opportunity, Small Business Development Center, CareerSource Capital Region and the SBA to put together a mobile assistance center. She said they would be able to get a mobile assistance vehicle and they will be bringing that over in the next couple of days. She said they were responding to requests for commercial buildings where supplies could be temporarily held; they were requesting a list of short-term residential rental properties for displaced families; and having discussions with Department of Economic Opportunity and other communities within the Panhandle to see how CDBG Disaster Recovery funds could be utilized for a Grant to put together a tourism and economic development marketing campaign.

Mrs. Jackson spoke of some of the assistance program: FEMA has a team of seven people going door to door in Gadsden County; three sites daily in Gretna, Chattahoochee and Havana; and USDA Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP, a program for those that do not traditionally qualify for SNAP) is setting up their program; from now until November 2, 2018 there is help for home clean-up.

#### **County Housing**

She said this was a hot topic and had received quite a few calls for emergency housing. \$740,000 is currently available through the SHIP Program to be prioritized for SHIP Disaster Relief Litigation Strategy pending current program commitments.

She said there were already currently approved Housing activities: \$1.5 Million from the Housing Finance Corporation that will be available after the SHIP fund has been exhausted for emergency housing as well as \$15 Million that could possibly be tapped into from the FHC. She said the person will only have to submit the traditional application that is done for SHIP and will operate just like the traditional emergency housing and will be quick, no waiting list. She listed things this would cover. She also talked about the Rapid Repair Program and explained it.

She said the National Guard has delivered meals and water, they would not be accepting any more food trucks; the County was still under a 10:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m. curfew; a looting task force has been created to prevent break-ins to local businesses and advised (!! be called if suspicious activity was seen; there has been an issue with price-gouging; She asked that if anyone received a “door-hanger” as she did, to please be leery of it and call 1-866-90SCAM; the County was currently under a burn ban; and a boil water notice was issued for the Pat Thomas RV Park. She gave list of special thanks to ones that have provided some type of assistance.

Commissioner Hinson added that Karen Wells and Sherrie Taylor donated food.

Chair Holt thanked the Stark family for their help in clearing roads; CW Roberts dropped off heavy equipment on Highway 267 North past the power plant to help with clearing roads; she thanked Florida Association of Counties and Davin Suggs for their assistance.

Commissioner Hinson thanked BOCC staff for everything, TEC; Town of Havana; City of Quincy

among others.

*Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at 7:37 p.m.*

Commissioner Hinson said it was a team effort and thanked everybody for everything.

Chair Holt wrapped it up by thanking Sheriff Morris Young.

*Commissioner Viegbesie returned at 7:40 p.m.*

Chair Holt said they needed to get questioning out of the way in order to beat the curfew. She then thanked Public Works, Fire Department and asked if there were any questions from the audience and there were none.

Commissioner Taylor said she was glad this was pulled together and was valuable information, said she was asked if private roads would be assessed and was told they could go on private roads.

**Mr. Gerard, Charlotte County**, reappeared before the Board. He said the two official distribution Centers were at the Jail and in Chattahoochee. Mr. Gerard said they were closing the Quincy POD because people were no longer coming to get items since stores were opening.

Commissioner Hinson said he was curious if there were a way possible to find a spot in Midway, Havana, Chattahoochee, Greensboro and Gretna to be more convenient for citizens' pick-up.

Olivia Smith appeared before the Board to give a Communications update.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a timeline for schools. Mrs. Jackson said people were still in shelters.

Johnny Croley appeared before the Board. He said he was all over the County every day moving heavy equipment and there are lines down all over and not marked. He said he just came off Shaw Farm Road and there are wires across the roads and no ribbons to mark it and it was bad.

Mr. Tracey reappeared before the Board. He said they had to be notified to do something and have already notified someone to check that road. He said they could use a non-lineman to check and if they were one of their lines, then the crew would need to take care of it. He added that cable and telephone lines were not their lines and technically they could not touch them but were easy to mark.

*Commissioner Taylor stepped out 8:15 p.m.*

Mr. Tracey said they had put a notice out on their social media that Cycle 3 & 4 disconnects were canceled for this month and Cycle 1 & 2 will be evaluated next week; there would be no penalty fees attached to late payments associated with the following cycles and due dates: Cycle 1- October 12<sup>th</sup>; Cycle 2-October 19<sup>th</sup>; Cycle 3-October 29<sup>th</sup>; and Cycle 4-November 5<sup>th</sup>; and they will offer flexible payment arrangements for members in need.

**7b. Approval of Updated Resolutions Declaring Gadsden County to be in a State of Emergency**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval for updated Resolutions declaring Gadsden County to be in a State of Emergency.

Mr. Weiss said this was intended to sort of allow a “rolling declaration” of emergency and he was concerned with the way the statute read on this in terms of their ability to do that. He said the Statute said they had to re-up the Declaration every seven days.

*Commissioner Taylor returned 8:30 p.m.*

Mr. Weiss said by adopting a Resolution now and for it to be effective every 7 days, he was not sure if they could do that. He said the purpose of the Statute was to re-evaluate every 7 days to determine whether or not it was needed to be extended.

Mrs. Jackson said she was unsure if the Board was interested, and asked if the Board would be willing to entertain to designate the Chair the ability to declare the emergency specific for Hurricane Michael to keep the Board from meeting every 7 days.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the State Statute required the Board or designated person to do it and Mrs. Weiss said it stated to request State assistance in both emergency related mutual aid assistance by declaring a State of Emergency, it said each political subdivision shall have the power and authority to declare this State of Emergency. He said it did not say Board or Chair, but political subdivision, meaning County. He asked if they could delegate that authority to adopt a Resolution to the Chair or the Administrator. HE said the purpose of the Statute is to suspend formalities that were specifically associated with County Government. He said was unsure with any certainty, his concern would be if not done the right way, they might be jeopardizing or compromising their ability to recover funds that otherwise they would be able to recover. He said if they want to adopt tonight for next 7 days and take action to delegate the authority to the Administrator or Chair to evaluate in the next 7 days in order to potentially make that declaration on behalf of the County, he thought they could do that and wanted to check in the meantime to make sure they were not doing anything to not be reimbursed. He added they had to have a new Declaration every 7 days and re-evaluate to say they wanted to continue the State of Emergency. He said his recommendation would be in order to try to avoid having to come and meet every 7 days to re-up the Declaration, they could today adopt the Resolution and then delegate the authority to whether it be the Chair or the Administrator to re-evaluate in 7 days and potentially extend the Declaration and let him check on it in the meantime so when 7 days were up and if they need to have another meeting, they will.

Commissioner Morgan said he thought they should follow the advice of the attorney and Chair Holt said if they missed deadlines with the State and have to meet and do not have enough people, they would be in trouble. Commissioner Morgan said with that being said, could they adopt the Resolution with changes eliminating the wording passed 7 days in the final paragraph and Mr. Weiss stated he did not think they could, they were limited to 7 days by Statute and there had to be a re-evaluation every 7 days. He said what they were trying to do was to delegate the authority to extend the Declaration after the initial 7 day period to either the Administrator or the Chair if deemed necessary. Commissioner Taylor said she was concerned with the legality of everything because the Chair and the Administrator had to be careful speaking on behalf of the Board when authority had not been given. She added they needed to do it the right way so they were not penalized and not given reimbursement. Commissioner Morgan said his concern was



this to be done in the proper way and if they have to meet every 7 days, so be it.

**COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL WITH THE CHANGES AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROV THIS ITEM.**

**8. Adoption of a Resolution Approving a Gadsden County List of Lands Policy per Florida Statute 125.379, and Request to Schedule the First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Gadsden County List of Lands Real Estate Ordinance (or Amend Existing Policy)**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the adoption of a Resolution approving a Gadsden County Official List of Lands Policy Per Florida Statutes 125 and Section 125.379 guiding Florida Counties to maintain a listing of County properties owned, creating a special designated list of those properties appropriate for affordable housing, and providing direction for disposal of properties once designated appropriate for affordable housing.

Commissioner Hinson made a motion to deny. Commissioner Taylor asked why. Commissioner Hinson said it was the wrong time to be trying to take property from people.

Mrs. Jackson clarified this item and said this was asking for the ability to look at all property that the County owned and identify which pieces of property could be used for low-income housing.

Commissioner Viegbesie said that was his understanding of this item and the City of Tallahassee does it.

Commissioner Hinson then said “what is understood sometimes is not understood. Let me just say this real quick, it was a young man, a family of brothers and, and, they had their house there, and the County had the property. But someone wanted the property; this happened recently as a matter of fact, someone wanted the property. What the Board did, I mean, what the staff did, they arrested to get rid of it quick so someone else could get that particular property, right, all because of a certain issue that occurred. That person no longer has that property no more. Now, they talking about Tallahassee, since you want to talk about Tallahassee, if you want to be in Tallahassee, stay in Tallahassee, right? Because Gadsden County is not Tallahassee.”

Chair Holt said this was not taking property from people, this was property already owned by the County.

Commissioner Taylor said he was right; they were not making any more land. At the very beginning it did belong to someone else, it was abandoned or taxes were not paid. It was turned over to the County and the County now owned the property.

Chair Holt said if the property was there and was able to be gotten back, she was for it.

Commissioner Morgan asked if this was a result of the individual meetings they had with Mr. Kemp and was told yes. Commissioner Morgan asked if Mr. Cunningham was in favor of this and was told yes. Commissioner Morgan asked why they were in favor. Mrs. Jackson said right now there was a lot of property and it was a loss to the County because of not receiving tax value from it; it will increase ad valorem taxes and revenues for the County.

