

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 17, 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, *Not present*
Brenda A. Holt, District 4
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk
Leann Jinks, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

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 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.

Items for Discussion

Summer Youth Program

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Commissioner Green asked what is budgeted for the program this year, and Mr. Morris stated 500k.

Commissioner Holt stated there's no job readiness as several youth were not following dress code, and she wants to solve that problem.

Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 6:05 p.m.

Commissioner Green asked if there was an interview process in place for the program, and Mr. Morris stated not to his knowledge, but each department is to conduct their own interviews. Commissioner Green also stated he wants there to be an interest assessment done.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 6:11 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they need to set expectations for the kids and requested to use the CareerSource application for the youth to use to apply for the program.

Commissioner Holt returned at 6:12 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins asked Ms. Germany if multiple days of orientation was more effective, and Ms. Germany stated yes.

Commissioner Green asked if HR or Ms. Germany could present anything right now on the run down of the program.

Commissioner Holt stated she thinks orientation should be at least a week to prepare the youth before they go on the job. She also stated the interest assessment was a great idea as well.

Mr. Baptiste stated it takes 232 hours of training and a Public Service Telecommunicator course to be certified to be a dispatcher.

Commissioner Green wanted to know the start date for the program and if CareerSource will be involved. Mr. Morris stated he has not spoken to CareerSource yet, but he will reach out.

Human Resources appeared and stated the start date is usually in line with payroll. Human Resources also said they would like to start receiving applications now.

Commissioner Green suggested to allow Human Resources to reach out to CareerSource as they are spearheading this program, and he also wants another workshop led by Human Resources department.

Commissioner Simpkins asked Human Resources to find out information that CareerSource normally requests on their applications.

Chair Hinson preferred the 8-week program, but did ask Human Resources to bring back both plans before the board.

Commissioner Holt asked about online applications, and Human Resources stated no it is a paper application.

Commissioner Holt mentioned survey of job sites so they can clear up anything that needs to be cleared up.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she wants the 300-word essay “why it’s important to have good work ethic?” a part of the application. She stated she thinks if the youth want a job, they can write an essay as to why it is important to have good work ethic.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 6:44 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON
DECLARED THE WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 6:46 PM.**

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

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

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk