

**AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 11,  
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 A. 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 6:04 p.m. Commissioner Simpkins led into invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

Commissioner Holt stated she called the administrator to add the strategic plan and asked why it was not added to this agenda. Chair Hinson stated once they get the budget out of the way, then they can discuss the strategic plan. Commissioner Holt stated they do strategic plan before they do the budget.

Chair Hinson stated to remove item 7.b. from the agenda and move item 7.d. to item 7.b.

Commissioner Holt stated this has been the fourth time this has happened where her request was not added to the agenda. Mr. Baptiste stated they were conflating the process between a special meeting and a regular meeting. The Chair sets the agenda for regular meetings, and under a special meeting, the administrator conducts a poll. He did understand where Commissioner Holt was coming from but they have to move the agenda. They were getting into a discussion on an item that was not on the agenda. Commissioner Holt stated if other items were able to be added on this agenda by a commissioner, then any commissioner should be able to add items as well.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE STRATEGIC PLAN ITEM TO THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO REMOVE ITEM 7.B. FROM THE AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO MOVE ITEM 7.D. TO ITEM 7.B. AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**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 TO APPROVE.**

**6. 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.

**7. General Business**

**7.a. Capital Health Insurance Rates**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval to accept the Insurance Committee's recommendation to remain with the current healthcare plan (Capital Selection) under Capital Health Plan and for the premium increase to be absorbed by the employer. Capital Health Plan presented a renewal premium for the current Capital Selection plan with an increase of 7.4%.

Mr. Morris went through the options and stated staff recommended option 1, the employer absorbs the 7.4% increase; there will be no increase in premium for the employee. This renewal option will increase the monthly premium obligation for the employer and the prescription endorsement would remain at \$15/30/50/50.

Commissioner Green asked when will they see other comparisons for health insurance. Mr. Morris stated staff was working on comparisons at the moment.

Mr. Baptiste stated he was asked by staff to research their process related to health insurance. Staff became aware that they do not have a current contract with a broker and it was operating on a previous agreement. He recommended to put out an RFP to put them back in compliance. He stated they have not been able to locate a contract with the broker or the agent.

Ms. Goldwire appeared before the board. She stated the broker is paid out of the 7.4% by CHP. They do not have a broker and an agent.

Commissioner Simpkins stated CHP would deal with them directly if they choose. Ms. Goldwire stated they could also look into piggybacking off of the state contracts but there are downfalls to that as well. Commissioner Simpkins stated that could be an option, especially if it saves them money.

Commissioner Green asked to get the comparisons within the next month or two. They need to have things hashed out by 2026.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR OPTION 1 AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

~~7.b. Senior Citizen Reallocation of Funding for Gadsden County Senior Citizens~~  
Item pulled.

**7.b. Approval of Bid Award to Titan Construction for Cane Creek Bridge Repair**  
Mr. Morris presented the above item. Mr. Young stated they only received 2 bids.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**7.c. County Administrator Update**  
Mr. Morris wanted to bring forth the timeline proposed by the Florida Association of County Managers.

Proposed Timeline (~6 weeks):

- Friday, August 1 – Email to FACM Committee
- Wednesday, August 5 – FACM Committee feedback to Gadsden County
- Friday, August 8 – Friday, September 5: Position Advertisement Open
- Monday, September 8 – Friday, September 12: Applications to FACM Committee for Review

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO BRING IN REGINALD JAMES AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Green asked for clarity on the month-to-month basis. Commissioner Simpkins stated that way they are not locked in as they go through their process because they are not sure how long this is going to take.

Chair Hinson stated he spoke with Mr. Morris about his difficulties with juggling different job titles. They could find somebody else that way Mr. Morris can focus on what he needs to focus on.

Commissioner Green stated his concern was that Mr. Morris would still need to train Mr. James. Why not consider someone that has worked the governmental part of what they do. He did not see the urgency in making changes now.

Commissioner Holt stated she liked Mr. James but this was not his expertise. That was why she chose Robert Presnell at the last meeting.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO BRING IN REGINALD JAMES AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN OPPOSED.**

**7.d. Approval of Bid Award to Titan Construction for Cane Creek Bridge Repair**

\*Moved to item 7.b.\*

**8. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:47 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**