Chair Holt said this would also apply to someone who used to own the land to apply for ow-income housing and may be possibly able to get their property.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if they could table this and have a workshop and take it from there.

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THIS ITEM. CHAIR HOLT SAID THERE WAS A PREVIOUS MOTION FROM COMMISSIONER HINSON TO DENY THIS ITEM AND THERE WAS A SECOND AND NO VOTE TAKEN. CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THAT VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND CHAIR HOLT OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.**

**COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR A WORKSHOP AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**9. Approval to Award RFQ No. 18-19 to Provide Construction Management Services on a Continuing Service Contract for County Capital Projects**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval to award RFQ No, 18-19 to Allstate Construction, Inc., Bill Bond Construction and Riley Palmer Construction Company to provide professional Construction Management Services on a Continuing Service Contract for County Capital Projects.

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS AND CHAIR HOLT MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIOENR MORGAN HAD A QUESTION.**

Commissioner Morgan said this did not have the Bid Tabulation form attached, his showed Eye Associates. Mrs. Jackson said it was on the back of that.

Commissioner Taylor said she was not supporting this item.

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

Commissioner Morgan suggested they correct the contract ending date-there is no September 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Jackson asked for suggestions on how to get local bidders.

**10. Approval to Outsource EMS Billing to EMS Consultants**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval to outsource EMS billing to EMS Consultants and request the Chair to sign all related documents.

**COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD QUESTIONS.**

Commissioner Hinson asked about the fiscal impact and the 5% of what is collected.

Mrs. Jackson said it was what it said and currently they do not collect that money and they end up

with a deficit every year.

*Commissioner Morgan stepped out 8:58 p.m.*

*Commissioner Morgan returned at 8:59 p.m.*

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

**11. Approval of Library Strategic Long-Range Plan 2018-2023**

Item Pulled

**12. Approval of the 2019 Holiday Schedule**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the 2019 BOCC Holiday Schedule.

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

**13. Approval to Accept the 2018-2019 Mutual Aid Operations Plan between the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service and the Gadsden County Fire Departments**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the 2018-2019 Division of Forestry Mutual Aid Operation Plan between the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Florida Forest Service and the Gadsden County Fire Departments.

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

**14. Discussion of Veteran Services FY 18/19 Budget**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for discussion regarding the Veterans Services budget for FY 18/19. She said for the past five years, Veteran Services budget has been about the same every year. There are 2 full time employees and 2 part-time employees with a cost of approximately \$130,000. Since January 1, 2018, they have provided transportation around the area for appointments over 900 trips, with a total mileage of over 48,000 miles. Staff helps Veterans complete any and all paperwork they need completed. Expenses for fuel and office items average out to about \$30,000. She said during the FY 17/18 budget, the Board approved a one-time purchase of a monument for the Veterans and included \$50,000 for the cost of acquiring the monument in the Veterans Service budget.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they put a one-time fee on something, how it could be implied that they were cutting \$50,000.

Mrs. Jackson said it did show in the budget from last year to this year that this amount had been moved over and she apologized and said she had tried to explain this to him several times and in the meeting she was not allowed to; she tried to talk to him after the meeting and he asked when. She said it was on Facebook Live. Commissioner Hinson said he was not trying to debate with her, he just wanted clarity. He said when he asks questions, he did not talk to her too much and was

asking simple questions and maybe he was looking at this wrong. He said if they budget an item \$50,000 more for 2017/2018 for a one-time fee for one particular thing that was one time. He said he was trying to figure it out; how could the following year it be deducted. Chair Holt said they deducted it from the total amount of money that was there. Commissioner Hinson said for them to not get offended when he asked questions because that was why he asked questions and something was just clarified to him. When it was broken down, he understood. He said not everybody could be a quarterback.

Commissioner Viegbesie said this was for a monument he requested and when he saw the reduction in the budget, he knew it was for the one-time increase and services were not cut.

Commissioner Hinson said that was why they needed clarity. He said when he asks questions, he never attacks anybody; he was just asking a question. He said if you look back 2-4 meetings, he has been asking this forever and this was the first day that someone ever broke it down and explained and the memorial was never mentioned. HE said his reputation stands strong for 14 years, he shoots straight and he understood pressure in his position. He said when it was broken down, he understood; why did it take 4-5 meetings to tell him when he had been asking for so long. He apologized for hurting peoples' feelings and said was unsure why he was apologizing.

Commissioner Taylor said to Commissioner Hinson and Commissioner Viegbesie, the argument was correct, for clarity, if they had a one-time funding source and it was used, the only thing that could be carried over would be if any funds were left over. They were also correct in this was the first time the monument was mentioned.

Chair Holt said the Manager tried to explain at a previous meeting and every time she spoke, an argument broke out so she left it alone and they moved on. Chair said he was correct, received the clarity and it was now put to bed.

**15. Approval to Confirm the Growth Management Director**

Pulled-duplicate item.

**16. Approval to Extend the Lease Agreement with the Gadsden County School Board for Dental Equipment**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the lease for the dental equipment that was currently located at the Havana Magnet School to the Gadsden County School Board.

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

**17. Approval to Award Bid No. 18-06 for the Construction of a New Multi-Purpose Facility located at 2140 West Jefferson Street**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval and acceptance of the low bid and for authorization for the Chair to sign and execute documents with CSO Contracting, Inc. to construct a new Multi-Purpose Building on the site of the UF/IFAS Gadsden County Extension Office.

**UON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIOENR MORGAN, THE**

**BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

V/Morgan 5-0

**CLERK OF COURT**

**18. Updates**

Nothing to report.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**19. Updates**

Mrs. Jackson said there was a report from CRMC with their response from Hurricane Michael.

They have moved EMS staff to the back area of the hospital since their building was destroyed.

Mrs. Jackson said when this meeting started, she was told they were taking her baby to the hospital; last week she spent the entire time at EOC, slept there while her baby was at Shands; today was the anniversary of her Grandmother's death and she has worked her whole life to build a life of integrity and for people to see her in a certain way. She said she hoped everyone believed that she was doing a good job for the County and it hurts that her integrity to be questioned at every meeting.

*Mrs. Jackson stepped out of the meeting at 9:14 p.m.*

Chair Holt said for them to give her a break and to move on to the County Attorney.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**20. Updates**

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**21. Report and Discussion of Public Issues**

**Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1**

Commissioner Hinson said this was a stressful time for a lot of people; a lot of things have happened this weekend to a lot of other people and a lot really need help now, more so than ever before. He said he was at his lowest this week as well and had to figure out how to get out of it because people needed his help. He said so many people lost their lives in the hurricane and needed them to be strong to work with them now; people lost their homes. He said he never tried to hurt anyone's feelings but when his constituents ask questions and they are tough questions, which was why they put him here. He said he has never done anything to hurt a person or anybody else of that magnitude; this is a tough job to be a County Commissioner and takes guts. He said Tallahassee Commissioner Proctor reached out to him to see how they could partner. Chair Holt said for him to get with the Administrator. He thanked the Emergency Management people and the citizens for being strong and helpful. He thanked all the Commissioners for what they did during the hurricane.

**Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3**

Commissioner Morgan said he had nothing to say and a lot to do.

**Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5**

Commissioner Taylor said she knew at times the job could get hectic. She applauded Olivia Smith for the informative posts

*Mrs. Jackson returned at 9:20 p.m.*

Commissioner Taylor told Mrs. Jackson she knew she had massive responsibilities on her and at times, pressure comes.

She said she wanted to have a workshop and with that wanted to take information to the public with all the information that was on the screen.

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

Commissioner Viegbesie asked where they were with a conversation with CRMC with the contract with the County Hospital. Mrs. Jackson said the Hospital Board asked to wait until after the election to address this matter.

He said he thought it was time to stop posturing, grandstanding and do work.

**Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4**

Chair Holt said they have a problem with Building inspections, when meters were torn from the home, it was up to the homeowners to have it placed back on, and needed to be inspected before the power could be hooked up and turned on. She said they had extra inspectors, code enforcement officers and people to help with permitting coming. Chair Holt said as soon as Talquin was threw getting people connected, they are going to want to be online. She also said the Baptist Church Association planned on bringing in foods and goods on Thursday. Chair Holt also said Mrs. Jackson did an outstanding job; trying to get the debris contracts, two of them were bumping heads; had consultants having them look at different things; and was pressure that experienced managers have a hard time with but she was able to bring those people in through the Association of Counties and they were pulling one after the other and there was no time to even move. She added that the ones seen here was not even the half of them; not to mention the National Guard. She said what was needed was a little more civility and stop talking so much and go to work. She said they were laughing and cutting the fool and it hurts peoples’ feelings and when it is seen on television, people ask. When it’s put on Facebook, it’s said that they argue and play too much and not taking care of business. She said they had to get it done correctly. She said they needed to think about this and come back and have no disrespect in the room and told Mrs. Jackson she had no reason to feel bad but wanted her to know that they were going to clean up their act and no matter who the manager was, thought they could do better.

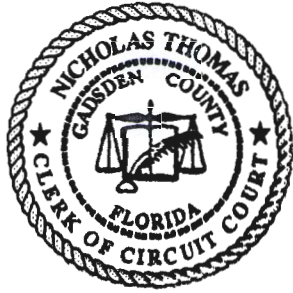
**Receipt and File**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
October 16, 2018 – Regular Meeting

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:31 P.M.



ATTEST:

  
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NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



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BRENDA HOLT, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners