

AT A MEETING OF THE GADSDEN COUNTY VALUE
ADJUSTMENT BOARD HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON OCTOBER 10, 2022 AT 9:30
A.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric Hinson, District 1 Commissioner, Chair
Kimblin NeSmith, District 3
Gay Steffen, Homestead Representative
Frederica Young, Commercial Property Representative
Cathy Johnson, School Board Member, District 1
Louis J. Baptiste, VAB Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Clerk's Designee at VAB, Deputy Clerk
Crystal Jimenez, Deputy Clerk

1. **Reconvene Meeting from September 29, 2022 and announce all pending petitions have been settled.**
2. At 9:34 AM, Marcella Blocker took roll call and the meeting was called to order. It was stated for the record that all pending petitions had been settled.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **August 2, 2022**
 - b. **September 29, 2022**

MS. JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING
MINUTES WITH A SECOND FROM MS. STEFFEN. THE BOARD VOTE 3-0 BY
VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson walked in at 9:47 am.

4. Discussion of Attorney Fees

In the past, the VAB Attorney was paid \$2,500.00 with the BOCC paying 2/3 and the School Board paying 1/3 of the fee.

Commissioner Hinson asked what was the pay period of when the contract was negotiated. He asked what year it was?

Marcella said she has been here for 10 years and they have not since she has been here.

Commissioner Hinson discussed how times and cost of living has changed since this contract has been discussed. He also mentioned how the County is in good position to do some great things. He suggested, with the experience and time put in of the attorney, he suggested \$10,000.00.

Commissioner Nesmith wanted to know if the amount they decide on has to back before the two boards to approve of it? Commissioner Hinson said no.

Marcella said Mr. Monroe would send the County Commission their part of the bill and then send the school board their part of the bill. So, he would get two checks, but totaled the \$2,500.00.

Commissioner Hinson said the school board can pay up to \$15,000.00 without board approval and the County Commissioners can pay \$35,000.00 without board approval.

There was discussion of increasing the fee to \$ 10,000.00.

Ms. Steffen asked if they are able to increase the amount during the two-month process if the attorney has more than average communication and research to do.

Marcella said it is up to the board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NESMITH AND SECOND MADE BY MS. JOHNSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THE VAB ATTORNEY COMPENSATION OF \$ 10,000.00.

5. Adjournment

With no questions or comments and no further business, Commissioner Eric Hinson thanked everyone for volunteering their time.

COMMISSIONER NESMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 10, 2022 WITH A SECOND FROM MS. STEFFEN. THE BOARD VOTE 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

MS. STEFFEN MOTIONED THE MEETING TO BE ADJOURNED AT 10:27 AM.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ERIC HINSON, Chair

MARCELLA BLOCKER, Deputy Clerk