

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 20, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Dr. Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, Chair, District 2
Sherrie Taylor, Vice-Chair, District 5
Eric Hinson, District 1
Gene Morgan, District 3
Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4
Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Beryl Wood, Deputy Clerk

Swearing in of Re-elected Commissioners Brenda A. Holt, District 4 and Anthony O. Viegbesie, Ph.D., District 2

Chair Holt said they would first hold the Swearing in of Commissioner Viegbesie and herself. The Honorable Barbara Hobbs, Circuit Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit was present and swore in both Commissioners that were re-elected to serve the Citizens of Gadsden County and they posed for pictures.

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Char Holt asked that everyone 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 said she would like to pull Item 2 and Item 15.

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

Reorganization of the Board - Dr. V – Chair /Taylor – Vice -Chair

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Chair Holt said they would now have nominations for Chairman and she passed the gavel to Mr. Weiss.

Chair Holt nominated Commissioner Viegbesie for Chair.

Commissioner Taylor stated that was why she asked for the floor to nominate Commissioner Viegbesie. Commissioner Hinson made the second.

MR. WEISS SAID THERE WAS A MOTION AND SECOND TO ELECT COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AS CHAIR AND ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER NOMINATIONS AND THERE WAS NOT. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AS CHAIR.

The gavel was then passed to Chair Viegbesie and he presided over the remainder of the meeting.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE NOMINATED COMMISSIONER HOLT AS VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER HINSON SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE ELSE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY AND HE THEN NOMINATED COMMISSIONER TAYLOR.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE ROLL CALL VOTE FOR COMMISSIONER HOLT AS VICE-CHAIR.

Commissioner Holt - yes

Chair Viegbesie - yes

Commissioner Hinson – no

Commissioner Morgan – no

Commissioner Taylor - no

THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY ROLL CALL VOTE. COMMISSIONER HINSON, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE ROLL CALL VOTE FOR COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AS VICE-CHAIR.

Commissioner Holt – yes

Chair Viegbesie – yes

Commissioner Hinson – yes

Commissioner Morgan – yes

Commissioner Taylor - yes

THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY ROLL CALL VOTE TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AS VICE CHAIR.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, AND APPEARANCES

2. ~~Library Award Top 2018 Reader~~
Item pulled

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

3. Ratification Memo
4. Ratification of Resolution 2018-017
5. Ratification of Task Orders with D&J Enterprises
6. Ratification of Purchase Order with Thompson Consulting Services, LLC
7. Ratification of Interlocal Agreement between Gadsden County and the Town of Havana for Disaster Debris Removal Services
8. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 2, 2018-Regular Meeting
 - b. October 16, 2018-Regular Meeting

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- **Dwayne Smith, 3185 Atwater Rd, Chattahoochee, FL 32324** appeared before the Board. He came before the Board to discuss his property and events that occurred after Hurricane Michael. He said Talquin Electric came onto his property on October 23rd and he asked if they were going to turn on some lights and they stated yes, but they had to cut trees. He told them they were not to cut trees, they had no right-of-way and they left. He said they returned on October 25th and this time they had with them Gadsden County Deputy Sheriff Dick Locke and Deputy McPherson. They told him they were going to cut trees to restore lights to other residents and he advised them no. He stated he was going to his house to get the plat and then stated that Officer Locke told him if he went into his house he would be shot and then called him the “n” word and if he got in his way, he would be locked up. He then told them they had no right and was unsure how Gadsden County got involved in it. He said “God did the work and took the power lines down; they proceeded to put it back up anyway without my brother’s permission”. He said the Gadsden County Sheriffs enforced it and his complaint was with Deputy Sheriff Dick Locke and Talquin Electric. He stated they put the power lines up and they had no right. He said this would be straightened out through the Courts.
- **Eugene Sherman, 660 Sheline Drive, Havana, FL 32333, President of Lake Yvette Homeowners Association** appeared before the Board and thanked them for the collaborative efforts, especially in their neighborhood. He spoke of concerns on Bill McGill Road. He said some of their concerns were road repair in the area which they would address at another time.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at 6:18 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. Public Hearing-Legislative-Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2018-019 to Amend the Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan (LSPA 2018-04)

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was to amend the Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Allara Gutcher, The Planning Collaborative, appeared before the Board. She said this item was before them as an Adoption Hearing and would update the Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan by Ordinance. She explained this was primarily to clarify language to help better implement the Comprehensive Plan.

Chair Viegbesie asked for public comment and there was none.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt asked they inform the public of the changes for clarity.

Commissioner Taylor returned at 6:21 p.m.

Mrs. Gutcher re-appeared before the Board and directed them to page 7 of 12 and discussed the

changes.

Commissioner Holt thanked her and called the question if there were no other comments.

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

10. Public Hearing-Legislative-Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2018-020 to amend the Infrastructure Element of the Comprehensive Plan (LSPA 2018-09)

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for adoption of Ordinance 2018-020 to amend the Infrastructure Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Gutcher re-appeared before the Board and said it was to update the Infrastructure Element Plan and was last updated/amended in 2001. She said this element was a pretty substantial overhaul. She added that since Gadsden County did not provide water/sewer services, they rely on the State system for the installation of septic tanks and potable water wells.

Chair Viegbesie asked if protection would also apply to a Talquin water tank that was providing water to communities. Mrs. Gutcher said it would apply to any potable well water.

Chair Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked if there were any comments and there was none.

Commissioner Taylor asked the Attorney for his position. Attorney Weiss said it was fine.

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

11. Public Hearing-Approval of Ordinance 2018-021 for the Issuance of Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds (Not to Exceed \$800,000) to Finance a Portion of the New Multi-Purpose Facility

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and stated it was for approval of Ordinance 2018-021 for the issuance of Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$800,000 to finance a portion of the new multi-purpose facility.

Chair Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked for a little more information.

Mrs. Jackson said on September 22, 2016, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners received a Letter of Conditions from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (the "USDA") for loan approval of not to exceed \$707,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance a portion of a multi-purpose facility (the "Project"). The USDA funding will only be a portion of the funding required to complete the Project. The other funding sources consist of \$1,000,000 from the Florida Legislature through the Florida Department of Agriculture and an additional \$199,999 grant was secured from USDA Rural Development for a Farmers Market. She said in order to consummate the loan from USDA; the County was required to issue a bond as evidence of the loan from USDA. She said USDA was offering favorable terms at this time, including an interest rate of 3.875%.

Chair Viegbesie asked for Commissioners' comments and there was none. He then announced it

was a public hearing and asked if there were any comments from the audience and there was none.

Commissioner Holt explained this item was to build a building in front of the Livestock building and they received the \$1 Million from the Legislature a while ago along with the funds from USDA and she felt this was a great idea because if not, they would not be able to go back and get the building and the one there was in disrepair.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor asked about the \$800,000 they were looking at to fund this and said at the time it was originally funded in September 2016; and then funding from the Legislature of \$1 Million and additional funding, have they double-checked the timeline to make sure funds were still available because it had been some time since this had moved forward.

Mrs. Jackson said yes, a letter was received as late as last week and instead of the \$707,000 that was previously referenced, they now need \$800,000 and if they approve this, they could move forward with construction immediately. Commissioner Taylor asked what the funding source would be and Mrs. Jackson said it would be from General Revenue. Commissioner Taylor asked if this was something new and Mrs. Jackson said this would be debt service. Commissioner Taylor asked how they kept doing this when the public was told they were in debt. Mrs. Jackson said this has been budgeted for this fiscal year but was coming from the General Fund. Commissioner Taylor asked if this was highlighted during the budget hearings and Mrs. Jackson responded yes.

Commissioner Hinson asked if it was budgeted for \$700,000 or \$800,000. Mrs. Jackson clarified in 2016, the original amount that was offered to the County was \$707,000 and there were different bids a few years ago and the previous Administrator did not feel they would need to get the loan, however prices were higher than they used to be so they would need the loan in order to complete the project and it was \$800,000 now instead of \$707,000. Commissioner Hinson asked if they budgeted for \$800,000 and she said yes.

Commissioner Taylor said she would like to see something of this magnitude come and knew they had been working on this for over two years and had difficulties in approving this because of some of the things that they let go and did not approve on this budget cycle. She said they had always had a County Extension Office and the repairs were needed but could not agree to do this after they had cut some programs that could have an impact on peoples' lives.

Commissioner Hinson stated he supported this but his problem was the interest rate of 3.875% and if a house was purchased, the interest rate was lower than that. He asked how many institutions were checked with. Mrs. Jackson said she was not sure how many, but they definitely checked with the local banks and a few others, but it had been a while ago, but they determined the best route was USDA. Commissioner Hinson stated they were about to vote on something that was \$800,000 and the information was not in front of them and was that appropriate to vote on something without all the information.

Chair Viegbesie said he would think that the interest rate on a USDA loan would be much lower than any conventional loan. He said they had been dragging this along and it went from \$707,000

to \$800,000 and if they kept dragging it on, the costs of construction would increase, the interest rate would keep climbing and they would get to a point where they would no longer be able to afford this.

Commissioner Holt said the conventionals were starting at 5-6% and Department of Agriculture was starting at 4-5%. She said they had taken the vote but had not gotten to the “nay” part and was unsure how to handle it at this point. Commissioner Hinson said to call the question and she stated usually the question was called before the voting.

Commissioner Morgan said he agreed with Commissioner Holt regarding the interest rate and did not know of any that was more comparable to what they were getting on this particular note. He said this was the argument he had a couple of years ago with the paving initiative, while asphalt prices and fuel costs were low, that was his point of doing that. He said to Commissioner Holt he was unaware they had actually taken a vote, he started to do that and there were questions. She said he asked “all in favor” but it was fine, she just wanted to let him know.

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

12. Public Hearing-Adoption of Ordinance No. 2018-022, An Ordinance of the BOCC of Gadsden County, FL, amending Section 74-1 of the GC Code of Ordinances, to include emergency medical services operations and capital expenditures as an authorized use of the discretionary sales surtax proceeds levied pursuant to Section 212.055(3), Florida Statutes; providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the GC 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 said this agenda item seeks adoption of an ordinance amending Section 74- 1 of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances to include Emergency Medical Services operations and capital expenditures as an authorized use of the discretionary sales surtax levied pursuant to section 212.055 (3), Florida Statutes.

Chair Viegbesie announced this was a Public Hearing and asked for public comments and there was none.

Commissioner Morgan said when this originated, it was for public works infrastructure projects and felt strongly that was what the dollars should be spent on and would not agree on expanding and thought they were going in the wrong direction.

Commissioner Holt asked for more clarification for the public since this was a public hearing.

Mrs. Jackson explained during the budget process they discussed this a little and the question arose regarding the privatization of EMS services and the Clerk and the Business Manager got together and felt it was a good idea to split the surtax three ways. She said it was feasible because not all the money was typically spent from Fire or Public Works so if it were split three ways, nothing would go lacking and it would actually cover some of the deficit from EMS services.

Mr. Weiss pointed out an amendment of this Ordinance would require a super majority vote (4 out of the 5 votes).

Commissioner Holt asked if this was not moved, what the detriment would be to EMS. Mrs. Jackson asked Mr. Price, Office of Management and Budget to come forward.

Mr. Price appeared before the Board and commented that this would be a big hit. He said they were counting on the \$800,000 a year to help fill the gap where they were short approximately \$1 Million. He said between that and the other changes they were doing to the billing cycle, they were confident it would fill the gap for EMS and without this; they would have to go back to the drawing board. Commissioner Holt asked how it would affect Public Works. He said it would affect both Public Works and Fire by about \$400,000 a year less from each. He said currently they both carry about \$1 Million-\$1.2 Million in Fund Balance from year to year unless there was a storm. Commissioner Holt asked the attorney the length of time regarding this and he said it would be indefinite until they amended the Ordinance again.

Chair Viegbesie said if this particular item did not pass; was he hearing him say that would put a hit on EMS. Mr. Price said it would adversely affect and they would have to go into the General Fund Balance. Chair Viegbesie said they did not have a fund balance to attempt to do anything with from the last budget discussions they had. Mr. Price said that was correct and they had approximately \$3 Million. Chair Viegbesie asked if this did not pass, would it put a hit on Public Works and Mr. Price said if it did not pass, it would not affect Public Works, they would continue to receive their money the way they were. Chair Viegbesie said EMS, which was something that was very integral to the safety and operation of this County would be badly hit and Mr. Price said correct.

Commissioner Hinson called the question and Commissioner Taylor started to speak. He then rescinded so she could have an opportunity to speak. Commissioner Morgan asked if a motion had been made yet and was told no, so there was no question to call.

Commissioner Taylor said they were needed \$800,000 for services and thought they had planned to outsource and have they now put that back in and no longer looking at outsourcing. She asked if they were trying to figure out how to fund this service by taking from both Public Works and Fire. She said she had to agree with Commissioner Morgan and asked if the surtax was a discretionary fund and where the money was coming from. Mrs. Jackson said it would come from taxes. Commissioner Taylor said Public Works only had fuel tax and asked if that was correct and if they took from Public Works, what other surtax would they have to levy to fund this. She then said the question to the attorney was whether or not they could use transportation taxes to fund this.

Mr. Price reappeared before the Board and said it was a small county surtax; it was a sales tax and not a fuel tax. Commissioner Taylor asked if that was in the narrative and he was unsure. She stated it was not. Mr. Weiss replied it was a sales tax and Section 212.055(3), Florida Statutes authorized the Board to levy this discretionary sales surtax, which the Board has done, and the statute also authorized the County Commission to use the surtax for any public purpose that was authorized under the Ordinance. He said what was on the table tonight was the amendment of the Ordinance to allow for the use of the surtax fund to be used for EMS and the statute did require four votes. She asked the Interim Administrator how they arrived at the sum of \$800,000. Mrs. Jackson said they felt they could take \$400,000 from Fire and Public Works without it hurting them and they were making additional adjustments at EMS to save the County money. She said they were quickly transitioning into Fire Safety and a lot of the staff was already trained in Fire;

they have transitioned the building and could not say yet how much would be brought in but could do that at the end of the quarter. She said they believe they would be able to recoup the rest of that money. She added they were estimated by the company that did the billing they could get the County an additional \$500,000. Commissioner Taylor said other companies had come in that they contracted with and it never prevailed. She said they do it this year, get \$800,000 from Public Works this year, based on history, which meant every year they would have this kind of deficit with EMS, was she saying year after year they would be taxing Public Works and Fire. Mrs. Jackson said yes, but one correction she wanted to make, they have contracted with a debt service company before to collect the billing, but never had a service to start on the front end and that was where they send the bill in their name versus on a letterhead that said Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Taylor said she did not think a different letterhead would make a difference in a person's ability to pay because if the income was not there, letterhead would not make that big of a difference. Chair Viegbesie recalled that Clerk Thomas suggested that they could split the surtax three ways and one of the reasons they had the deficit that they have this year that led to the reduction in the expenditures in some of the other projects that some were very "in love" with and wanted to see those one-time expenses that they had to have like the tower, would not be continuous. He said he did not feel they would be carrying an \$800,000 deficit on for other years and would be a one-year thing unless the Financial Manager has another understanding. He said they have a workshop scheduled with GHI and believed from that some additional revenue would be coming in because he has had conversations with CRMC as to some of the things they would be discussing. He said that would help generate some additional revenue to help offset the EMS expenses and would reduce the burden that EMS has.

Commissioner Taylor said she thought she was somewhat familiar with what he was talking about with regards to money coming back to them from Capital Regional, but they have indicated that those funds be earmarked specifically. She said she thought it had to do with money being put back into the building. Chair Viegbesie said when he met and discussed with them, the decision was not to earmark or have any restrictions on that money that would be coming in that they, as the Board, could use it for whatever for the wellbeing and welfare of the citizens of the County.

Commissioner Morgan said he wanted to mention to the Board again the original intent of the surtax and what it was supposed to fund outside of infrastructure projects. He said he thought they all could agree there were plenty that they had and needed and not enough funds to meet those needs, along with fire protection water and sewer, and maintenance of the jail; that was what the surtax was originally intended for. He said when they start looking at EMS, he understood there were changes they needed to address, but it had been an ongoing issue because of the model they currently had in place. He said it was mentioned before about the \$800,000 shortfall and every year they have had a continuous growing shortfall and until the model was changed, that would not change. He said they have an opportunity to have new revenues coming in that they could apply and he understood what the Administrator was mentioning about changes in billing. He said he was against opening up this surtax because all that will happen is, as they continue down the same road with EMS and the expenses continue to mount higher each year, they will continue to pull dollars out of Public Works and Fire to fund it. He further stated until they change how they were doing things, it would continue to be there and they were putting a band-aid on something and will have another problem in the future. He said he strongly recommended they sit down to talk about how to fund EMS properly; have discussions with CRMC and holding off the surtax and did not think it would be in the best interest of the citizens of the County.

Commissioner Holt said there was nothing more important than having an ambulance show up at your house when there was an emergency and it was needed. She said they were not at a point where they decide who was going to show up or when; they have to say they want them to be able to show up. She said this was a poor county. She said she had no problem in voting for this but had a concern because they had two counties come in, Leon and Santa Rosa that presented how they were contracting out those services. She felt they shouldn't wait because ambulances were needed. She said she went to the reception at CRMC and they were saying they were going to give the money back and she started laughing. She said they needed to get this taken care of and had to do something because the billing process they were going to use would hopefully improve some things; need to market how they were going to let people know if they could not pay \$50.00, to pay something on the bills. She said marketing was important and something must be done to fill the gap in order to make sure that the trucks show up where they were needed. She said if money was needed to be taken from somewhere else and put it in some of the locations, they could do that but do not put peoples' lives in danger while the decide what to do.

Mrs. Jackson said they have done research as it concerned the mitigators that they have put in place for EMS. She said if they could have it for one year and never again for consideration she felt they would be fine next fiscal year and put enough measures in place where they would not have this issue again.

Commissioner Morgan responded to Commissioner Holt and said there was no-one on the Board that wanted to interfere with the quality of service that was being providing for EMS but they had to come up with a sustainable model to provide those services. He said there were other models that they could adopt now that would be effective. He said to him, when doing this, they were potentially opening this up for all these other services once they did this and there was another way to get it done.

Chair Viegbesie commented that while Mrs. Jackson was talking, he thought of a way they may be able to eventually satisfy everyone's concern on this item. He said for them to do what he thought she was suggesting, this item would have to be pulled and re-written to make it specific for only this fiscal year and then would not change the Ordinance for them to continue. He asked the attorney if that were possible.

Mr. Weiss said if they wanted to amend the ordinance to reflect that it would sunset after a year, they could do that without having to bring it back and it would not change the nature of the subject matter of the Ordinance. He said it would limit the amendment and be easy in this instance. He pointed out the strike-through language mentioned on page 7 of 21 where funds could be used for parks and recreational facilities, etc. and would be replacing some of the language that was there.

Chair Viegbesie said he would not want EMS to be stranded financially and not be able to operate and believed with the conversation, in the future would be able to mitigate some of the issues they had with the continuous shortfall. He said maybe within the year they could workshop to come up with a different model they could adopt that would be feasible for the operations of EMS for the County. He said he did not know if the Board would entertain an amendment for one year to sunset at the end of the year so they could move on with the item.

Commissioner Taylor said as a point of clarity, if they did not move on this item, EMS would continue to move and make their service calls; they had a reserve to make sure that happened. She asked for them to not think for one moment if they needed services, it wasn't coming because they were looking for a better way to fund it and to continue to fund it. She said making this model where they could continue services at a quality level and not compromise was what they needed to do. She said she wanted everyone to know, if they pull this and someone called for services, they would be there.

Chair Viegbesie said his understanding was she had no problem with this item being pulled until it was properly written and she said she had no problem with this item being pulled but was concerned until she could see data that supported they were only going to do it for a year. She said right now it was a subjective opinion she was getting from the Interim and she felt in a year they would be fine.

Commissioner Hinson said they should vote on it and see what happened.

Chair Viegbesie said it was his opinion rather than doing that, he would lean towards what he thought Commissioner Taylor was saying with regards to pulling as opposed to voting on it because they needed four votes for the item to succeed. Mr. Weiss pointed out they could not pull it at this point, they would have to table it.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO TABLE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

13. Public Hearing-Approval of Resolution 2018-020 Budget Amendments for FY 2018

Mrs. Jackson said this item seeks Board approval of Resolution 2018-020 and authorization for the County Administrator, Finance Director, and Sr. Management & Budget Analyst to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for the Fiscal Year 2018 BOCC budget.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at 7:09 p.m.

She said this was a pre-close out process as conducted in conjunction with the Clerk's Board Finance Office and entails the maintenance of a balanced budget for the most recent ending fiscal year. These additional amendments are to move funds in to Departments in which expenditures exceeded amounts budgeted.

Chair Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked for public comment and there was none.

Commissioner Morgan returned at 7:10 p.m.

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

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could get an explanation as to why there were huge shortages in the accounts and its effect for the 17/18 fiscal year. She said she was seeing huge figures come from General Revenue (inaudible) and its impact in overspending.

Chair Viegbesie said he understood from Commissioner Taylor that there should be a sit-down conversation as to the reason for these discrepancies and the large transfers. Mrs. Jackson said she would send something out tomorrow.

GENERAL BUSINESS

14. Approval of 2018 Area of Operation Resolution concerning Homeownership Programs provided through a partnership with Escambia County Housing Finance Authority

Mrs. Jackson said this item was for approval of the 2018 Area of Operation Resolution concerning Homeownership Programs provided through partnership with the Escambia County Housing Financing Authority.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Weiss wanted to point out the Resolution attached to the Agenda item has been revised and there was a revised copy before them and they could easily see the revisions. He said the reasons for the revisions were at his request to clarify and better protect the County.

Commissioner Morgan asked if someone was present that could discuss this program with them.

Randy Wilkerson, Escambia Housing Authority appeared before the Board. He said he initially stepped up to say he and the attorney had discussed this along with his Executive Director and their attorney and they were fully agreeable to the changes. He said it basically strengthened the fact that the County had no liability or obligation with respect to the bonds that they would issue. He said he was here last year with respect to what is called their TBA program, which was essentially where they use mortgage backed securities to pool mortgages in the securities market. He said that was the approach that the housing finance authorities have used since the housing meltdown of '07 and '08 to finance the programs and down payment assistance that they provided through their agency.

Commissioner Morgan asked what evidence they had that showed they had benefitted. Mr. Wilkerson said since he was here the previous year, they had done little over \$1 Million in loans, provided around \$57,000-\$58,000 in down payment assistance to those buyers and it was financed through their agency. Commissioner Morgan asked if those buyers were in good standing on the mortgages. Mr. Wilkerson responded the default rate across the program was about 1.5%. Commissioner Morgan asked if this was a different program from the PACE program for energy efficiency and he said yes. He said with this program, they essentially were working with lenders, Capital City Bank being the main one here, and they originate first mortgages through their financing allocation and they were providing up to \$7,500 down payment assistance and was a traditional mortgage.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor asked about the money that they were lending was to those that had a difficulty coming up with a down payment and he said right. She asked if it was put on the back-end of the loan and he said it was. He said it basically was a 0% loan and rides for 30 years. They

do not have to repay it as long as they live there and it was their principal residence. He said if at some point they sold the property, they had to repay it.

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

15. Approval of Comcast Contract for Fiber Connectivity

Pulled from agenda

16. Approval to Accept the FY 2019/20 Proposed Budget Calendar

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for acceptance of the proposed budget calendar for FY 2019-2020.

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

17. BOCC 2019 Calendar

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval for the 2019 BOCC Meeting Calendar.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson said normally they have given staff a break during the summertime because they have a budget meeting and they normally miss a meeting during summertime and knew that was the case this year. He said they changed it because of that and was not sure if they wanted to stick with the same schedule. He said Tallahassee was doing the same thing.

Mrs. Jackson said that the NACo conference was on July 15th and the meeting is scheduled for July 16th. Commissioner Holt pointed out a budget workshop was scheduled for that week on July 18th. Commissioner Hinson said they needed to cancel that as well. Mrs. Jackson said they could move it to the next week to the 25th. Commissioner Hinson said that would be great and would give staff a chance to go on vacation. He said they established that around 4 years ago and other counties did the same thing.

Commissioner Morgan said he was unsure of what they were discussing and asked for clarity and then said "giving staff a vacation?" Commissioner Hinson said he was not saying a vacation and it was a 5-0 vote last time they established this about 4-5 years ago. He said during the summertime they had so many meetings and they were going out of town to other conferences, like the Florida Association of Counties conference and have a budget workshop after that and they established 4-5 years ago that they would take one of those days off so "they" would be able to plan ahead for their families.

Commissioner Morgan said he thought what Commissioner Hinson was referring to, was when they were at the NACo meeting they were not here...

Commissioner Hinson said not NACo, the FAC meeting. Commissioner Morgan said when they are at the FAC meeting, they would not be able to have that scheduled meeting and what they have

done was eliminate that meeting but had nothing to do with vacation. Commissioner Hinson said no vacation, he was saying eliminate that meeting. Commissioner Morgan asked what that had to do with their staff. Commissioner Hinson said that was the purpose behind it. Commissioner Morgan said the purpose was they would not be here and they could not have a meeting. Commissioner Hinson said "Right and that was the reason we did it." Commissioner Morgan said it was because they were at a FAC meeting. Commissioner Hinson said no, they had discussed it in-depth as a Board. He said not him, it was the Board and he was listening and said he had no problem with it. He said every year they started doing that until this year or last year.

Commissioner Morgan asked if there was a motion and Commissioner Holt said she made a motion.

Chair Viegbesie said there was a motion and a second to approve and Commissioner Hinson asked to be recognized to make his comments.

Commissioner Holt said she would like to alter her motion and then withdrew her motion.

Chair Viegbesie said his recollection was when they were in Orlando for FAC or whichever meeting is held, the only thing done was to not schedule a meeting for that Tuesday they would be out of town and that did not mean the County Office was closed. He said if that was the issue, then that meeting should be moved or canceled for that particular Tuesday. He said other than that he did not see any other issue with the calendar.

Commissioner Holt said that was fine and she would alter her motion. She said on the second July meeting, they would not be back for that meeting. She said they could put that meeting on the next week on the 23rd and the budget workshop to the 25th.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR SUBJECT TO THE TWO CHANGES FOR JULY, SECOND MEETING ON JULY 23RD AND BUDGET WORKSHOP TO JULY 25TH AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Morgan said he thought he misunderstood Commissioner Holt's point. He said he saw the NACo meeting scheduled but they return on Monday and the meeting was on Tuesday, July 16th and the budget workshop was scheduled for July 18th. Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with it, she was saying if they ran into any problems in traveling they would not make the meeting and why not just do it the next week. Commissioner Morgan said he was good with that.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they were moving the third Tuesday to the fourth Tuesday and they said yes. Chair Viegbesie asked the attorney about it.

Mr. Weiss said their Ordinance did state that regular meetings shall be on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Commissioner Holt said if they canceled the meeting, it still would not be on the regular Tuesday, whether the first or third. Chair Viegbesie said they have canceled meetings before. Commissioner Taylor said they noticed the public in ample time.

Commissioner Hinson said they could cancel the meeting because there were so many workshops

during that time anyway.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with that; they could cancel the 16th and the 18th.

COMMISSIONER HOLT WITHDREW HER MOTION AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE WITHDREW HIS SECOND. COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR WITH THE CANCELLATION OF THE JULY 16TH MEETING AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE MOTION.

18. Approval of Award Bid 18-23 to Gulf Atlantic Culvert Co., Inc.

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said this was for Board approval to award the County contract for the supply of asphalt-coated culvert pipe to Gulf Atlantic Culvert Co. Inc.

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

CLERK OF COURT

19. Updates

There was nothing to report.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

20. Updates

Mrs. Jackson said they had discussed EMS and changes to the model they had and if it were the will of the Board, she would like to have a workshop because they had already started changing that model and it was not what it was.

She said for consideration, the Housing Financing Authority that Escambia County passed, the list of lands was the first step, instead of Escambia County, Gadsden County will be able to keep that money in-house so that may be something the Board will want to move forward in the future.

She informed them the Thanksgiving Luncheon will be Wednesday, November 21st at Public Works and hoped the Commissioners could join them.

She said the GHI/BCC Workshop will be held Tuesday, December 6th at 5:00 p.m. in the Chambers.

She said the Christmas Parade will be December 14th, there will be a County float and was their hope that all Commissioners will participate. The theme was a secret and would be revealed in private.

She said the County Christmas Party will be December 21st at 7:00 p.m. and the location for the party will be made known at a later date.

She said the last thing was the first meeting in January will be canceled due to New Years' Day.

She then stated she was available for any questions.

Commissioner Morgan said at the previous meeting, an Agenda item was added concerning overtime pay for during the storm. He said he knew there had been discussion that she and he had personally had and asked if those items had been addressed and corrected.

Mrs. Jackson said there was definitely an understanding that she had, when she looked at the Agenda item, she felt it was clear; however it was an add-in item but was sent out before time. She said that will not be an issue in the future, there was a policy that stated there was a historic storm and she hopes there will never be such a storm in the future.

Commissioner Morgan said he knew there was excellent response from staff but he was particularly addressing her situation. He said obviously they could not do it the way it was done, they were not allowed to do it that way and have to undo what they did. He asked if that had been taken care of or do they need to address it in his comments later. He said it needed to be rectified and he and she had personally discussed it. He said he just needed to know if it had been addressed or if she wanted to address it. He said he was good as long as it was rectified and then they could do what they wanted to do in the future as a Board in the form of a bonus, but they could not go forward how they did at the last meeting.

Mrs. Jackson said she understood what he was saying and felt she needed to state publically what they were talking about. She clarified on the last Agenda there was an add-in item regarding overtime pay. She said several staff that worked on overtime during the storm, specifically the overtime was the first 3-4 days. She said quite a few of staff had to sleep at the Sheriff's Office and was why they felt it would not be a comp time situation. She said the way the Agenda item was written up, it said "salaried and unsalaried staff to receive overtime compensation", which would also include the EMS staff because previously they had been neglected. She said none of the salaried staff had been given anything or the EMS staff. She said herself in particular, she received overtime pay and did not think that she needed to explain it only because there were 7-8 other people who were salaried who received pay as well. She said she felt if she was the only one, then she would have been deceptive if she had left that out. She said if it was the will of the Board, if they did not feel she deserved anything for that, she would figure out how to give it back.

Commissioner Morgan clarified and said he was not saying he felt it was not deserved. They received the item late and they did not have a chance to review it. It was presented that day and looked at as an additional item on the Agenda. He said he did not mean to imply it was not deserved, it was not handled correctly; she was a salaried employee. He said if they wanted to provide a bonus for her efforts, and she certainly worked very hard, he was good with pursuing it that way. He said what he was not good with was how they did it the last time. He said since he was in favor of doing that, he wanted to move that they undo that and if the Board chose to do it a different way, that would be great. He said that was what he was trying to make sure they understood. He said he wanted to be crystal clear that she understood and everyone else understood, in no way was he taking away the efforts she put forth in that or saying that she was undeserving of it; he was saying as the Administrator, she was a salaried employee, whether it was 24 hours a day or 4 hours a day. She had no set hours and that was where he was coming from. He thanked her for her answer and said they could move forward and talk about it under commissioner comments unless she had another way to rectify it.

Mrs. Jackson said she completely understood his point and felt like that was an extenuating circumstance, not just for her but for other salaried staff as well. She said typically they did

understand that they were paid to be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but that was a storm of historical proportion and she had several salaried staff, EMS director, the Interim Building Official, Public Works Director and several other managers were salaried and she did not feel it was fair. She said if it were just her, she would have accepted it, but there were several others and she did not think they would want her to delineate herself. She apologized for it.

Commissioner Taylor said on that item, her major concern was when the Agenda item was placed in front of them; she wanted to make sure Public Works got paid. She said they had received several phone calls and heard their concerns, and that night they did not have a breakdown of where the funds were going. She said she remembered \$129,000, a lump sum. She felt that was a deceptive way of doing what was done and would not have even thought that then because she still felt it was done with integrity until the very next day when she saw the Clerk walking across the Courtyard and he walked to her car and proceeded to give her the breakdown of the \$129,000. She said he left her with her face in awe; she did not know that and should have. She said if it had been brought to them and a request was made, she would have supported it because she knew it, even though she was there (EOC) for a short time, they (Department heads) were there. She said since it was done the way it was done, "I fold my arms and am dismayed because I felt that was hurting". She said she felt it could have been handled differently and she would like to see something, maybe they could discuss how they could bring it back and make sure people were taken care of and would have her support to make sure they would get some type of compensation, have discussions and then figure out a funding source and move forward. She said she would rather have it that way and did not see integrity in it. She said the Clerk said to her that made her even more concerned was that the \$129,000 may not be reimbursed by FEMA because it did not qualify. She said she did not know if it was still pertinent. She said she wished he had attended the meeting so they could have discussed some of the reimbursements. She said she agreed with some compensation but the Board should have been involved.

Mrs. Jackson said she wanted to be clear; the Clerk and this was in writing, had three different opinions and kept changing as to why Staff could not get paid. She said if it were the will of the Board that she did not deserve to get paid, she was fine with that; she wanted to make sure her staff was taken care of. She said everybody worked under circumstances that were beyond what anybody would have ever expected to work and she was still recovering from what they went through. She said when she recalls what they went through; it was still emotional for her. She said again if it was the will of the Board that she give what was received by her based on the salary that she makes, she would give it back and pay it back in payments. She said as they knew, she had a child at Shands and she has paid her bill. She asked that they leave the salaried staff alone.

Commissioner Holt said this was something that could have been taken care of without having to do this, discuss this in public. She said this was unnecessary and unprofessional. She said Policy and Procedure, they could go ahead and set Policy and Procedure for overtime pay and could have been brought back as an agenda item and they would not have to do this. She said she stayed down there those days and nights and there were a lot of others did as well. She said it was very dangerous for a lot of people. She said they had to send out one group to go after a person that had been killed and they could not get out to be able to retrieve him and there were others in the house. She added they went through a lot but this was not the way to end it. She said she understood what they were saying, they needed to look at how it was done; but this was making it worse. She said they could bring this back up and take care of it and they should have looked at this earlier; employees getting comp time. But in emergency situations, you have to be a little

more human than they have been in the past when it comes to this.

Chair Viegbesie said his question was he happened to not be present when that conversation took place at that meeting. He asked what has been the precedence with previous County Administrators during an emergency with staff, were they paid overtime. He said they need to develop policy and procedures as to how staff was paid overtime. He said he did not ask for overtime, or Commissioner Holt because that was their responsibility as policy makers, neither did the other Commissioners. He said he felt staff should be compensated for the work they did. He said maybe the presentation was not appropriate and was felt by some it was deceptive and that could be rectified. He said they could go back and itemize how the \$129,000 was determined and may make it qualify for reimbursement from FEMA when they submit the appropriate paperwork.

Commissioner Morgan said regarding Commissioner Holt's point, and he did not disagree with it, he tried to reach out previous to this meeting without having any discussion regarding this and when he opened his remarks about this item, he reinforced that position. He agreed specifics should not be discussed. He said he was discussing their employee, the Administrator, and how they move forward as a Board addressing it with her. She made the decision regarding staff and they approved it when it was brought to them. He said as they move forward, they should have a policy in place. He added they were not talking whether it was deserved or not, that was off the table. He said as the Administrator, they needed to address how they want to compensate her for those efforts. He said he felt it would be appropriate for them to have their own personal discussions with the Administrator and they should agenda an item for them to discuss the issue as it was and an item on how to compensate the Interim Administrator, but they were not talking about if it was deserved or not. He said lastly, it certainly was not an issue from his seat about whether they were reimbursed by FEMA that was unimportant when it comes to compensating the Staff for the response they gave on this.

Commissioner Taylor said for almost a year they were unable to have thorough discussions and she was glad they now had an opportunity to have those discussions so they could be transparent. She said anytime State or Federal funds were being spent, they had the authority to discuss them publically so they have transparency. She said there should be compensation for the work done and they had an agenda item that was before them that she trusted and now it has been compromised. She said another Commissioner stated how they could rectify since it has been expended. She said they have authority over no-one other than the Interim. She said she had the right to ask questions at any point and she understands that, but going back to what happened and how it unfolded, it did look to that. She said her issue now was not so much paying it back, but moving forward with integrity being intact and them being able to discuss these things. She said her intent was not to point fingers or belittle but to state facts and get clarity to move forward.

Commissioner Hinson commented he was unsure how to approach this because two weeks prior to that, he asked to put the Emergency Housing Repair and \$100,000 to be able give back to the community and the comment from the Interim County Administrator was they could not do that because the Agenda item affected the budget. He said he asked about the 125 jobs for the Summer Youth Employment program as well. He said the Interim told him they could not do that because it was not properly advertised. He said these matters were personal to him and it was told it could not be done because it was an agenda item and was not advertised; then she referred to the attorney and he stated it was not properly advertised. He said he was unable to appear in person, (he appeared by phone) and was unable to review the item. He asked the County

Attorney how he agreed to allow this to go through because two weeks prior it was said it could not be done. He said it could not be done for the kids and the senior citizens, but they did it at that meeting. He asked for it to be explained how they came up with it, it was no emergency for the money to be gotten right away. He said he was for the Public Works employees receiving the money but was curious how they made that happen without it being properly advertised.

Mr. Weiss responded that the Agenda item did not come from him and he saw it the same time as everyone else. He said it did state in the item that a budget amendment was not required because there were sufficient funds available. He said with respect to advertising requirements, if it was a budget amendment, there are certain statutory requirements related to advertising, if not a budget amendment, it did not have to be advertised by statute. Commissioner Hinson said it was not a budget amendment and Mr. Weiss said that was what he understood from the Agenda item.

Mrs. Jackson said that was correct, it was not a budget amendment; there were already funds within the Personnel budget to cover those funds.

Commissioner Holt said as they knew, they were trying to get several of the employees paid for working because they also did not have lights, they did not have food, and had other concerns; a couple of them lost their homes, etc., and they needed their money and that was the next meeting that they worked. She said she did not see where this was such a big issue, she did see the point in them rectifying it, just as the Sheriff's Office did two years ago and was how they were paid. She said she did not realize that policy was still in place, staff could not eat comp time and their staff worked and needed to be compensated. She said in emergency situations, you do emergency things. She said they had to look out for their people. She said they could now take care of all this and have a workshop and take care of this matter.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

21. Updates

Mr. Weiss stated he had no comments and wanted to congratulate Chair Viegbesie on the election and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and was happy to answer any questions. There were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

22. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson congratulated Chair Viegbesie on becoming the Chair, both Chair Viegbesie and Commissioner Holt on winning the election and Commissioner Taylor on becoming the Vice-Chair. He then thanked the Board for their civility shown tonight.

He discussed the debris pickup in the County moving slowly.

Chair Viegbesie passed the gavel to Commissioner Taylor and stepped out at 8:01 p.m.

Commissioner Hinson said he talked to them and they were able to address and explain things to

him and FDOT took over and it made things a little slower. He said he wanted to ask that question again with people listening.

Mrs. Jackson said they have two different debris companies, one being D & J that was present. She said according to the State, Gadsden County was being cleaned up faster than anywhere else in the State. She said the average load they were picking up is not comparable to any other company in the State and was doing a great job. She said 95% of the first pass-through was complete and they will continue until all the debris had been picked up.

Chair Viegbesie returned at 8:03 p.m. and Commissioner Taylor returned the gavel to him.

She stated in some cases, they were seeing areas that have previously been cleaned and more debris has been brought to the roadside. She said there was another issue with the State roads and Highway 27 was one of the roads. She said that company was BRC and they have no control in who is chosen. She said this company was charging more and not doing as good a job as D & J. She said there had been quite a few of citizen complaints regarding them and she had been in contact with the state regarding that matter. She said as far as the private roads, they have made tremendous strides and she was looking for confirmation from FEMA as to when they could start picking up on the private roads. Commissioner Hinson thanked her and said for the record, she was speaking on behalf of herself and not the Board regarding FDOT not doing a good job. He said he did not want to upset people at the State. He asked about minority contracts and local people being hired and they needed to continue pushing that.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he appreciated the Interim Administrator mentioning the debris removal and has received complements as recent as this afternoon on how well they were doing. He said this would be a continuing effort and would be a number of pass-throughs until all the debris was removed.

He said Commissioner Holt mentioned a workshop, as they knew he very seldom requested workshops, but regarding the earlier item (policy on overtime during an emergency), he felt it was appropriate to move forward on that matter on how they wanted to proceed.

He then stated he would like to request an item on the upcoming Meeting Agenda to discuss and move forward with the County Administrator position and was in form of a motion.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION TO THE UPCOMING MEETING AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION. CHAIR VIEGBESIE ASKED A QUESTION.

Chair Viegbesie asked the Attorney if a motion was necessary to add an item to the Agenda. Mr. Weiss said that historically they have done that.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE SAID THERE WAS A MOTION ON THE FLOOR AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS MOTION.

Commissioner Hinson apologized and stated he had a few more items to discuss.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at 8:10 p.m.

Chair Viegbesie said he would allow him a few minutes to quickly discuss the remainder of his items.

Commissioner Hinson asked about the dogs and cats problem at Winn-Dixie and Mrs. Jackson said that issue had not been resolved. She explained the problem and whom she discussed it with.

Commissioner Morgan returned at 8:11 p.m.

She said Winn Dixie was concerned with the number of animals behind their store and the problems it was creating. She said traps have been set to catch the cats. Commissioner Hinson commented he needed one or two of the cats for his community. He said someone asked about dogs (a pit-bull) at the Shelter and asked how they were monitoring the animals. He discussed the condition of the shelter and who monitors it. He said he did not want to be in a position where they have to defend themselves.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, Vice-Chair, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a schedule for the debris pickup or a cycle that she could share with people that asked.

A gentleman appeared before the Board and said the procedure with that was if someone wanted to report something, it could be done through the Admin address or to the County and their directive would come from there. He said there were project managers in the field for that but as far as a schedule as to when the next pile of debris would come out and when, it was much to forecast. Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a concern from the community, they could contact them or the Administrator and he said yes. She asked if they were on schedule and he said yes, he believed so, they were 95% complete with the first pass. She asked about the hiring of locals and he responded they had meetings with locals and some showed interest and some did not. He said this type of work was not for everyone. She asked how long he anticipated before the process was complete and he said his goal was to have it done by Christmas. She asked for an update at the regular meetings to inform everyone. He said that he would get with the monitoring consultants and the County Administrator and will have some solid numbers with a presentation at the next meeting.

Commissioner Morgan said he had noticed how trucks were passing some piles to pick up others and asked him about a uniform effort. He said each truck has a monitor with them and that truck was not to leave that street until the street was complete. He said if they have witnessed trucks skipping piles, it would be addressed if they would let him know the streets with the problems. Commissioner Morgan asked if they start a street, should it be finished before moving to another and he responded they should. Commissioner Morgan said he knew of no street where that has been done. The gentleman asked if this was in Chattahoochee and Commissioner Morgan said yes and he has seen that in several other areas as well. He said that was the procedure but there were different variables that could cause a truck not to collect, whether it is a car parked in the road, a power line they could not reach under, etc.

Chair Viegbesie asked if part of the problem could be the type of debris that was placed there and he said yes. He said currently they were only picking up vegetative waste until they could get the

final destination for the construction & demolition debris, which would probably be the City of Quincy landfill. He said they also are not collecting the black bags because they did not know what they were collecting. He said they were getting the word out how to place debris curbside through calls and Facebook, etc.

Commissioner Hinson asked if there were citizen complaints, could they call.

Mrs. Jackson said Ms. Smith would create a flyer they could put out to inform the citizens.

Commissioner Hinson asked about a phone bank regarding issues with the debris to relay messages to the public. He then asked if they would start back with the large item pick-up. Mrs. Jackson said they did not have a timetable but would restart that as soon as they could. She said they were still in a state of emergency and trying to replace signs and guardrails.

Commissioner Taylor said in one of the meetings they agreed they would meet every seven days following the storm to get direction and she has been unaware of that happening.

Mrs. Jackson said no, Commissioner Morgan had stated if it was allowed by FEMA it could carry on and if not then they should meet every seven days. Commissioner Morgan said that was during the state of emergency. Commissioner Taylor said they should look at that again because she was adamant about being kept in the loop and not to give authority to one or two and others not know. She asked that the minutes be pulled from that night to see exactly what was said and if they were still in that emergency state, see what was said.

She asked about the Housing Authority and said there were citizens in the community that were not being taken care of and the rights were being compromised. She mentioned there was one place (federal housing) that went without electricity because fixtures that was not put in place by the housing authority so the lights could be turned on. She said she was unsure about their authority and asked that research be done and placed on the agenda.

She mentioned the Budget Amendments and the amounts. She said if they were doing these amendments to the different departments after they have given them their budget and they go over, was it out of compliance and that they ask the departments to show up the following year to show why they were short. She said if they continue to give them money at the end of the year with no repercussions, then the requests will continue to come.

Mr. Weiss said they have budget authority and have an obligation to fund such that the County operates. He said with respect to certain budgets for Constitutional Officers, there were limitations on that and potentials for challenges related to budget reductions.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt said with regard to the Housing issue on private property, she said she had challenged this before with the NAACP, there are issues with the housing authority that provide multi-unit rentals and could be taken care of through the complaint system at the federal level.

She congratulated the efforts of Staff during the storm.

She wished everyone a great Thanksgiving.

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

Chair Viegbesie said he had very little to say and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to sit in the Chair. He asked that the Commission have civility with one another to better serve their citizens of the County.

He then asked the Attorney what type of relationship did the County have with entities like Mediacom and others with regards to services that provide TV and internet. He said he had received calls concerning their services and knew they had a contractual agreement with Mediacom. Mr. Weiss said it may be a franchise agreement and he was not sure what action would need to be taken and could look into it.

He commended the citizens that volunteered during the storm. He mentioned the churches such as Greenshade AME and others in his district that went over and above to help citizens.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR VIEGBESIE TO PRESENT A RESOLUTION TO SHOW THANKS TO THE CITIZENS THAT PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO OTHERS AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS MOTION.

Commissioner Holt said they still needed to encourage citizens to apply to the organizations, FEMA especially. She said once those numbers were collected by FEMA, it meant the County’s numbers would go up and they have an opportunity to receive assistance from other State and Federal programs, one mentioned was “Rebuild Florida”. She said several people have received Small Business loans with low interest rates.

Commissioner Hinson commented on contracts and mentioned WastePro’s contract that was not dealt with in a timely manner a few years ago and they had to renew it for 5 years. He asked for a list of all contracts by next meeting so they could avoid that situation again.

Receipt and File

- 23. Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce Deliverable & Financial Activity Form**
 - October 30, 2018 Letter from DEO re: Ordinance No. 2018-011**
 - October 30, 2018 Letter from DEO re: Ordinance No. 2018-012**
 - October 30, 2018 Letter from DEO re: Ordinance No. 2018-013**
 - October 30, 2018 Letter from DEO re: Ordinance No. 2018-014**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

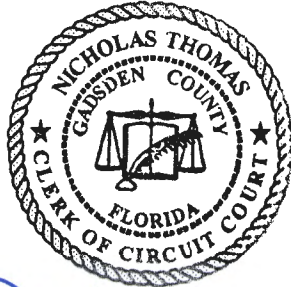
- 24. December 4, 2018-Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
November 20, 2018-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR VIEGBESIE DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:43 P.M.

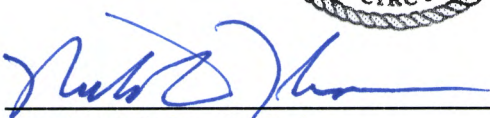
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA





ANTHONY VIEGBESIE, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk