

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 7, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Brenda Holt, Vice Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 1
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, Assistant County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

Absent: Eric Hinson, Chairman, District 2

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Holt called the meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Eric Erskine from the First Baptist Church of Havana came forward to give the Invocation. Deputy Clerk Marcella Blocker took a silent roll call.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Holt asked for any amendments to and approval of the Agenda.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, MR. PRESNELL REQUESTED ITEM 10 TO BE PULLED.

Vice Chair Holt asked if there was anyone present that came to speak on Item 10 and there was no-one.

VICE CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA. ITEM 10 REMOVED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- 1.** Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
Presentation on Black Bear Issues
Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said a representative of Florida Fish and Wildlife was present for a presentation on black bear issues in the Gadsden County area.

Dave Telesco, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Black Bear Coordinator, appeared before the Board to speak on behalf of Florida Black Bear issues. He added that there were only eight counties in Florida that had bear-proof garbage cans and Midway and Gadsden County were one of the places. He gave examples of "bear-proofing" the garbage cans, etc. to prevent foraging by the bears. Commissioner Croley and Vice-Chair Holt had questions. Vice-Chair Holt thanked him for the presentation and the information he provided.

CLERK OF COURTS

2. County Finance and County Clerk Issues

Mr. Thomas said for information purposes he had previously sent the Commissioners an email regarding outstanding long-term debt and gave a quick overview for the purpose of helping them with their long-term planning. He informed the Board there was approximately \$15.3 Million currently outstanding in the long-term debt; \$322,000 for the Tax Collector Building, which would be paid off in 2016; \$725,000 for ambulances, which would be paid off in 2017; \$8.9 Million for Hospital Bond, which would be paid off in 2030; \$3.7 million for Road Paving, which would be paid off in 2018; \$55,000 for a generator at the Woodham Building, which would be paid off in 2016, and \$1.6 Million for the Quincy and Chattahoochee Library, which would be paid off in 2022. He added that the reserve for contingency is now \$27,892.

Commissioner Morgan asked how long term debt was defined and Mr. Thomas explained there were other long-term debts, things financed for a period of time and he explained other long-term liabilities the Board needed to consider and generally anything over five years would be considered “long-term debt”.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

3. Approval of Minutes

-December 3, 2013 Regular Meeting

4. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills

5. Approval of Commissioner Hinson’s Travel to the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections Canvassing Board Workshop

6. Approval to Appoint Commissioner Brenda Holt as the BOCC Representative on the Tourist Development Council

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

None

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens that wished to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

7. APPOINTMENT TO THE BIG BEND CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) BOARD

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for an appointment of a Board member to the Big Bend Continuum of Care (Coc) Board.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor returned to the meeting at this juncture.

Mr. Presnell added the federal law changed on funding for homelessness efforts and an eight county region was identified to receive funding for that and Gadsden County was a part of that region and one of the Commissioners needed to be appointed to the Board.

Commissioner Croley asked who decided to form this.

Mr. Presnell said Leon County had been receiving the annual funding, which was a little over \$100,000, but the requirements changed to include an eight-county region. The eight counties comprising the region are: Leon, Jefferson, Franklin, Gadsden, Liberty, Madison, Taylor and Wakulla.

Commissioner Taylor said she had been in touch with these people and there was a meeting scheduled for Friday and this organization had funding to help with renovation of homes, funding to help with families going into homes, help with utilities, etc. She added she was willing to serve on this Board if the other Commissioners so wished and would like to see them move forward with this.

Vice Chair Holt said she had no problem with someone serving on the Board and asked that she go to the meeting and then at the next meeting they could make an appointment to the Board.

Commissioner Croley said he had no problem with Commissioner Taylor representing the Board in regard to this effort.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO SERVE ON THE BOARD.

8. SMALL COUNTY OUTREACH PROGRAM COUNTY ROAD 270a-FLAT CREEK ROAD-FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was to award the resurfacing bid of Flat Creek Road project to Peavy & Sons Construction, who was the lowest bidder of the three bids received.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked what part of Flat Creek Road was being resurfaced.

Mr. Presnell explained this was the same project they had previously discussed and this was the actual bid.

THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM.

9. Jason and Cindy Broshears; Parcel ID#:5-01-OR-OS-1140-0000A-1111/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and asked for Board approval to proceed with clean-up of

the property and have a lien placed on the property.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

10. APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL TO ACQUIRE HAVANA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO ESTABLISH A SMALL BUSINESS INCUBATOR ITEM PULLED FROM AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

11. UPDATE ON BOARD REQUESTS

Retreat

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the upcoming retreat scheduled for Tuesday, January 14th at 4:00 at West End Grill. Commissioner Taylor stated she would be unable to attend.

Affordable Care Workshop

He then reminded everyone of the workshop for Affordable Care scheduled for January 15th at the Bill McGill Library.

Renaming/Dedication of Gretna Fire Station

He said the renaming/dedication of the Gretna Fire station will be held January 16th and hoped everyone could attend.

Legislative Delegation

He said the Legislative Delegation would be on January 23rd in BOCC Chambers.

Annual Report

He pointed out the annual report had been finalized and a copy was in front of them.

Beautification Project

Commissioner Croley asked the status of money in place for beautification of the roadways and Mr. Presnell said it was in the Consultant's (Woods and Woods) corner and they were to re-draw and get approval from DOT to change specifications.

Commissioner Croley said he did not want to lose the money and asked for an update at the next meeting.

Collector Roads

Commissioner Croley asked if Mr. Presnell if he had a list of collector roads in writing.

Mr. Presnell said he had given a rough list to the engineering firm and they were to provide a formal list.

Sidewalks

Commissioner Croley asked about sidewalks. Mr. Presnell said Mr. Young and Justin of Preble-Rish presented two projects, one at St. Johns school and Commissioner Croley said a list was needed, that he could not advocate funding without having the list.

Commissioner Holt asked about the beautification if it was not obtainable on the highways, would it be possible at the intersections. Commissioner Croley said the beautification money was supposed to be used for all the municipalities.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

12. UPDATE ON BOARD REQUESTS

Mr. Weiss stated he had nothing to report, but was available if there were any questions and no-one had any.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

13. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she did not want to stop the flow, but asked how they were getting information out into the community so people would know when to come was getting out regarding the affordable healthcare workshop.

Mr. Presnell said it was posted on the County's website, it had been in the newspaper twice, was on the County's Facebook page and on Twitter.

Commissioner Taylor suggested posting flyers because not everyone read the paper or had access to the internet.

FRDAP Grant

Commissioner Taylor asked about FRDAP grants and said they could not do anything without land being donated or being (inaudible) and asked if the list he sent out included county-owned land.

Mr. Presnell stated that was not "raw" land and said he would send a list of raw land available.

Road List

She said she was a little off center as to why they had not done a formal list of roads to be submitted to CRTPA and Mr. Presnell said there had been several lists done in the past and they have worked from that list. Mr. Presnell said things had been fast-tracked and DOT was doing safety studies on High Bridge and Old Federal Roads, and added that DOT would be performing the audits themselves. She asked that Mr. Presnell keep her abreast of the situation. She said it was imperative that Preble-Rish finish what they needed to do to get the needed information to Commissioner Croley.

Capital Regional

She said she had met briefly with the CEO of Capital Regional and he mentioned he was starting to post job listings at the Emergency Room.

Sidewalks

She asked if he had had an opportunity to look at any other funding sources for sidewalks and Mr.

Presnell said that all he had found so far was DOT safety money. She asked that by the middle of March he have a list for them of potential sites.

National Solar

She asked the County attorney if the Solar Plant was a myth and he said he would follow up with them. Mr. Weiss said his last conversation with them was they were working on locating a site and getting their due diligence done.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan commented that the annual report looked really good and liked the fact that it had a tag line on it.

He said with regard to the Affordable Care Act , he thought the local churches might be good way to help get the word out.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley asked regarding the list of property, the SHIP housing that was referenced, if it included any houses the County had constructed. Mr. Presnell stated it did include the Brumby Street house. Commissioner Croley said he had mentioned at a previous meeting of a fire Christmas Eve in the Shaw Quarters where a family was burned out of their home. Red Cross sent the family to Midway for two nights but had no place available for the family to go after that. He asked why the family could not go into the house on an emergency basis to help them out on a temporary basis and said the County Attorney's Office had said it could not be done and he asked why and what they could do with the house-it was built with public funds and there was a need by a burned-out family; they have a family with legitimate need for a house. Mr. Weiss responded they could only use the county property for a public purpose and added opening it up for use might open themselves up for liability if they leased the house out and the County would technically become a "landlord". He added he was not saying there was no way to do it but he had concerns. Commissioner Croley stated he appreciated his concerns, but "...all I know is, it was Christmas Eve, and I have a burned-out family, we have a vacant house, and while we were able to take care of them at a motel for two nights, it just seemed like if we could run a cold-weather shelter out of a county warehouse, that we ought to be able to have an emergency dwelling for somebody for a week or something of that nature just to have gotten them through the emergency that they faced because these were tenants living in a rented dwelling and due to the scope of the destruction and damage to the dwelling, I did not see that the landlord was going to be able to put them back in a house any time soon."

Transportation

He said Mr. Presnell may have gotten a lot more information than he had, but when talking about the five year FDOT plan and the way he conveyed some of the information he relayed, it created the impression that DOT is ignoring the CRTPA planning process. He explained no money goes into the five year plan, according to his information, that Gadsden County does not get the support of CRTPA.

Mr. Presnell explained that with the change in the law, the five year plan has to go through a process and a vote in Tallahassee.

Commissioner Croley said whatever the Commissioners would like to submit, he would be happy to deliver and advocate for it as long as it meets their criteria.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could find out how Red Cross figures the proportion of money they give to the families, the formula they use, because the amounts differ from family to family and asked Mr. Presnell if he could get some information on how they determine that.

Commissioner Holt said it might be good to have them do a presentation.

Commissioner Holt, District 4

Affordable Health Care Coverage

Commissioner Holt said it was important to get the word out concerning this and there was approximately eighty (80) days left to apply for the coverage. She added there was a need to have meetings in every district to be able to inform every one of the benefits of the Affordable Health Care coverage.

Economic Development

She said she was very interested in trying to get some incentives to get an empty building to give to economic development and that was why she supported the elementary school in Havana.

Commissioner Croley said he wanted to encourage the Administrator, the Clerk and Mr. Lawson to hold a meeting early with Capital Health Plan regarding changes in the health care law.

She asked Mr. Presnell for a list of roads, whether they are paved, unpaved, ones that need sidewalks, etc., by district so they could review it.

Commissioner Taylor said that would be a good workshop for them to hash out everything.

Commissioner Hinson, District 1

RECEIPT AND FILE

14. **A. November 19, 2013 letter from Douglas Croley to FDLE's Office of Criminal Justice Grants (Distribution of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant)**
- B. December 4, 2013 letter from Robert F. Bendus, Division of Historical Resources Director (Centennial Courthouse Celebration)**
- C. Letter from FDLE (Receipt and acceptance of financial and programmatic reports for Contract No. 2013-JAGC-GADS-1-D7-157)**

January Meeting(s):

-January 21, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
January 7, 2014 – Regular Public Meeting

February Meeting(s):

- February 4, 2013, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- February 18, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, VICE-CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:10 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

BRENDA A. HOLT, Vice-Chair
Board of County Commissioners

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 21,
2014 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Deborah Minnis, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

Absent: Gene Morgan, District 3

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. Marva Davis came forward to give the Invocation. Chair Hinson then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD
VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITEN.**

1. Resolution Recognizing Linda Jones (Retired Educator)

Chair Hinson said he had one presentation to make and asked Linda Jones, a retired teacher, to come forward. He read a Resolution aloud that had been prepared and then presented the Resolution to Mrs. Jones.

2. Presentation on Animal Care

Dr. Greg Winter, DMV (Winter Animal Hospital-Havana, FL)

Dr. Greg Winters was unable to attend the meeting. Chair Hinson said he had a Certificate of Appreciation to be presented to Dr. Winters.

CLERK OF COURTS

3. County Finance and County Clerk Issues

Mr. Thomas said in the Commissioners' packet there was a Cash-in-Summary Report.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the County was on schedule and if this amount was the amount they should have this time of year. Mr. Thomas said there was \$15.8 Million and this was the time of year they were pretty flush with cash and it was in part due to the ad valorem tax revenues being collected.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR ASKED TO PULL ITEM 6 FOR DISCUSSION. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE ITEMS 4, 5, AND 7. ITEM 6 PULLED.

4. Approval of Minutes:

- A. August 22, 2013 Budget Workshop
- B. September 10, 2013 Budget Hearing
- C. September 23, 2013 Budget Hearing
- D. December 17, 2013 Regular Meeting

5. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills

6. ~~Approval of Contract Change Order for Time Extension on the Jail Locks and Hardware Replacement Order~~ Item pulled for discussion.

7. Approval of Commissioner Hinson's Travel to the 2014 NACo Legislative Conference

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

6. Approval of Contract Change Order for Time Extension on the Jail Locks and Hardware Replacement Order

Commissioner Taylor said it was her opinion that the Board needed to look at a complete renovation of the jail instead of spending \$500,000 on door locks. She added once the locks were replaced, there would tend to then be problems with electrical, structure, and it was not going to stop until the Board planned how to completely renovate the jail. She said it was her opinion that buying the locks was "like putting a bandage on the Mississippi, you're not getting to the crust of the problem down there until we do something with the jail completely."

Chair Hinson asked Mr. Presnell how much a renovation would cost.

Mr. Presnell said a jail inspection was done a week and a half ago, electrical issues have been addressed, there were issues with the hot water, but that was in the current budget. He added that other issues of course were capacity related issues, staffing issues, but structurally wise they were putting in a lot of money, but they were making progress.

Commissioner Taylor said there was a committed fund to the jail, the ½ cent sales tax which was committed to renovating the jail, and she said once the locks were replaced, it could cause problems electrically. She asked that they beware of further problems that could come down the line.

Commissioner Croley said he was disappointed in the additional time it has taken to get the locks repaired, but they had been dealing with the jail locks and the needs there for some time and it was his understanding the Bond had been retired and the ½ cent tax was continued to provide things such as fire services, etc.

Clerk Thomas said that was actually the .1¢ sales tax and the jail bond had been repaid in 1996 or 1997 and said if they decided to do major construction or add a pod and they have to bond it

and want to use the .1¢ sales tax, whatever the debt services to come out of the sales tax, they would need to reduce funding in the other areas or find additional funding.

Chair Hinson asked how much the .1¢ sales tax generated.

Clerk Thomas informed them it brought in approximately \$2 Million a year.

Commissioner Croley reiterated that the money was committed to certain areas, such as fire services and the point he was trying to make was the locks needed to be done, plus they had already been ordered and the company was simply asking for eight days extension.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Thomas the length of years left on the .1¢ sales tax. She said the funds from the sales tax were already committed, but she also heard the Clerk say there may be circumstances where some of the costs could be brought down so some debt service money could be obtained, otherwise she was afraid they would find themselves in a very serious situation with the jail because crime was not decreasing.

Mr. Thomas said the Board committed to use the funds by an ordinance and they could choose to change the use of it by an ordinance.

Commissioner Holt said they had been lobbying Washington for funding in the amount of \$23.5 Million and they voted out the lobbyists that was working on that and then did not have anyone to go after the funding. She added the locks were a must; there was no choice but to repair them.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 2-2 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS HINSON AND TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.

Commissioner Holt commented that the sooner locks were in, they would not have to worry about the inmates and right now they were weighing costs against safety and the bottom line was safety.

Chair Hinson asked if the Sheriff had appeared before the Board concerning this problem.

Mr. Presnell said not recently, but this was an ongoing issue-the locks were going in either way, this was only for an eight day extension.

Commissioner Croley said he wanted to re-enforce, there was already a commitment to buy the locks, this was simply asking for an 8 day extension because of production delay, and said they could not go back, they had committed to go forward.

Chair Hinson:

“Actually, we can go back, yeah, we can break our agreement. The thing, where I was coming from, see, is we need to start being a little more strategic and have all the information in front of us. As of now, we don’t know how much it cost to renovation, how much it cost for this, it cost for that. The Sheriff has yet to come to the Board and present his case, to me at least. Sheriff has yet to come to, or call me up and say, ‘Hey, this is what’s going on right here. These

are the problems.’ I’m hearing this from the Commissioners, maybe hearsay, she say. If it were that important, the Sheriff would have notified me as the Chairman, he should have notified everybody on this Board it was a serious issue. Right now we are going by hearsay, she say. I’m just saying, where I’m coming from is that until we hear from the Sheriff, I support the effort because I voted for it last time. What I am saying is I would like for him to let us know what’s going on or and as well as, well, right now, I’m tired of patching things. We’ve got to go ahead, you’ve got to make bold moves sometimes to make things happen. Not saying I would do that, but I would at least like to look at options. Option may be too great to do that, but at least give me an option on it.”

Commissioner Croley:

“The issue is the eight days.”

Chair Hinson:

“Right.”

Commissioner Croley:

“If you don’t want to give them eight days, that’s fine. But...”

Chair Hinson:

“We’ve got to start, if I’m a commissioner and I want something, I’ll come to you for it. If I think it’s a great thing, I would at least you the option, you understand where I’m coming from, right?”

Commissioner Croley:

“I appreciate that, but the Sheriff, Sheriff Young, has been here many times and his staff about the jail locks. We all, we voted to go forward with the jail locks. I don’t, I don’t want, I think it’s a disservice to the folks that work at that jail, to those deputies that sit out here that have to deal with these inmates to not have the facility to secure those inmates against each other as well as our law enforcement staff. I mean, these men and women are putting their life on the line for us and we have a responsibility to help secure those inmates and if an eight day extension for the delivery of the locks helps do a better job, why would we not?”

Chair Hinson:

“I agree. But have you walked through the jail yet, Mr. Croley?”

Commissioner Croley:

“Yes.”

Chair Hinson:

“And you saw some of the issues?”

Commissioner Hinson:

“I have been completely through the jail, I know, have talked with the staff, seen, you know, been through the whole thing many times.”

Chair Hinson:

“Unfortunately, I have yet to talk to, I think it’s a great idea for two weeks for them to bring up

something...”

Commissioner Holt:

“OK, let me ask you this, Mr. Manager, OK, the locks are being delivered eight days from now, and so we are saying we’re not going to give them eight days to deliver, what happens?”

Mr. Presnell:

“They are already here. All this is, they asked for eight days that they lost during production because Brinks had to manufacture them for this jail. This vote tonight does not alter, we would have to, doesn’t stop anything, the locks are going in, they are here, the parts are here, all the design work is done, they have been manufactured and they are fixing to be installed. The contractor was just trying to recoup eight days he lost from a production problem.”

Commissioner Holt stated the liability was greater than eight days.

Chair Hinson:

“Everybody heard, see, what I’m saying, everybody, he brought it to everybody’s attention except for my attention and I was just curious, ah, if it’s that significant, if I wasn’t the Chair, if it was that significant, if I had to vote on a situation like, I would at least make the effort to go out and talk to the Chairman about this before it come up. Apparently, I’m just listening to what is hearsay, she say, cause you may have a passion about it. I’m not saying it like that, but you may have a passion about it, you might be passionate about it, but it may not be the right passion. But if he come up and talked to the Board about it, or at least talk to me about it, I can see, I can have a lot of questions I could ask the Chair. I support the Sheriff on almost everything he’s doing, I mean, 100% of the stuff, but, I want to make sure that whatever decision I make, I want to make sure it’s the right decision. But, let’s move on, we’ll just move forward and ah, whatever happens, we just...”

Commissioner Holt:

“I would like to say this right quick, we are the owners of the jail. I reiterate what Commissioner Taylor was saying. At any time we can go out there and inspect, and I understand what you’re saying, but at any time. Because, even with the inmates that files legal action before, they didn’t file legal action against the Sheriff. They did against this Board and that’s how they always do because they figure we have deep pockets.”

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. Approval of Interlocal Agreement for Planning Services With The City of Midway

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this would allow the county staff to perform reviews of planning requests that the City of Midway may get and added they currently did not have a planning staff but was their long term goal to build the department up and hire planning staff.

COMMISSIONER CROLEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND A SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HOLT. BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Holt asked when they do annex, to please consider annexing all roads in to prevent struggles in future of who owns the roads.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there would be any costs for the use of county staff.

Mr. Presnell explained there was an hourly cost to not exceed \$23,500 and the County would charge them by the hour.

Dot Inman-Johnson, Interim City Manager for City of Midway, appeared before the Board to further explain the working relationship with the County and said it would be through September 30, 2014 and she thanked the Commissioners and staff for their assistance.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there were any plans in the future to develop a Planning and Zoning board in Midway. Ms. Inman-Johnson said yes.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

At this time, Chair Hinson also mentioned the death of Commissioner Holt's brother and asked everyone to keep her family in their prayers.

9. Bettie Shelton Arnold; Parcel ID#: 2-15-3N-6W-0000-00413-0300/Code Enforcement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was an on-going code enforcement case that they had not been able to rectify and they were asking approval to clean up this lot.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM.

10. Adoption of 2014 Legislative Priorities

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for the adoption of the 2014 Legislative Priorities and needed to be finalized for the public meeting scheduled for Thursday night.

Chris Doolan, 1118B Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, FL, Legislative Representative, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Holt said she needed to leave the meeting early and asked to speak and her only suggestion was regarding economic development.

Mr. Doolan said the legislative program clearly identified 2 projects as their top priority:

- 1- Agriculture Multi-purpose Facility
- 2- Courthouse renovations

He explained they would be submitted as separate projects, one through the Department of Agriculture and the Courthouse project would be submitted through Senator Montford's grant application process.

Commissioner Holt left at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Doolan said it was significant to note how important the State of Florida programs were to this County and that annually the County received well over \$20 Million in revenue sharing and program support. He further stated that in addition to the two projects mentioned, there was also listed the various programs where funding was received. He added that included in the list were roads recommended for the next two years, park funding and solid waste funding among other items.

He further said that one of the major items that needed attention within the next two years was a very articulate statement from all of the counties regarding the County Medicaid Cost Sharing. He said that Gadsden County's cost share over the next seven years was scheduled to increase 89% and they have asked that the State take steps to reduce the impact. He added that this would not affect the County in the next two years, so there was time to work on this matter.

Commissioner Croley asked if the Medicaid increase had anything to do with "ObamaCare" and Mr. Doolin said it was not related and explained the increase was due to a change in the formula from a billing system based on what Medicaid eligible folks used in this county and it had nothing to do with any of the federal legislation.

Chair Hinson thanked Mr. Doolan on their aggressive efforts regarding the transportation issues in Gadsden County also.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY TO APPROVE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL FACILITY AND COURTHOUSE RENOVATION FUNDING. BEFORE A SECOND, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked whose idea was the Courthouse renovations and Multi-purpose center.

Mr. Presnell explained the Courthouse was his and Clyde Collin's idea and the Multi-purpose center had been on the table for years and was Dr. Grant's idea.

Mr. Presnell said if the Commissioners had anything they wished to put on the legislative agenda, now was the time to have it added.

Commissioner Taylor asked how soon this needed to be in and Mr. Doolan explained the legislative delegation meeting was scheduled for Thursday night.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR SECONDED COMMISSIONER CROLEY'S MOTION AND THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

11. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the Legislative delegation meeting scheduled for Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. in the BOCC Chambers.

Road Workshop

He added that he and Curtis Young had been working on road information/transportation issues and a workshop could be scheduled for at 5:00 on February 18th before the meeting to have a transportation workshop.

He also informed the Board that they would be unveiling the new website on February 18th and would be a presentation at that time also.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

12. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss gave the Board an update regarding National Solar and said he had reached out to the Vice-President and he was assured that they are moving forward, they had recently completed the load flow analysis of the grid surrounding the site and they were anticipating the first phase of the inter-connection study to begin within the next 30 days and are moving forward.

Commissioner Croley asked if they were aware of any litigation that might be going on with one of the utility providers or transmission companies over property evaluations and said he had heard of it occurring in other counties.

Mr. Weiss and Mr. Thomas said they were not aware of any.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

13. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell for information regarding Red Cross and he said they were scheduled to be on the agenda hopefully for the next meeting.

She asked about land that the county owned regarding parks being built. She asked for something in hand and said she had property owners that were willing to donate land.

She also stated she had reviewed a letter from FDOT for a project that had received funding for Fairbanks Ferry Road and asked Commissioner Croley how CRTPA became involved with this project.

Mr. Presnell replied that Fairbanks Ferry Road was a LAP project that FDOT had initiated.

Commissioner Croley said CRTPA became involved because Highway 12 was being improved all across the County, starting in District One and was moving west and was part of resurfacing and widening of the paved shoulders and getting part of the federal fuel tax money back for the major state roads. He went on to comment that while he was not asked for that particular road name, it was a primary collector road across the county with exception of the federal roads.

Commissioner Taylor commented that the roads were not done equally, that things were not fair, and reiterated she felt things were being done in specific districts only. She said all she had seen so far were roads in District 2 and 3 being done and asked if anything was in the works for any other roads.

Mr. Presnell stated the Board did not have any say-so over the LAP projects that originated with DOT.

Commissioner Croley said CRTPA went by a formula that involved traffic count and it did not go by districts and pointed out that the Highway 90 project was a \$16 Million project and was in District 5.

Commissioner Taylor said that project was useless and said she “can’t see one person that can understand the need for that to happen, the widening out right there. You’re telling me that that is more important than doing something on this road that almost 25 people have lost their lives. You’re telling me it’s more important than widening roads where we’ve had so many fatalities that are going on out there.” She further stated that wise choices had not been made on the CRTPA Board with regard to how dollars had been spent over the years. She went on to say that the strip on Highway 90 that was being widened was useless, no-one lived there and it did not need to be widened and the money could have been used better elsewhere in her opinion.

Mr. Presnell said Lewis Lane and Hogan Lane were in the budget for 2014.

Commissioner Taylor said Hogan Lane was in her district, but did not understand why it was on the list because it only went in one way and was a perfectly good road except where it broke off into private property and asked how the road was added to the list.

Mr. Presnell stated the Board selected the road. He further stated at the upcoming workshop, the consultant would be present and would be able to answer all their questions regarding the safety studies and he wanted to have everything on the table and get everything cleared up at the workshop and the last approved list would be provided by district of what would be done as far as dirt road paving.

Commissioner Taylor asked what could be done in-house because she was losing faith with CRTPA.

Mr. Presnell said they could budget infrastructure capital project money in the operating budget and the Board could do any project they wanted and the funding source would be ad valorem tax dollars or gasoline tax dollars.

Chair Hinson asked about the 1¢ tax. Mr. Presnell said \$1 Million of that was used to fund public works and the other half was used to fund fire protection.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a debt service on the money and asked when it was paid up and asked for the remaining balance.

Mr. Presnell said he thought it was around \$3 Million and the Clerk had recently furnished that

information to them.

Clerk Thomas said the remaining amount was \$3.8 Million and would be paid off in 2018.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley said Commissioner Taylor failed in her recollection concerning transportation projects that Joe Knight Road had recently been paved and was a dead-end road.

Commissioner Taylor responded that the road did not go through CRPTA, the Board had approved that road.

Commissioner Croley said when looking at funding projects, it was not like work had not been done around, but the problem was when dealing with different pots of money, it had to be used on the roads that qualified and Highway 90 was a federal road and money was obtainable to re-do that bridge.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson asked if the Hospital Board required representation from each district.

Mr. Presnell said that matter was on the next agenda, and stated the Board was responsible for appointing the Board members, but it was not by district.

He then asked for an update on Havana Heights housing project parking lot situation.

Clyde Collins appeared before the Board and said the cable was still up across the parking lot and had never come down, that EMS & the Sheriff's Department were provided a key and commented that he did not have the authority to make them take the cable down.

Commissioner Hinson said the community was still in an uproar over this matter and added that expectant girls were going into labor in route to walking to the ambulance since the gates were locked and seniors were having problems receiving mail-order medicines because the medicine could not be dropped off at the front door. He further added he was trying to "be nice about this situation, but, ah, you can't do it and I'm going to have to go somewhere else."

Mr. Presnell said they had talked to HUD, State representatives and the owner, and they might want counsel to research the matter.

Commissioner Hinson stated he thought about holding a press conference regarding this situation.

Commissioner Taylor warned Commissioner Hinson to be careful in speaking to the press to not speak on behalf of the Board without direction from the Board because it was private property.

Mr. Weiss asked for clarity in what was going on with the problem and said he needed more

information to research the matter.

Mr. Collins said EMS and Big Bend Transit had problems with the complex.

Commissioner Croley asked for clarification on problems with parking.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY CHAIR HINSON, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER CROLEY HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Croley asked if the complex was in city limits or if was in the county and if they could use public funds to pay the county attorney to research and take up private issues with a private landowner unless it would be within his retainer to do so.

THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE COUNSEL RESEARCH MATTER AS LONG AS WITHIN RETAINER.

RECEIPT AND FILE

14. A. December 17, 2013 letter from Chairman Hinson to the United States Department of Health Services (Support letter for Bond Community Health Center Service Area Grant Application)
- B. January 3, 2014 letter from County Administrator to Ms. Petrina Herring, Office of Criminal Justice Grants (Certificate of Acceptance of Sub-grant Award for Contract No.: 2014-JAGC-GADS-1-E5-235)

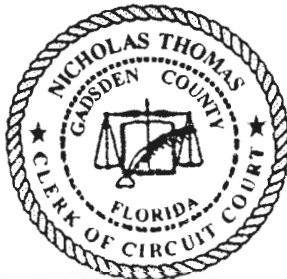
FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- February 4, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- February 18, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:32 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 4, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Michael J. Glazer, Assistant County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

Absent: Doug Croley, District 2

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to please stand for a silent prayer and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was done by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Presentation From The American Red Cross Capital Area Chapter

Sharon Tyler, CEO for Area Chapter of American Red Cross, appeared before the Board and said she was real proud of what Red Cross does when a disaster occurs. She shared some of the things they had been able to accomplish for the benefit of the residents of Gadsden County that had suffered a disaster.

Commissioner Taylor said she had also come in contact with families that had suffered disasters and house fires and asked how they calculated their funding and if more assistance could be given, such as more than two days in a motel/hotel, etc.

Ms. Tyler said they help with the immediate needs of food, clothing and shelter and was limited in what they were able to do. She went on to explain the average for lodging was 1-3 days depending on their circumstances, food and clothing for the families; they evaluate what the needs are.

Jacar McCloud, 1115 Easterwood Drive, Tallahassee, FL, appeared before the board and said there was a standard they use; once a case worker interviews them, determines their need and would then evaluate the situation.

Ms. Tyler said one thing they do across the country is work with their partner agencies and three days is standard, but there are extenuating circumstances every once in a while where the stay may be extended.

Commissioner Taylor said her intent was to share facts with them and she appreciated what they do.

CLERK OF COURTS

2. County Finance and County Clerk Issues

a. Tax Deed Applications – 2013

Clerk Thomas said he wanted to take a few minutes to bring attention to the tax deed application process and explained it was an important part of the ad valorem tax system that funds the local government. He said that 2013 was a record year for tax deed applications and there were as many tax deed applications in that year as there were in the two previous years combined. With that, he said, they would process the applications, advertise them and hold the sales. He added that most of the properties were redeemed and those that were not redeemed were sold at public auction. He said the problem was, when no-one bought them, they go on the list of lands available for taxes and anyone could walk in off the street for up to three years and buy those properties off the list of lands available for taxes. He further added if no-one bought those properties, the Clerk would then do a tax deed giving title to The Board of County Commissioners and the problem then is that the property was off the tax roll. He informed the Board that some of the properties were homestead, occupied dwellings, and there was a real possibility that the Clerk's Office may end up deeding to the Board properties that are occupied dwellings. He told the Board this was an important process and thought they should be aware of the situation.

Commissioner Morgan thanked the Clerk for bringing this to their attention and asked if this had been an issue to this extent in the past.

Clerk Thomas said there had never been as many tax deed applications as they were currently processing and generally there were 3-4 properties that were estreated to the County. He said sometimes a neighbor is interested in purchasing the property and he would bring it to their attention and receive their permission to conduct a direct sale if the property was valued at less than \$15,000.

Commissioner Morgan asked if any of the properties in the past had ever been occupied and Clerk Thomas replied not to his knowledge. Commissioner Morgan asked if there was anything the Board needed to be considering at this point.

Clerk Thomas said the County had acquired a good bit of properties, some were buildings, parks, landfills and right-of-ways, etc., but there were properties that had been received through the tax deed process that, in his opinion, needed to go back on the tax roll.

Commissioner Morgan said it was his opinion that was a topic worth discussion on how they should direct the Administrator to move forward with the matter and if the Attorney had any input regarding that to help minimize the impact, especially for the homesteaded properties.

Commissioner Holt stated the reason for some of problems now was the lack of jobs and lack of income and if the economics were not there, they would not be able to pay. She said the property owners may be willing to set up payment plans to pay the taxes and redeem the property because the County did not want to become property owners, especially with the liabilities that could come with it.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. September 3, 2013, Regular Meeting
- b. November 5, 2013, Regular Meeting

4. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills

5. Write-Off of EMS Accounts & Approval of Resolution 2014-004

6. Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien(s) State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program/Gadsden County Emergency Repairs (ER) Program

7. Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract – State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program or Gadsden County Emergency Repair (ER) Program

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. Appointment of Board Members of Gadsden Hospital, Inc.

Mr. Presnell deferred this item to Mr. Glazer, Assistant County Attorney. Mr. Glazer stated that due to the fact that the level of activity had diminished significantly, the GHI Board does not meet regularly and presently have no specific tasks. He said the Board recently held their annual meeting, looked at their membership, currently there were seven members and the By-laws allow between 7-11 members. He further stated that one member, who was the physician member, Dr. Charles Kent, had recently resigned. At the Board meeting, he stated, they voted that the GHI Board voted to recommend that the County Commission add two more Board members to bring them to a total of nine. The GHI Board had made recommendations for the following appointments be made for the following terms:

CLASS ONE:

Term to expire 12/31/2015

Shelia Atkins

Fred Dudley
Herb Sheheane

CLASS TWO:

Term to expire 12/31/2017

James Suber
Scott Whitehead
Shaia Rene' Simmons

CLASS THREE:

Term to expire 12/31/2019

Craig McMillan
New Member
New Member

Commissioner Morgan asked if a physician needed to be appointed.

Mr. Glazer stated the By-laws provided a preference to a physician, but that was only required if the county operated the hospital, but the county does not license the hospital and therefore that provision did not apply.

Commissioner Holt asked how the By-laws could be re-written because the roll-over provision bothered her and her concern was progress of the hospital, getting beds in the hospital, etc.

Mr. Glazer said with the By-laws, it was a two-step process, the GHI Board makes recommendations, but ultimately the Commission determines if they want to make a change, that it would be a couple of steps, but was not hard to do.

Commissioner Taylor agreed more needed to be done as far as putting in beds and said maybe ask local physicians if they were interested in serving on the board and they needed flexibility with the GHI board members in the event someone wanted to retire or did not want to be rolled over.

Mr. Glazer said the appointments could be made tonight and be changed at the next meeting if they wished to do so.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION ONE AND DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATOR TO BRING BACK NOMINEES TO FILL THE OTHER POSITIONS AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR. BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Holt said she wanted to see the program moving.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

Mr. Glazer gave a quick update of the status of the different specialists coming to the hospital and said they had recently finished a complete renovation for physician office space and there was a new entrance and approximately 1200 square feet of new office space. He added that CRMC was bringing over different specialists on a temporary basis to begin to provide specialist

services in the County.

Commissioner Holt asked if there were plans to open any beds and about the match money coming back to Gadsden County.

Mr. Glazer said they (the Hospital) was aware of the issue, but the short answer was no.

Commissioner Holt asked about the match money coming in and Mr. Glazer said it was coming through and reminded the Commissioners it was never a possibility of it coming back “here”, but it was being used to underwrite services being provided at the Quincy facility, but the money could not legally come to Gadsden County.

Commissioner Taylor said since there were specialists coming over, they needed to have a conversation with GHI or whomever to open the four beds and directed Mr. Glazer to arrange a meeting as soon as possible and have it placed on the agenda.

9. Approval to Apply for Matching Grant from Florida Department of Health for Cardiac Monitors

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated this was to ask approval to apply for a match grant from Florida Department of Health for cardiac monitors.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

County Administrator

10. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said they closed on the two new fire trucks today that had been obtained with USDA grant funding and there will be a program scheduled in Robertsville in the near future and hoped to see everyone there.

He added that the Veterans’ van was expected this week.

He reminded everyone of the February 18th workshop (road workshop) scheduled for 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Presnell said there had been an inquiry about naming the by-pass and if it were named, the State had to have a Resolution from the Board and asked the Board for direction.

Commissioner Holt said there had previously been a recommendation from the Chamber and other individuals to name the eastern end for Julia Woodward and there was a petition to name the southern end for Willie Ruth Williams.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the entire County had been given a chance for input regarding other citizens to name the by-pass after and wanted to make sure they had input from everyone.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE NAMING EASTERN END OF BY-PASS FOR JULIA WOODWARD AND SOUTHERN END FOR WILLIE RUTH WILLIAMS. COMMISSIONER

MORGAN OPPOSED.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

11. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Glazer said he had nothing further to report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

12. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to ask Mr. Presnell the status of the RFP's.

Mr. Presnell said they were all completed; the first one would be for legal services and the RFP's would be staggered.

Arthur Lawson appeared before the Board and said the first RFP for legal would go out within the next two weeks and they would like to have time to receive the bids back in, evaluate it and then get recommendations to the Board and then send RFP's out for auditors, because they wanted to give the auditors a chance to finish the audit. After that, they would send out RFP's for engineering services.

Commissioner Taylor said they had discussed streamlining business development and there has yet to be a workshop scheduled.

Mr. Presnell said over the last year there had been several initiatives, some have passed and some did not regarding the Land Development Code and regarding the Comprehensive Plan, there had been proposed changes, but the Board had refused to entertain them and it required a super majority vote, although they had been successful in making language changes in the Land Development Code. He added they were currently working on Tower Placement in the County. He said they had also been working on the EAR amendments, bringing the data current and hopes to have that before the Board in March. He also added that until such time the majority of this Board agrees on sections of the Plan to improve or the requirement for the super majority vote goes away, they won't make a lot of progress. He also mentioned he was watching a bill that was currently before the Senate that would do away with the "super majority vote" and would keep the Board apprised of that. He also stated they had contacted other counties in the state and there was only one that had adopted the Citizens Bill of Rights and they only adopted it when it pertained to wetlands and had an environmental impact.

She said she made the paper regarding the jail locks, so she talked with the jailer, Major Barkley, and found out the County was paying almost a half Million dollars to have nine doors repaired. She added that the doors had to be retrofitted and also found out there would be electrical issues because the doors would have to match the wiring there. She said Major Barkley added there was recently an inspection and there were fifty two findings, all structural. She also had a conversation with Cook Brothers and was told when the jail was built; it was done so with the intent of building a third pod. She reminded the Board they were the owners of the Jail and

made a motion to look at the jail in the future and to have a presentation to look at the build-out of the Jail. Mr. Presnell said he had met with the Sheriff, Major Barkley and Hayes Woodward last week and talked about adding capacity with a pod and that it was do-able. He also corrected Commissioner Taylor on the jail report and said ten of the items were on the County, but most of the problems, they already had in their budget to handle, ie, hot water, lighting, chain link fence.

Mr. Presnell said he planned to bring this before the Board in near future and they would have the report within the next week. He said he pulled the reports that were done in 2010 and 2011 (one was not done in 2012) and the same issues were on all reports, it has been going on for a while. He said it was not a fair statement that the building was falling down, not safe and antiquated, while there were things that needed to be addressed and they were working on them. He stated the pod was do-able and he had also been assured they were fine on the wiring and there were more doors that were fixed than what she had mentioned.

Commissioner Taylor added it would be a good idea to have information on the costs to build out the pod and a funding source for it.

She also stated that the Jail has a road crew, and said there was more opportunity there than they knew that they needed to tap into as far as the Board being able to explore having the inmates take care of roads in the district where privatization was discussed. She also wanted them to take a look at canteen money and doing things internal with the inmates with it.

Mr. Thomas said there was a period of time when the County did not receive the money, but understands they are receiving the money now.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to respond to couple of things brought up earlier in this meeting. He said he was not aware of any negative impact regarding the Citizens' Bill of Rights because it was primarily set up to insure proper communication and public notice and had received an award from the State for implementing that.

He then said the second thing he wanted to touch base on was the Jail and the first thing they needed to do was make the necessary repairs. He said the Jail was made for approximately 160 inmates and they are currently running 200+ consistently and once a pod is added, there would be an increase in inmates. He added that he thought what needed to be included in jail discussions, when the Board would get serious enough to look at a proper facility to generate additional revenues and he tried several times to get a discussion going with no serious interest shown. He further stated that at the right time, it was a great suggestion by Commissioner Taylor to have the parties come to the table for a serious discussion.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chairman, District 4

Commissioner Holt brought to the attention of the Board the fact that on the 18th of this month, former President Jimmy Carter would be speaking at Bainbridge Junior College and asked if there was any interest in moving the next Board meeting to February 17th in order for those that chose to attend would be able to.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO MOVE THE NEXT MEETING TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH AT 6:00 P.M. AND THE WORKSHOP AT 5:00 P.M.

She pointed out that they needed to be careful on the homesteaded properties acquired by the County, that they needed to follow the law, but also be sensitive,

She said she attended a school board meeting today and there were concerns regarding high school students finishing the corrections program training at the Law Enforcement Academy and problems that were arising between the School Board and the cadet program. She said there was currently a bill that would restrict some parts of dual enrollment. She added that there was 100% graduation from the program and students going from poverty to making an income and thought the Board should support the program.

Commissioner Taylor asked what the position of the School Board was.

Commissioner Holt said they wanted TCC representatives to meet with the School Board and said TCC did not want to continue paying for the instructors and Gadsden Vo-Tech was saying they had certified teachers and could offer the classes at the Vo-Tech and the students would only have to go to the Academy for firearms, etc., since firearms were not allowed on campus.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO SEND RESOLUTION TO TCC AND SCHOOL BOARD IN SUPPORT OF PROGRAM AND FOR THE CHAIR TO SIGN.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this junction of meeting.

GHI By-laws

She said they had to have people on the Boards, not just this Board, but all boards that were progressive in that area and would like the by-laws to be brought back so they could look at them.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture.

Mr. Glazer offered to email the by-laws to the Commissioners.

Code Enforcement

She received a call from an 86 year old regarding a dilapidated home she owns and could not afford to have it removed from the property and asked Commissioner Holt if it could be torn down by inmates or if the fire department could use it for training.

Mr. Presnell asked her to send him her information.

She asked if the Board could take trip to Escambia County Jail to see what they do to generate money. She added that they have fish ponds on the compound; raise cows, horticulture, had a welding shop, a portable saw mill, culinary arts at the facility and had trailers set up for apartments. She asked that they form a committee to look into them becoming self-sufficient.

Mr. Presnell said the work program they created with the probation department is working very well, they are providing service.

Citizens' Bill of Rights

She said people were saying it is too tough to come in. She said there had to be meetings, they had to put the time in, if not, no-one will come.

Commissioner Hinson, Chairman, District 1

Chair Hinson had nothing to report.

RECEIPT AND FILE

13.

- A. Resolution 2014-003 Recognizing the Dedicated Service of Mrs. Linda Jones**
(Presented at the January 21, 2014 Board Meeting)
- B. Certificate of Appreciation for Dr. Greg Winter, DVM (Winter Animal Hospital-Havana, FL)**
- C. January 10, 2014 Order from Chief Judge Francis (Alternate Canvassing Board Member Appointment)**
- D. January 14, 2014 Letter from Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (Florida CDBG Program DRI Contract No.: 12DB-P5-02-30-01-k 65 (DREF) Modification Number 1**
- E. Clerks of Court Operations Corporation SFY1213 Report**

FEBRUARY MEETING(S):

-February 18, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MARCH MEETING(S):

-March 4, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

-March 18, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
February 4, 2014 – Regular Public Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:55 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 17, 2014 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, Assistant County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to Order at 6:08 p.m. He asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was done by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

Commissioner Croley stepped in at this juncture of the meeting (he had been present from the workshop previously held).

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Presentation on the New County Website

Kembrew Jackson, Myron Williams and Olivia Smith appeared before the Board and introduced the new County Website to everyone and gave an overview of it. He and Olivia Smith explained the four key features of the website and gave the Commissioners a preview of it.

Commissioner Croley congratulated them on a great job and asked when a work order was filled out by someone on the website, did that individual receive a confirmation of the job and also asked if credit card payments would be accepted for permits, etc. and asked about the possibility of a mobile app that could be available.

Commissioner Morgan said this was a great job and was very pleasing, had better access, and was better than he anticipated. He asked under the agenda items, if the minutes would be posted to the county website. Ms. Smith explained an extra tab could be added for the minutes.

Commissioner Holt commented that submitting fees online was important.

Mr. Presnell said staff had been through training and the site could now be done in-house and

would save the County money.

CLERK OF COURTS

2. County Finance and County Clerk Issues

Clerk Thomas said he had two issues to discuss with the Board and the first was regarding the Tourist Development Council (TDC) and asked that the Board make a recommendation that might help make things smoother in that they consider requiring the County Attorney to attend the TDC meetings, take a proactive role in reviewing agreements and contracts. He went on to further explain the potential for problems.

Commissioner Croley said he thought it was a wonderful idea and having county attorney present might alleviate problems in the future and make the TDC process better.

Commissioner Holt stated she has only served on the Board for one meeting and if the documentation was not there, the money did not follow and they needed to look at the cost of having the county attorney attend the meetings. She added it was a good idea, but was not sure the costs in having the attorney attend the meetings.

Mr. Thomas said the second issue was he needed to inform the Board that the Clerk's finance department had not disbursed money to the Quincy CRA, but they have done so to Havana's CRA and the reason was because they had not received the required audit from the City. He further stated they had received a draft copy of the 2012 audit of the CRA, which described it as "a deteriorating financial condition" and referenced an attachment detailing the concerns that was not included and said the Finance office would not forward the monies without the approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Croley said he supported the Clerk and the City of Quincy in having the CRA funding looked at and supported an objective review in facilitating the audit.

Commissioner Holt said the problem she had with that was they should not facilitate an audit of another governmental agency.

Commissioner Croley said he wanted to work with the City and was not trying to get in a conflict with anyone and wanted everyone to know the County was doing things correctly.

Chair Hinson asked if any other counties were doing things in this manner and asked what documentation supported this procedure because he did not want to be perceived as "a bully".

Commissioner Croley said he wanted to clarify his statement and was not recommending that the County go in and do the audit, simply help facilitate the City if they needed the assistance.

Clerk Thomas pointed out it was the Board's policy to require financials of every department and was simply pointing out the potential for a problem.

Commissioner Holt said it was her opinion that nothing further be added to this conversation.

The Clerk clarified he was simply putting them on notice, would provide whatever documentation

he received and he would like the Board to make the decision whether they chose to disburse the money.

Chair Hinson said they wanted to treat everyone fair, if there was a problem, documents needed to be brought forth to have their support and did not want it to look like the Board was picking on anyone.

Commissioner Croley pointed out that Mr. Jack McLean, City Manager of Quincy, was in the audience and thought they ought to hear from him regarding this matter and did not want to do anything to hurt the Quincy CRA, but hoped to help them resolve this problem so they could have the monies disbursed.

Chair Hinson said he would like to have the information before them first and then hold a conversation after that.

Clerk Thomas clarified it was Board policy to require financials from everybody that they disburse money to before disbursing and there were issues a number of years ago that the County had with the CRA and Mr. McLean agreed that the City would have the CRA audited separately to alleviate county concerns at the time.

Commissioner Morgan thanked the Clerk for bringing this matter to the attention of the Board and asked if this was a Florida Statute and with Havana, what year was the audit from and Clerk Thomas responded it was 2013 and the 2013 CRA dollars were disbursed.

Commissioner Morgan then pointed out they were talking about the 2012 audit and they were talking about disbursing 2013 CRA dollars. He added the proper way to do it was to have the audit from 2012 and 2013 and at that point disburse the 2013 monies.

Attorney David Weiss said Florida Statutes required an annual audit of all CRA's and he wanted to make the Board aware that the Board was not involved in setting up Quincy CRA and had no involvement with regard to their Interlocal Agreement and further explained the governing Statute and how the taxing authority worked.

More discussion among the Commissioners followed.

Jack McLean, City Manager of the City of Quincy, appeared before the Board and said one reason he came to this meeting was to see why the Board was meeting on a Monday night as opposed to their usual Tuesday night meeting. He agreed with the attorney that the audit was a paper requirement, but differed in the opinion of what the audit should consist of.

Commissioner Croley clarified it was his opinion that the audit needed to be done **BEFORE** the money was disbursed.

Commissioner Taylor said the audit revealed very important information and she did want to see the dollars disbursed, but also needed to make sure the Clerk received what was needed and what state statute required.

Chair Hinson said before voting, he would like to see all the documentation and see what the other

counties were doing.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out they were talking about 2013 funds to be disbursed and should be based on 2013 information, just like the Town of Havana does every year.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture.

Commissioner Holt reminded the board that they could not monitor the CRA and could not tell them how to spend the money.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture.

Commissioner Croley said everybody needed to be held accountable.

Chair Hinson asked the Clerk that next time there was a controversial issue such as this, to please have all the information when he came to the Board, but that he did support the Clerk.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills**
- 5. Adoption of Resolution No. 2014-005, Quincy By-Pass-Phase #1 in Gadsden County to be Designated as The “Julia Munroe Woodward Memorial By-Pass” and Designate the Naming of the South-Leg of the Quincy By-Pass (upon completion) the “Willie Ruth Williams Memorial By-Pass”**
- 6. The Small County Road Assistance Program Woodward Road-Florida Department of Transportation**
- 7. Approval to Accept the FY 2014 1st Quarter Report**
- 8. Approval of Professional Services Task Order #2014-137 with Preble-Rish, Inc. for Lewis Lane**
- 9. Grants-Approval of Resolution #2014-002 and Carry Forward Budget Amendments for FY 2014**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 10. Public Hearing-Approval of Budget Amendments and Resolution 2014-001 for Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was to clean-up items in the current budget.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any citizens that wished to speak and there were none.

Commissioner Croley asked the Administrator if there was anything out of the ordinary or if there was anything the Clerk's Office had concerns about.

Mr. Presnell said no.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

11. Approval of Award of Countywide Resurfacing Bid 14-03 to CW Roberts Contracting, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking Board approval of resurfacing of roads pertaining to a county-wide resurfacing bid and was a list of roads that had been approved by the Board some time back.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE OF THE ABOVE ITEM.

12. County Resurfacing Project-Additive Change Order

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was a similar item and after the low bid for the previous item, \$151,303.61 remained in the original budget and this Change Order would add additional paving in Lake Yvette and a couple of roads off High Bridge Road to use the remaining dollars.

Commissioner Croley asked if these were dirt roads or if was resurfacing paved roads.

The Administrator responded it was resurfacing.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE OF THE ITEM.

13. Jones Joseph Frank Est. c/o Mary Blount; Parcel ID No.: 3-03-*2N-3W-0000-00212-0400

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was another code enforcement case and was seeking approval to move forward and possibly placing a lien on the property.

Commissioner Croley said this property was a burned-out house and had been vacant for a long time.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE OF THE ABOVE ITEM.

14. Discussion of BOCC Workshops to be held before each Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said staff had been requested by the Board to hold workshops before each meeting to discuss items for that meeting.

Commissioner Holt said she wanted this but it did not have to be before every meeting but would like to have a workshop at least once a month. She said she would like to have the workshops to stay on top of economic development and would also like to look at grants that might be available. She explained that the last meeting she attended in Escambia County; the Commissioners had aides that were present and could bring items to them during the meeting and that made it possible for them to stay on top of things.

Chair Hinson asked her if she was requesting an assistant or part-time person paying them \$15.00 an hour for everyone. He added that would help to make things run smoother.

Her response was that would be a budgeted item, but she was saying to put some time into it to try to get help to go after some of these items.

Commissioner Croley agreed workshops have their place, but that he did not want to be a party to cut out public by feeling that when they come to meetings, it seemed that everything had been agreed to beforehand.

Board discussion followed.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE HAVING A WORKSHOP BEFORE MEETINGS ONCE PER MONTH. CHAIR HINSON AND COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

15. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell stated recently issues had arisen regarding recycling and he informed the Board that it has been worked out with Waste Pro and was announcing that those citizens that have curb-side service could now add glass to their recycling.

Commissioner Morgan said he hoped they would be able to notify citizens in the County of the change.

He asked if the Board was interested in having a joint workshop with Planning and Zoning to outline legal issues and David Theriaque had offered his services to come help answer questions at no charge. The Board asked that Mr. Presnell get dates and get back with them to set this up.

He said there were two new fire trucks that came in and the event was scheduled for this Thursday at the Robertsville Fire Station.

Commissioner Croley asked about the jail inspection they had received and said the physical aspects of the jail seemed to be under control and the other items cited seemed to concern operations and asked if was safe to say that the problems this Board had with the Jail had been properly handled.

Mr. Presnell stated yes.

Commissioner Croley also asked about Economic Development and said Mr. Presnell was

representing the Board on the Development Council and asked how it was going.

Mr. Presnell stated that the Consultant the Council hired, Ms. Kirkland, had gone to municipalities doing an analysis and inventory of assets and there was another meeting last week where she brought in railroads and a lot of people that are big players in the economic development field, but the first task was getting a plan together. He added that they were scheduled to attend the second meeting in March to give a report to the Board.

Commissioner Morgan asked about the fire engine equipment and how it is placed throughout the county and if the County was in good shape strategically. Mr. Presnell said the Fire Chief assured him the next need is a water tanker for Sycamore.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

16. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said with respect to the CRA, he was not saying the county could not provide support to the extent that if the CRA needed it with respect to an audit and if the County wanted to help out with that regard, he did not think it would pose a problem.

He also wanted to point out that the ethics requirements for the Commissioners is an annual requirement and the Ethics Commission suggests reporting compliance in a public meeting and filing the certificate with the Clerk so it would be on record.

He said he had done research regarding the Havana Heights apartment complex and generally anyone has the right to exclude anyone else from privately owned property, but there was a limited exception with police power dealing with public health, safety and welfare in the event of an emergency type situation and there may be exceptions to that general rule. He said he had a lot more questions but advised they needed to be careful if they wanted to get HUD involved.

Chair Hinson asked the attorney what his recommendation would be concerning this matter.

The Attorney's recommendation was to approach the private property owner and express concerns for residents in the event of emergencies.

Commissioner Croley said he would have a hard time supporting a letter without first seeing the lay-out of the property, but thought the attorney had done a good job in outlining options and suggested having the Fire Marshall investigate.

Mr. Collins said that had been done and no fire hazard was found.

Commissioner Holt suggested sending a letter to their corporate office and informing them of problems because they may not be aware of the situation.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE THAT A LETTER BE SENT TO THE PROPERTY OWNER INFORMING THEM OF CONCERNS.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

17. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County:

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she had a brief conversation with Sheriff Young and heard the Social Security office is entertaining closing the Quincy office and asked the Board to consider sending a letter in support of keeping the office open.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO SEND LETTER OF SUPPORT ALONG WITH THE SHERIFF'S LETTER OF SUPPORT TO KEEP THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OPEN.

She then stated they had talked in length of workshops needed and asked why road design was so tedious and what could be done by the county do to get a leg up with designs and funding.

She then had comments regarding the Jail, said doors were put in, painting done, installed an intercom system, but jail was still 40-60% over capacity every day. She said the inmates were not being rehabbed and they were not doing due justice with the quality of inmates being turning out from the jail. She asked if a workshop could be held and they look into a funding source to build out the jail. She asked how much time was left on the .01¢ sales tax (30 year deal).

Mr. Presnell said Board renewed it once and changed it to use for Public Works and Fire after the jail was paid off.

She said they had discussed using inmates for bidding for or doing mowing in District 5 and asked where things stood with that?

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he agreed with the concerns of Commissioner Taylor with regard to the jail and that he did not know what the right answer was regarding that and right now it was made to hold 157 and holding an average of 182 inmates.

He then commended the staff on the upgraded website.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley asked why the meeting was on Monday and not the regular meeting on Tuesday. It was explained that the Board voted at the last meeting to change the meeting date instead of cancelling due to Former President Jimmy Carter speaking at Bainbridge Junior College on Tuesday so they could attend.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out that she made it clear that it was **not** a mandated meeting for everyone to attend and she had no intentions of attending the program.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture.

He said regarding the overcrowding at the jail-they were paying extra for transportation for a judge and should be hearing more cases and parole/probation cases should be dealt with more quickly and the overcrowding at the jail should not be as bad as what had been represented, but was not disputing the numbers Commissioner Taylor had mentioned. He asked Mr. Presnell the status of putting ones sentenced for misdemeanors on the work program with Public Works.

Mr. Presnell explained they currently had nine on the program.

He asked the status of the beautification monies with wildflower plan for the municipalities.

Mr. Presnell said it has been sent back to DOT for approval.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director, appeared before the Board and informed them that his Senior Engineer technician had spoken with Ms. Minor and she was sending paperwork to him by the end of the week and would get going again.

He then said that Chair Hinson frequently spoke as if he were the only Commissioner representing Havana and reminded him that he was responsible for half of Havana.

He asked the Administrator if it were possible on the website to set up a driving tour of the county.

He then pointed out to the Board that Mr. Frank Rowan, who was a regular attendee of the meetings, had been in the hospital and asked that the Commission send a card sending him get well wishes.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she felt the need to work closely with all boards and commissions that they have appointees on regarding contracts.

She announced that the TDC was having a workshop on March 3rd.

She then said the most important workshop to do right now is economic development.

She said she has been questioned why Talquin Electric's rates changed.

Commissioner Croley suggested they talk with the Talquin board because they were elected and was a member owned cooperative and the annual meeting was up-coming.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson asked if he and the Administrator could visit the jail soon and if there were any interventions, job training available there for the inmates.

Mr. Presnell said there were some programs available there, but he was not that familiar with what they were.

Commissioner Taylor said they were training them on some things, horticulture, etc. but capacity was the main concern.

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He said Commissioner Morgan had brought up in the past a building in Chattahoochee that could be used for a jail.

Commissioner Morgan said he might be referring to an empty building that was on the campus of Florida State Hospital that he had wanted to talk to the appropriate people to see about moving the jail or a segment of the jail to that building, but there had been no interest.

Chair Hinson reminded everyone there was an ethics workshop on March 27th from 1:00-6:00 p.m.

Receipt and File

18. a. January 24, 2014 Letter from Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (Enterprise Zone Boundary Amendments)
b. Town of Havana Community Redevelopment Agency Annual Report

MARCH MEETING(S):

- March 4, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- March 18, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 4, 2014 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1 (appeared by phone)
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Tiffany Roddenberry, Assistant County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Brenda Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She then asked everyone to stand for a silent prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Deputy Clerk Marcella Blocker.

Vice Chair Holt announced Chair Hinson would be attending the meeting by phone, as he was out of town attending a conference.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell pulled items 7, 12 and 15 and added a new Item 12, which would be the donation of the van for senior citizens.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS. ITEMS 7, 12 AND 15 WERE PULLED AND A NEW ITEM 12 WAS ADDED.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. County Commissioners Briefing & Request to Conduct Realistic Military Training by the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) ISO Emerald Warrior 14

Mr. Presnell said the first presentation was a briefing and a request for an invitation for realistic military training to be conducted in this area.

Mr. Travis Hucksby, USSOCOM RMT-CC, Exercise Planner, appeared before the Board in place of Joe Kruchas and gave a presentation regarding their interests in conducting realistic military training in the area by Emerald Warrior. He stated they own a facility in Altha and rent a facility at the Blountstown airport. He stated they were seeking a Letter of Invitation so they could come into the area and conduct training. He explained the training would help prepare the military soldiers for urban combat and combat terrorism on a global scale. He added the training would be conducted between April 28 – May 8, 2014 and would be in different areas of

the jurisdiction. He further added that they would bring monies into the area by renting the property the exercises would be conducted on; lease buildings to stay in; have caterers and try to give back to the local economy. He advised the Commissioners that wherever they conduct the training, they have deputies and law enforcement officials on the scene so no civilians would be able to enter the scenario because they did not want someone to get hurt or think there was an invasion, etc.

Commissioner Holt pointed out that the Commissioners needed to be apprised of when the training would take place and the areas because citizens would be calling them to find out what was going on.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

2. Capital Area Community Action Agency

Tim Center, Capital Area Community Action Agency, appeared before the Board, introduced himself and informed the Board of what the agency offered. He added they were in the position of serving eight different counties throughout the region and in Gadsden County alone last year, they were able to serve 2,500 individuals by assisting them with paying their electric bills, weatherize their homes so they could save money on their electric bills, and give people hope through their self-sufficiency program.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Center for coming before the Board and said he had mentioned the make-up of the Board from Gadsden County and asked who was on the Board from the public sector.

Mr. Center told him the City of Havana appointed Amy McBride. He added the goal of the Board was to have 3 representatives from the eight counties ranging from Jefferson to Gulf County.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture.

Chair Hinson thanked Mr. Center for coming before the Board and welcomed him to the Gadsden County community. He asked if the Administrator could have direct contact with Mr. Center in the event the citizens of Gadsden County had problems.

Mr. Center said he appreciated the warm welcome and gave his contact information for the record: 850-212-2684 cell/850-222-2043 x 102 office number.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

3. Capital Regional Medical Center

Mr. Presnell said the final presentation tonight was by Mr. Brian Cook of Capital Regional Medical Center.

Brian Cook, CEO, Capital Regional Medical Center, appeared before the Board to give a brief overview of the status of the Hospital. He said they held the VIP grand opening of the physician space at the hospital that was attended by some of the hospital board members as well as Commissioner Croley, who spoke and by some of the physicians who would be utilizing the

available space. He named the physicians that would be sharing space at the hospital, which included a general surgeon, ob-gyn, a podiatrist, infectious disease doctor and a cardiologist. He also informed the Board that the hospital was primary stroke certified at both the Gadsden and Leon County campus and was also spine certified. He also shared with the Board members how proud he was of their work in the cardiology arena and shared that an EMS worker on shift in Chattahoochee had an active heart attack and his partner brought him to the Gadsden ER with a 51 minute (inaudible) balloon time and he was doing very well. His goal is to continue to bring additional specialists, keep the folks in Gadsden County and provide them with the needed services. He said phase one was the specialists' clinic, phase two was opening the adjoining primary care clinic and that is his goal this year with expanding the campus.

Commissioner Croley thanked Mr. Cook for everything he has done to date at the Quincy facility.

Chair Hinson concurred with Commissioner Croley and thanked Mr. Cook for an informative presentation.

Commissioner Holt asked about beds in the future, even if they were observation beds.

Mr. Cook said getting doctors here was the first step; beds could be a possibility down the road, but not in the next twelve months.

A resident in the audience stepped forward to say he had a family member that had gotten sick and they did not stop in Quincy because they understood there were no beds for them to stay over-night at the hospital. Mr. Cook responded and said they could treat them at the Quincy ER and if they could be stabilized, it meant they might be able to go home or if they had to be admitted, then they would direct admit them to Capital Regional in Tallahassee or if the patient chooses and their doctor is at TMH, they would be transported to TMH.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas said for information purposes, he had forwarded them a spreadsheet analysis of revenue as a result of questions by Commissioner Taylor in January and said they should collect 95% of revenue, but EMS would probably need to be monitored a little closely.

He wanted to confirm they had received the 2012 complete final audit and 2013 financials from Quincy CRA last Thursday and the money was disbursed to them on Friday.

He said he misstated the figures he had previously given them regarding the Havana CRA, the amount was actually \$13,198.00 and corrected it for the record.

He also went on record requesting financials of the economic development council.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

4. Approval of Minutes

-January 14, 2014 Board Retreat

5. **Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills**
6. **Approval of Spring 2014 E911 Rural County Grant Application**
7. ~~**Approval and Signature on the Spring 2014 E911 Rural County Grant Application for Software Subscription/Evergreen Maintenance**~~ **ITEM PULLED FROM AGENDA**
8. **Appointment of Gadsden County Economic Developer Representative to CareerSource Region Board of Directors**
9. **Approval of EMS Consultants 2014 Annual Support Agreement**
10. **Approval of Physio Control Technical Support Agreement for Cardiac Monitoring Equipment**
11. **Gadsden County Courthouse Partial Reroofing Renovations Change Order No. 1**
12. ~~**Approval to Renew the Services Contract Solutions EAP**~~ **ITEM PULLED FROM AGENDA**
12. **REQUEST APPROVAL TO DONATE THE 2004 FORD (e350) BUS TO THE GADSDEN COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-ADGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens requesting to be heard.

GENERAL BUSINESS

13. Appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the Board needed to make an appointment to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and Vice Chair Holt appointed Chair Hinson to this Board.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE CHAIR HINSON TO THE BOARD.

Commissioner Croley asked for clarification, if this was being coordinated through the CRTPA staff and asked if this was something different.

Mr. Presnell if there has been a change, he has not been made aware of it and they had requested this appointment.

14. Right-of-Way Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Havana for Proposed 2013 CDBG Neighborhood revitalization Grant Project

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for a right-of-way Interlocal agreement

with the Town of Havana because they are installing a new well which requires them to run some waterlines on one of the County's right-of-way.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT.

15. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Midway to Provide Building Inspection and Permitting Services

Pulled from agenda

16. Approval of Interlocal Agreement Between Gadsden and the Town of Greensboro for Animal Control Services

Mr. Presnell said this was for approval of another interlocal agreement between the County and the Town of Greensboro for animal control services.

Commissioner Morgan asked if they were proactively approaching the municipalities regarding this type of Interlocal agreement.

Mr. Presnell stated yes and on the upcoming agendas will be one with Gretna and possibly Chattahoochee.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT.

17. Moselle Butler Parcel ID #: 2-03-3N-6W-0000-00433-0200, Code Enforcement Case No.: 13-194

Mr. Presnell introduced above item said this was a Code Enforcement issue in regard to the above property and they were seeking permission from the Board to move forward with clean-up of the property and placing a lien on it.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

18. UPDATE ON BOARD REQUEST

Mr. Presnell said the attorney asked for formal approval from the Board for them to start attending the TDC meetings. Commissioner Croley made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Holt.

Commissioner Morgan asked if this matter needed to be advertised and placed on agenda.

Ms. Roddenberry stated she was not sure and could look into the issue if they wished.

Mr. Presnell said it could be revisited.

Mr. Presnell stated the second issue was a problem with Woodrow Butler Road-Commissioner Croley interrupted and asked the status of the county attorney attending the TDC meetings.

Mr. Presnell said they could vote on it, the attorney would check on it and if there was a problem, they could bring it back.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT TO APPROVE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY ATTENDING THE TDC MEETINGS, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN COMMISSIONER TAYLOR EXPRESSED CONCERNS.

Commissioner Taylor said it may be a line item that had costs to it and would require it to be placed on the agenda and she could not approve it until she knew what the additional costs would be for the attorney to attend the meetings.

Commissioner Croley said that was why he made the motion, if there would be additional costs, it would come back before the Board.

Commissioner Morgan said he leaned toward what Commissioner Taylor said.

Commissioner Croley withdrew his motion and made a new motion.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE THAT THE ITEM BE AGENDAED FOR A DECISION BY THE COMMISSION.

Chair Hinson stated his phone was about to die and asked that they issue a Proclamation for former County Commissioner Harry Holt, who recently passed away.

Mr. Presnell said he would like to seek approval to have the attorney do research on a road issue where a citizen has erected a gate on the road and there would be costs associated with the research and also have the attorney research internet cafes.

Commissioner Morgan asked if they had to agenda an item just because they would like the attorney to look into an item, he said he understood if they were going to be attending meetings with a set number of hours, but was not under the impression if there was legal advice they needed, they had to agenda that item and bring it back the next meeting-it made no sense.

Commissioner Holt said that was why she asked before about the costs sheet from the attorneys' office.

Mr. Presnell said, as Commissioner Hinson had mentioned, they would like to bring back a Proclamation and have former Commissioner Holt's family here for the next meeting.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION FOR FORMER COMMISSIONER HOLT.

Mr. Presnell said a joint workshop has been scheduled for March 20th @ 6:00 p.m. with the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board with David Theriaque making a presentation to cover legal issues dealing with P&Z and answer questions they might have.

He said with regard to the new veterans' van, he was very impressed with the students and their interaction with the veterans.

He said they had their chili cook-off and raised \$685.00 for Gadsden Relay for Life.

Commissioner Croley asked if there was a standard for size of lettering for road signs and said there was an inconsistency in size of lettering for directional signs and he gave an example.

Commissioner Croley asked if the County government had any control over Internet cafes and Mr. Presnell said won't have to agenda the item, he has been discussing it with David (Assistant County Attorney) and he is getting research done so he can answer questions and do a presentation for the Board.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

19. Update on Various Legal Issues

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

20. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she only had a question for the Administrator and asked why the cameras were here.

Mr. Presnell said they were here for the military exercise.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN, District 3

Commissioner Morgan reminded the Board that the legislative session started today and they need to have their ear to ground on any issues that may concern Gadsden County, one item being the internet cafes and there may be language that will allow them to re-open and maybe they could bend the ear of the legislatures regarding that.

COMMISSIONER CROLEY, District 2

Commissioner Croley said he would like to file with the Commission through the Clerk's office, a petition signed by nine property owners regarding to closure of the north-end of Jamison Road and asked the Administrator to contact Ted Thomas and explain to him the appropriate process to move forward if this is the desire of the property owners and make sure that the other residents in the Jamison area were notified. He also stated for the record that he had notified and copied Mr. Presnell in the email, their counter-parts in Decatur County which would be affected north of the State line as well as the BASF officials. He had not contacted Coastal Lumber Company officials as of yet. He also pointed out for the record that the Jamison Community may be interested in the emergency management aspect because they only have one way in and one way out now and also there is also an old cemetery that belongs to an AME church in Jamison that is located over the state line in the edge of Georgia and these matters

need to be taken into consideration regarding this item.

Commissioner Holt asked if the petition was against the road closure and Commissioner Croley responded it was nine property owners in favor of the road being closed.

COMMISSIONER HOLT, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said the gaming issue is currently before the Governor; she met with the Indians and the City of Gretna and said they had received eight (8) licenses for the State of Florida. They turned back in four and were able to keep four. She said this would be an economic boom for the County because of the size of that facility, not to mention the hotel itself, along with their plans for a civic center and some other items out there. She said that would possibly be their only opportunity and the facility planned for Pensacola is already on Indian land and was something that could possibly open up legally without legislative support or support of the Governor because the Indians could open up gaming. She added this would be the County's opportunity for jobs, not to mention the economic base in taxes and tax revenue.

She said regarding the Internet cafes, the question came to her if they would be receiving taxes from the dollars spent.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

RECEIPT AND FILE

21. a. Clerks of Court Operations Corporation 318 Summary Report-Qtr 1013 to 1213
- b. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Closeout Notice
- c. Gadsden County Small Business Service Center Quarterly Report (January 2014)
- d. Proclamation in Recognition of the 125th Anniversary of Florida Public Health (February 20, 2014)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- March 18, 2014 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- April 1, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:16 P.M.

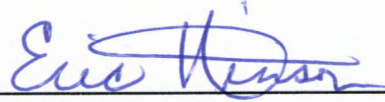
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
March 4, 2014 – Regular Meeting

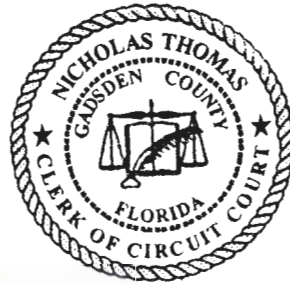
MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER HOLT
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:16 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners



ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 18,
2014, THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Michael J. Glazer, Assistant County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He then asked everyone to stand for a silent prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell announced he would like to pull Item 3 from the Agenda and it would be added at a later date and he added **Item 16A - Discussion of Potential Regulation of Internet Cafes by Adopting a County Ordinance** to the agenda.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Proclamation Honoring the Life of Mr. Harry K. Holt

Mr. Presnell said the Board had a Proclamation honoring former County Commissioner Harry Holt, who had recently passed away.

Chair Hinson asked the family members to come forward, read the Proclamation aloud and then presented it to the family.

Commissioner Brenda Holt had a few words to say regarding former Commissioner Harry Holt.

2. Gadsden Arts Center Programs and Operations

Grace Robinson, Director of Gadsden Arts Center, appeared before the Board and gave a brief presentation regarding the Art Center and the upcoming exhibit "Masterworks on the Move: American Paintings from Wesleyan College" that was being presented in memory of Julia Munroe Woodward. She added that this opening was one of their largest in history and they were

honored and entrusted with the exhibition of late 19th and early 20th century American paintings and this was the type of exhibition that was normally seen in major museums.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mrs. Robinson informed the Board of upcoming exhibitions and shows coming to the Art center.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mrs. Robinson for her report and mentioned there was a building on the grounds of Florida State Hospital that has been renovated and in the past had served as a military arsenal during the Civil War days and was in the works to become a museum and a conference center. He suggested maybe the art center could reach out to the museum and possibly display some of their artwork there.

Commissioner Holt stated she had a meeting in Representative Williams' office and saw some of the artwork from the Gadsden County Corrections and thought it would be a great opportunity to have their artwork displayed and give them a chance to make some money so when they were released, they would have funds to start out with.

3. ~~Gadsden County Development Council, Inc.~~ Item Pulled

4. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2013 Audit Report

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was the fiscal year audit.

Mr. Ron Whitesides, Purvis Gray and Company, appeared before the Board to give a presentation of the County audit and gave a brief overview of the audit to the Board. He stated this was the fourth year they had conducted the county audit and each year they had seen improvements with revenue being up half a Million and expenses down \$1.3 Million. He mentioned that their first audit was 2009 numbers and the audit was conducted in 2010 and at that time the number was at \$1.9 Million and now has been elevated up to \$6.3 Million today and was done without tax increases and any real significant revenue sources and was achieved through cost control. He congratulated the Board on the impressive accomplishment.

Commissioner Croley said the previous and present administration should be applauded for the quality of the financial report that was just presented. He said he had noticed the current liabilities had increased and asked what had caused that.

Mr. Whitesides responded that most of it was payables and the bulk was timing issues with payment for contracts and services.

Commissioner Croley asked him to explain the impact in the future of the changes to come regarding the Florida State Retirement system.

Mr. Whitesides said the entity that sets the rules for how government accounts for their operation had passed a new rule that will take effect in September 2015. It essentially would require governments to recognize an obligation on the face of their financial statements for unfunded employee retirement benefits and explained it further in detail.

Commissioner Holt said the County was doing good to have money in the bank and her concern was economic development and asked what other counties were doing to go after jobs and what could be done to help improve economic development.

Commissioner Morgan congratulated them on spearheading and presenting the information in a timely manner. He asked, with them representing other municipalities, he had mentioned in the past moving funds to another account as a reserve fund or emergency fund in case monies were needed quickly in case of emergencies, and asked how that could be accomplished.

He said a number of cities and counties do have a reserve policies with monies set aside and were relatively common.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Presnell if the full audit would be posted on the County's website. Mr. Presnell responded yes.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT AS PRESENTED.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was present and had nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR ASKED TO PULL ITEMS 7 AND 8.

Commissioner Croley amended his motion to approve the agenda minus Items 7 & 8.

THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA MINUS ITEMS 7 AND 8.

5. **Approval of Minutes**
-February 4, 2014 Regular Meeting
6. **Approval to Renew the Services Contract with Solutions EAP**
7. **~~Approval of the Design Services Contract to Preble-Rish, Inc. for the Local Agency Program (LAP) City of Chattahoochee-Cairo Street Project~~** Pulled for Discussion
8. **~~Approval of Design Services Contract to Preble-Rish, Inc. for the Local Agency Program (LAP) City of Chattahoochee-McDonald Avenue Project~~** Pulled for Discussion
9. **Approval and Signature on the Spring 2014 E911 Rural County Grant Application for Software Subscription/Evergreen and MapSAG Maintenance**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

7. **Approval of the Design Services Contract to Preble-Rish, Inc. for the Local Agency Program (LAP)**

City of Chattahoochee-Cairo Street Project

Commissioner Taylor asked for more detail concerning these two items.

Mr. Presnell stated they were short sections of sidewalk within Chattahoochee and a grant had been applied for and was approved by FDOT, but the money was LAP dollars. He further explained the County was the only entity certified to receive the LAP dollars so they sponsor other municipalities and the money came from FDOT but had to come through Gadsden County for the City of Chattahoochee.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

8. Approval of Design Services Contract to Preble-Rish, Inc. for the Local Agency Program (LAP) City of Chattahoochee-McDonald Avenue Project

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Willie Scott, 26 Shaw Lane, Quincy, FL 32352, appeared before the Board and said his concern was regarding Scottown Community. He said after the St. John Park was dedicated, they should have been in line to receive the next park in their area. He told the Board they needed tables and park items. He informed the Board there was a meeting scheduled for the second Tuesday in April at a church on Charlie Harris Loop and asked the Board to attend the meeting to see how the community had come together to get something done for the park, but they were unable to do it alone.

Commissioner Croley encouraged the Board to support this effort and commented it would be utilized by residents in District 4 and District 2.

Commissioner Holt added she had attended some of the meetings, one in the park and one at the Church, regarding the park and had encouraged them to contact Commissioner Croley, even though the park was utilized by both districts, it was located in his district.

Mr. Presnell said there had been a meeting and they were able to add a grill and repair the roof of the existing pavilion and tables and were able to secure money to add another pavilion to give room for 4 more tables, grills were to be installed and they were able to take care of some other things in the area.

Mr. Scott said there was a plumber in the community that was willing to work with the county as much as possible to run water to the park.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

10. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Midway to Provide Building Inspection and Permitting Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking approval of the Board for an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Midway to provide building inspection and permitting services.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor thought this matter had previously been approved.

Mr. Presnell said this had been pulled from the agenda because the attorney had questions.

Commissioner Croley stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11. Request for County Attorney to Attend all Tourist Development Council Meetings

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated it had been requested that the County Attorney attend all TDC meetings.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked what additional costs would be incurred.

Mr. Presnell said they were covered for up to 50 hours of service with the attorneys' contract under their retainer and if it exceeded that it would be at their hourly rate.

Commissioner Croley returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan said this should have been done earlier; that they should approve it and review the matter in 6 months.

Commissioner Taylor asked to get more concrete costs.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 3-1. CHAIR HINSON OPPOSED.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

12. 2013 New Probation Programs Update

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

Martha Chancey, Probation Division Manager, appeared before the Board to give an update of

the programs.

Commissioner Morgan congratulated Ms. Chancey on the improvements in the Department and asked if they were monitoring revenue collections and what else might be needed to help them with improvements in the department.

Mrs. Chancey said she was hoping that getting the software up and running would make a big difference.

13. Request for Monetary Support for the 2014 Relay for Life of Gadsden-American Cancer Society

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said approximately \$1600 had been raised to date for Relay for Life and they were asking for monetary support.

Commissioner Croley asked if they were asking for donations individually or with taxpayers' money.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALLY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Taylor said she would like to see the Board do something to show the community that the Board was willing to stand along with the survivors to help fight cancer.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley said he agreed to support the effort by the staff and was willing to put money in individually and asked that they set an amount individually to give.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan said his wife was a breast cancer survivor and he supported everything Relay for Life offered, but did not think it was the right approach to use taxpayer dollars to support this, but rather show support individually.

Commissioner Holt said a dollar amount was not specified in the agenda request and asked what the goal was. She suggested supporting the cause individually and if the amount was not raised, then funds could be added from the County.

Mr. Presnell said figures that had been discussed were \$1000 and \$2500, but they would take any amount.

There was more discussion among the Board.

THE CHAIR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO CONTRIBUTE INDIVIDUALLY TO RELAY FOR LIFE.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE GIVING \$900.00 TO RELAY FOR LIFE.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

14. Request for Monetary Assistance with the FCAT Rally scheduled for April 5, 2014

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for a rally on Courthouse grounds for the kids before the FCAT and at the event, there would be food and entertainment in preparation of the scheduled test.

Commissioner Morgan asked where the item originated and asked why the Board was asked to contribute funds.

Mr. Presnell said Commissioner Taylor made him aware that the School Board was putting the event together.

Commissioner Taylor said the idea was to have 2 weeks of stress-free time for the children and the Superintendent thought they would bus children in from all over the county for the event, and try to help the children prepare mentally for the testing.

Commissioner Morgan said he had nothing against the event, but was against monetary support coming from the County.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt said in the past she has put her own money into her school for incentives for the FCAT, but was not in favor of this because she has had phone calls from constituents not in favor of this because they did not have kids in the school system.

There was more discussion among the Board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

Commissioner Holt said she would like to hear back from the School Board on the economic development plan for the Havana school.

Commissioner Croley said he had never heard of giving a party for children who were about to take a test, but had heard of giving a party after the tests.

15. Marcellete Akins King & Alton Baker; Parcel ID No. 2-15-3N-4W-0000-00134-2300/Code Enforcement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was another code enforcement clean-up item.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Holt asked questions regarding the location of the property.

Commissioner Taylor asked about the fiscal impact on the county.

Clyde Collins appeared before the Board and stated this was bid out to contractors and this was their price for the demolition of the three houses located on the property.

Mr. Presnell said \$50,000 was budgeted for clean-up in the County and after tonight, there might be enough funds for one more clean-up.

THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

16. Shedric Woods/Winston Woods/James Pindleton; Parcel ID No.: 2-26-3N-2W-0210-0000C-0120/Code Enforcement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it also was a code enforcement case.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR OPTION ONE.

There was board discussion following the vote.

16A Discussion of Potential Regulation of Internet Cafes by Adopting a County Ordinance

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this item was added to the agenda for potential regulation of internet cafes.

Commissioner Morgan said his initial concern was the internet cafes that were popping up around the state, especially two that were in Gadsden County and it had come to his attention that they are no longer in business. He stated he was concerned about how they could take advantage of the citizens of the county. He wanted it placed on the agenda so maybe in the future they could consider adopting a county ordinance based on how the new State statutes read after this session possibly limiting the number that could open in the county.

Commissioner Holt said she asked that this be placed on the agenda, but not for an ordinance, because she had been asked questions regarding the possibility of collecting sales tax regarding internet access if they were going to be allowed.

The attorney said there was a federal regulation, a 1998 Internet Tax Freedom Act, which prohibits State sales tax on internet access and thought it was currently effective through October 2014, but thought it could be renewed and has been renewed three different times. He added there was no sales tax regarding internet access, but they were subject to other taxes.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

17. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the joint workshop scheduled for Thursday at 6:00 p.m. with Planning and Zoning and David Theriaque.

Commissioner Hinson and Commissioner Taylor advised they would not be able to attend.

He also brought to the Board's attention the fact that the contract with Big Bend Transit will expire on April 30th. He said Quincy had not committed yet to continuing the funding of that, but it was currently in the County's budget, but was unsure of where that would leave them if Quincy chose to not fund.

He revealed to the Board there had been seven (7) responses regarding RFP for legal counsel for the County and asked for Board direction on how they would like to proceed. He said in the past, a committee had been formed with one commissioner attending along with the Manager and a third person.

Commissioner Croley said the last time this was done, one commissioner was present along with Mr. Lawson as Director of Purchasing and a representative from the Clerk's Office, was a publically advertised meeting held upstairs, all proposals were taken, and only the qualified applicants were brought to the Board for a decision.

Arthur Lawson approached the Board to explain how this was conducted in the past.

Commissioner Croley said the Administrator and Mr. Lawson should be on the committee.

Commissioner Holt suggested Mr. Lawson be in charge and he choose two other people to assist with this.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

18. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss stated he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Taylor asked the status of the ordinance for private roads.

Mr. Weiss said it was in the works and should be ready for the next meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

19. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said they need to look into putting in a minimum of four to five rooms in the hospital, even if only for observation purposes, because that was what was told to the citizens and wanted to have a discussion concerning this matter.

She also said there was a funding source for emergency housing repair and there were quite few people that needed help and would like to consider putting a few more dollars into helping the citizens.

Commissioner Holt said that was the reason she asked when the budget workshops would start.

She also added she would be out on March 20th and would not be available for the joint workshop.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan had nothing to report.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

CRTPA

Commissioner Croley announced that Mr. Reed from CRTPA acknowledged receipt of over 2,033 feet of sidewalk scheduled for the south side of U.S. 90 in Gretna and would be in the works for 2015.

TDC

He also said there was a vacancy on the TDC for a bed tax collector and suggested they look at Lynn Badger who had bought the Nicholson Farm house property and has converted that into a bed and breakfast and asked that she be contacted to be a representative from the Havana area.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO SEE IF MS. BADGER QUALIFIED TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF TDC OR SEE IF SOMEONE ELSE IN AREA QUALIFIES.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chair, District 4

TDC

Commissioner Holt said while they were discussing the TDC, in July there will be another big event for Emergency Management where they are doing a program and bringing in different people from around the country. She said they were expecting between 500-800 people in the area for the two day event and they have requested there be activities here during that time to have things for the attendees to do and be able to capture money from the persons attending.

Social Security

She also said she had scheduled a meeting at the Senior Citizens Center concerning the closing of the local Social Security office and it had been very productive. She said there was standing room only and gave out a list of telephone numbers of senators and representatives to be contacted on the federal level. She added with the closing of the local office, no-one was being laid off, the office was being re-located and one of the biggest problems was the cost of the rent of the building. She asked the Board if it was ok with them for her to present to them use of part of the space at the hospital.

Commissioner Morgan asked if a lot of business could be done over the phone or internet.

Commissioner Holt said the problem was the sick and/or elderly have a hard time understanding what was said or they did not have access to the internet.

Commissioner Croley said it was his opinion that the hospital route was not the way to go, but applauded her in her leadership in trying to keep the office open. He said the office that housed the Social Security office was privately owned and the landlord would not benefit from the office closing and that they certainly would be worse off if it closed and maybe a re-negotiation of the rent should be on the agenda. He asked if anyone had reached out to the landlord on behalf of

the public interest to see if they would reduce the rent.

Mr. Presnell said the building was built specifically for a government contract and was evident from a meeting with a representative of the landlord that the rent could possibly be re-negotiated.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Morgan said people needed to understand that the county government was not responsible for this, this came directly from the executive branch of the federal government on the closing of the office.

Commissioner Taylor suggested talking to the City because they could offer commercial businesses a reduction in utilities.

More discussion followed.

Commissioner Holt said Senior Day at the Capitol was scheduled for next Wednesday and that would be a good time to be heard regarding this matter.

Commissioner Hinson, Chairman, District 1

Chair Hinson congratulated the staff for raising \$1600 for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Commissioner Taylor also congratulated the Administrator and the Clerk for a clean audit.

Chair Hinson said he had an opportunity to visit the amphitheater in Tallahassee and said it was awesome and unbelievable.

He then mentioned the RFP's for services.

Mr. Presnell said the ads were out for the auditing services and then the ads would go out for the engineers.

RECEIPT AND FILE

20. a. February 19, 2014 letter to Representative Alan B. Williams (Closing of the Social Security Administration Quincy Office)
 b. February 19, 2014 letter to Senator Bill Montford (Closing of the Social Security Administration Quincy Office)
 c. February 20, 2014 Letter from the City of Quincy (Voluntary Annexation of the University of FL (IFAS) Property)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

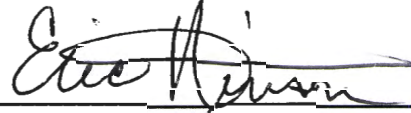
- April 1, 2014 - Regular Meeting
- April 15, 2014 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
March 18, 2014 – Regular Meeting

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:21 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 1, 2014
AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS
WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Deborah Minnis, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Doss from the Salem Methodist Church in Havana came forward and gave the Invocation. Chair Hinson then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell announced he would like to remove Item 5 from the agenda.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD
VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. ITEM 5 WAS REMOVED.**

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Quincy Loop Project

Ray La Fontaine, FDOT Project Manager

Mr. Presnell said there was one presentation tonight and Mr. Ray La Fontaine with FDOT was present to discuss the Quincy By-pass project.

Ray La Fontaine, FDOT Project Manager for Quincy Loop North, appeared before the Board and gave a brief presentation. He announced they would be holding a public kick-off meeting on May 22, 2014 in the Commissioners Meeting Room. He said they would be analyzing several corridors within the study area that will be connecting State Road 12 on the east side with County Road 268-Solomon Dairy Road. He said this would help reduce heavy truck traffic in downtown Quincy.

CLERK OF COURTS

The Clerk was present and had nothing to report.

CONSENT

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD
VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.**

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 7, 2014 Regular Meeting
- January 21, 2014 Regular Meeting
- February 17, 2014 Regular Meeting
- March 4, 2014 Regular Meeting

3. Approval of Resolution 2014-008 Supporting the Community Transportation Safety Team (CTST) to Apply for Transportation Enhancement Funding Through the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA)

4. Approval of Resolution 2014-006 in Support of the Gadsden Leadership and Law Academy

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Walter C. Rogers, 2059 Hardaway Highway, Chattahoochee, FL 32324, and appeared before Board. He informed the Board of a current problem he and his sister, Jackie Reese, 301 Tharp Circle, Quincy, FL, were having because of a personal gate that had been placed across a public county road, the Woodrow Butler Road, by members of the Jones family with permission erroneously granted by Gadsden officials. He explained there was a multi-line telephone call with Mr. Presnell, Curtis Young, Gene Morgan and himself and Mr. Presnell indicated that in 2007, there was a meeting held physically on the dirt road near the gate in question, with Mr. Presnell, who was the Public Works Director at the time, Derrick Price, who was the County Commissioner at that time, several members of the Jones family and representatives of the St. Joe Timber Company, who owned land at that time at the very end of the road. The Jones family was granted permission to place the gate across the road and Mr. Rogers and his sister, who jointly own land on the road, were not contacted for inclusion in the meeting. He added that according to a survey, their land included approximately one-half of the road beyond the gate in question and actually encompassed the road in its entirety at the southern end of the road. He explained the gate denied them several hundred yards of public road right-of-way and greatly diminished the value of their property. He said it was their contention that County Officials created the problem by improperly allowing the gate to be placed across the road and they felt the gate should be removed and the roadway re-opened for public access. In conclusion, he added that several members of the Jones family live in his area and he had known some of them for over 40 years, they were good, hard-working people and he felt they have done nothing wrong nor did he think they would intentionally do anything wrong, but did feel the County had made a major mistake in the matter and should assume the responsibility and rectify the problem by having the gate removed.

Commissioner Holt pointed out with this matter not being placed on the agenda, it could not be discussed among the Commissioners and addressed at this time, but if they wanted the matter placed on the agenda, they would need to get with the County Manager if they wanted to have it heard by the Board. Mr. Presnell said they were aware of the problem and the Attorney was currently researching the matter and they were working with them on the issue and at some point, it would need to be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Croley said there had previously been a petition filed to close the North end of

Jamison Road and asked if there was a process, while he was doing research regarding that particular road, could he review, for the Board's benefit, the legal process for closing a road.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 5. Rescinding Of The Vote To Approve The Request For Monetary Assistance With The FCAT Rally Scheduled For April 5, 2014** Item removed from the agenda.

- 6. Approval of the Criteria for the 2014 Summer Youth Employment Program**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for clarification of the criteria for the 2014 Summer Youth program. He added in the past, the students had to have a "C" average, and satisfactory in their conduct.

Lonyell Black, HR Analyst, stepped forward to answer questions the Board had.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan asked if applicants who were in the program in the past were eligible for this program.

Mr. Presnell said no, there was too much demand to have repeat youths for the program.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley asked if the program was limited to the public schools.

Ms. Black said no, that private and home-schooled students were also eligible; the program was for all youth of Gadsden County.

Commissioner Croley felt it wrong for a commissioner to make recommendations for students for the program and wanted every child that applied for the program to have a fair chance.

Chair Hinson said he felt all the commissioners had integrity and would not do anything wrong.

Commissioner Morgan asked what the fiscal impact to the County was.

Ms. Black said \$75,000 was allocated in the budget for the program.

Commissioner Holt asked that the committee have five people on it instead of three.

Chair Hinson stated that last year a student that applied who had lost her brother in a car accident during the school term and during that time she had received an "N" on her report card, but had maintained a 3.8 GPA. He asked that they take into consideration if the child had one "N", that they consider what may be going on in that child's life at that moment.

Commissioner Taylor felt the Commissioners should be able to select 5 students each and the

committee select the remaining 50 students. She also felt they should not weigh the conduct as heavy as they were proposing, to interview the children and choose the best that apply.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO HAVE FIVE PEOPLE PLACED ON THE COMMITTEE, THE STUDENTS COULD HAVE ONE "N" IN CONDUCT AND THE COMMISSIONERS COULD CHOOSE FIVE STUDENTS FROM THE OUTLYING AREAS OF THE DISTRICTS. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER CROLEY HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Croley said he had a problem with commissioners giving names to the committee for them to automatically approve.

There was further discussion among the Board.

COMMISSIONER HOLT CLARIFIED HER MOTION, WHICH WAS FIVE PEOPLE ON THE COMMITTEE, COULD HAVE ONE "N" FOR ONE NINE WEEKS, AND COMMISSIONERS COULD RECOMMEND 5 YOUTH FOR THE PROGRAM. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE THE MOTION. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

7. Approval of Resolution No. 2014-007 Approving the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) Local Housing Assistance Plan for FY2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the above resolution.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

8. Appointment to the CareerSource Capital Region Board

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for an appointment to the CareerSource Capital Region Board.

Commissioner Holt recommended Mr. Roy Moore, co-owner of Piggly Wiggly.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

9. Update of Board Requests

Mr. Presnell confirmed that all the commissioners would be in attendance at the next scheduled Board meeting, as there were several issues on the agenda and he would like input from all the board members regarding same.

Quincy Shuttle

He also informed the Board there was a City of Quincy meeting scheduled for April 8th to discuss the Quincy Shuttle and depending on what they decided, they will agenda that item and possibly have that on the April 15th agenda as well. He added if the City did not fund it, they could be looking at a different scenario regarding the Shuttle, but there were enough funds in the budget to finish out the year.

Scott Town Park

He reported that the pavilion at Scott Town Park had been put up with finishing touches being done on this date, the slab had been poured, and inmate crews were building picnic tables.

Commissioner Croley suggested there was \$10,000 for an off-road bike park, which was on hold for environmental considerations and suggested those funds go to this park for equipment.

Commissioner Taylor asked if a process in place for dollars that were specifically earmarked for something else and if it would need to come before the Board before proceeding.

Mr. Presnell said it would come before the Board for approval before the funds were used.

Enterprise Zone

Mr. Presnell announced there was an Enterprise zone meeting scheduled for next Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. at the Livestock pavilion to discuss promotional activities and a Development Council meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the same place.

Sidewalk Projects

He also announced that the Community Traffic Safety Team will meet the next Tuesday to approve sidewalk projects.

Chair Hinson asked for a workshop regarding the enterprise zone.

He also reported that the two projects that had been proposed, the Courthouse renovations and the Ag Center project, neither one came out in the House or the Senate budget committees. He said they had taken it upon themselves to make some calls and have the Senators contacted. The next day Senator Montford filed an amendment and the recommendation went up on their reconciliation budget, which was \$100,000 and was not enough to build it, but it would keep the item alive so when they go into negotiations, it would be an existing project.

Social Security Administration Building

Commissioner Morgan asked if Mr. Presnell wanted to give a recap of the phone call regarding the Social Security building. Mr. Presnell furnished them the name and number of the management company of the building.

Commissioner Holt said they were looking at the libraries adding icons onto the computer screens and having a private area for someone to help the ones that were not computer savvy to fill out the information on their own. She added that they were offering this for one library and wanted to see how much usage that one received before adding it to any of the other libraries.

Mr. Presnell said a kiosk was in the testing phase at the moment in Baltimore and depending on the usage, we could be the first in the nation to receive the kiosk.

Commissioner Morgan reiterated that clear communication would be the key on what would be offered where and wanted to make sure it was understood by the public what services would be provided and that this was a federal government decision and was not done at the county level.

Commissioner Holt publically thanked Senator Nelson, who jumped out early to assist with this

matter, along with Senator Rubio and Representative Steve Southerland for their support and involvement in this matter.

United States Special Operations Command-Military Training

Chair Hinson asked about the status of the letter of support for the military company conducting exercises in the county and had concerns about this and had considered rescinding his vote of support because he saw no benefit to the county that the exercises be conducted in the county and said if he could get anyone else to feel the same way he would cancel his decision and rescind his motion regarding that. He then added if the other Board members did not think it was a problem, he had no problem with it.

Commissioner Holt asked if Mr. Presnell could contact the gentleman so Chair Hinson could discuss this with him, and possibly bring the matter before the board again.

Commissioner Croley gave the benefits of the exercises being conducted in the county, they would be buying fuel, food, training exercises would be conducted on private land and they would pay for the use of it and also would reimburse the law enforcement costs.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

10. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss stated he had nothing to report, but was available to answer any questions.

Havana Heights

Chair Hinson asked if there had been a response regarding Havana Heights and said he had received a phone call and the complex was trying to force people to stay inside the building.

Commissioner Holt said when she served as vice-chair of local NAACP, they found that Flint Garden Apartment tried to do the same thing and found that they did not have the law on their side and could not hold people captive in their own homes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

11. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County:

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she would appreciate updates regarding the Social Security Administration, but did not want to get involved, she would like periodic updates.

Chair Hinson stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

She also added that she hoped to see everyone Saturday at the FCAT Rally that has been moved to Corry field from Noon until 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan asked Olivia to bring up the County web page on the monitor and asked where the audit information and quarterly financial updates were located.

Olivia brought up the County home page and showed them where the information could be found.

Chair Hinson returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Updates from GCDC

He asked if the update that would be provided on April 15th from the GCDC would be their quarterly report and Mr. Presnell said yes.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley said he understood that when they entered into the Emergency Management Agreement, they would be getting quarterly updates from them as well.

Mr. Presnell said there would be three updates a year, that it would not be quarterly.

He then asked if they were owed any updates for Small Business Job Development and training or if they were receiving what they were to be receiving.

Mr. Presnell said yes.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chairman, District 4

Commissioner Holt said the Medicaid increase for the County would be 90% starting in the year 2015-2016 and they really needed to lobby against paying that amount.

Affordable Health Care Act

She stated that the Affordable Health care ended at 12:00 last night and said it seemed everyone wanted to get on at the last minute.

Economic Development

She thought the website should show if a new business was coming to town and what was going on to help inform people of what might be coming to the county and the possibility of new jobs coming to the area.

Mr. Presnell informed the Board that that was already part of the website; there was an icon there for that purpose.

Commissioner Holt said she wanted it easily assessable so people who visit the site would not have to hunt for the information.

Enterprise Zone

She added that she had had a few calls from constituents, one that was a homeowner that did not want to be located in the Enterprise Zone and one from a commercial business owner that asked why it was not advertised more.

Commissioner Hinson, Chairman, District 1

Medicaid

Chair Hinson asked if a workshop regarding Medicaid could be scheduled.

Commissioner Holt said the information could be brought back to them via email so they could look at it.

Commissioner Taylor said they were well into the fiscal year and the Board needed to hear feedback from the Economic Development Council and it needed to be soon so they would know where they were in the planning stages and what was expected.

Mr. Presnell said they would be present on April 15th for the meeting.

Commissioner Croley asked if all of the Interstate 10 was zoned agricultural and said that had to be incorrect because the City of Quincy had the Industrial Park acreage that was located in the City that should be zoned for industrial infrastructure, along with University of Florida (IFAS) that operated all the agricultural land and there were motels located on the south side with an inadequate sewer system. He added he understood that the City of Quincy was looking into annexing that area and the property owners that were willing to do that.

Mr. Presnell clarified that looking at the exchange with the exception of the existing motel, there was a tract of land owned by a private family that was available for development and they consider the IFAS land off the table.

Commissioner Croley asked if there was not an Industrial Park owned by the City of Quincy that adjoined the Interstate.

Mr. Presnell said there was the one behind the jail, and it did run down to the Interstate, but had no access. He said in talking with the Economic Development Council, Beth Kirkland had gone through each city and inventoried what was available where a restaurant could go and they had come to the conclusion that the County had nothing available. He added to get something available would require between a six month to a year process through Planning and Zoning and the Board and would require four votes. He added the best they could do at this point to help the County was to push the businesses toward the cities where something could be done.

Commissioner Holt said "If we don't do a darn thing, we're not going to get a darn thing"; there was all of US 90 to the City limits and they had not encouraged a sewer line going out and they could partner with the cities, get a CDBG grant to help the cities and be able to get sewage and water to be able draw businesses to the area.

RECEIPT AND FILE

12. A. March 5, 2014 Letter from Social Security Administration District Manager to the Board (Closing of Quincy Social Security Office)
B. Proclamation Honoring the Life of Mr. Harry K. Holt

UPCOMING MEETINGS

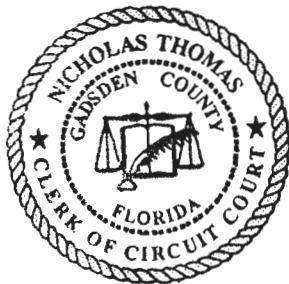
13. -April 5, 2014-Regular Meeting
-May 6, 2014-Regular Meeting

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
April 1, 2014-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:38 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 15,
2014 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Lee Garner, City Manager of Chattahoochee, stepped forward and asked for a moment of silence for James Atkins, a former Chattahoochee Council member who had recently passed away, then gave the Invocation. Chair Hinson led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell added Item 5A-Proclamation Child Abuse Prevention April 2014 to the agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO AMEND THE AGENDA.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Gadsden County Development Council

Mr. Lee Garner, Chairman of GCDC, appeared before the Board to give an update from the GCDC.

He said they would like to have a workshop with the Board in the near future concerning economic development.

Commissioner Croley thanked Mr. Garner for the report and shared with the Board that he had spent the day before in a half day CRTPA meeting at the Tallahassee Airport and informed the Board that Kimley-Horn had been awarded a \$975,000 contract to work with the four counties and municipalities to back the GCDC up on the things he had mentioned.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Garner what the GCDC expenditures were to-date and what it was spent on.

Mr. Garner responded the expenditures were between \$17,000 and \$19,000 so far and was used to pay the consultant under the agreement, giving her so many hours a month to work with, travel, but tried to limit that as much as possible. He said she was in Dallas at the moment and CSX was paying most of the bill.

Commissioner Holt said she had been hearing a lot regarding the train. She added that the more people from the community involved with this, they could inventory some of the assets and added she was very interested in people knowing what assets were available in Gadsden County, i.e., the beautiful lake, Interstate 10, the Railroad, Highway 27, U.S. 90, but there were also things for tourists to come see.

Commissioner Taylor said she felt the need for a workshop and added she was hearing a “smorgasbord” of things and was concerned about spreading things too thin.

2. Presentation of Proposals for Legal Services from the Evaluation Committee

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the evaluation committee had met and they were asking for direction from the Board.

Arthur Lawson, Assistant County Administrator, appeared before the Board and said the committee had met and they were presenting the proposals that met the minimum requirements of the RFP. He added there were a total of seven proposals and five of them met the minimum requirements.

Chair Hinson asked if the Board wanted to make a recommendation and thought maybe the committee could narrow the list to three.

Commissioner Morgan asked who was on the committee.

Mr. Lawson said the committee consisted of Dr. Henry Grant, the County Extension Director, Jeff Price, the Senior Management and Budget Analyst and himself.

Commissioner Taylor asked out of the five recommended, if it was based on criteria and if any of them were lacking in any particular area and said she had no problem with the committee narrowing the list down to three and then bring it back for further discussion.

Commissioner Croley said his observation was the same three firms ranked out as they did last year.

Commissioner Taylor said she would like to entertain all five proposals.

Mr. Lawson suggested the Commissioners choose three and then submit them to the County Manager.

There was further discussion among the Board.

Commissioner Croley pointed out that the current law firm had an attorney on board with hospital experience.

Commissioner Taylor said with the five that met the criteria, she felt they should meet with all and interview them.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO RANK THE PROPOSALS BY 1, 2, 3. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THAT THE TOP RANKED CANDIDATES APPEAR SEPARATELY BEFORE THE BOARD FOR AN INTERVIEW.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was present and had nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. Approval of Resolution #2014-009 Declaring the Week of May 18-24, 2014 as National Public Works Week in Gadsden County

5. Approval of 2014 Small County Consolidated Grant Agreement with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

5C. Proclamation-Child Abuse Prevention April 2014

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

6. Appointment of Board Members to Gadsden Hospital, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for appointment of board members to the Gadsden Hospital, Inc. board to bring the number of members back to the recommended nine members and it was also recommended that one of the appointments be a doctor. The recommended appointees were Ms. Arrie Battle and Dr. Hantz Hercule.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE APPOINTEES.

7. Candidate Projects for the Small County Outreach Program, Small County Road Assistance Program and the County Incentive Grant Program – Florida Department of Transportation

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and explained Staff was looking for Board direction to select five roads to obtain some of the grants for the SCOP, SCRAP and CIGP programs.

Commissioner Croley asked if the roads were ranked according to criteria that were based on traffic surface condition and safety. He asked if Mr. Ford with Preble-Rish could make recommendations from the list on the roads he thought would most likely to be funded.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the roads were on the list because they were already pre-qualified.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, Project Manager, appeared before the Board and said that was correct, that Preble-Rish along with county staff and Mr. Presnell had reviewed each road and all were strong potential candidates, some stronger than others. He explained that Old Federal Road was a good candidate because of some of the narrow widths and safety hazards that exist, Howell Road was a good and he added he would encourage that one because of the slag condition of the road. He also emphasized the portion of the road they were discussing was the short portion between west of US 90 going back to Robert F. Munroe school and reminded them the longer portion was already included in FDOT's work program and was on go to be widened and resurfaced and thought the shorter portion was a good candidate. He said Tolar-White Road from District 3 was a good candidate because of the narrow lane widths and safety hazards on the roadway, in District 2 Charlie Harris Loop because of the roadway conditions, in District 1, he said Bell Road and McNair Road was a toss-up.

Mr. Presnell said he agreed with the engineer and the SCOP 1 project should be Old Federal Road, SCOP 2 should be Tolar-White Road.

Commissioner Morgan asked for a list of all dirt roads that fit the bill to be paved.

Commissioner Holt suggested each commissioner choose one road and move on.

Commissioner Taylor chose Old Federal Road; Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with the recommendation, but asked about Hardaway Road and when it was in the plan AND Mr. Ford said he thought for 2016; Commissioner Morgan said he would like to get back with them regarding his selection; Commissioner Croley asked if Porter Mitchell Road included Bettstown section.

Mr. Ford said the Bettstown Road had already been approved.

Commissioner Croley said he had heard that BASF was discussing the opening of another mine in the area and asked what impact the CIGP would have on other funding sources.

Mr. Ford said it would not have any affect and stated they could only apply for one CIGP road.

Commissioner Croley recommended Porter Mitchell Road for the CIGP program.

Commissioner Taylor asked if any of the road choices would affect High Bridge Road being pushed up or out.

Mr. Presnell said no and that was the reason it was not before the Board tonight.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE

THE BOARD VOTED, JUSTIN FORD ASKED TO SPEAK.

Mr. Ford said it looked like they were in agreement with the primary and secondary SCRAP project, the primary SCOP project and the CIGP project, but there still needed to be a secondary SCOP selected.

Mr. Presnell said in their motion, they could approve Mr. Ford's selection and it would not have to come before the Board again and he could report to Mr. Presnell and proceed with the grants.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCRAP PROJECT, THE PRIMARY SCOP PROJECT, THE CIGP PROJECT AND THE SELECTION BY MR. FORD OF THE SECONDARY SCOP PROJECT.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

8. Update on Board Requests
Social Security

Mr. Presnell said regarding the Social Security office space issue, the equipment was being installed at the Library, the icons were added to all the county computers at the Quincy Library and hopefully the bugs will be worked out of it and a bigger announcement could be made in the next week. He said the video-conferencing equipment would be located at the Quincy Library.

Economic Development Workshop

He announced the Economic Development workshop was proposed for May 20th at 4:30.

He said they had reached out to vendors interested in doing business with the County, had ran ads in the local newspapers, placed it on the website and had sent emails to all the commissioners so they could reach out to people and had not received many responses. He asked if someone had approached them in the past and was interested in doing business with the County, to please have them get in touch prior to Thursday

Commissioner Taylor had questions and Mr. Lawson came forward to answer them.

Arthur Lawson appeared before the Board and said they had kept things real simple, had asked for the different trades and whether or not they were licensed. He said they had not asked about the bond because that would depend on the value of the job, if the job was big enough, it would be bid out.

Commissioner Taylor felt that the word "licensed" may have hindered some from inquiring about this.

Mr. Lawson and Mr. Presnell explained some would need a license in their trade, but other jobs, such as painters and carpet layers would not require a person to have a license.

Commissioner Holt suggested putting this information on the County's Facebook page.

Budget Season

Mr. Presnell said budget season was here and the deadline for groups to apply for funding and anything received past May 1st would not be accepted. He said the first Budget Workshop was scheduled for May 29th.

Farm Share

He announced the Farm Share event was scheduled for April 30th and the County would have a table there with displays and information concerning programs available and what some of the departments do and some of the county staff would be there to help put food in the cars that come by. He invited the commissioners to come join in.

Quincy Shuttle

He informed the Board that the City commission tabled this item and he asked for more information from Gretna and Havana and they were waiting for Quincy to act. He said they have reached out to Big Bend Transit and it was currently not a problem for the County because there was money budgeted, but may have to do a month extension or month-to-month until the City Commission decides and he can bring something back to the Board.

Commissioner Croley asked if the municipalities were current with their fuel bills.

Mr. Presnell said Quincy was not, but he spoke with the Interim Manager the day before and he was not aware of the situation and hoped to have the money by the end of the week.

Mr. Croley asked how much short they were.

Mr. Presnell said with the building inspection, fuel etc., it was between \$62,000-\$64,000.

Commissioner Croley said there was concern with the road widening that was being done, not only the ones being done now, but also the ones to come in the future and asked him to give the commissioners a report regarding the guardrails.

Mr. Presnell said the road in particular that Commissioner Croley was speaking of was Shady Rest Road, a State funded project. The State hired a design engineer and in one area, there was a fiber optic cable located there, and the second firm, which was a construction engineering inspection firm that had to be selected, takes the design plans and builds the road. They ran into the fiber-optic cable to avoid having to move it or being able to move it, they placed the guardrails closer to the pavement than he believed the original design team intended and it had become an issue because it looked funny, because it looked like the guardrails were too close to the travel lane. He added that according to the design engineer and the CEI, it did meet DOT specifications.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

9. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report, but was available if anyone had questions.

Commissioner Morgan asked for an update regarding Woodrow Butler Road from the last meeting.

Mr. Weiss said according to Florida Statutes, if the county constructs the road and maintains it for

four years, it was presumed to be a county road. However, if the County failed to maintain it for a period of time, there could be an argument that it would not be equitable for it to be presumed to be a County Road. He also said there was a subsection in the Statutes that covered if the road was not constructed by the County, but was maintained for a period of seven years, but it had to be the immediate past seven years, it was presumed to be a county road. He added that he was not sure that he had enough information or facts to come to a conclusion. Basically, he needed to have documentation as to when the road was constructed, who constructed it, what did the construction consist of, i.e., what was there before, was it some form of road that the County made substantial improvements (brought up to county standards) or something that was there and the County started scraping and scraped occasionally, but did not do much more. He said he hoped to see county records of construction maintenance or short of records, have someone who has full knowledge of exactly what happened, the sequence of events. He further said that even with having records and documentation, they would still be making a prediction of what a Court would determine, because it was a mixed question of law and fact and unless the County was 100% certain that the documentation showed that the standard of the criteria and the statute had been met, he recommended that the County do nothing regarding that road, unless they were 100% certain that the documentation supported that.

Commissioner Morgan said his issue was the records with the County and assumed there were records on all the county roads and asked Mr. Presnell if the County had such records.

Mr. Presnell said there were records going back to 1997, but nothing prior to that time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

10. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to talk about an ordinance and asked the Board to reconsider when doing emergency repairs, guidelines for emergency repair program restricts mobile homes from being able to receive the funds and with mobile homes having such a presence in the County and the residents and constituents that live in the mobile homes and asked that they reconsider and include or allow mobile homes to receive some of the emergency services from the emergency repair fund and asked to be able to bring back the ordinance to change.

Mr. Presnell responded that when they adopted the Emergency Housing program, they mirrored the SHIP program.

Commissioner Taylor said, for example, there was electrical wiring in a mobile home and the residents had to move out the very next day unexpectedly and because of that situation they were now considered homeless and was unable to do anything and it then became an emergency because of them being homeless. She called the Administrator's office for help and found out that mobile homes were not eligible.

Mr. Presnell said the funds were totally at the Board's discretion, when adopted, they started the program by mirroring the SHIP program and SHIP funds could not be used on mobile homes.

Commissioner Taylor asked if she could make a motion to re-address the ordinance to add the language and bring back before the Board for review and include language that they could not abandon or sell the mobile homes for a period of time.

Commissioner Holt said she would like to have a copy of the ordinance emailed to her to review.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE, TO HAVE THE ORDINANCE EMAILED TO THE BOARD IN ITS CURRENT STATE FOR REVIEW AND HAVE IT PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE SECOND MEETING IN MAY FOR DISCUSSION OF ADDING MOBILE HOMES TO IT.

FCAT

She thanked everyone for supporting the FCAT Rally and informed them it was a huge success.

She asked Mr. Presnell regarding the non-profits if he had reached out as in the past and if it had properly been advertised.

Mr. Presnell said it had been advertised in the local newspapers, was on the website and had sent letters out. He was asking the Commissioners to help spread the word.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said several people in the County was having problems with all the rain and was not able to get to their property, and when the County was contacted, there was only so much the County would be able to do concerning the County doing work on private property and stated it was a felony for the county to do work on private property without being reimbursed.

Economic Development

She also added that she felt a lot better about Economic Development.

She also mentioned that she was at Gretna Elementary last week and was the Easter Bunny.

Commissioner Morgan said he had been asked about the mosquito spraying.

Mr. Presnell said the telephone number had not changed and was on the website, will be in the three newspapers, but anyone could call Mosquito Control at 850-627-5396, or if that failed, call Public Works. He added that they are now required to log in the requests with names and addresses and turned in to the Department of Agriculture prior to the spraying being done and no random spraying was now allowed.

Commissioner Hinson, Chairman, District 1

Commissioner Hinson concluded by thanking the Economic Development Committee for coming and doing such a good job.

RECEIPT AND FILE

11. A. March 28, 2014 Letter from Mediacom (Non-Standard Converter Fee)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- May 6, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- May 20, 2014, Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- May 29, 2014, 1st Budget Workshop, 4:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:34 P.M.

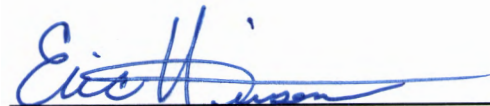
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 6, 2014, THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Beryl H. Wood, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. He asked everyone to stand for a silent prayer for everyone who had recently died or who had lost a loved one and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Beryl Wood.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no amendments to the Agenda.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD
VOTED BY 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.**

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

**1. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
MONTH**

Chair Hinson said in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Board had a plaque and Proclamation to present and accepting the Proclamation was Mr. Richard Davison, legal counsel for the Gadsden County Sheriff's Department and Chair Hinson asked him to step forward. He then read the Proclamation aloud and presented it to him.

Richard Davison, Attorney for the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office, along with Sheriff Young received the Proclamation recognizing National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Attorney Davison had a few words to say to the Board.

Mr. Davison's daughter, Christina Davison, appeared before the Board and had a few words to say. She thanked the Board for doing the recognition in honor of her Mom and hoped to one day follow in her footsteps.

Sheriff Young also appeared before the Board and thanked everyone and said the pinwheel garden was placed in honor of Gria Davison. He also added that everyone needed to realize the abuse of

our children in this County and added that as a community, there was a need to advocate for the children and come together on their behalf.

2. Presentation by Riverway South-AC

Mr. Homer Hirt, President of Riverway South, appeared before the Board and thanked the Board for allowing him to speak to them. He said he was the President of Riverway South, Apalachicola and Choctawhatchee Non-Profit Organization and they were eight counties strong and gave a brief background and stated they promote tourism and their money came from the Tourist Development Councils and other groups and was matched by the State of Florida and was used for tourist promotion. He added that Interstate 10 was considered “a river of money” and they hoped to help each county get that “river of money stopped off for a while”. He also listed scholarships that have been given out by them. He further said that while they would not come in to tell the TDC how to run things, he offered help if they so wanted.

Pam Portwood, Project Manager, spoke to the Board and said they were working on promotional materials to help tourism development throughout the eight county region and on a campaign to get people off off I-10 and over the next year they would be working on 16 more self-guided itineraries to go along the I-10 exits to guide people to places throughout the region off the exits. She thanked Gadsden County for partnering with Riverway South and hoped to continue the relationship.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Hirt for coming before the Board and sharing what was happening within the region and now knew who to reach out to when they had questions.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was present had had nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

After the vote was taken, Commissioner Taylor asked to pull Item 8 for discussion.

3. Approval of Minutes

-March 18, 2014, Regular Meeting

- 4. Approval of Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Memorandum of Understanding**
- 5. Approval of Management Control Agreement**
- 6. Approval Of Interagency Agreement With Gadsden County Clerk Of Court**
- 7. Approval To Accept The Standard Contract Between The State Of Florida, Department Of Revenue And The Gadsden County Board Of County Commissioners**

- ~~8. Approval Of Amendment Of Contract With Ashbritt, Inc. For Emergency Debris Management Services~~ PULLED FOR DISCUSSION
9. Approval Of Amendment Of State Aide To Libraries Grant Agreement
10. Approval Of Proclamation Designating May 2014 As Bike Month In Gadsden County
11. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER HOLT'S TRAVEL TO THE 2014 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACo) ANNUAL CONFERENCE
12. Approval Of Commissioner Hinson, Holt & Taylor's Travel To The 2014 Florida Association Of Counties (FAC) Annual Conference

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

8. Approval Of Amendment Of Contract With Ashbritt, Inc. For Emergency Debris Management Services

Commissioner Taylor said with this document, a company had been identified that could take care of debris.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

She asked if there had to be two companies and how they were chosen.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

She asked if there was a list that the Board could entertain and if this was the right procedure that he choose the companies and not the Board.

Mr. Presnell responded that this particular contract was brought to the Board, had a contract with them, but currently the contract had expired and the Public Works Director, