

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON OCTOBER 6, 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 1 – appeared remotely
Gene Morgan, District 3 – appeared remotely
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Henry G. Grant, Interim County Administrator
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Clayton Knowles, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Viegbesie said Commissioner Taylor would be phoning in and Commissioner Hinson would soon be joining. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and called it to order at 6:03 pm., then asked everyone to bow their heads for moment of silence and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

CONSENT

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

1. Ratification Memo
2. June 16, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of FY2021 SC108 Small County Consolidated Waste Grant Agreement with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
4. Approval and Execution of State Aid Grant Agreement
5. Big Bend Jobs & Education Council, d/b/a CareerSource Capital Region, Gadsden County BOCC, Leon County BOCC and Wakulla County BOCC
6. Scotland Dover Road Safety Improvements – Bid Award
7. Iron Bridge Road Safety Improvements – Bid Award
8. Approval of Resolution 2020-056 Budget Amendments for FY 2020

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Due to COVID-19 and the efforts of Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners to continue the practice of social distancing, Commissioners want to continue to hear from citizens under the Citizens Requesting to be Heard section of the agenda.

If citizens have any questions, comments or concerns, please email CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov and anticipate receiving a response within 48 hours. V read aloud the statement for citizens requesting to speak.

Louise Jones, 4577 McCall Bridge Road, Quincy, FL

She appeared before the Board and said everyone that had property there received a letter about a meeting with Planning and Zoning. She said even though there was no cul-de-sac to speak of, you would go to the end of the road to Idlewild Fish Camp and could circle around the big oak tree and could go back out. Idlewild Homeowners Association put up a double gate. She did some investigating and found out that the County had received approximately \$5,000 from the homeowners' association. She said they had a house there and after the gate went up, her fence was torn completely down. Her Commissioner, Commissioner Taylor, could attest to that. Her home was destroyed when Hurricane Michael came through and they rebuilt. Her driveway is county property and as she left tonight, she has people that turn around in her yard constantly. She said there are signs that say dead-end and there is no turn-around. She said the County did put a turn-around up past Talquin Lodge and it was asphalted. She said Commissioner Taylor has tried to help but people do not pay attention to signs. She asked the Commissioners for their help in resolving this issue.

Chair Viegbesie asked her to make an appointment with the Interim County Administrator and the attorney and see how they could help resolve this matter.

Commissioner Holt said she did not vote for that and added that it made no sense to put up a gate on a road that the County owned. She added that all they could do was have the attorney look into it and look into the history.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

9. Interlocal Agreement between Greenshade-Dogtown Volunteer Fire Department and Gadsden County

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of an Interlocal Agreement between Greenshade-Dogtown Volunteer Fire Department and Gadsden County.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND HAD A COMMENT AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND.

Commissioner Holt asked if this agreement was comparable with the other fire stations and was told yes. Dr. Grant explained this was a single agreement, when it expires, they will all be on an

agreement together. -She asked that when it comes back, she wanted to start looking at what they were doing for the County.

Commissioner Morgan said the amount of money each fire station received was based on several factors, one being the number of calls they respond to.

Commissioner Holt said she was aware of that, but relative to number of calls, sometimes the calls were not equal according to locations.

Commissioner Morgan said the agreement was revised after he was on the commission because he started asking about that.

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| COMMISSIONER HINSON | DID NOT RESPOND |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | NOT PRESENT |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 3-0

10. Approval of Proposal for Professional Services for Repairs to the Massey Building

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the proposal for professional services for repairs to the Massey Building.

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

Commissioner Holt asked if \$7,500 was an in-house bid and was told that was the costs for Dewberry to do an assessment of the building and develop a task order. He added they had to have something to put out to bid and had to get a task order so they would know what to bid out.

Chair Viegbesie said that was exactly the same question he had.

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| COMMISSIONER HINSON | NO |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | WAS NOT PRESENT |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 3-1

Commissioner Holt said she would vote yes but she wanted to know more about this item.

11. Re-Location of Social Security Office in Gadsden County

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for Board direction for the re-location of the Social Security Office in Gadsden County.

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He added a letter was received letter from Sheriff Young requesting the office be removed from Sheriff's Office as soon as possible. He explained there were three locations staff had researched and found:

- 1) Gretna Post Office;
- 2) Current location of Extension Services; and
- 3) Gadsden Senior Services Center

Commissioner Morgan said based on the locations seen, he felt the Extension office was the best choice of the three. Chair Viegbesie said he thought Gretna Post Office was best because of accessibility and he had had a walk-through of the building. He added they had enough room for privacy that was needed. Gadsden Senior Services was not the best place, he has heard of altercations of behavior and conduct from some when it was located at the library.

Commissioner Holt said most of the people that use the office was seniors and she liked the idea of them being there.

Commissioner Morgan said he agreed with Commissioner Holt's comments but felt the Extension Service would serve better; the lighting and parking was more appropriate.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they had discussed the health department. Chair Viegbesie said the health department was currently EMS headquarters and they have done a lot of work themselves to retrofit their needs and services. Commissioner Hinson said he thought some of the Commissioners had directed that they go with the Health Department and wondered why it was not on the list.

Dr. Grant explained the health department was not considered because of them previously being EMS headquarters.

Commissioner Holt said this was brought to them but did not know if it was for a vote. He said the only hiccup with the current location of the Extension Services, was there was too much traffic and they were talking about disabled people and a lot of traffic.

Allan Meeks, Facilities Director, appeared remotely. Commissioner Holt asked if the County owned the property and parking lot directly behind Don's Hair Par and jewelry store. Mr. Meeks said the building was not wheelchair compliant.

Dr. Grant said there was one-way in and one-way out of that building.

Chair Viegbesie asked if they could construct an entrance in back so patrons could use the back exit and they could also use front entrance? Mr. Meeks said he could contact the property owner, looking at the Property Appraisers' website that Padgett's owned a lot of the parking lot.

Commissioner Hinson said they may have to add disabled parking in the front.

Commissioner Morgan proposed they table this until further research was done.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO TABLE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

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| COMMISSIONER HINSON | YES |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | NOT PRESENT |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 4-0

12. Sheriff's Office – Training Funding Request Daytona Beach, Florida Chris Fuller's Advanced Undercover Techniques and Survival

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of funding from the Gadsden County Law Enforcement Education Fund to pay costs for Deputy Emmanuel DeLeon to attend the Charlie Fuller's Advanced Undercover Techniques and Survival course.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE THE SECOND. CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE.

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| COMMISSIONER HINSON | YES |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | NOT PRESENT |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 4-0

13. Bid No. 20-18 Results/Gadsden County Radio Tower Civil Work

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was presented to award Bid 2020-18 for the Gadsden County Radio Tower Civil Work on the three tower sites (Peavy, Midway and the Jail).

Commissioner Taylor phoned in at 6:44 p.m.

He added that Motorola was the only company to provide financing.

Commissioner Holt asked if all items were in the bid packet and Dr. Grant said yes. She asked if all contractors had that and he stated yes. Commissioner Holt asked if they did not select Motorola, where was the money coming from? Dr. Grant said they had budgeted the amount. Commissioner Holt said they did not have to finance and Dr. Grant stated no. She said when they have bids, do not have Department heads be one of the evaluators of the bid. She said she was ready to vote and she had no problem with this; they needed to get it over with. As long as all the bids were equal, she had no problem. She asked who wrote the bid packet up? Dr. Grant said Sandy in Purchasing. Commissioner Holt said with the Massey Building, someone else wrote up the bid. Dr. Grant said with Motorola, it was already done. She said to take the top person out when it comes to evaluating to stop buddy-buddy bids.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they were doing something wrong on this and Mr. Knowles asked him to be more specific. Commissioner Hinson asked if this was in-line with what they were doing and was it being done correctly. Commissioner Holt said she had an issue with the bidding practice, they have a department head over the process of selecting and was there problem.

Commissioner Holt clarified that it was not illegal but the best practice was to not do that. Mr. Knowles asked for what. She explained if she was hiring someone to be a contractor for her department and she was working under the manager, normally the three that score the bids would not be her because she could set and could tell the contractors what they needed to bid. That way she could get the contractor she wanted.

Mr. Knowles asked Commissioner Hinson if he was asking if it was OK for a department head to be a part of the bid committee and Commissioner Hinson responded yes. Mr. Knowles asked to look through their procurement policy.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with Commissioner Hinson proceeding with this. She said even if this was not in their Policies and Procedures, it needed to be in there.

Chair Viegbesie said he did not want this item to go past today as it had been tied up for too long. He said whoever they went with, they needed to make sure that person was going to provide everything they were asking for without any chance for an increase change order. He said whether they went with the less or higher, whomever, there will be a guarantee of no change orders in the bid they submitted.

Commissioner Hinson asked/said felt comfortable with the RFP that they have the company come explain what they were offering and the County getting.

Commissioner Morgan said comments made previously was on par; the project needed to be completed and not held up. The most important thing they could do was choose the correct vendor in completing the project. He encouraged the Board to support Motorola and said that would be his motion at the proper time.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN SAID HIS MOTION WAS TO HIRE MOTOROLA, THE WORST THING THEY COULD DO WAS HIRE A VENDOR THAT COULD NOT COMPLETE THE PROJECT ON ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITIES THEY HAVE TO CORRECT A PROBLEM AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Knowles said within their Procurement Policy, Section 10.2, where it talked about participation and Employee conflict of interest, it read "it shall be unethical for any County employee to participate directly or indirectly in a procurement contract where the county employee knows that 1) the County employee or any member of the employee's immediate family has financial interest pertaining to the procurement contract; or 2) any other business, person, or organization with whom the employee or member of the employee's family is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning respective employment is involved in procurement contract". He said this was County dollars. If someone had a beneficial interest/financial interest in the outcome of it, there was cause for concern; he agreed that it

would be good and thought there was some merit in having them present to the Commission after an RFP when the bids come in.

Commissioner Taylor said at a previous meeting, one bidder had a bid that was not complete. A Commissioner directed the Administrator to reach out to ensure all information was requested. She asked if Dr. Grant had the opportunity to reach out to the potential bidders to ensure all information they needed to the potential bidders. Dr. Grant said he understood his instructions was to bring back the bid material because they were not included in the agenda item that night. They brought back the item that was presented to them for the bid conference. She said there was specific materials that was directed to the Administrator to get, did he reach out to the bidders to ask for specific items that was missing from previous bid.

Chair Viegbesie said if he recalled correctly, what Commissioner Holt asked was she wanted to know the specifications that each provider presented in their bid. He said he had his folder with him and staff prepared a folder containing what each vendor specified that would be in their services. He did not recall staff was asked to reach out to the bidders on missing information.

Commissioner Holt said Commissioner Hinson was right that they normally had bidders come to the room and tell them about the bids and they have the score sheet and who was on the scoring team.

Commissioner Hinson said he was being consistent with the process; he did not mind coming back Monday and have a meeting and have everyone come by and them interview all four because he wanted to make sure it was the right way.

Commissioner Taylor said since the beginning, she has never stood with Motorola, they were too much money and she was not going with them, she still thought they could bring the bid in lower. She concurred with Commissioner Hinson to talk with other bidders. If they could bring the bid in for a lower amount for the same quality of work, why not do it and save the County hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Commissioner Holt asked who would monitor the work to make sure the done was correctly. Mr. Meeks said they would have to have permits and get grounding and all. Commissioner Holt said they had no project manager on this. Mr. Meeks said that Al Smythe has worked on towers. Commissioner Holt said she was not going to address that. Dr. Grant said the only one that has a project manager was Motorola. Commissioner Holt said who would manage the project. Dr. Grant said he guessed Motorola would because they have other equipment that would tie into this equipment. Commissioner Holt said before he came, they did a change order for \$400,000. She said she had no problem with bidding, this had been going on long enough.

Commissioner Morgan said to her point, the project manager fees were included with Motorola's bid and assured they would not be project manager with no costs involved to the County if they were not the vendor selected.

Chair Viegbesie said the Motion and second was to award this to Motorola and asked for vote.

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| COMMISSIONER HINSON | NO |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | NO |

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| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 3-2

14. Gadsden County Agreement for Architectural Services

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of a contract with Clemons, Rutherford and Associates which outlines the services required for renovating and building-out the Gadsden County Hospital portion that has not been built-out so that it could be utilized for a COVID-19 Special Needs Shelter.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was a project manager on this and Dr. Grant stated yes, he would be provided. Commissioner Holt said this was to be used as a special needs shelter but built out like a hospital and Dr. Grant said yes. Commissioner Holt asked why it was \$781,365. Dr. Grant said it was not coming out of County money; it was clearly stated it would be CARES Act money. Commissioner Holt said this had to be invoiced before the last day of December. She stated she wanted to make sure everything was invoiced by the last day of December.

Commissioner Taylor said she was looking at the packet on this item, was she to understand that the actual amount would be a percentage of the entire project. Dr. Grant said that was on page 30 of 30; the amount was \$781,365. Commissioner Taylor said they were giving the architect that amount.

Dr. Grant said it was for Phase 1 and was about three wings and the center court. Commissioner Taylor asked if there were any other bidders and he stated yes. Commissioner Taylor asked if they were under/over or not qualified bidders. Dr. Grant explained they did not have the credentials that this company had.

Chair Viegbesie asked if this was credentials or ACHA requirements. Commissioner Taylor said she was not voting for this; it was ridiculous to give this company this amount of money.

Commissioner Morgan said this was a \$10 Million project, an expansive design of the hospital.

Chair Viegbesie said in looking at Integrity, the hospital construction was about \$10 Million that they would be requesting; the \$781,000 was what they were paying just for the hospital architectural plans and services.

Commissioner Hinson said he always was told just be fair when was younger. He added there was one company that did not meet all the obligations. He heard Gadsden County residents were not going to get more relief and they need to help the residents instead of doing this. He felt they should put half the money into the residents' program and the other half into the small business program and he could not do this because it was not fair. He added they opposed other companies from coming and they had the bid in their hand.

Commissioner Holt asked if the attorney would address some of the issues that Commissioner Hinson brought up regarding the sole bidder. Mr. Knowles stated there were two bidders. It

was mentioned that Hoy Stark Hagan was the other bidder. Commissioner Hinson stated they did meet the qualifications but the other group was the only one that met the qualifications.

Chair Viegbesie said in the background (of the Agenda item) it stated "CRA Architects and Hoy Stark Hagan submitted qualifications by the deadline. Also, a committee was chosen that conducted an evaluation of both vendors. The evaluation results were unanimous, with CRA Architects scoring 295 points." Commissioner Hinson said he understood where they were coming from, but the other company did not meet the qualifications.

Mr. Thomas said for the record, he forwarded to the Board documentation from FDEM and it seemed to indicate this project might not be eligible for CARES Act money.

Commissioner Taylor said she was not going to support this item and "Gadsden County cannot have a full-fledged hospital at this time. You are talking about \$10 Million from FEMA or HUD, that's a bid, that's a bid we have to put in for, that's not an entitlement like the CARES Act money, that's a bid. We have to be competitive to get these dollars. What could very well happen, we will have almost a \$1 Million worth of design and not come up with the \$10 Million for the build-out because we have to compete for it. I understood Integrity to say that our chances are good (inaudible). The reason why we put that Million in there was that when the hurricane season comes, we would have something there that could take care of our people with COVID. That's the reason we put that money in there initially. All the money we put there for the build-out and construction was being taken up from the architect. That's not what we originally said. Now my understanding, there was already designs down there and it was a matter of using those designs to build the place out. Now to have someone come back and do more designs on top of what was already down there, because there was designs drawn up for the County hospital to be built out but we didn't have the necessary funding to do it initially, which is why it wasn't done. To throw money after this and hope and pray we get \$1 Million and then you ask a question, Mr. Chair, a few minutes ago, or someone, whether or not the \$750,000 would come off of the \$10 Million? No, the \$10 Million was being asked specifically for the build-out. You are taking the CARES Act money for the architect and then going to ask for \$10 Million for the build-out. The answer should have been no to you...What hurts me, the people that will need this shelter, it will not be made available to them because we're looking for a pie in the sky that we don't even know if it's available to us or not. Thank you."

Chair Viegbesie said he just read what the Clerk said and he entered into record the comment of his concerns as the Chief Financial Auditor and asked him to enter that again.

Mr. Thomas said yesterday he forwarded documentation from FDEM that indicated to him this project might not be covered by CARES Act money and thought they should review and make their determination.

Commissioner Holt said if they did not have a project to move forward through CARES, then they would get no money and no design and felt they should approve the item contingent on getting CARES Act money for this project and said that was her motion.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF THE HOSPITAL CONTINGENT ON RECEIVING MONEY THROUGH CARES ACT.

Mr. Thomas said the \$1 Million they have in the 55% remaining, they have documents on how they were spending the \$1.9 Million; supposed to get 25% more and they decided how that would be spent. What he was understanding was that they want to see that they have significantly spent the \$1.9 Million before they receive the \$1.5, even though the Governor has said 55 Counties would be getting their second disbursement. If the \$1 Million they were going to spend on the project is in the 55%, it appeared to him that all that would be reimbursable and they were saying essentially that they would put the money upfront and then seek reimbursement based on how they have agreed to spend the money thus far. By approving this, they were saying that they will fund this money and seek to get reimbursement through the CARES program.

Chair Viegbesie said what he said was the question he was going to ask. The 55% that they have not received, he understood they would have to front that from their pockets and it was a reimbursable expenditure. If they spent almost \$1 Million on this item, that was almost all the additional 20% that the Governor has just approved in addition to the 25%. He said he did not know how they would go with that being contingent on the CARES money.

Commissioner Holt said if they spent the \$1.9, no matter what they spent it on, could they go after the other percentage. Can they be reimbursed for that or for the hospital itself?

Chair Viegbesie his understanding of the Governor's position with regard to CARES Act for the 55 Counties, was the \$1.9 they have already received, and then they submitted a plan as to how they would be using that \$1.9 Million and based on after they have spent a certain amount of that, then they would receive the \$1.5 Million, which was the 20%. Then when they show what they were doing with the 20%, then they could continue to spend the 55%, but that would come from their coffers and would then apply for reimbursement of the 55% of the \$7.9 Million that was granted to the County.

Mr. Knowles said there was a conference call last week with FAC and some of the folks from DEM and they put out a pdf. He said "Phase 2 funding disbursements will be for 20% of the overall previously identified County allocations. Counties will be required to sign an amendment to their Funding Agreement. In order to get phase 2, counties must expend the first 25% allocation; report the expenditures in Salesforce; submit a plan outlining how the county intends to spend the 20% allocation and how the county will spend any funds they intend on accessing on a reimbursement basis. Submit the plan to the FL Cares email address and clearly identify the county in the subject line of the email. If the county has not yet expended all of the 25% allocation; once the county has expended the first 25%, please report in Salesforce and send an email to FLCares notifying FDEM that the county is now ready for Phase 2 funding. He said in light of that, they had to be careful. He added that he did not necessarily agree or disagree with the Clerk's assessment, he thought Mr. Miller was on and could enlighten them more. He thought the disconnect in the guidance the Clerk provided versus what they were doing, which was treading a fine line, and as Commissioner Taylor said, they were allocating a substantial amount of money to not do any build-out, but that might be why this was an eligible expenditure because it doesn't involve a permanent structure, it was the planning for the permanent structure. He said from what the Clerk sent out, which was good, and stated Question 28 of the Treasury's September 2, 2020, Frequently Asked Questions generally addressed capital improvements, that's building out new things, stated that "Fund payments may be used for the expenses of...establishing *temporary* public medical facilities and

other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity or improve mitigation measures, including related construction costs.” He said he would venture to guess that the related construction costs would be that initial architectural sort of design build services they were doing here. He said he was not commenting on whether or not that was a value service, just whether they were good under CARES. He believed the other money would come from FEMA or HUD where they would do the actual build-out. He said he understood the Clerk’s position because he was saying...

Mr. Thomas asked that he go on down and Mr. Knowles read “Some counties have asked whether they can use Fund payments to purchase real property or construct permanent buildings. For the reason stated below, the State believes that the purchase of real property and the construction of permanent buildings are ineligible expenses but thought where they differed was, they were not constructing a permanent building with the money. They were related construction costs.

The Clerk said the bottom line was, they got this in the 55%, haven’t spent the 25%, and they have to spend that and demonstrate they have spent that to get the 20%. He said the \$1 Million was included in the 55%, which was after the 20%. Mr. Knowles said which they would have to pull from their own coffers. Mr. Thomas said even just based on time, they were running out of time. Mr. Knowles said he was not disagreeing with him on time or planning, he was saying clearly from the standpoint of actual use of this money for the architectural design services from CRA, they should be ok on it.

Commissioner Morgan said he did not disagree with what he was hearing, but what they were talking about funding was for a permanent structure and was what he thought the Clerk was trying to explain. You are either purchasing land or using the money in a way for a permanent structure and even though it was planning money they were talking about, it was for a permanent structure and gives him pause.

Darryl Cox, Integrity, appeared remotely. He said he agreed with Mr. Knowles and the Clerk. Simultaneously, the costs related to the build-out of a hospital, when they initially discussed the hospital costs as a COVID eligible cost, it was for design elements as well as some temporary that may become permanent build-out related to COVID cases going into a hospital. He said reflecting back on the three things that make a CARES Act cost eligible was unbudgeted, COVID related and spent by December 30th. He added that obviously they have received some additional guidance and have received an opinion from DEM on what was eligible and not and said it was a decision the Board would have to make. He added in their opinion, it was a borderline cost and would have to be the Board’s decision. He said they would be updating the Salesforce costs as they are spent and could update the plan as they went. He agreed with the Clerk that the way the costs were currently budgeted coming out of the 55%, could make reimbursement more difficult on that item rather than coming from the 20% and requesting reimbursement on some of the additional business grants as they come through. He said they could do an invoice pull-down Last point he wanted to make was in the October 1st webinar there was some clarification from the Interim Recovery Bureau Chief on what encumbered or incurred costs could be eligible and it sounded like from her discussion along with the questions Mr. Suggs was asking, the County could invoice those costs before they were technically in the County’s Finance Department actually spent. He said once the costs were encumbered, they could be recorded through the Salesforce website as spent, which would help the County.

Commissioner Holt said that was why her motion was contingent on getting the CARES Act funding. She said the reason she asked about reimbursement in the first \$1.9 Million, that was disbursed, then they would be able to get the \$1.5 Million under the 20%.

Mr. Cox said they needed to submit the plan to DEM and then create in Salesforce a financial activity report and show the first 25% had been spent. Once that was done, they would send an amendment to the Agreement and start the process of receiving the additional 20%.

Chair Viegbesie said his question was, contingent on what part of the CARES Act funding, the 55% or the 25% already received or the 20% that they were not even sure they would receive until they have proved they have spent. Commissioner Holt said the \$1.9, the 25%, they already owe to the citizens. She said the State would not let them be evicted and was done under the direction of the State. She said they need to do what was promised to the citizens they would do. She said they were stalling and it was already October 6th.

Mr. Thomas said to follow-up what Commissioner Holt said, if they looked at the 25% break-out, there was only \$11,000 in the Residents' Assistance Program and \$195,000 in the Small Business Assistance Program in the first 25%. Commissioner Holt said that could be adjusted; what they were doing was turning in a plan they were hoping they would get.

Commissioner Taylor said when the attorney read the interpretation earlier, when he talked about temporary build-out that could be used, was why they were leaning on when they put that money in for the hospital. She said she was pleased when she understood that there were some old drawings that were available through CRA to use for the temporary buildout. She added she could not hear the Clerk, but thought he was saying that reimbursement for the architect was not allowable. She asked where was Integrity. Chair Viegbesie said their opinion confirmed some of what the Clerk and the attorney said.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the Administrator could come closer to the mike as she had a question. She asked if there were drawings that could be used to help with the build-out and COVID citizens, could CRA work with them and build the place out. She said there were some that wanted a hospital, but they could not cut off their nose to spite their face.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO SEE IF THERE WERE DRAWINGS WHERE THEY COULD DO A TEMPORARY BUILD-OUT, WHICH WAS WHAT WAS APPROVED WITH CARES ACT MONEY THAT THEY COULD HOUSE CITIZENS IN THAT AREA AND USE AS A SHELTER AS NEEDED AND USE CRA AS A CONSULTANT ON THE DESIGN AT AN AMOUNT THEY COULD AFFORD. MOTION DIES FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Commissioner Holt asked if Integrity was still on and they were. She said the Clerk made a comment about the 25% plan, could those numbers be altered for residents and businesses and was told yes. Mr. Cox said those numbers were for qualified residents and business grants at the time they had to submit the First Quarterly Report and they attempted to show in that first report that they had at the least, encumbered all of the 25%. Since then, in the last 5 days, they have qualified more, the encumbered costs, they can show DEM they were into the 20%. Commissioner Holt said she was talking about the residential and business part. If they were able to go ahead and fund some of these people, that left them to deal with government costs.

She added in order to get the 20%, they have to show they have spent or encumbered the 25%. Mr. Cox said they could easily show the 25% been encumbered. She said she was trying to get the individuals out of the way in order to go ahead and then move on with the plan and cut the deadline and keep moving. She said if they were able to get it and get some help, this was the time to get the help for the hospital. She said she did not understand who they would not get the architectural stuff done.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO BRING THIS ITEM BACK ON FRIDAY. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Commissioner Taylor asked the attorney that he said earlier what CARES Act could do with regards to the build-out. She asked that he re-read it so they could clearly understand with regard what could and could not be done with the money. She asked if the design was an acceptable expense.

Eric Miller, Integrity, said the most recent guidance issued by FDEM, spoke to the purchase of real property and permanent structures and it said the "Federal guidance does not expressly make purchase of property and construction of permanent structures explicitly eligible or ineligible. He added the State posted directly to Treasury and had yet to receive a direct response.

Mr. Knowles said to answer her question, he agreed with Mr. Miller and the Clerk, they were treading a thin line, and if they moved this into their first remaining \$1.4 Million.

The Clerk said the first \$1.9 Million was basically already encumbered as stated by Integrity, but not all had been disbursed yet and was impossible to put the \$700,000 into the 25%. He said that would put it in the 55%, which made it reimbursable.

Mr. Knowles said if he heard correctly, it was not set in stone, they could theoretically change the amount to what they wanted with the 25% they had now. He then said he thought there was some credence to Commissioner Taylor's point in that there was a possibility that the State could come back and say this was ineligible expense and deduct it from the County's amount and they were \$700,000 in the red for other expenditures; OR as the Clerk was saying, it was in the 55% for reimbursement, they could not get reimbursed. He asked if that was correct and Mr. Miller said that was correct. Mr. Miller said if that were to happen, there were other options. Mr. Knowles said he agreed with Commissioner Taylor, it may be better to air on the side of caution. If they were going to run the risk of taking a \$700,000 bath, that may be a problem. He said he wanted to be on the record saying maybe they should re-evaluate this and bring it back at a later meeting.

Commissioner Holt said that was why she said "contingent upon getting funded" and her second motion was to bring back on Friday. She said there was no need to discuss if they were not getting funded. She added it made more sense to table until Friday.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL FRIDAY.

Commissioner Taylor said the reason she did not second this item, she did not think CRA should get that much of the build-out money.

Chair Viegbesie said there was a motion to table until Friday and he would make the second. He then called for the vote.

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

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED 3-2

15. Johnson Controls Sale and Installation Agreement

Dr. Grant introduced the above item.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

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|---------------------|-----|
| COMMISSIONER HINSON | YES |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | YES |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 5-0

16. Approval of Elected Official (Commissioner) Appointment to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to appoint one elected official to serve on the Community Development Advisory Committee and advise the housing needs for Gadsden County.

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

Commissioner Morgan asked if they were re-appointing Commissioner and Commissioner Holt said this was a new appointee.

CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE ROLL CALL VOTE.

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

MOTION PASSED 4-1

17. Approval of New Road Name (PCJC Cemetery Road)

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of a new road name-PCJC Cemetery Road.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIOENR MORGAN MADE THE SECOND. THE CHAIR CALLED FOR THE ROLL CALL VOTE.

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|---------------------|-----|
| COMMISSIONER HINSON | YES |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | YES |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 5-0

18. Approval of New Road Name (Teague Lane)

Dr. Grant introduced the above item and said it was for approval of a new road name-Teague Lane.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND CHAIR VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. CHAIR VIEGBESIE CALLED FOR THE ROLL CALL VOTE.

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|---------------------|-----|
| COMMISSIONER HINSON | YES |
| COMMISSIONER TAYLOR | YES |
| COMMISSIONER HOLT | YES |
| COMMISSIONER MORGAN | YES |
| CHAIR VIEGBESIE | YES |

MOTION PASSED 5-0

CLERK OF COURT

19. Updates

Mr. Thomas said he had no reports.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

20. Updates

Dr. Grant said the Integrity Group requested they have a workshop to deal with the HUD applications due the end of November. They set the date for October 22nd-and would be a workshop to discuss and prioritize the HUD projects that have been requested.

Chair Viegbesie said he understood that a Commissioner ordered campaign signs and billed the County. Commissioner Taylor said the sign company thought since she was a commissioner, the bill should be sent to County. No-one directed the company to send it to the County, the sign company made that assumption and it has since been corrected.

Commissioner Taylor asked when would the County Administrator position be brought before Board. Dr. Grant said it was his understanding it would be brought at the second meeting in October. Commissioner Taylor said since they were getting ready to entertain a new Administrator, asked the Board to consider a moratorium on the Administrator giving raises and firing unless it was detrimental to government. She said they needed to make sure no raises were given. She said the other thing, she spoke with someone from the Sheriff Department, and she thought they included requests of the Constitutional Officers in their budget. She said she understood there was quite a bit of money the Sheriff wanted put back in because he wanted to be competitive with salaries.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

21. Updates

Mr. Knowles said for the shade meeting scheduled for October 20th at 4 p.m., he requested the Commissioners be present physically, they could not do Zoom for this meeting. He said there was confusion on Friday, the Resolution said the curfew started at 11:00 p.m. and should have been 10 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

22. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he thought the last three-four years, the Board has been attacking other Board members and they need to stop.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 8:36 p.m.

All of them have degrees, etc. and things were being said that was not appropriate in meetings. They need to put a positive spin on the County; like what was said earlier, that was a question that could have been asked in private. They need to stop throwing innuendos out there. He then thanked the citizens for another four years for him to represent them.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had no comments.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Holt asked if Department heads in charge of departments – yes

If any write-up coming from department go through him or who-Grant said depending – one type goes to HR and other goes to HR and Administrator. She asked to see Policy and Procedure on that

When contractors do bid on individual items, want to see bids on items.

Would like to get Integrity to move as quickly as possible on individuals – get out of way then only have to deal with their costs and what going to fund. Have sent list to Trudei in Finance. Should move quickly.

Don't believe staff should be part of scoring process.

Grant asked if want score sheets or scores. Raw score sheets

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor Vice-Chair, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked if they had entertained the broadband bid yet. Dr. Grant said it would be brought back at the next meeting on October 20th.

Commissioner Holt returned at 8:38 p.m.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they could meet next week, if possible, about broadband.

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

Receipt and File

CARES Act Quarterly File

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR VIEGBESIE DECLARED IT ADJOURNED AT 8:46 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ANTHONY VIEGBESIE, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk