

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 15, 2019 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 2-arrived late
 Gene Morgan, District 3
 Brenda Holt, District 4
 Dee Jackson, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Viegbesie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to mute their cell phones. **Rev. Jeff Jackson, Quincy First Baptist Church**, gave the Invocation and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Jackson said there were no amendments to the Agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Pat Thomas & Associates Insurance, Inc.

John Pat Thomas, Pat Thomas and Associates, appeared before the Board. Mr. Thomas said he presented a check to Mrs. Jackson in December in the amount of \$16,100. He explained because of the partnership with Florida League of Cities and the Municipal Insurance Trust, the property trust was profitable and they returned monies back to their members on a pro rata basis and represents the good partnership and the partnership paid dividends.

2. Update on Hurricane Recovery Housing Initiatives

Susanne Lex, Growth Management Director, appeared before the Board. She thanked them for their approval of the Resolution that allowed for FEMA trailers or campers to be placed on private property. She said to date only two have been permitted and placed on private property; they have permitted four FEMA trailers in a mobile home park. She said there were was one remaining damaged dwelling that is being assessed; 35 individuals have found housing through FEMA and nineteen still need housing and they have reached out to neighboring counties to see if there were any resources any available. She explained they were not able to take any mobile homes for a Gadsden County resident into Leon County, but were looking into apartments or houses that might be available.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Taylor said she had hoped to have an update regarding the debris collection.

Chip Starr, D & J spokesperson, appeared before the Board for a report. He said as of today, they have collected 1,377,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris

Commissioner Hinson appeared at 6:07 p.m.

He said they hauled over 3,000 loads of mulch, have 24 monitors on staff and have 45 trucks that are still collecting along the right-of-ways. He said they have set a deadline of January 20th as the tentative deadline for debris to be placed curbside.

Commissioner Taylor said she was glad he brought clarity on the January 20th deadline. She said she had received an email regarding private road pickup. He said they had been in communication with FDOT and Thompson Consulting and have been approved to start pickup in all the County parks and hopeful once they start the parks and sees that Gadsden County was so much farther ahead of some of the other counties, they will potentially release them to start collecting along the private roads. He said they will begin collecting c & d (construction and demolition debris) on January 20th and will give people plenty of time to bring that debris to the curb. Commissioner Taylor said he said they had the go-ahead to work on parks, he said once they see they were coming to the end to the on-system roads that were eligible, they will task them with private roads. He said he did not think that FDOT realized there was very minimal debris left on their on-system roads at this time.

Mrs. Jackson said the County was given approval to pick up on private roads but they wanted them to be done with the on-system roads first.

Commissioner Taylor said they did not currently have a resolution from DOT for private roads; they were anticipating that if they have completed all the public roads, they may get the go-ahead to then start private roads.

Commissioner Morgan said they have not begun pickup on private roads and was told that was correct. He said there had been had quite bit of rain and some of the roads were still quite wet asked if trucks could go down some of the roads. Mr. Starr said they would do their best to access the roads.

Chair Viegbesie asked if they had any idea as a time when the costs of removal of additional debris would revert to the County and Mr. Starr said he did not know when that would happen. He said they may want to go through their DOT representative. He did say one of the key items was for them to inforce the deadline; get the information out if the citizens wanted it picked up under this contract.

Commissioner Holt said larger property owners have quite a few trees, one up to 30-40 trees and knew they would not be able to pick those up. Mr. Starr said they could pick them up as long as they were eligible but FEMA did have a stipulation what they call "Improved Property" where they

don't allow for land clearing to come curbside. He said they did not want people to start bringing "pecan orchards" curbside for collection, this contract was primarily designed for removing the threat to safety around a dwelling or home.

Commissioner Morgan asked if there was any difference in the timeline schedule, benefits for people within the municipalities as opposed to outside in the unincorporated areas of the county. Mr. Starr said none that he was aware of.

Mrs. Jackson said there was absolutely no change. She said the day of the storm they entered into an Interlocal Agreement with all the municipalities so they have all the same benefits that the County had.

Commissioner Holt said from the roads that are maintained by FDOT, are they still picking up?

Mr. Starr said for the DRC contract with FDOT, as far as he knew they would. He did say he had not seen a large presence of them lately in the County on state roads.

Commissioner Taylor asked what Thompson's job was and Mr. Starr said their responsibility was to be a steward of the Government's money and write tickets and to validate the eligibility of the debris collected. He said they also do the data management and track the loads collected and what went to the sites and how much volume that was and with the Federal reimbursement to ensure that all the work was eligible so the County would get the maximum federal reimbursement possible.

Mrs. Jackson said for clarity, Thompson Consulting did have the Resolution and she would provide it to the Commissioners and in layman's terms, what they were supposed to do was make sure that the County get paid and they hold D & J accountable for the work they are doing. She said they were the County's insurance policy and would also file the FEMA paperwork for the County.

3. **Ratification Memo**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **December 18, 2018-BOCC Regular Minutes**
5. **Approval to Accept the FY 2018 4th Quarter Report**
6. **Public Officials Bond Review**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Viegbesie said he had to Speaker Request Forms.

Pat Smith, Pat's Pantry, 212 Goldwire Road, Quincy, FL – cold weather shelter appeared before the Board. She said she was here on behalf of the homeless and they need a cold weather shelter. She said camps were set up in Quincy and a lot of people were living in tents in Quincy.

Chair Viegbesie asked that she schedule a meeting with County Administrator.

Gene Matthew Stephens and Tammy Ceasor, 3577 Flat Creek, Chattahoochee, FL appeared before the Board. She thanked them for the 2018 grant for Angelcare with a Vision and thanked them for being there and helping her to make it happen.

Gene Matthew thanked them for the privilege of addressing the Board and was before them with a great concern and a solution for the concern. He said the building was perfect and would help contribute to the local economy.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Approval to Re-establish the Emergency Housing Repair Account to \$100,000 in the FY 18/19 Budget

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval to re-establish the Emergency Housing Repair Account to \$100,000 in the FY 18/19 Budget using the General Fund Balance.

Chair Viegbesie asked if anyone wished to speak in support or opposition of item and there was no-one.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE TO RE-ESTABLISH THE EMERGENCY HOUSING REPAIR ACCOUNT TO \$100,000 AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt said this was a good idea, she said there were a lot of emergency housing because of the storm and felt \$100,000 was not enough compared to some of the structures. She said there needed to be a process in place if they were going to do this or wait until they could get one in place. Commissioner Holt said they needed to look at how to do this and this was not a normal year because one or two houses would use up all the money.

Commissioner Morgan said the General Fund Balance was at the lowest point it's been in several years and in front of them was a high demand for money in the bank due to what just happened. He recommended them refraining from spending money unless it was a dire emergency. He said he understood if someone was displaced from their home and disagreed it was the County's responsibility to provide funds for that beyond what they were already providing, particularly when they were in the financial situation they were in. He said there was a program in place that was providing funds and asked the Administrator what monies were in that account. Mrs. Jackson said she thought there was \$600,000 and they just received a Disaster Recovery Fund in the amount of \$201,500. Commissioner Morgan said he did not think it would be a wise fiscal move at this time but understood the concern.

Chair Viegbesie asked if he heard correctly they have approximately \$600,000 for housing rehabilitation and she said yes and they just received disaster recovery fund for housing for \$201,000 in addition to the \$600,000.

Chair Viegbesie said he agreed with Commissioner Morgan. He said that the fund was not budgeted during the budgetary process because of the fiscal stress the County was under, like the radio, 911 Emergency, etc. that they needed for security. He said he would rather put this emergency repair money back into the general fund; this was for one year and there were other

emergencies coming that they will need money for.

Commissioner Taylor said the monies mentioned were restricted and did not think they would have the same latitude as they would with the emergency repair money. She agreed there should be a process in place and that they needed to meet, but felt they needed to open up the line item with some money. Mrs. Jackson said the funds were for housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs. Commissioner Taylor said they could use \$201,500 for emergencies and Mrs. Jackson said yes. Commissioner Taylor said they talk about not getting into housing, but Washington created the Community Redevelopment money. She said they were taking those dollars and giving them to city government and they then take houses that are not paying taxes, upgrade them so they can pay taxes and was a way those dollars that were being invested could be turned back into tax dollars. She said those dollars would come back into the coffers by improving the homes and then paying taxes. She said they talk about fiscal stress and where there was a government that has debt issues, normally there are things that happen: a moratorium on hiring, no raises are given, spending comes at a massive decrease and none of those things are happening. She said they are hiring, they are giving out raises and they are spending. She said they may have fiscal stress but the actions show different.

Commissioner Hinson said when they talk about seniors and displaced people in the County, he could not sit back and not speak on it. He said Ms. Pat Smith just spoke on the homeless and there was a growing number that did not have a place to live or if they did, there were problems inside. He said they owed it to the people of the County and they have had money for 1 ½ years sitting in pot and had not been used and that was sad.

Commissioner Holt said she did not have a problem is using the money they had but what they need to do is send the people to the Housing Department and let them do the paperwork. She said if they have \$800,000 and only \$2.8 Million in Reserves, they were pressing it and only few months from the next hurricane season.

Chair Viegbesie called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Holt	NO
Commissioner Hinson	YES
Commissioner Taylor	YES
Commissioner Morgan	NO
Chair Viegbesie	NO

THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE. MOTION FAILED.

Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to make a motion.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO EARMARK THE \$201,500 FOR HOUSING EMERGENCY REPAIRS AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Morgan said this item was not on the Agenda for them to vote on and wanted more information about where the money came from before they commit to spending the money, what it could be used for and asked it to be agendaed for another meeting.

Chair Viegbesie asked the attorney if any expenditure item had to be agendaed for discussion before the expenditure could be determined. Mr. Weiss said their Ordinance generally stated that typically items should not be added to the Agenda unless it was an emergency item that does not affect the General Funds and this item has not been added to the Agenda at this point and should come back to the next meeting for consideration. He said according to the Administrator, it sounded like the money was already designated for the purpose of emergency repairs; it was just a matter of action to utilize the money.

Mrs. Jackson said it is restricted to Hurricane Michael emergencies and housing rehabilitation and can only be spent on emergency housing repairs and rehabilitation associated with the disaster.

Chair Viegbesie said for parliamentary reasons he did not think they could carry a vote on this at this time asked the Attorney for clarification.

Commissioner Taylor asked for point of order and said they 1) have on several occasions voted on things not agendaed and 2) that had a fiscal impact. She said that should not be a caveat to use at this time. She said she did respect the fact the Chair and other colleagues want to agenda this and was fine, but in the past they have entertained items that was not either advertised or agendaed, but there was a motion and second on the floor but given the consensus, she did not want to force or create a position where the people would suffer because of not being done the correct way. Commissioner Taylor then withdrew her motion and Commissioner Hinson withdrew his second. She asked it be agendaed at the very next meeting.

Commissioner Holt asked the intent of the funds and was told it was for emergency repairs and housing rehab.

8. Approval to Increase the Summer Youth Program from \$50,000 to \$132,250 in the FY 18/19 Budget

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to increase the Summer Youth Program from \$50,000 to \$132,250 in the FY 18/19 Budget using the General Fund Balance.

Chair Viegbesie announced this was a Public Hearing and citizens have an opportunity to express their support or opposition and asked if anyone had any comments and there were none.

Commissioner Hinson said the program started in 2014 with 75 youth and at that time the costs were \$75,774 and each year was increased and in FY 18 there was 120 youth and the program cost \$118,040. He said this fiscal year the budget was cut short to \$50,000 and he wanted to increase the budget back to the original costs to \$132,250 to employ 125 students.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO INCREASE THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM FROM \$50,000 TO \$132,250 AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR. COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Holt asked how this would affect the \$2.8 General Fund balance. Mrs. Jackson said the additional dollars would come from that balance. Commissioner Holt said the recommended balance was \$3 Million and they were down approximately \$200,000 and was concerned about the aftermath of the hurricane. She added if they go into an emergency situation where would they

pull from.

Commissioner Morgan said this goes back to prioritizing and they had been advised by the auditors and they suggested at one time having a minimum of \$5 Million in their reserves based on their budget and the budget has actually increased over the last few years due to certain needs. He said he was very hesitant and while he wanted to support all the citizens, they had to make good decisions on investing and saving and prioritizing taxpayer dollars for public services that they may have to provide. He added that in his opinion this was way down the list when it comes to what they were facing in the year ahead.

Commissioner Hinson said he liked to be the good guy on the board, but this was a vote for the kids.

Commissioner Taylor said when she was City Commissioner, there was a statement made in chambers and was made when they were entertaining a project similar for the City and there was opposition there among the dais. She said a statement was made by someone at the podium "When it comes to youth, you either pay now or you pay later" and what they were referring to, during the summer these children had nothing to do. She said they could take 125 students and put them to work and that may be 125 young people that may not enter the system. She said she knew they were facing fiscal constraints and knew their budget should be around \$5 Million but they were at \$2.8 Million because they spent it for various projects. She said October 1st started the new fiscal budget, since then they hired Growth Management Director, given raises, and have done a number of things that could have waited.

Chair Viegbesie said during the budgetary time preparing the budget, they were all a part of that process and these were things that was added and removed during that period. He said he was the one that put his foot down and said at least \$50,000 was to go for the Summer Youth Program. He said his concern did not mean that he did not care about the youth; he cared about the County's financial health. He said the ones that were hired, replaced ones that left without a change in the expenditure and was not an addition to the expenditure after the budget was passed. He said he also became aware when people left, that position became vacant and as a result, temporary hiring was done. He said there had also been a restructuring of the job description of the ones that were here and rather than hiring someone additional, the job was distributed and a stipend was given to them, which was cost saving measures. He said this reduction was for one year and the next fiscal year they will go through the budget again. He said if they were able, they could increase the students at that time. He said before they begin to talk about raises and hiring people, they needed to understand that these moves they see, from his point of view, was nothing but creative financing and creative budgetary in times of difficulty. He said there was a difference between emotion and knowledge.

Commissioner Taylor said point of clarity, with regards to hiring in a position that was left vacant, at the time of hiring a particular position; the Growth Management position was not one that was imperative at that time. She said the Government was functioning at a better level because they were getting a lot of amendments made, permits were not being delayed and nothing caused alarm to that particular department. She said work being distributed was a cost saving factor but what quality was compromised? She said there was a lot going on with the government and was hard to open their eyes and not really see what was going on. She said if they were going to be fiscally responsible not only with the children and Senior Citizens, but be fiscally responsible all the

way around.

Commissioner Hinson said the Chair said emotion versus knowledge and he said asked the Clerk if raises were given in 2018. Mr. Thomas said he thought there was a number of raises given but did not have the list in front of him. He said the documentation said some took on additional duties and because of that, they were given an increase, but was still a raise. Commissioner Hinson asked if new positions were created and Mr. Thomas said he thought there was some reorganization done in the governmental structure. Mr. Thomas said there were some positions based on their previous structure that was absolutely key to them getting done, one was a qualified building official, which the State required them to have, and they actually have contracts with other municipalities to perform those services and was hard to get away from that with reorganization. Commissioner Hinson said he wanted to make sure it was put out there so the people could know.

Commissioner Holt said if they want to have a workshop, they need to look at how to bring funds in if they were going to do this. She said the recommendation from not just their Budget Director but what she got was they needed to have at least \$3 Million and they do not have it. She said if they received more money she would be happy. She said the hurricane scared her.

Chair Viegbesie said they want kids hired, they have private employers and offices and another way they could get kids hired was to go to some kind of collaborative enrichment that these young folks are hired by these agencies during the summer. He said they could reach out to them and have them hire the kids for the summer.

Commissioner Taylor said in listening to Commissioner Holt's comments, it made her smile. She said she came on board in 2008 and they had \$800,000 in the budget and to tell the public now it was imperative they have \$3 Million and was unsure if she learned imperativeness of having a strong budget or if they were using it as an avenue. She said she was reminded of what it was versus what it is now.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE.

COMMISSIONER HOLT	NO
COMMISSIONER HINSON	YES
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR	YES
COMMISSIONER MORGAN	NO
CHAIR VIEGBESIE	NO

THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE. MOTION FAILED.

9. Direction to Transfer Title of Property Located at 306 Washington Street to the City of Chattahoochee

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for direction to transfer the title of property located at 306 Washington Street, Chattahoochee, also referred to as Parcel ID No. 1-33-4N-6W-0000-00213-1400 to the City of Chattahoochee, provided the County obtains a tax deed. She further stated the building was currently in need of rehabilitation; the roof has caved in and is full of rubble. Once the County obtains title, it will be responsible for the property and associated liabilities including clearing and insurance.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Hinson asked her to repeat the last sentence and she did so. She said if it was transferred to Chattahoochee then they would assume the liability.

Commissioner Taylor said she was in agreement with this transaction.

Mr. Thomas said the property was on the List of Lands available for taxes and will escheat July 2019. Before that, currently anybody has the right to walk in off the street any day and buy that property off the list of lands and wanted to make sure they understood that.

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

10. Authorization to Submit the Fall 2018 E911 State Grant Application for the Replacement of the Logging Recorder for the Primary Public Safety Answering Point Equipment

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of the 2018 E911 State Grant Application to replace the logging Recorder for the Primary Public Safety Answering Point equipment (PSAP).

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at 7:38 p.m.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11. Authorization to Submit the Fall 2018 E911 State Grant Application for a Logging Recorder for the Backup Public Safety Answering Point Equipment

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to submit the State Grant application for a Logging Recorder for the Backup Public Safety Answering Point Equipment (PSAP).

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HINSON. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor said it looked like a replacement and a backup and she was wondering if the grant would cover the costs of both.

Buddy Peddie, E911 Coordinator, appeared before the Board and said it would, this was two separate grants and if approved, would cover replacement for their primary at the Sheriff's Office...

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at 7:39 p.m.

Commissioner Morgan returned at 7:39 p.m.

Mr. Peddie continued and said there was no recorder at that location and this would be additional

equipment.

VICE CHAIR TAYLOR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. Authorization to Submit the 2018 E911 State Grant Application to Upgrade the E911 Backup Public Safety Answering Point Equipment

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval to submit the 2018 E911 State Grant Application for Upgrade of the E911 Backup PSAP equipment and authorization for the Chair to sign the necessary documents.

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

13. Authorization to Apply for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for authorization for the Gadsden County Sheriff's Department to apply for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant and for authorization for the Chair to sign all related documents.

Commissioner Hinson said he hoped they could target the opioids, molly and other drugs because a lot of things have been going on in the community and the country.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, VICE CHAIR TAYLOR HAD A COMMENT BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN.

Vice Chair Taylor said Major Barkley made an announcement a few weeks ago regarding the low rate at the jail and she wanted the Commissioners to honor him, do a public recognition for the accomplishment.

Chair Viegbesie returned at 7:43 p.m.

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

14. Approval of a New Road Name

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of a new road name.

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

15. Approval of the Security Force Southeast, LLC Contract Extension

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said to was for approval to extend the contract with Security Force Southeast, LLC. She explained this was the company that provided the panic buttons for the Probation Department.

Commissioner Hinson stepped out 7:44 p.m.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM.

16. Approval of the 2019 Small County Consolidated Waste Grant Application with Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said this was for approval of a funding agreement between the BOCC and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the Solid Waste Program.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked that the fiscal impact be explained since the grant was retroactive to October 1, 2018 for approved expenses. Mrs. Jackson explained this.

Commissioner Hinson returned at 7:47 p.m.

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

17. Approval to Award RFQ No. 18-19, Rebid 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 Board approval to award RFQ 18-19 rebid to CSI Construction, Riley Palmer Construction and Ram Construction to provide professional Construction Management Services on a Continuing Service Contract for County Capital Projects.

Commissioner Hinson said he spoke with Tiptop Construction and he had an issue with the process. He said normally even if they receive the input from the County Administrator, they also have them to present to the Board so they could get the person that was best for the job. He said when he was on the School Board; they let the top three do a presentation.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt asked who supervised the projects and Mrs. Jackson said this was not Board supervision; they would solicit from these three companies until September 30, 2019 and would get the best rate for each of the projects. Commissioner Holt asked once this was done, would they be able to start soon and Mrs. Jackson said if this was approved tonight, the companies were available to start. She added that all the projects were budgeted and they would only be working on projects that were budgeted.

Commissioner Hinson asked how it was narrowed down to three instead of four. He added that he was not trying to advocate for anyone, he just wanted to make sure the process was fair. He said the contracts were already awarded and how could they work on something that was already awarded. He then asked about the experience with State funded historic restoration projects and asked how many historical buildings was there in Gadsden County and why was that there when there really wasn't that much in the County.

Mrs. Jackson said this was completely unrelated to the As Center. She said since there was so much hurricane damage, these companies will be asked to work on projects; one being was the EMS facility. She said they will be receiving insurance money to complete that and the County will reach out to these companies without having to go through the formal bid process because it was already done. She said they will solicit quotes from these three companies and whoever gives the best quotes will get the project and if this was approved they could start now. Commissioner Taylor asked if this would compromise the Procurement Policy.

Mr. Weiss said no, would be on a continuing services contract but would only be activated through a written task order. Commissioner Taylor asked if the Board would need to approve the task order and Mr. Weiss said it would depend on the amount of the contract. She asked if he was instrumental in developing the RFQ and he said no. He said he was asked to draft a draft contract.

Commissioner Holt asked about the three, why not approve all of them and choose as they were needed.

Mrs. Jackson said this was open to Board direction.

Commissioner Hinson said maybe he was reading this a different way, but when this was sent out, the Extension building was on it. He said he felt it was fair to make sure they know what the County wants to do.

Commissioner Morgan said his motion was for option 1, his question was when they began this process, did they communicate the top three would be selected and was told no, as far as they were concerned they thought there would be one.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN AMENDED HIS MOTION TO INCLUDE THE TOP FOUR THAT WOULD INCLUDE TIP TOP AND COMMISSIONER HOLT AMENDED HER SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

18. Appointments to the Tourist Development Council

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to appoint two citizens to serve on the Tourist Development Council for staggered terms of four years.

Mr. Weiss said the City of Quincy has suggested they wanted Keith Dowdell to serve on the TDC and with respect to the vacancies, of the six remaining, at least three but not more than four have to be bed tax collectors.

Commissioner Morgan said they had nine applicants and he appreciated all that submitted their application. He said he was not sure but that they have the Administrator's Office vet the applicants to make sure all nine comply with the requirements to fill the slots. He said they could table this item and then select from the ones that met the qualifications. He added that he had no issue with Mr. Dowdell serving.

Chair Viegbesie designated Commissioner Holt remain a member of the Board.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO ECHO EVERYTHING COMMISSIONER MORGAN SAID AND WHAT THE CHAIR SAID, ADD COMMISSIONER HOLT AS CHAIRMAN AND

COMMISSIONER KEITH DOWDELL TO SERVE AND LET THE ADMINISTRATOR VET THE OTHERS AND BRING THIS ITEM BACK AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

Commissioner Taylor said Commissioner Holt has served for years on that Board along with Commissioner Dowdell and that process should have some form of rotation so others are given an opportunity to serve.

Approval to Lease Fleet Vehicles Using a Lease Agreement with GM Financials

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to lease sixteen new fleet vehicles using a lease agreement with the GM Financial for five years.

Commissioner Morgan said he appreciated the fact she was considering to lease the vehicles, he asked if the lease payment had been budgeted and she said yes. He asked where the dollars was coming from and Mrs. Jackson said she was not sure of the line item but it was budgeted. Commissioner Morgan asked how they knew what to budget when they just received the lease payment.

Mrs. Jackson said Allen Meeks has been speaking to the lease company and knew it would be \$500,000 if they were purchased. Commissioner Morgan asked if she had considered staggering vehicles and she said there was more than sixteen was needed to be replaced. She also said they would own the vehicles after five years but have the option to give them back.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they had budgeted \$500,000 to take care of the fleet and Mrs. Jackson said they budgeted \$103,000 at 4.88%. Commissioner Taylor asked where that figure came from and Mrs. Jackson said that was how much the company said it would cost. She added they were going with a State Contract and a reasonably priced company told them it would be \$500,000 for the 16 vehicles. Commissioner Taylor said she had budgeted \$103,000 and Mrs. Jackson said yes. Commissioner Taylor asked why she was asking for approval tonight and Mrs. Jackson said it was a contract and the Board has to approve contracts, she was not allowed to sign contract. Commissioner Taylor said she just signed a \$60 Million contract without Board approval and Mrs. Jackson said the Board actually approved one as well. Mrs. Jackson said there was a plan to stagger the vehicles and this was the first batch, there will be an additional set of vehicles in two years that will need to be placed in rotation.

Commissioner Morgan said he understood and supported this. He asked if this was off State contract pricing and Mrs. Jackson said it was.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE.

Mr. Weiss said he had not seen lease yet and wanted to make sure his motion was contingent upon approval of lease documents.

Commissioner Holt asked why he had not seen the documents before.

Mr. Weiss said he asked to see a document in Word and was not sure if it had been sent. He said the approval was to lease on these terms but obviously it needed to be contingent and he needed to review it to make sure the terms were OK.

Chair Viegbesie asked the Administrator if there was some disconnect between her office and attorney with regards to this document. Mrs. Jackson said she was not sure if staff had emailed this to the attorney but it had been advertised. Chair Viegbesie said if this was advertised and if the attorney had not seen it, he should have questions as to why it was on the agenda when he had not seen it.

Commissioner Taylor said the Administrator should be cautious in presenting to the Board items that have not been completely vetted and this should have been sent to the attorney to be vetted. She said she personally could not move forward because she was leery of what might be there. She said she wanted a lease agreement that had been vetted by the attorney before she was willing to move forward.

Commissioner Hinson said he agreed with Commissioner Taylor and thought they needed to bring this back to the Board.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with moving forward contingent upon the attorney's review. She also said she would like to look at an amortization of the information so they would know at the end of the lease what the totals would be.

Commissioner Hinson said he wanted the attorney to look at this and would like to be transparent. He also said this was the only Board he's been on where people that want to do business with them do not appear to present and they may have questions. He said they rushed into the communication thing and now was paying an additional \$300,000-\$500,000 more for towers based on the rush.

Chair Viegbesie said from hearing the conversation, he asked if she would consider if it were a substantial project, to please adopt bringing service providers before the Board to explain.

Commissioner Holt said they did that for years, when major contractors and vendors came, they either came to a workshop or regular meeting to present their project.

Commissioner Morgan said he would very respectfully like to move the question.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out 8:36 p.m.

Commissioner Taylor asked what if they come up with a better lease. Chair Viegbesie said it was contingent on the Attorney's review.

Commissioner Morgan returned at 8:37 p.m.

20. Consideration of Reinstating Building Permit Fees

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board direction and/or approval to reinstate the building permit fees.

Chair Viegbesie said his concern was the part of the fee that was waived to the contractors and the contractors were then not passing the waiver of fees to the homeowner. Commissioner Holt said the homeowner could also pull their own permits.

Commissioner Morgan said if he was working with a contractor; he would make sure they knew the County was waiving permit fees and would not pay them. He said for a rural County such as this one and as hard as it was hit, particularly on the west end of the County, felt they should continue to waive fees for a period of six months following the storm, which would be April 10th.

Commissioner Holt said the homeowner only had to call to see if they were charged, even if the contractor pulled the permit.

Linda Barkley addressed Board and said she was unaware the Board had waived fees and without the knowledge, would not know to expect that.

Commissioner Holt said she felt they should extend the time because she was finding out people cannot get the money needed to get things done and the majority did not have money, insurance, etc.

Commissioner Taylor said the longer they went without putting a deadline on it, the more the County was losing revenue. But there are people in the County that needs the extension and was one of those situations where the County needed the revenue but she was in support of the suspension because people needed more time to get things done.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO WAIVE PERMIT FEES UNTIL APRIL 12, 2019 AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

21. Board Direction on County Legal Services

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for Board direction regarding legal services for the County.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a reason this did not go out for bid and Mrs. Jackson said the Board had an option to renew for one more year.

Commissioner Holt said she thought it should be bid.

Chair Viegbesie said he had no problem in supporting the law firm but suggested the attorney provide information in a timely manner and that the Administrator have a constant, direct line of providing the attorney information in a timely manner so he can provide legal advice that the County deserved.

Commissioner Taylor said if this moved and was approved tonight, they should look into the contents of the contractual agreement and put in some deliverables, have more input on the work and ethics. She said she did not know the relationship between the Administrator and the Attorney, there have been side bars that she was not pleased to hear, but thought in an open

forum, they need to make sure they both were on the same account and what happened tonight doesn't happen again, especially when there was a contract involved. She also felt when it was time for the Attorney to speak at the end of meeting and there was nothing to report, she was glad there were no legal issues but are some things still out there and said she knew they were being sued from various former employees and yet to go into a meeting where it was just the Commissioners and the Attorney. She said if the contract was approved, she would like to put in some deliverables of what they should expect.

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

22. Approval of the 2019 Legislative Priorities

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said this item proposed three legislative priorities and was for Board approval. The three items were:

- Appropriation of a Windfall sales Tax;
- County Water and Sewer Upgrades; and
- Rebuilding of the Historic Stevens School.

Commissioner Taylor said she understood the windfall sales tax but that pot of money would be divvied up among so many counties she did not feel it would be anything significant. She said no-one knew the amount involved.

Mrs. Jackson said this was for Board direction but had spoken with people during Hurricane Michael at the highest level while articulating what this County needed and even discussed what would happen during the Legislative Session and was told by people at very high levels in Government that Gadsden County was looked at like a joke because of the submission of so many items.

Commissioner Holt said the items were good items, especially the one in Midway. She said they would be running late but they were being given a break because of the hurricane. She added that on a national level, she talked with Congressman Lawson as well and said they needed a couple of good projects to try to run and maybe they could have a quick workshop.

Commissioner Morgan asked the Administrator what extent has the lobbying firm participated in this and Mrs. Jackson said they felt these were obtainable goals and they have worked with the County on some of the others and they would be helping with Gadsden County Day and will be larger than last year.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could meet Gunster and Mrs. Jackson said they will be at the next meeting.

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

23. Approval of the County Administrator's Contract

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the Employee Agreement for the County Administrator.

Commissioner Taylor said there were a few things she wanted to say and was not ready to approve this tonight. She said she wanted to share her concerns. There are no deliverables in the contract and does not state what they are expecting from the Administrator; she said she was not interested in a two year contract and would not support it; there were 7 days in annual leave and four was the norm; she was not in agreement with \$100,000 annual salary; and \$5,000 premium, was not sure if that was normal. She said the confidence in moving forward was not there. She said she would not be supporting the contract at this time.

Commissioner Holt asked if Mrs. Jackson compared her contract to previous contract, Mrs. Jackson said yes and she was taking a pay cut.

Commissioner Morgan said he had an opportunity to talk with the Administrator and let her know the basics he was looking for in the agreement and felt she has made an extensive effort to learn, have had challenges and what concerned him the most was she had four key staff positions open and looking at how the positions will be filled. Through the storm, efforts were made around the clock and he was in agreement with the two year term and has no issue with the five month severance and salary. He said he thought benefits should match the previous administrator's contract, was not aware of deferred comp paid in the past and was opposed to that. He felt the contract needed to be tweaked and brought back to the Board. He said there was a 90 day notification if the Board chooses to not renew the agreement and was not sure if that would not present problems in itself. He felt it might be a conflict of interest.

Chair Viegbesie said when he received this item, he pulled salaries of other administrators around the counties and pulled two and compared them. He said insurance was one he took note of. He asked the attorney if there were any differences. He said they all have their own individual concerns and he had no problem with approving this contract to make sure they have an Administrator and then work on the other parts.

Commissioner Morgan said he understood what he was saying, maybe would be best if they could agree on a salary, term and severance, if everyone was comfortable then match the previous agreement with the administrator.

Commissioner Taylor said she did not think it was a fair comparison, the previous Administrator had experience. She has had one year experience and experience does drive the cost factor. She said she agreed that a lot of great things have been done but major issues and concerns also have happened, a lot of key employees have left. She said the reason people are leaving needs to be looked into. She asked where they were with the money that needs to be paid back, and said that employees' morale is low. She said they better look at this and look carefully. She added that the way they are going now, if that was any indication of what may happen in the future; they were in for some major concerns. She said in order for this County to get itself back, there had to be some changes; they have lost some major people that won't look to come back if this government stays as it is now. She said she would not support the contract.

Chair Viegbesie said his take was when he heard deliverables that was contained in the job description of the position. He said he had never seen deliverables in a contract and for everybody that comes into this position, there is learning curve. He said he saw no reason to not go with what they have.

Commissioner Taylor asked where the job description was and Chair Viegbesie said it was in the Organizational structure.

Commissioner Hinson said he had to sit back and think about things the last few days, he wanted what was best for the county but think they need clarity first. He said hypothetically, if the personnel director had 10 employees, they work 8 am to 7 pm and he tells them will pay them double time for 2 weeks; the Director then goes to the County Auditor and they tell the Director no, they could not be given double overtime, then the Director goes to the County Attorney and he also tells him no; then they talk with someone else that has nothing to do with the County and they tell the Director yes, it can be done. The Director was able to give double time and got double time for them self, gave the timesheet to the County Administrator and Administrator said could not give double time and Director says can. The Director forgot to tell the Administrator that they also took double time as well and where problem arises because the Director was a salaried employee and cannot receive double time. He asked what they do with the Director, forget and let it go?

Chair Viegbesie stepped out at 9:41 p.m.

Commissioner Hinson said the next question, he said Mr. Thomas had used the word “complicit” in an email and that was a strong word and meant agreeing with someone that they know is wrong. He asked Mr. Thomas to elaborate

Mr. Thomas said there were two incidences that come to mind when he used that word. He said a couple of years ago he brought to them a situation with the SHIP program.

Chair Viegbesie returned at 9:44 p.m.

Mr. Thomas continued and said the first was with the SHIP program where a County Administrative Staff person presented false and misleading information to the Board that caused the Board to take a vote with the consequence of that person receiving a significant personal gain. The second situation he referred to was when he suggested there was false and misleading information presented to the BOCC that caused the Board to take a vote to pay the double overtime. He said he believed when the BOCC allowed the Administrative Staffer to present false and misleading information that caused them to take a vote and that person received a significant personal gain and the Board accepted that, they become complicit when they do nothing about it. Commissioner Hinson asked what was meant when the Clerk said “stretches the human capacity beyond belief” and the Clerk said there were three days in row recorded on the timesheet of 24 hours of overtime in addition to 8 hours of Administrative leave that was already granted and to him was bit much and stretched the imagination to do 24 hours of work 3 days in a row on top of Administrative leave that was already granted. Commissioner Hinson said 147 hours in a 9 day period and Mr. Thomas said correct, double overtime. Mr. Thomas said in October when the timesheets were first presented to the Clerk’s office, Finance paid everyone under the law, the Fair Labor Standards Act and BOCC policy. The Board granted 9 days Administrative leave and that alone was a significant benefit, whether they worked or not, they were paid for eight hours of those 9 days. He said the Board gave Administrative leave on the day before the storm, which was the first day of the pay period. Under FLSA, people had not worked the 40 hours and got administrative leave then got paid for overtime for first 40 hours at regular rate and after they had

done 40 hours then paid at time and half. He said then an Agenda Item was presented to the Board which said pay all the overtime at double time and was said a promise had been made. He said he ran into Public Works employees at the doughnut shop and they explained they were promised that the overtime would be paid at double and that was the first he had heard of that. He said when the Board voted to pay overtime at double the rate; Finance went back and did that. He said the Agenda item also said to pay all salaried employees and Finance did what they voted to do. Initially, they were paid under the law and according to their policy and sent an email telling that and sent documentation explaining why.

Commissioner Hinson asked if he talked to the County Administrator about the double time. He said after the storm he was asked to attend a meeting. He had a brief conversation with Mrs. Jackson concerning 1) the debris removal contracts, 2) she told him she had hired a consultant and then 3) asked if people would get paid overtime. When he drove in he saw Public Works employees and thought she meant the hourly people out working. She said then she had a problem with some of her salaried personnel refusing to come in she wanted to pay them and he advised her to talk with her Finance Director because the salary people were different and the Clerk has no authority and nothing was mentioned about double time in that conversation, no mention of the County Administrator pay during that conversation, which he had absolutely no control of and could not set or change, it was up to the Board and she can't set or change it. He said there was statement that he understood she said he was in favor of this happening and that was not true. She talked to the Finance Director and the Finance Director told her that we did not pay double time and a threatening email was sent about lawyers from FAC was going to sue the Clerk's Office if they refused to pay, the agenda item was brought to Board and Board approved it. Commissioner Hinson asked if this happened before the Board approved and Mr. Thomas said yes. Commissioner Hinson asked the attorney if he advised the Interim County Administrator before they approved that she could not accept double overtime.

Chair Viegbesie said he was going to stop the conversation at this point because they were in a court of law and interrogation was going on. He said they could ask questions privately.

Commissioner Hinson said they were about to make decision for two years and he was trying to get answers and said he was sorry if Chair Viegbesie was in cahoots or complicit with what was going on. He asked the attorney for an answer and then asked if he was interrogating the Clerk and Mr. Thomas said no, he was happy to answer questions.

Mr. Weiss said he was copied on the email from the Clerk and sometime after that was sent the email from the FAC attorney regarding the promissory estoppel argument in terms of having promised something and they could be obligated to pay that amount. Commissioner Hinson asked if that was prior to the vote taken by Board and Mr. Weiss said yes. He said he had to ask because of the term "complicit" and he did not want to be accused of being part of anything like that. Commissioner Hinson said he did not have to say too much because it was out there now. He said they had heard from the Clerk and heard from the attorney, if the County Administrator wanted to say something, he did not want them to think he was trying to come after anybody but he had to say something because if something happened tomorrow, he would have to explain how he voted on that decision based on what happened and the information. Commissioner Hinson asked the Clerk if the check was \$19,000 and the Clerk explained the pay itself was \$14,900 and when the cost of retirement and taxes that the County pays on her behalf, the total costs was \$19,600.

Commissioner Holt asked if the Manager wanted to respond and she did not.

Commissioner Holt said there were three trucks missing, been missing for years, also other things that happened and have seen no investigations on any of those things. She said when everyone else was taking care of their families, she was at the EOC working with the Sheriff and was disappointed things were not done right but they have the opportunity to get them right. She said if they were worried about money, find the missing new trucks, and find the two houses and a road that was paved through a tomato field. She said for them to vote or not for the manager.

Commissioner Morgan said he appreciated the discussion, was aware of some of the concerns shared, have spoken directly with some of the parties and did not think there was any intention to do anything in an incorrect way, thought they learned maybe some things could have been done some differently and specifically talking about the \$19,000 that the Clerk mentioned about having that part repaid by the Administrator, who has agreed to do that. Mrs. Jackson said absolutely and was in writing. He said that was an issue he had and was very direct with Mrs. Jackson concerning that and it needed to be taken care of. He said that what they were talking about and had stated before, he was comfortable with the contract they had with the previous administrator. He said he was comfortable at \$100,000; 24 months term and 5 month severance but was not good with approving anything else tonight.

Chair Viegbesie asked the attorney what the previous administrator's contract stated. Mr. Weiss said there was no automatic renewal, just a two year term in previous Administrator contract.

Commissioner Taylor said first they were not talking about cars, trucks, what was agendaed was the County Administrator contract. She said they talk about fiscal constraints when it was beneficial to them, but when they make an agreement for 5 months' severance off of a \$100,000 salary; they were talking about almost \$40,000 and it was a lot of money. She heard what Commissioner Hinson said and he had good questions, heard what the Clerk said and asked if paying back the money had been facilitated and Mr. Thomas said no, from Finance's perspective that was between the Board and the Administrator, when they agree on something and send to Finance, then Finance will take care of it. Commissioner Taylor said she did not think they had a collective position on that but they need to agenda that so they could make an official statement. Mr. Thomas said he was asking for something from the Board because he had no authority to do anything with her salary, the Board has to do that.

Commissioner Hinson said he was for whatever the Board wanted. He asked if they were going to put in a motion but wanted to clear his name.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIOENR MORGAN ASKED AS PRESENTED AND SHE ASKED WHAT CHANGES.

Commissioner Morgan said \$100,000 salary, 2 year term, 5 months' severance and to match the previous administrator's contract regarding the other benefits.

COMMISSIONER HOLT SAID THAT WAS HER MOTION AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE SAID THAT WAS HIS SECOND. CHAIR VIEGBESIE ASKED FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE.

COMMISSIONER HOLT	YES
COMMISSIONER HINSON	NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION RIGHT NOW
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR	NO
COMMISSIONER MORGAN	YES
CHAIR VIEGBESIE	YES

THE VOTE PASSED 3-2. COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

CLERK OF COURT

24. Updates

Mr. Thomas was present and said he had nothing to report but was available for questions and will have some things to report at the next meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said he asked that the Board give him direction with regards to the salary payback and she asked it to be placed on the next agenda as to how to resolve that issue.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

25. Updates

Mrs. Jackson said the local Legislative Delegation Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 28th at 5:00 in BOCC chambers.

The Courthouse contract was finally executed between the County, Allstate Construction and the State and construction should begin very shortly.

The Ag Center is on hold due to the Government shut-down but is ready to move once the Government re-opens.

Gadsden County will be receiving \$201,500 for FY 2018-19 for housing rehab and emergency repairs.

A detailed debris load by date has been provided as of December and was before them.

Department directors and she will be attending the Rural Economic Development Academy in Tallahassee tomorrow and there were two openings if any of them would like to attend.

On February 12th a joint meeting is scheduled with Gadsden Senior Services Board and the BOCC at 4:30 in BOCC chambers.

The NACo Legislative Conference is Saturday March 2nd through Wednesday, March 6th in Washington, DC and depending on who will attend, they may need to cancel or reschedule the first regular meeting in March. Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Hinson and Chair Viegbesie plan to attend and there will be no quorum and the meeting should be canceled or rescheduled.

The need to bring back an item on the Planning Commission with terms, there was no quorum again at the last meeting.

She said there was a detailed Capital projects update before them.

March 20th is Gadsden County Legislative Day 22nd floor of Capitol with a reception following late afternoon.

Commissioner Hinson said dealing with Hampton Heights community and there is a huge log in the road and asked that it be looked at.

He also mentioned that Parks and Rec only had one guy show up for the meeting.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

26. Updates

Mr. Weiss thanked the Board for their support and would like to meet individually with Board members to discuss and address any issues.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

27. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said 2 years ago they recognized two ladies in Havana and one just turned 101 and the other turned 102

He also recognized Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on his birthday today.

He thanked the County Administrator and the Attorney for a job done well.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan congratulated the Attorney and the Administrator and appreciated the Clerk being present and his comments.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt congratulated the two on their contracts and thanked them for their ideas.

She said she had people to ask if there could be something where people could get together, maybe get with the City of Quincy and have a concert at the park. People wanted to get together after getting properties cleaned up after the hurricane.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor Vice-Chair, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked for a copy of the Resolution for private roads and wants see the budget where it talks about \$103,000 with 4.88% leasing for fleet vehicles.

Lobbying services

She said it sounded like the company was not coming if they do not come up with additional dollars, wasn't sure who was holding out for additional money and wanted to nail that down.

She wanted to recognize Major Robert Barkley, people at the Jail doing an outstanding job, along

with the Judges, the Public Defender's office and the State Attorney's office on keeping the count down at the jail and wants to honor them.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE MOTION TO RECOGNIZE THEM AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON ALSO THANKED THE BOARD FOR STARTING THE WORK PROGRAM. CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Commissioner Taylor also wanted to recognize Gretna's Women's Prison and the Warden at a meeting.

Paving project

She wants an updated report on what going forward with regards to paving at the next meeting. She said she was jotting things down and taking her sheet with her because a lot of times things get lost and things they request never come. She said she understood because of an issue with bidding and not bidding, rebidding and not getting permission, a whole lot was happening and not sure of the relationship they have with DOT and understand some projects been left off the list because of some of the concerns they have had in the past with one of the bids. She said she would like to speak with Preble-Rish and FDOT to make sure the County was still in good standing.

Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, Chair, District 2

Chair Viegbesie said he thought the part of road projects that CRTPA was responsible for, he had not seen any disagreement between FDOT on behalf of CRTPA and Gadsden County road projects and did not know of any roads that were taken out of any future projects. Commissioner Taylor said for him to talk with the Public Works director.

Chair Viegbesie said he had some legal questions he was going to ask the Attorney. He asked what type of contractual agreement the Board had with telecommunication companies such as Mediacom and AT&T, ones that provide a land-line. He said in some communities, residents have not had land-line services since the hurricane but still continue to receive bills and was there anything as a Board they can do with regard to the services in unincorporated areas. Mr. Weiss said that would be in the form of a franchise agreement and he asked for copies of all franchise agreements and only received one with WastePro and was told they either did not have or have record of other contracts. He said until he received a copy of these contracts, he would not know what recourse or rights the County may have.

Chair Viegbesie asked how the County Code Enforcement Ordinance relates to the Restrictive Ordinances of homeowners associations such as Lake Tallavana. Mr. Weiss said they had to look at it as two different layers, there are Restrictive Covenants that say whatever they say and they are presumably enforceable but not by the County. The County has separate and distinct Ordinances which are enforceable by the County regardless of what the HOA documents say.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at 10:38 p.m.

He said there are citizens that have contacted him and live there and there is a problem with sewage seeping into the others' property. The ones whose property is being messed up have called Code Enforcement and has not received any action. He did not know if it was because of Restrictive Covenants or the Ordinances. Mr. Weiss said private covenants could not trump the

County Ordinances and he did not think the County dealt with septic, that was a Department of Health issue. He said he would suggest that to the citizen.

He said there was some property on 8506 Salem Road that Code Enforcement needs to look at the condition to see if it needs to be condemned. He said it was an eye-sore and was uninhabitable.

He asked about the Adopt-A-Road program, he said there were many roads where trash is everywhere and if they have an active program, citizens, and churches have said they were willing to adopt the roads and they need to consider activating the program.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION FOR TWO SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS, LATRESHA PETERS AND VANESSA BETSEY AND THE SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Mrs. Jackson said Friday at 10:00 at the Sheriff's Office there will be a recap on the hurricane.

Commissioner Holt said at a certain point there would need to be a public meeting with the citizens to hear from them and give them updates and would be beneficial and help them prepare for the next time.

Commissioner Taylor asked how they planned to get the information out to the public and Mrs. Jackson said the meeting on Friday was more of a strategy session and not for public input.

Receipt and File

- 28. Ausley & McMullen-November 2018 Invoice**
List of Resolutions Presented for Commendation and Appreciation During and After Hurricane Michael
November 15, 2018 – Florida Department of Health
November 27, 2018 - Florida Department of State Letter

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 19. December 6, 2018-5:00 p.m. BOCC/GHI Joint Workshop**
December 18, 2018-6:00 p.m. BOCC Regular Meeting
January 1, 2019-6:00 p.m.-BOCC Regular Meeting Cancelled

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
January 15, 2019-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR VIEGBESIE DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:45 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

ANTHONY VIEGBESIE, Chair
Board of County Commissioners