

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 7, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, Chair, District 2
Brenda Holt, Vice Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Wesley Hall, Interim County Administrator
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

With a quorum present, Chairman Viegbesie called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Pastor Allen Jones, New Temple Church gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hall asked to pull Items 2, 3, 4 from the Agenda.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

None were had.

CONSENT

Commissioner Morgan said he had no issue with approving the consent agenda, but he needed to pull Items 11, 12 and 13 for discussion. Commissioner Hinson asked to pull Item 5 also for discussion.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH EXCEPTION OF THE ITEMS PULLED, WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE AS AMENDED.

1. Ratification Memo
2. Suppression Gas Systems Test and Inspect-FM200 System
3. Old Federal Road SCOP CIE Task Order
4. Old Federal Road SCOP Bid Award
5. ~~CR 12 (Fairbank Road) SCOP Agreement~~
Pulled for discussion
6. Florida Department of Corrections Interagency/Public Works Agreement

7. **Public Officials Bon Review**
8. **Approval to Award Bid No. 19-24 for HVAC Services to Artic Mechanical Services**
9. **911 Dispatch Center Task Order for Architectural Services**
10. **Approval of the Geographical Information System Services Agreement with the Apalachicola Regional Planning Council**
11. ~~**Ratification for Payment of Emergency Building (Inspection) Department Services by EPCI Services**~~
Pulled for discussion
12. ~~**Approval of Assistance for United Way**~~
Pulled for discussion
13. ~~**Florida Department of Health, Bureau of EMS Matching Grant**~~
Pulled for discussion
14. **Approval of the iWorQ Systems, Inc. Software Services Agreement**
15. **Approval of Contract of Interlocal Agreement with City of Midway, Florida for Animal Services**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

16a. **November 5, 2019-Regular Meeting**

16b. **November 19, 2019-Regular Meeting**

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

5. CR 12 (Fairbank Road) SCOP Agreement

Commissioner Hinson stated he would like a brief overview of item 5 so the community could hear it so they would be aware of things in the future.

Lisa Robinson, Interim Public Works Director, appeared before the Board to address issues. She stated item 5, County Rd. 12, was one of the SCOP projects from the 2025 Rural Projects through DOT. She stated that Fairbanks Ferry was to be resurfaced, not widened.

Commissioner Hinson asked if widening was possible, because the people on County Rd. 12 said the issue was the road needed to be wider. He stated it was a narrow road and he was curious about that.

Mr. Hall stated he could do research and find out what the cost would be.

Commissioner Hinson stated he thought in the past 20 years, there had been 3 or 4 deaths on that one road and in one area twice.

Chairman Viegbesie said the Commission was doing what he was requesting now with Attapulcus Hwy. He further stated if this was approved by FDOT, what the County could do is resubmit additional funding to this and then the BOCC could take it from there. Chairman stated for them to work with the engineer and can see how the County could get additional funding for the shoulder to the road.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 5 WITH A SECOND FROM COMMISSIONER HINSON. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

11. Ratification for Payment of Emergency Building (Inspection) Department Services by EPCI Services

Commissioner Morgan said he had no problem with the item other than the fiscal impact since the County was transferring 25% of the cost in the general fund balance. He stated the BOCC had it in this year's budget and he would like clarification on that.

Suzanne Lex appeared before Board and explained the money was already paid from last year's budget and this was for ratification.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT.

Commissioner Hinson asked the County Administrator to speak on item 11, so the citizens would know what was going on because this was very important.

Mr. Hall explained it simply was removal without a Building Administrator going outside and have a contractual agreement with someone to do building inspection. He further stated once the County hired a permanent Building Inspector; the County did not have to do this anymore but the County always had to have a Building Official in order for permits and things to be approved and continue building in the County. He further stated this gave the County a Building Official on a part-time basis and this was the revenue it cost for him to work for the County.

Commissioner Hinson said he knew this because it was one of the items that the County had discussed and had many workshops and complaints.

CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

12. Approval of Assistance for United Way

Commissioner Morgan said item 12 was looking to a non-profit contribution for United Way of Big Bend for \$500 and he had spoken with the Administrator about this. He stated he personally supports the United Way and they have a new CEO and it was a great organization that benefits our citizens and he wanted to support them. He further stated the County employees have an opportunity to contribute each pay period and many of them do. His question was whether or not this had been through the process, like all the other non-profits during the budget time, and the Administrator told him it did not, and this was an additional non-profit. Commissioner Morgan asked why this was being entertained at this point and why not do it in the next budget year, particularly with the position the County was in financially, it did not seem fair to the other

non-profits that went through the process and the BOCC told them no, due to the finances the County could not contribute. He asked for clarification from the board how this got thrown in as an agenda item.

Chairman Viegbesie said he suggested it be put on Agenda because The United Way, in the last meeting, was looking for funding to help them with assisting Veterans in this community with some financial issues they are having with medicine co-pay and other bills. Chairman Viegbesie said he thought \$500 to help them help Veterans would be something the Board should consider, which is why he suggested it be put on the agenda. He suggested at the end of the last meeting, sources of soft revenue to the Veteran Affairs Department to help Veterans with subsidizing their financial hardship. Chairman Viegbesie said in the next meeting is a discussion on brick pavers around the Veteran Monument on the Courthouse grounds to help generate soft money to help Veterans. He thought this was something the Board should seriously consider and provide \$500 to The United Way.

Commissioner Morgan said he appreciated what the Chairman had to say and Commissioner Morgan had no problem if each Commissioner wanted to contribute personally \$100, he would be glad to do that, but did not feel this was proper when other non-profits had been turned away.

Chairman Viegbesie stated the point was very well taken and it was a very wise discussion.

Commissioner Hinson said he felt heartburn a little because the BOCC had discussed how they could put funding into Summer Youth Employment and he noticed they were now taking money from General Revenue. The BOCC took \$10,000 extra from this year's budget out of General Revenue and now another \$500.00.

Commissioner Morgan told Commissioner Hinson that was last year and they just had conformation on it.

Commissioner Hinson stated the paperwork he had did not say it was from last year and he would like that checked on.

Commissioner Holt said she was the old person on the board and before, they did not do non-profits. She stated she had no problem with each Commissioner giving money to keep it from coming out of the General Fund. She understands Commissioner Hinson's point, because after the hurricane she said to pay those bills down and there would be no need for any of the non-profits to come back until the bills were paid down and the County got money back from the Federal Government.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO GIVE INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS TO THE UNITED WAY COMMISSIONERS WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN.

Commissioner Hinson said he just donated almost \$1,000 to East Gadsden High School. He stated whatever the Board wanted to do would be great and he thought The United Way was a great organization, but he would hate to say each Commissioner would donate with one Commissioner not being present.

Chairman Viegbesie stated it would be optional. He echoed the Commissioner's statement regarding employees make substantial contributions to the United Way and the Board members could make additional contributions because the money would be going to help the Veterans in our Community, those that have served to protect our individual freedoms in this country.

COMMISSIONER HOLT AMENDED HER MOTION TO COVER THIS ITEM FOR DONATIONS TO THE UNITED WAY WITH DONATIONS FROM THE BOARD AT THE WILL OF THE BOARD FROM EACH COMMISSIONER AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson recognized Councilman Johnson, who was in the audience, stating she was always donating to help Gadsden County High School teachers and staff.

13 Florida Department of Health, Bureau of EMS Matching Grant

Commissioner Morgan stated he had no issue with the item and asked where the matching money of \$22,875.25 was coming from for the matching grant.

Jeff Price, Senior Management & Budget Analyst, stated the County had \$25,000 budgeted in Public Safety.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 WITH A SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Terry Williams, 188 Martin Street, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and spoke about a new Non-profit Company, Keystone Endeavors. He explained it was a re-entry type of company that would assist individuals that were coming out of County and State jail and prison to help with becoming more successful in life by way of education, vocation and betterment classes. He stated these people were our neighbors and his company wanted to give them assistance so it would not be a revolving door in and out of jail/prison. He said he would appreciate any help the County could give him, either monetary or by way of a building to operate out of. He stated he was licensed with the State and Federal Government and he had his 501(c)(3). He told the Board the flyer he handed out had his contact information on it and he would come before the Board again because he was putting together a fundraiser to assist him in starting up. He said the State of Florida housed over 97,000 individuals and they are getting out on a daily basis and his company believes he could assist these individuals and stop the revolving door in and out of prison. He had already made contact with the local educational resources as well as in Tallahassee and all of them welcomed him. He asked if the Board had any questions.

Commissioner Hinson stated he was known to do a breakfast every 2 months and Mr. Williams was more than welcome to attend and that would help him understand what was happening and who could help and assist. Homelessness is a serious issue.

Mr. Williams stated the most individuals coming out of prison had no place at all to go. He stated this was only the beginning and he had some things on paper he was trying to get together and the Board would see him again.

Annie Green, 466 Spring Meadows Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board to speak concerning Code Enforcement and Building Permits. She stated she had problems with a neighbor. When Clyde Collins was with the County Administrators Office, he gave her neighbor a permit to set up an RV in a residential area and since then he had taken up residence in this RV. After the neighbors complained, he moved the RV out (March), and when he thought the neighbors had forgotten about it, he moved it back (November). Ms. Green stated she had spoken with Mr. Hall, Mr. Williams, and Al Smythe concerning the matter. He has threatened her, her daughter and her small children. Since she was having problems, she was going to put up a fence. When men were putting the fence up, he came out and threatened them. He told Ms. Green he was going to damage some of her property. There was a pipe running from her daughters' mobile home, he said part of the pipe for the sewer system was on his land, he then busted the pipe and sewage was running everywhere. After he busted the pipe, he called Environmental Health. Environmental Health showed up and told Ms. Green she had to fix it. She told them her neighbor broke it and they told her it was on his property and he had the right to bust the pipe. She stated this had been going on for over a year. Her nephew came to her house to see what was going on and her neighbor's wife threatened to shoot him and then the neighbor came out and harassed him as well. Her nephew left when Ms. Green told him not to argue with the neighbors. She further stated she had been getting letters from Code Enforcement because he had been complaining that in her wooded area of her land there was some trash. She has been on that property for 20+ years. Code Enforcement is telling her that she has to go into the woods and clean up the trash and she wants to know if it was legal.

Commissioner Taylor arrived at 6:28 p.m.

Commissioner Hinson said they needed to look into this. He stated if you had been walking through someone's property for 20 years, they cannot change that walkway/property. He said she had rights and asked for the County to look into this and make sure she was protected.

Chairman Viegbesie stated there needed to be another meeting and they needed someone from the Sheriff's Office to be present. He further stated that law enforcement may need to be at her house while the drainage was being diverted from her neighbor's property to her own property, but that would be answered.

Ms. Green stated she pulled all of the permits needed and if her sewer was on his land, that should have never happened because that was the purpose of her pulling her permits and paying all kinds of money to do so.

Commissioner Holt said the property description should be on her deed and to do a title search and it would show property lines. Commissioner Holt stated title searches go back from 30-75 years and encouraged Ms. Green to pull all of her paperwork. She stated there are corner stones in the ground and that would give her a better determination of where her property lines were.

Ms. Green stated when her neighbor moved in, he got someone to survey the property, and they did another marking of the property.

Commissioner Holt stated the reason she brought up the property description and the deed

were because in Florida, markers are sometimes 20-30 feet off of a marker. She said survey offices only worry about the deed that is presented to them and they could not do a title search. She further stated if Ms. Green could not afford an attorney, she should see Legal Services of North Florida and start working on the issue.

Chairman Viegbesie stated the meeting that the BOCC would schedule, he would suggest Commissioner Holt be a part of.

Ms. Green asked again if she was required to go into the woods and clean up the trash that was there.

Mr. Hall said he would check with his Code Enforcement Officer tomorrow and research this and get in touch with her.

Linda Barkley, 530 Dusty House Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board.

Chairman Viegbesie said they were in the process of scheduling the Private Roads Workshop and Ms. Barkley was before the Board recently and she stated she had been before the Board several times and the last time was November. Chairman Viegbesie stated the Board had not been able to find time to schedule the workshop but he appreciated the friendly reminder. Ms. Barkley stated she wanted to go on record again in reference to the adoption of the Private Road Ordinance that the County had in place. She wanted to know where the Board was on scheduling a workshop and expressed that she did not want the Ordinance to expire and have nothing happen. She asked if there was any day or anything in place as to when the Board would be looking to schedule a date.

Commissioner Hinson said he would add that to his comments when it was time for Commissioner Comments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out 6:48 p.m.

17. Public Hearing-Legislative-Consideration of Ordinance 2019-015 for the 1605 Flat Creek Road Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment (SSPA 2019-01)

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and said it was a Public Hearing for approval of Ordinance 2019-015 to adopt the Flat Creek Road Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map amendment.

Jill Jeglie appeared before the Board and gave a brief description of the item.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at 6:50 p.m.

Ms. Jeglie stated the Options were:

1. Adopt Ordinance 2019-15 approving the 1604 Flat Creek road (Vrasha, Inc.) (SSPA-2019-02) Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment from the Agriculture 3 to the Neighborhood Commercial future land use category and authorize the Chairman to sign.
2. Do not adopt Ordinance 2019-015 and deny approval of the 1604 Flat Creek road.

(Vrasha, Inc.) (SSPA-2019-02) Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment from the Agriculture 3 to the Neighborhood Commercial future land use category.

3. Board direction.

The recommendation was Option 1. (exhibit A should say neighborhood commercial)

Vice Chair Holt asked, if possible, to have a map put on the monitor so the audience could see the location of the item. (page 9 or 10)

Vice Chair Holt stated the reason she was bringing this up was to be able to get input if the audience was better informed on what the item was. She stated it was the I-10 Chattahoochee Exit and there was a small store there and most country stores would not have been Commercial or Neighborhood Commercial. There was not a Planning Map when most of them were built. Vice Chair Holt announced this was a public hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak for or against and no-one wished to speak.

Commissioner Morgan said they were talking about minimum expansion of the existing convenience store and gas station was located near the old Jai-Alai building at the I-10 and Flat Creek Road exit.

Ms. Jeglie stated the maximum square foot they could have in Neighborhood Commercial was 5,000 sq. ft.

Commissioner Morgan stated there were no issues as far as conformity went because it was an existing store.

MS. Jeglie stated it was shown as Agriculture 3 on the map and so the owners could not improve it.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO MOVE APPROVE OPTION 1 AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AND CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND.

Commissioner Hinson stated he said 7 years ago that the County had to find a way to improve the infrastructure.

Ms. Jeglie stated the Board had not workshopped that and there could be outlays if they wanted to get in the utilities or expand utilities. She further stated most of the intersections off of the interstate have been annexed with the exception of the one in this area by the various local governments and they are extending utilities to the area.

Commissioner Hinson said if they improved the infrastructure, people would come to Gadsden County.

Ms. Jeglie stated that would be a considerable capital investment and long-term plans for the commissioners as far as if they want to invest in that type of infrastructure.

Commissioner Holt said she asked the Director of Planning and Zoning to get that information to the Commissioners. The County provides water and sewer and electricity to those intersections

and this one should not be Neighborhood Commercial. She further stated the property owners should be approached again and look at it with an overlay to do a commercial intersection. This would cause no increase in taxes and that way they would not have to come before the Board because those steps would already be taken. Constitutional Officers, she said, need to sit down and start planning the County better.

THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

18. Public Hearing-Legislative-Consideration of Ordinance 2019-016 to adopt the 2434 Kemp Road Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment (SSPA 2019-01-3)

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and stated it was for approval of Ordinance 2019-016 to adopt Kemp Road Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map amendment.

Chairman Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in favor of or opposition of this item.

Elva Peppers, 221-4 Delta Court, Tallahassee, FL, appeared before the Board and gave a brief overview of the item. She stated all that was needed was Board approval and Planning Department approval for the Site Plan and there were no environmental issues.

Chairman Viegbesie said personally, he thought it to be a very wonderful endeavor and asked about the septic tank and if it would be upgraded without any environmental issues.

Ms. Peppers said yes and the improvements had been done. She had spoken to the Health Department and it was "set to go." The well, in addition, met the requirements of the Health Department.

Commissioner Hinson asked what the maximum number of students would be. Ms. Peppers answered 25. She further stated there was no proposal at this time to expand the facility.

Commissioner Holt said she felt it was a great idea and was time to approve.

Commissioner Morgan said this was a great endeavor and he had questions for Ms. Jeglie. He asked if traffic impact had been looked at. Ms. Jeglie said traffic impact was provided as part of their application and was minimal. They have sight vision and may have to do some improvements to the driveway. The 25 students were not anticipated to negatively impact service on that road.

Commissioner Morgan also asked if to the East, in the 100-acre parcel, if that was a hunting preserve. Ms. Jeglie said it was taxed as a clubhouse. She thought hunting was done there and State Statutory Regulations regarding directions they can shoot into, and the building being converted is on the Western portion of the property and it is existing now as a house next to that property. The property owners of the Clubhouse were noticed and they received no contact with any concern had been brought back.

Commissioner Morgan asked if that fact was discussed in Planning and Zoning.

Ms. Jeglie stated there was a table of uses and the Planning Commission was aware and the

vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Morgan stated the safety issue was bothering him being that far out and having children out there right next to a hunting preserve.

Commissioner Holt said there was discussion years ago regarding the hunting preserve. The Board informed the owners that the BOCC could not give them permission to shoot on anyone's property.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH A SECOND BY CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE WITH COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSING.

19. Public Hearing-Legislative-Consideration of Ordinance 2019-009 to adopt to update the Capital Improvements Element of the Comprehensive Plan (LSPA 2019-02)

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and said it was for approval of Ordinance 2019-009 to update the Capital Improvements Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Chairman Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in favor of or opposition of this item. There were none.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN STEPPED OUT AT 7:10 P.M.

Commissioner Holt asked that the strike-outs, from now on, be shown on a document by themselves, showing what was replaced.

Ms. Jeglie re-appeared before Board and stated they could do that.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN RETURNED AT 7:11 P.M.

Ms. Jeglie said typically, for an existing residential lot this would not have much impact. If you have an already existing lot, you are not going to impact Level of Service (LOS). If subdividing and creating many lots etc., it would be reviewed to look at traffic impacts. Parks and Recreation would do the same thing.

Commissioner Holt said a couple of communities that were done before they had swells. Instead of a holding pond, the ditch work is done in a certain way that it would hold more water coming off the development so there would not have to be a holding pond.

She further stated the County was looking at a certain level housing and when people start making more money, they are going to want a certain level house. Not everyone wants a playground/park in their development because everyone comes to the park and no one wants to monitor the other people who come into the neighborhood. She further stated the LDC Comprehensive Plan is where the BOCC could kill those items. If you don't want a park in those 20 houses, how does the Board adjust that plan for those houses.

Ms. Jeglie stated that was a very complicated question and she had worked with staff of 80 that could not answer that and her staff of 3 was doing all they could. Looking forward, the BOCC should support doing this through consultants or revising the maps and deciding where the

County wants to grow.

Commissioner Holt said the Commission needed to make plans as to what they wanted the County to look like with input from the community. She further stated at (Highway) 267, the County put the pipe in and could not convince the city to accept the larger pipe. There needed to be a plan.

Ms. Jeglie stated the 4600,000 Grant the County did at one point was to look at utility deficiencies throughout the county and opportunities.

Commissioner Holt stated things are getting moved but that was not the plan and they need to come up with a plan in order to get the money. This was why she was asking for a workshop.

Chairman Viegbesie said it was a monumental job to work on the Comprehensive Plan, but as Commissioners it was part of their responsibility, but if they want the County to grow, they must schedule workshops for the Comprehensive Plan. He stated in order for the County to move forward and grow, the BOCC must take time to address a Comprehensive Plan. He asked the Interim Administrator, Mr. Hall to make that one of the major workshops needed to work on as soon as possible.

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

20. Public Hearing-Approval of Resolution 2020-001 for FY 2020

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and said it was for approval of Resolution 2020-001 and for authorization for the Interim County Administrator, Finance Director and the Senior Management & Budget Analyst to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to adjust the Fiscal Year 2020 budget.

Chairman Viegbesie announced this was a public hearing and asked if there was any public input and there was none.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 WITH A SECOND BY CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson said it was already approved in the Budget for the Boys and Girls Club.

Chairman Viegbesie said he was told they were already approved and the BOCC was approving the actual movement of money.

Commissioner Hinson said the Board did not approve the Grant Writer. He stated that position was being outsourced and was being paid based on what he writes. He further stated a Grant Writer was needed but was not sure a position should be made for it.

Chairman Viegbesie stated upon the approval of the Grant Writer position and the funding of it, the position was advertised and applications are still being accepted. This item was to make sure that when the auditors come, they will know the money had been moved within the Budget period.

Commissioner Morgan said all doing was executing funding already agreed on and called the question.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN CALLED TO QUESTION WITH A SECOND BY CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE. THE BOARD VOTED ALL IN FAVOR OF CALL OF QUESTION 5-0.

THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION 1.

GENERAL BUSINESS

21. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Gadsden County and Communities Organization Active in Disaster, Inc. d/b/a Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies (BRACE) to provide two Americorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and said it was for approval to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between Gadsden County and Communities Organizations Active in Disaster, Inc. d/b/a Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies (BRACE) to provide two Americorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) positions to Gadsden County for one year to assist in long-term recovery efforts.

Chairman Viegbesie stated this was general business.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Hall where the funding was coming from.

Jeff Price appeared before the Board to address the questions. He stated the funding was coming from the Planning and Zoning Department and estimated no more than \$20,000. Commissioner Morgan asked if it was already budgeted and Mr. Price said there was savings in that department that they would use for this. Commissioner Morgan asked if that Department was adequately funded at this time and Mr. Price answered yes.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 WITH A SECOND BY CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

22. Approval of Extension with Ausley McMullen for the Limited Purpose of Completing Negotiations Regarding the Hospital Lease

Mr. Hall introduced the above item and said it was for approval of an extension with Ausley McMullen for the limited purpose of completing negotiations regarding the Hospital lease. He said Mr. Glazer was willing to extend his current contract, but it would be limited to the purpose of completing negotiations regarding the Hospital Lease and related documents.

Chairman Viegbesie said the rate Mr. Glazer was charging was not the same rate as Mr. Weiss charged even though they are working under the office of the same legal service. Mr. Glazer would be paid \$295 per hour.

Commissioner Holt said she was not in favor of retaining the Attorney and felt they needed other ideas regarding the hospital contract.

Chairman Viegbesie stated the rate that Mr. Glazer was paid up until this time was \$295 and the

rate listed on the item agenda was \$275 and he asked for the correct amount. Mr. Hall answered \$295. Mr. Weiss stated it was \$275 and Chairman Viegbesie stated the contract should reflect \$275 per hour.

Commissioner Hinson said the current attorney was doing a great job but did not want to offend the new attorney and every lawyer goes to school. He stated he could not go along with this and did not want to insult the new firm.

Chairman Viegbesie said he was in support of this idea for transition purposes and there should be some kind of debriefing period between the two firms. He stated he was in support of one-month period of transition of information because the new attorney needed to have a good understanding of the hospital lease.

Commissioner Morgan said he could not agree more. He further stated it was critically important for the County to maintain relationship that we have between representation. He further this would protect the concerns of the Board and the citizens on extremely important issues.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1 WITH A SECOND BY CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE.

Commissioner Hinson said it made sense to go with Attorney Weiss because he had all the information and would depend on how long this would take. He further stated it may take 6 months and he did not want to get hit with a payment the County could not afford. He said this was a friendship thing here.

Commissioner Taylor said she had asked this be put on agenda. She stated this item was time sensitive and that was why the BOCC needed to move forward with the firm that was in place. She did not think it was an insult with incoming firm. She further stated, while Mr. Weiss was well versed, the County needed someone with total knowledge and she felt Mr. Glazer would get them to that mark, however, some of the concerns raised were real. She suggested a cap between now and the end of March. She said the BOCC had an opportunity to negotiate since the contract ended in February and a proposal had been presented to the County but was not countered. She was going along with option 1 with a cap.

Chairman Viegbesie asked Mr. Hall to take note that the contract would end February 21st and the County was entering into a contract extension so the amount could be negotiated during the contractual period and should be up to March 31st and within that month the new law firm should be able to have the debriefing and understanding needed to effectively and efficiently carry out the contractual agreement between CRMC and the Board.

Commissioner Holt said the Commissioners have come to meetings before and not been notified of updates on negotiations by the attorney of several things. She stated the money being raised from tax over years (\$700,000 for 20 years, \$18 Million) and still had no Hospital. She further stated changes needed to be made and she was not going to vote in favor of it.

Mr. Weiss wanted to point out the option on the table (Option 1) said there was no expectation there would be significant amount of time spent and said Mr. Glazer not communicating with them was not accurate at all. He further stated Mr. Glazer has sent multiple emails, communicated every

revision, sent revised drafts, sent memos and updates every time any kind of revision had been made.

Commissioner Taylor asked that when the motion was made it was tagged with a cap.

Chairman Viegbesie stated the contract end would March 31st.

CHAIRMAN VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONERS HINSON AND HOLT OPPOSED.

CLERK OF COURT

23. Updates

Clerk Thomas wanted to mention funds that needed to be spent. The Boating Improvement Fund had \$120,397. Every year the State asked if the money was being spent and he thought at some point they might ask for it back. He stated the money could only be used for boating improvements, docks, etc.

Chairman Viegbesie said this was something the Clerk has reminded them of and asked the Interim County Administrator to work on spending the money to improve the County buildings and to work on this. The Clerk stated again it was for Boating, not Building.

Commissioner Hinson said there had been a lot of conversation in Richbay regarding the landing there on how to keep it clean. He asked if the County could use funds to beautify that area.

Commissioner Holt asked Clerk Thomas what the other item was.

Clerk Thomas said Fund 101, Dory Slosburg Fund, for driver improvement in the amount of \$66,567. It was not just public schools; it could be non-public or private schools.

Commissioner Holt said they needed to get the requirements of those funds so decisions could be made. She said the boating could generate revenue with canoeing.

Chairman Viegbesie suggested the ICA to reach out to the Commissioners individually to get ideas as to what they would like to see done with monies and put ideas together as an agendaed item and get common ideas and introduce them.

Commissioner Taylor said what was imperative, was they knew what they could and could not be done with the monies.

Clerk Thomas said he will forward information to the Board and the Interim Administrator.

Clerk Thomas said he knew they talked about the Emergency Repair Program and the Clerk's office wanted to go on record stating that they still believed that in reinstating this program, there should be an Ordinance to establish a public purpose, similar to the ordinance in the SHIP Program.

He further stated there had been lot of talk about the General Fund Balance and he was only talking about balance at the end of the fiscal year on September 30th. It changes up and down during the year but what mattered was September 30th. At the end of the year it was approximately \$4 Million, of course \$2.5 Million was spent October 1, at the draw down from investment accounts to get through the first few weeks of the fiscal year but it was put back as the property tax came in. He further stated some numbers on the revenue side were not that good. He said that was unaudited and the auditors were here for next month and just started looking at the numbers.

Clerk Thomas said he received a call from Department of Transportation about recent instability at the Public Works Department and they are concerned about awarding grants if the level of expertise was not there. The Clerk's Office has assured them they were willing to work with them. He felt this might need to be addressed.

Chair Viegbesie said he was a representative at CRPTA and was personally told of concerns of turnovers at Public Works and he was not saying something he had not heard.

Mr. Hall said they were addressing vacancies and they should be addressed within the next 30 days. Mr. Hall said they had applications and this was being addressed.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

24. Updates

Mr. Hall thanked Staff for all their hard work and thanked Suzanne Lex for her hard work.

Chair Viegbesie thanked Suzanne Lex for her expertise and knew they would still be working together but in a different capacity with her being with CRTPA now.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

25. Updates

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

26. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson thanked Ms. Lex for her dedication.

He. promised Ms. Linda Barkley he would schedule a time they could meet.

Commissioner Morgan left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Commissioner Hinson also said February 29th that Alpha Phi Fraternity wanted to host another event at the Courthouse and asked their OK to do so.

Chair Viegbesie commented about use of Courthouse grounds. He thought they had developed a process they must follow for Courthouse grounds to be used regarding insurance. He said if something happened and someone was hurt on the Courthouse grounds, he wanted to make sure they were covered.

Commissioner Hinson said they host the Veterans every year and the attorney looked at all the information last year and Chair Viegbesie said the Veterans event was a County event that the County hosted.

Mr. Weiss said there was an existing policy on the use of the Courthouse grounds and as long as it was in accordance with the existing policy being followed, he didn't have problem with it.

Commissioner Holt said in 2002, she was going to walk on the sidewalk when she ran for office and was told could not walk and then decided it was public and could use the sidewalk.

Mr. Weiss said the Courthouse grounds was different from the sidewalk. Policy had to be followed and it was their policy.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE THE SECOND.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION. THE VOTE WAS 4-0 ON CALL TO QUESTION.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson thanked everyone and some things they should consider was with mental health, homelessness and how they could generate revenue in the County. He said they also talked about infrastructure. He said they talk about jobs forever but without infrastructure in place, they were holding a grave conversation with the community.

He said to Commissioner Taylor he heard her event was one of greatest in the world and they need to look at the mental health facility in Orlando/Tampa area and model after that.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she received a great call about a young lady about keeping dogs out of her yard. She has called Animal Control but when they arrive, the dogs have left.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR DR. WILLIE C. GREEN AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

She thanked the Manager and said was unusual that the Clerk brought the item up, she got information from employees from a totally different viewpoint on things they thought needed to be improved on regarding Road and Bridge.

She said there was a program at a university in Alabama, she thought Auburn, where the University builds up to 2-bedroom homes. She told them she would follow up after she left the workshop and they have since moved to Marianna. She told Jackson County she would mention this to Gadsden County. Chair Viegbesie asked the Interim Administrator to look into this.

She said the Clerk mentioned about the Emergency Ordinance and said he was correct. When there was an emergency such as the hurricane, they had to have something in place. The organizations they were dealing with that they were able to work with came in to help because they did not know what to do and the County did not have anything in place when the hurricane hit. They did have things in place for debris removal but not a contract or proposal in place to say what they were doing. She said also if there was another emergency like such, they needed to have weekly meetings and not wait two weeks to address come of the things that was coming up.

She said they needed to organize their Day at the Capitol and need palm cards that state what Gadsden County wanted.

She said they needed an Economic Development map what showed gas lines, where the commercial areas were, gas lines and water lines were, etc.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor Vice-Chair, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said at the last meeting, Chair Viegbesie mentioned the 5-day work week at Public Works and according to when Robert Presnell was there, they went to 4-day work week was (explained) She explained if they went with 5-day work week, they would lose time and she understood that was in motion.

Commissioner Hinson said he had the same concerns. From Chattahoochee to Concord would be a one-hour drive. He said it sounded good but they needed to look at it.

Commissioner Taylor said regarding the parking lot, she was on her way to work and received a phone call that there was a number of patrolled units sitting in the parking lot behind the County Building. She said she understood the concerns there but knowing for a fact they were limited at any time they would be sitting in a parking lot and not patrolling the County.

She said with the Boys and Girls Club, the Board told them to go and do whatever they wanted with the \$93,000 and the County had no right telling them what to do with the money and the majority of them voted for that and she did not. When they were spending taxpayers' money, they had a right to know what they were doing with it. She asked if they could get a synopsis of what they decided because there were three options on the book and they had no idea what they took.

She said she had a situation with a veteran and they may need to look at some type of funding pool. This gentleman had to be hospitalized and was unable to work and thus lost his utilities and was living in government housing but if utilities were off for a certain amount of time, that voucher was lost. She said she hoped to have some type of pool where they could help in certain situations as that.

She said tonight the Budget Analyst said found money in Planning and Zoning to take care of the Volunteer Program. She said they have been trying to figure out funding to take care of kids to go

to summer camp but everything was taken. Commissioner Hinson corrected her and said Summer Youth Employment. She said they could not find extra dollars but tonight they found an extra \$20,000. She said there was money all over the budget, it was just all in what the funding was for. She said she wanted to let the people know there was money in the budget, it was just on what the funding was being asked for.

Bill of Rights-

Chair Viegbesie wanted to interject about the Veterans. He said at the last meeting he made a recommendation as a way to help raise soft money was (selling) brick pavers on the Courthouse grounds where families could purchase bricks in recognition of family members and the money would go directly to the Veterans' Department as a source of revenue to them and for them to help veterans in those types of situations.

She commended Mr. Hall and said he had gotten quite few construction projects underway.

Commissioner Holt commented about Public Works working 5 days a week.

Commissioner Taylor left at 8:48 p.m.

She said with them working 5 days a week, there were several projects out there and people wanted them done. She said she was in favor of 5 days a week and other thing was the back-parking lot. There are complaints every weekend of what is found in the parking lot. The County is liable, that is their property and something needs to be done about it.

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

Chair Viegbesie said he would be brief. He asked for a motion for a Resolution from the Board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT FOR A RESOLUTION FOR JUSGE CURVEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Chair Viegbesie said they could work to reduce the duration of the meeting to no more than 1 ½ hour that would be a tremendous accomplishment.

Receipt and File

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
January 17, 2019-Regular Meeting

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR VIEGBESIE DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:51 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**ANTHONY VIEGBESIE, Chair
Board of County Commission**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk