

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Ronterious “Ron” Green, Chair, District 5
Kimblin NeSmith, Vice-Chair, District 3
Eric Hinson, District 1
Jeffery Moore, District 2
Brenda Holt, District 4 – Arrived late
Edward J. Dixon, County Administrator
Clayton Knowles, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk
Crystal Jimenez, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Green called the meeting to Order at 6:01 p.m., Pastor Mark Moore gave the Invocation and Ashton Battles led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Dixon added Item 6a-Assignment of City/County Funds from the Opioid Litigation Settlements to the State Fund to the Agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NESMITH AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Mr. Dixon said the Sheriff has been meeting with other local agencies to consider consolidation of the Dispatch Center.

Commissioner Holt arrived at 6:10 p.m.

Col. Bobby Collins appeared before the Board concerning a consolidated dispatch center and explained the Sheriff’s dispatchers take calls for the County’s EMS, some fire departments, the City of Midway Police Department and Gretna Police Department. Col. Collins said this was something the Sheriff’s Office could not handle on its own and the County has to be involved.

Commissioner Hinson asked for a workshop regarding this matter.

Commissioner Holt said it would be good to have a cost analysis done also. Col. Collins stated the Sheriff’s Office has been in touch with the Florida Sheriffs’ Association to conduct the cost analysis and feasibility study at no cost to the county or department.

Commissioner Moore asked if there were a time schedule established yet and was told no. He said it was best to proceed slowly but thoroughly because this was a critical issue for everyone in the county.

Commissioner Holt mentioned the Guardian Program with the school system. Col. Collins said they were on a different radio system. They agreed to a workshop.

CONSENT

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

1. **Ratification Memo**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - **July 28, 2022 – Joint Workshop**
 - **August 2, 2022 – Budget Workshop**
 - **August 2, 2022 – Regular Meeting**
3. **SHIP Annual Report and Certification**
4. **Approval and Signatures for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien**
5. **Approval of the E911 Rural County Grant Application for Recorder Annual Maintenance**
6. **Approval of Participation in the Application Process for the Federal FY 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)**
- 6a. **Assignment of City/County Funds from the Opioid Litigation Settlements to the State Fund**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Anyone wishing to speak on agenda items or non-agenda items should schedule or notify the County Administrator's Office before attending the meeting and will be asked to follow the Gadsden County Public Meetings Citizens Access Guidelines. Also, public comment for Commission meetings can be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov until noon on September 6, 2022. Comments submitted after the deadline but prior to the meeting will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting.

Commissioner NeSmith read aloud the above statement.

Betty Culver, 860 Sparkleberry Blvd., Quincy, FL – Gadsden Senior Services

Mike Watson, 2793 Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL 32351

Mr. Watson appeared before the Board concerning Sycamore Road and it getting on the list for the 5-year Road Program. He said Sycamore Road was in very bad shape and needs to be paved.

Janet Watson, 2793 Sycamore Road

Cynthia Bryant, 801 E. Circle Drive, Quincy, FL Gadsden Senior Citizens

Kathy W. Brown, Gadsden Senior Citizens

She appeared before the Board to represent the Gadsden County Senior Citizens. She said they could co-exist with the Gadsden Wellness Center. She understood that they Wellness Center was to receive part of the money they were supposed to get. Chair Green said they had money in the budget that was to go to the Gadsden County Senior Citizens and that money was still in their budget. He added that the Gadsden Wellness Center has sent a letter asking for funds and would have nothing to do with the amount the Gadsden Senior Citizens would receive.

Rose Jackson, Gadsden Senior Citizens

Willie Gaines 5775 Ben Bostick Rd, Quincy, FL Community: speed limit signs, trash round-up 2nd annual

Mr. Gaines appeared before the Board and stated his community was having serious issues. He said Frank Jackson Road has become a raceway and is dangerous and something needs to be done. He also said on Ben Bostick Road, there are only 2 speed limit signs, one at the start of the road off Highway 90 and the other is past Harbin Road. Once you pass Harbin Road, the community actually becomes a residential area until it comes to Cane Creek Road. He felt that road should be 45 miles an hour speed limit. He also said Obama Blvd. and Ben Bostick does not have sidewalks and was dangerous and grass was knee high at times.

Commissioner Holt asked Pastor Gaines if they had signed off on the forms to get speed bumps put in and he said it had been sent to the Public Works Director.

Jeremiah Lee, Public Works Director appeared before the Board to address the speed bump process. He said they have to get a traffic count of the area to start the process.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Approval of Carrier Commercial Service Maintenance Plan for the Chillers located at CRMC-Gadsden Campus

Ms. Daniels introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the Carrier Commercial Service Maintenance Plan for the chillers located at CRMC-Gadsden campus.

Commissioner Holt asked if there were any local vendors for Carrier or if they had their own vendor.

Allan Meeks, Facilities Manager, appeared before the Board. He said Carrier was the manufacturer of the equipment. They do have contractors that would service them but was his finding when they have to get quotes, Carrier was usually several thousand dollars cheaper and this was the maintenance program.

Commissioner NeSmith said he did have an opportunity to meet with the Administrator but still had questions. He asked if this was a renewal agreement for 5 years and it was explained.

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

8. Approval of Resolution 2022-019 Grant Budget Amendments for FY 2022

Ms. Daniels introduced the above item and said it was for approval of Resolution 2022-019 and for authorization for the Assistant County Administrator and Finance Director to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for FY 2022 BOCC budget. One is an EMS matching grant and transfer from General Fund for the matching grant, the other is a DOT Grant and CIGP grant; Library donation of \$500.0 and an adjustment for the grant program for the LAPA Adams Street sidewalk

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

9. Appointment to the Circuit 2 Alliance Community Action Team (Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla)

Ms. Daniels introduced the above item and said this item was presented to the Board to appoint/reappoint a member to the Circuit 2 Alliance Community Action Team. Chair Green currently serves in this capacity and Linda Blackshear is the alternate.

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

Commissioner Moore asked for an executive summary of this Board and Chair Green explained.

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

10. Point Milligan (CR 161) Change Order Number 3

Ms. Daniels introduced the above item and stated it was for approval of change order number three for CR 161 Point Milligan Road to add a guardrail for safety enhancements.

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

CLERK OF COURT

11. Updates

There was nothing to report.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

12. Updates

Ms. Daniels reminded everyone of the first budget public hearing that was scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 and the Final budget hearing will be September 19th at 6:00 p.m.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

13. Updates

Mr. Knowles explained Item 6a and said it was ½ Million dollars they were sitting on that the County could receive from the State.

Commissioner Hinson asked Mr. Knowles to explain. He said we were one of the local governments that will receive a settlement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

14. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Jeffery Moore, District 2

Commissioner Moore gave appreciation to the citizens that came out to represent the Gadsden Senior Center and felt the County was big enough to have both groups. He said as with any group that receives money, they need to lay out criteria, give boundaries as to what the money could be used for and have some sort of audit to ensure the County funds were being used for the purposes designated.

He also stated regarding the road ways, speed bumps were hated but could help resolve some of the problems.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she has been trying to help some veterans receive benefits and asked if they sent the flow chart out regarding projects and grant funding etc. Ms. Daniels said it was sent out the past Friday.

She asked progress on the Budget Director and Ms. Daniels said they were advertising for a Senior Management Budget Analyst.

Commissioner Hinson said he thought they put money in last year for a Budget Director, Chair Green said it was budgeted but it was just advertised. Commissioner Holt said they may have to raise the money to get someone.

Commissioner Moore said to not exclude lobbyists from the list.

Commissioner Kimblin NeSmith, Vice Chair, District 3

Commissioner NeSmith recognized Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman of the School Board that was sitting in the audience.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 7:06 p.m.

He continued and said at the last meeting he presented to the Board the opportunity for a joint workshop with the School Board and they all agreed to get together for the workshop.

He recognized his Legislative aide, Ms. Stephanie Jackson, and she appeared before the Board and was introduced to the Commission.

Commissioner Holt returned at 7:08 p.m.

Regarding the hospital, he spoke with the Administrator to see if they could schedule a joint workshop with the hospital. He said they were purchased by HCA. He said they have indigent care dollars going to the hospital and need to have a joint meeting to see how the resources were being used and what type of resources were available at that facility.

Regarding economic development, he said he Spoke with Ms. Daniels, the Assistant County Administrator, several weeks ago and she told him she needed guidance from them.

He added as Commissioner Moore alluded to earlier, they need to provide the non-profits with guidelines and a list of expectations. He said they give them money and there are no deliverables. He said in lieu of providing any money to any entity, he would like to place those dollars into contract services for those entities so those partners that normally receive those funds, if they have a project they are working on, they could submit a proposal. Then the Commissioners would have an opportunity to vet the proposal.

COMMISSIONER NESMITH MADE A MOTION TO PLACE DOLLARS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTO CONTRACT SERVICES/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WOULD GET REQUEST/PROPOSAL ON THE FRONT END.

Commissioner Holt said it was difficult to vote on something they did not see in writing, but the other thing was, if options were presented to them, they still have until the next week to decide. She said some Counties have a committee to review the applications and then they are forwarded to the Commissioners.

Ms. Daniels said the budget was set up for economic development and they still had money going to the Chamber and GCDC and did not know if they wanted to use that money for the economic development department they were developing and still give money to the other agencies or how they wanted to move forward.

Commissioner Holt said the \$80,000 did not have to be committed anywhere, leave it there until decided in the workshop.

Commissioner Hinson echoed the same thing. He said the Hospital gave money back and they could use it how they want to now.

Commissioner NeSmith said he was comfortable with that money being set aside.

He said he would like to do the same thing for health care and get a Health Care Coordinator. Ms. Daniels said the money going to the Health Council goes into Reserves now.

Chair Green asked if the Gadsden Community Health Council was ordained by the Board and Commissioner Holt answered yes.

Commissioner Holt said they are not a separate nonprofit, they were created by this Board and became a separate nonprofit. She felt the Board may want to try to get that board placed under this Board because they place all the funding into that. Chair Green asked if they have to have a public hearing.

Mr. Knowles said they are a separate non-profit and did not know a mechanism as to where the County could own a corporation or a non-profit. He added they could have a 501(c)3 type of organization where they are primarily funded by a government that is a separate organization that is created and could get the information for the commissioners if they wanted it. He said if they wanted to bring that under the auspices of the board and then dole that money out, that was one thing, but owning a nonprofit (inaudible). He reminded them it would be like the GCDC or The Chamber.

Commissioner Holt said the organization may not want to continue to do this, they should discuss it.

Commissioner Hinson said Board also created the GCDC. He added that part of the ½ cent sales tax also goes to GCHC.

Commissioner Holt stated that was the purpose of the workshop.

Commissioner NeSmith asked when the annual report was coming out. Ms. Daniels said the last one was for June 2021.

Commissioner NeSmith asked about the procedure for the evaluation for the two employees. Ms. Daniels stated she would get back with regarding that.

Commissioner NeSmith also stated that Rosetta Rolle Hylton Anderson passed away this past weekend.

COMMISSIONER NESMITH MADE A MOTION FOR A FORMAL RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF MS. ANDERSON AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE MOTION.

Commissioner Hinson said he had one thing that he forgot. This Thursday at the City Office in Midway was a Come-Out Party at the Midway United Fellowship Church.

Commissioner Ronterious Green, Chair, District 5

Chair Green stated on September 22 is the meeting at the Joe Adams Road Fire station regarding a 4-way stop sign at Joe Adams/Jim Lee Road.

Chair Green asked Mr. Lee when stripping will start on Joe Adams.

He said some were wearing yellow and gold to represent childhood cancer and the Courthouse square is lit at night in yellow and gold.

Chair Green gave his Greenlight moment:

“A champion is not defined by their wins, but how they recover when they fall.”

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 6, 2022 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR GREEN DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:37 P.M.

RONTERIOUS GREEN, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk