

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD FOR THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON  
MARCH 10, 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**  
                     **Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney**  
                     **Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk**

**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.

Mr. Morris stated there are no amendments to the agenda.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, AND  
COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**4.    Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minutes 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.

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 6:02 p.m.*

**5.    General Business**

**5.a   Contract Update**

Mr. Morris provided a background on the grant. He stated the completion date is June 30, 2026, and the awarded amount is \$3, 618, 705.00 which is a cost reimbursement grant.

Everyone introduced themselves.

Antonio Jefferson, Vice-Chair, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend

Rebecca Pustejovsky, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend Board member  
Tracie Hodge, Treasurer, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend  
Cari Thro, Chair, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend  
Kacy Dennis, CEO, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend  
Cassandra McLong, Grant manager, Gadsden County Board of County Commissioner  
Shawan Moi, Gadsden County Parks and Recreation department  
Alma Venisee, Concerned Citizen

Mr. Baptiste stated he was 80% through the contract.

Commissioner Green stated he didn't think they need to go into detail with the contract yet as it is not completed and it's just language. He also stated this workshop may be premature as there is still legwork that needs to be done by the board.

Mr. Baptiste stated cities primary ask was that the contract contains things that previously was not included as they could consider term of contract, which is now a 30-year term.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she requested this workshop because board members from the Boys & Girls wanted to voice their concerns.

Commissioner Green stated his concerns with the whole process.

Commissioner Holt stated she wanted to hear from the boys & girls club board members.

Cary Throw stated she was grateful for the county's support, but they have concerns about the agreement as it was before. She also stated they just want to make sure there is communication, so they are all on the same page.

Chair Hinson stated they wanted to know who the boys & girls club is. He also stated it is hard to discuss things now without all things being finalized.

Ms. Throw stated she thought they were discussing stand-alone facility and the grant that the state awarded, and not presenting who the club was, and they were not prepared to do so at this meeting.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they have had in depth conversation, and she doesn't know where they go. She stated she wants the boys & girls club to state their expectations, so the board knows where they stand.

Chair Hinson stated he would like to listen to the members of the boys & girls club.

Ms. Throw stated they made commitment to present to county on where they stand with the boys & girls club, but again they were not prepared tonight to go into detail what & who the boys & girls club is and does.

Mr. Baptiste stated the city owns land and the county controls the funding. He stated the county would be the one to build the building.

Ms. Throw stated they may not be able to participate depending on the decisions made.

Mr. Morris stated this is supposed to be a Gadsden County boys & girls club and is not the big bend boys & girls club, and that may be the misunderstanding.

Commissioner Holt stated they need to see the terms of the agreement, and she thought the city was going to be here.

Chair Hinson asked when the county was approved of the grant, and Ms. Throw stated it was July 2023 and executed May 2024.

Commissioner Green stated the dos, and the don'ts are very important regarding the facility.

Mr. Baptiste asked Ms. Throw when they received the agreement, and Ms. Throw stated they never received it.

Commissioner Green stated to maybe bring the Boys & Girls Club attorney in to look at the contract language and give feedback.

Commissioner Simpkins asked Mr. Morris if they were locked into this location with the City, and Mr. Morris stated no, not at all.

Commissioner Holt stated she would like to know the requirements that the Boys & Girls Club do have so they could be in line with what they need to be.

Antonio Jefferson stated they have had an awful experience in Tallahassee with a club they called their own in which it almost eliminated the Boys & Girls Club organization. He stated they need a place where the kids can call home.

Commissioner Holt asked if they are still offering the lease to city of Quincy; Attorney stated yes, until the board says something different.

Kasey Dennis provided an update on the programs offered by the Boys & Girls club.

*Commissioner Wood appeared at 7:16 p.m.*

**5.b Bid Process for Construction and Engineering**

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**