

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 4,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Thornton Williams, County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Clerk Secretary to the Boards

**1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Chair Hinson led into a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

Mr. Morris stated the below amendments:

*Request to be added under Consent: 7.i. Task Work Order - WSB Engineering FDOT Grant Application Process*

*Request to be added under Consent: 7.j. New Chairman Facsimile Stamp*

*Request to pull item 7.c - Agreement to allow USDA Service Center contract lease to move to a month-to-month until a new request for lease extension is received from the USDA Coordinator*

*Request to pull item 11.f.: Approval of a Lease Agreement with the City of Quincy for Property Identified for the Boys and Girls Club*

Commissioner Green asked to add employee suspensions and the Administrators advisory hiring board for discussion. Chair Hinson stated he thought that they would be looking at a lawsuit if they added those items for discussion.

Commissioner Green stated he wants direction from the attorney on how to proceed with his 2 requests.

Mr. Williams stated they should have a report in 3-4 weeks with the investigation for the employees; He recommended to bring this item back once the investigation is completed.

Commissioner Green stated they had not had a detailed conversation or given direction for the advisory board for hiring an administrator.

Commissioner Green stated they voted for the board and should expedite the process.

Commissioner Holt stated she would like to add budget director position to the agenda; Commissioner Simpkins recommended her to discuss it in her comments section.

Commissioner Wood requested to pull item 7.e, Approval of the Agreement for Gadsden County Legislative Advocacy Public Relations Services for discussion.

5. **Approval of Agenda**  
**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

6. **Awards, Presentations, and Appearances**

7. **Consent**  
**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA EXCLUDING ITEM 7.E, AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.a - Ratification Memo**  
**(Clerk of Court)**

**7.b - BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes:**  
**1. December 9, 2024, Special Meeting**  
**2. December 17, 2024, Regular BOCC Meeting**

**7.c - Agreement to allow USDA Service Center contract lease to move to a month-to-month until a new request for lease extension is received from the USDA Coordinator**

**7.d - Ratification for Approval for the Chairman to sign the 2025 Older Americans Act Grant Contract**

**7.e - Approval of the Agreement for Gadsden County Legislative Advocacy Public Relations Services**

**7.f - Approval of the Judicial Inquiry System (JIS) Inter-Agency Agreement provided through the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)**

**7.g - Approval of Adopt-A-Road Agreement with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Pi Psi Lambda Chapter**

**7.h - FDOT Grant Application/ Resolution**

**7.i - Task Work Order - WSB Engineering FDOT Grant Application Process**

**7.j - New Chairman Facsimile Stamp**

**8. Items pulled for Discussion:**

**7.e - Approval of the Agreement for Gadsden County Legislative Advocacy Public Relations Services**

Commissioner Wood stated he thought from previous meetings that he thought it was 30-40k but found out today they are going to pay 75k; asked where that figure came from.

Mr. Morris stated this was a request from this organization to continue services.

Chair Hinson stated last year it was 60-65k.

Al Lawson appeared and stated it was always 75k; has brought over 89 million to the county over the last year. Legislative meeting will be on February 24, 2025.

Mr. Williams stated when he spoke with Mr. Lawson, both contracts were lump sum payment of 75k immediately; after talking with Mr. Lawson, he is doing what Mr. Williams considered more appropriate which is where Mr. Lawson fills it out every month and gets payment of 1/12 of it.

Commissioner Wood stated his concern was how late in the game they are with getting things to legislature.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM, AND  
COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**9. Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-Minute Limit)**

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. 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. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Jevin Matthew, 1140 W Clark St. Quincy, FL**

Mr. Matthew from CareerSource appeared to discuss what they have done. Stated they have ran out of money for training since they have had already an unexpected 28 people since the start of the year. He also stated they will be having a job fair from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Cynthia Davis Holloway, 50 Dora & Buster Rd. Quincy, FL**

Ms. Holloway appeared before the board. She is the Chairwoman of Gadsden County Black Heritage Cultural Organization. Thanked them for supporting the organization for 45 years. Invited all Commissioners to the parade on February 22 at 11 a.m.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if there were additional activities or just parade and festival; Ms. Holloway stated she was chairwoman of parade only.

**Bishop Willie Green, 296 Bradwell Road Quincy, FL**

Bishop Green appeared and thanked them for serving the county.

**Pastor C. Hill, 40 Sweet St. Havana, FL**

Pastor Hill appeared on behalf of Gadsden Wellness Center to discuss his part in the Gadsden Wellness Center. He stated how good of a program they have.

**Pastor J. Gordon, 1512 Live Oak Street, Quincy, FL**

Pastor Gordon appeared on behalf of Gadsden Wellness Center and stated he is the President of Gadsden Wellness Center. He also stated they enhance and enrich the life of Senior Citizens.

*Commissioner Holt stepped out at 7:20 p.m.*

**Gary Michael, 6942 Havana Hwy, Havana**

Mr. Michael appeared before the board on behalf of Gadsden Wellness Center and gave a brief description of how the Gadsden Wellness Center operated.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 7:23 p.m.*

*Commissioner Holt returned at 7:24 p.m.*

**Pat Michael, 6942 Havana Hwy**

Pat Michael appeared to discuss activities that are offered at the center and gave a brief description of the activities offered.

*Commissioner Green returned at 7:28 p.m.*

**James Hinson, 265 Hayward Dupont St. Midway, FL**

Mr. Hinson appeared to discuss Gadsden Wellness Center and what they've done as far as travel.

**Sherrie Taylor, 217 W Clark St. Quincy, FL**

Ms. Taylor appeared before the board and stated they are asking for funding of 45k for Gadsden Wellness Center.

Commissioner Green asked if this would be a yearly ask; Ms. Taylor stated she hoped not as they have applied for grant funding but will not know the outcome until March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Holt stated this should be under general business.

Ms. Taylor stated Gadsden Wellness needs their help, and she did not mind coming back.

Commissioner Simpkins made a motion to approve 45k for Gadsden Wellness Center.

Mr. Williams stated they are required to have a balanced budget and when they approve funds, they usually have the item on the agenda with money outlining where its coming from.

Commissioner Simpkins stated when a citizen comes requesting funds to put it on the agenda and to give her an opportunity to vote up or down.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR THIS ITEM TO BE ON THE NEXT MEETING, AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Chair Hinson mentioned having a special meeting on this next week.

Chair Hinson stated they excluded Boys & Girls club and Senior citizens.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:59 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated he has no problem with special meeting due to the sense of urgency.

Commissioner Holt stated they need a budget director looking into this; they may not be able to move money around.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 8:04 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 8:05 p.m.*

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 8:08 p.m.*

Commissioner Wood stated they need to be professional and do things the correct way, no matter how things were done in the past.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 8:13 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 8:15 p.m.*

**Dr. Camrum Browning, 4034 FL GA Hwy Havana, FL**

Dr. Browning appeared before the board and gave a brief background of himself and his schooling. Dr. Browning stated he was here to submit formal proposal for funding of 300k, for Browning Medical & Wellness.

Chair Hinson stated Dr. Browning was willing to work Monday-Friday and that was unheard of.

Commissioner Wood stated the Clerk mentioned 7 million unsent for hospitals.

Commissioner Holt stated this was a workshop; thought it was a great idea.

Commissioner Green stated he would like time to go through the brochure; sounded like it would be worth the investment.

Commissioner Holt stated she wanted the board to meet with all health care entities.

Chair Hinson stated he would like to bring this back in 2 weeks so the board can vote.

Commissioner Simpkins requesting this be brought back in next meeting.

Commissioner Holt stated they all want healthcare, and this had nothing to do with him, but they need to look at the county as a whole.

Commissioner Green stated he wants to have a workshop in between the 2 weeks.

Mayor Basset appeared and stated residents are worried about not being able to see a doctor due to Dr. Newberry's retirement.

Mayor Reed appeared and reiterated what Mayor Basset stated, he also stated he has known Dr. Browning for a real long time.

**Dorothy Thomas, 586 Shiloh Road, Quincy, FL**

Item 11.d

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Appointments to the Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks approval from the Board to appoint Members to serve on the Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:15 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.b Approval of State Funding Grant Agreement for Cane Creek Bridge # 504020**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks board approval to execute an agreement between the Florida Department of Transportation and Gadsden County for the Cane Creek Bridge #504020.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 8:16 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.c Approval of Hanna Mill Pond Road Closure Agreement**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item requests Board approval for the road closure necessary to facilitate the replacement of the Hanna Mill Pond Bridge.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Morris expanded on this item stating Hanna Mill Pond Bridge No. 504043, located on Hanna Mill Pond Road, was originally constructed in 1960. In 2023, the bridge was closed due to indications of structural failure. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) conducts regular inspections of bridges in Gadsden County to ensure their safety and notify the County when concerns arise.

**11.d Appointment to the Tourist Development Council**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks the Board's approval to appoint one citizen to serve a four-year term on the Tourist Development Council (TDC) from January 21, 2025, until January 21, 2029.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.e Approval of Task Orders with the Integrity Group for Office of Management and Budget Services**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is presented to the Board for approval of Task Order 2024-03 with The Integrity Group for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) services. The approval is necessary to address the previous personnel shortage within the OMB and ensure that critical fiscal and budgetary operations continue seamlessly.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**~~11.f Approval of a Lease Agreement with the City of Quincy for Property Identified for the Boys and Girls Club~~**

~~Pulled from the Agenda.~~

**11.g Approval of Appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC)**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval for the appointments for the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.

Commissioner Holt stated she would like to continue being appointed to this council.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.h Approval of the landscaping and ongoing maintenance of the memorial site commemorating the tragic drowning event of August 18, 1962, along with the installation and upkeep of a Life Jacket Station at Robinson’s Landing**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of the landscaping and ongoing maintenance of the memorial site commemorating the tragic drowning event of August 18, 1962, along with the installation and upkeep of a Life Jacket Station at Robinson’s Landing.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.i Approval of the Off-System Bridge Project Agreement, Right of Way Resolution, and Road Closure Resolution for Little River Bridge**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval to execute an agreement between Gadsden County and the Florida Department of Transportation for the replacement of Little River Bridge 500045.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:23 p.m.*

**11.j Approval of Resolution 2025-015 Grant Budget Amendment for FY2025**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of Resolution 2025-015 and authorization for the Interim County Administrator and Finance Director to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for the Fiscal Year 2025 BOCC budget.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.k Approval of Resolution 2025-18 Budget Amendment for FY2025**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of Resolution 2025-18 and authorization for the Interim County Administrator and Finance Director to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for the Fiscal Year 2025 BOCC budget.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEM, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.



**13. County Attorney**

No updates.

**14. County Administrator**

No updates.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 8:25 p.m.*

Chair Hinson asked Mr. Morris about a hiring freeze and asked if they have it now; Mr. Morris stated they do not have a hiring freeze and they are actively looking to fill open positions.

Chair Hinson stated they need to be careful about spending money now with the possible stop funds for Federal Government.

Commissioner Holt stated they never voted to have a hiring freeze so there should not have been one.

Commissioner Green asked if they were looking to fill the budget director position; Mr. Morris stated they started to look at applications today, but none met qualifications per HR.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they need a new system in that department as it is outdated and they are working on Excel.

Commissioner Simpkins made a motion for Justin Stiell to be appointed as the interim county administrator.

Commissioner Green stated he knows this individual is very smart, but this was also the same individual that left them and stated it was kind of puzzling to hear his name; he was not sure if Mr. Stiell even wanted to come back.

Commissioner Green stated they need to reach out to FACT for the budget director position.

Commissioner Wood stated the Clerk was an expert in budget and they should ask him what he could do to help. He stated he did not know who Mr. Stiell was.

Bishop Willie Green appeared again and stated the process was a little flaw. Urged them to move quicker to find a permanent County Administrator, instead of looking for another interim.

Tracey Stallworth appeared and stated this ship is sinking. He stated it's hard to navigate the BOCC website.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR JUSTIN STIELL TO BE APPOINTED AS THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER GREEN AND COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

**15.a Commissioner Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO RECOGNIZE KATEHERINE ROBINSONS 80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned a light on Shady Rest Road and stated it has been out. She requested a timeline on when it will be prepared and if they have met with FDOT. Curtis Young, Public Works, appeared before the board and stated they were having problems trying to find the part for that light.

Commissioner Simpkins asked about striping and if they have it budgeted. Mr. Young stated there was no budget for striping. Commissioner Simpkins asked about solar panel and Mr. Young stated they were ordered and will arrive about next week.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they have received funding from the previous grant cycle; Mr. Young stated no roads were approved.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned Animal Control and asked about if the funding was still available. Allan Meeks appeared and stated he reached out to Jacksonville Humane Society and they have not answered yet. Commissioner Simpkins stated there was no decent place for them to sit at the facility and they need to look into that.

Commissioner Simpkins asked Attorney Williams if they were supposed to follow state statute when they negotiate contracts and execute them. Mr. Williams stated in a vacuum, he would say yes; the law as it relates to contracts varies depending on the contract and the area. Commissioner Simpkins asked which type of contracts are they supposed to follow state statute. Mr. Williams stated he has had this type of question a lot and has always told his clients that it was never good to give a hypothetical on a legal question. He would ask his clients to give him the exact document they want him to look at, ask him a question, and he could then give a very clear answer. Any answer he gives her would probably not be factually specific to whatever it is they may be discussing, so he could not give an example.

Commissioner Simpkins stated to the Commissioners that they are spending a lot of money on legal services. They have spent \$41,000 just this month. If they stay on this track, they are going to be at half a million dollars. They took the budget up to \$300,000 for legal services. They were spending too much funds on legal services.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO TERMINATE THE LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Holt stated she has brought in stacks of paper showing where the previous attorney charged them \$800 just for explaining a hospital contract to one Commissioner. She stated the previous attorney charged \$19,000 for one month and did not close those contracts

out. They are getting excellent legal services and are able to walk through these lawsuits. They were putting them out there to be sued and they are going to pay in court. She asked why would they get rid of someone that saved them money.

Commissioner Green stated this was ridiculous and the services they were getting are state of the art. He asked what would be the repercussions in doing this and who was next. He stated there must be a plan for them to make this motion. They did not have a plan with the Administrator and that is why they are sinking.

Bishop Green appeared before the board. He wanted to believe that the Commissioners had the best interest of the county when making these kinds of decisions. He wanted them to think about the consequences of this. He asked them to step back from what they are trying to do tonight.

Tracey Stallworth appeared and stated they are about to cost the county a million dollars if they get rid of the attorney. He stated he will go to governor himself and ask to remove some commissioners from the board.

Zach, 460 Oak Road, appeared before the board. He stated it brought him great concern to hear the motion being made to terminate the county attorney. He stated they have their personal agendas and they need to move it to the side. He asked if they had a plan and what was it.

Commissioner Holt asked the board if they were tired of winning. She stated Attorney Williams has cleaned up all the mess and was starting to work on outdated ordinances. Commissioner Holt asked if they wanted to pay for a good job or not; they already paid for a bad one.

Commissioner Wood stated he had no say in hiring Attorney Williams. He stated he was not buying it when they say the ship is sinking.

Tracey Stallworth appeared again. He stated Mr. NeSmith was still the Commissioner at that time and had the authority. Commissioner Wood was not sworn in yet when they voted to hire the county attorney. Commissioner Wood stated Mr. NeSmith did have the authority, and now so does he.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 9:54 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated they did not fire the previous attorney; the contract was up and they were on a month-to-month.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 9:57 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO TERMINATE THE LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN OPPOSED THE MOTION.**

Attorney Williams stated there were some pending legal matters that are time sensitive and they need to pick someone quickly. They have appeals due. Chair Hinson stated they have an attorney that takes care of legal matters.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO HIRE ATTORNEY LOUIS BAPTISTE AS INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 10:02 p.m.*

Commissioner Holt stated they cannot hire him without looking into his history. Chair Hinson stated Mr. Baptiste works for the county under the Value Adjustment Board. Commissioner Holt stated they need to put it out there to advertise.

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 10:03 p.m.*

Chair Hinson mentioned that they are terminating the county attorney with cause. Commissioner Holt stated they already voted and they cannot go back and amend it.

Commissioner Green stated they need to have a special meeting on this. He stated he is very close to Attorney Baptiste, but they need to have a meeting this week. They do not even know if he is interested in this position.

Ms. Steele came on and said Mr. Baptiste was on Zoom and asked if they wanted to bring him into the conversation. Chair Hinson stated yes.

Commissioner Green stated he was going to exclude himself from voting on the Interim County Administrator.

Mr. Baptiste appeared through Zoom. Chair Hinson asked if he would accept the position. Mr. Baptiste stated yes. Chair Hinson asked to introduce himself and Mr. Baptiste gave a background on his law career. Commissioner Holt asked if he has served as county attorney before and Mr. Baptiste stated no, most of his practice was focused on litigation.

Commissioner Wood asked if there would be a conflict with the position he has now with the county and also asked about billable hours. Mr. Baptiste stated he did not believe there was a conflict with his positions under the county. As far as billable hours, they would look at the rates that Gadsden County has played to previous interims. They would work at that rate and if it was too high, they could negotiate it.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE THE MOTION TO HIRE ATTORNEY LOUIS BAPTISTE AS INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED AND COMMISSIONER GREEN EXCLUDED HIMSELF FROM THE VOTE.**

**15.b Commissioner Shawn Wood, District 3**

No comments.

**15.c Commissioner Brenda A. Holt, District 4**

Mr. Baptiste stated they would need to make clear if the motion to terminate the county attorney was with or without cause by the end of the meeting.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR ATTORNEY BAPTISTE TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CITY OF MIDWAY ASKING THEM TO ADDRESS THE CRA FUNDS THAT THE COUNTY SENT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**15.d Commissioner Ronterious Green, District 5**

Commissioner Green stated he was not happy with tonight but will move forward.

Commissioner Green informed district 5 citizens, especially in the Shiloh Community, of a big black bear in the area.

Commissioner Wood mentioned that Commissioner Green did amazing help during the winter storm.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 10:40 p.m.*

**15.e Commissioner Eric F. Hinson, District 1**

Chair Hinson stated to amend the motion of terminating the county attorney to include with or without cause.

Mr. Baptiste stated he has not reviewed Attorney William's contract. They could call a special meeting to determine with or without cause.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO TERMINATE THE LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CAUSE AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

*Commissioner Holt stepped out at 10:45 p.m.*

Mr. Stallworth asked if they were opening to non-profits; Chair Hinson stated that would be brought back up.

16. **Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:48 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**Eric F. Hinson, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**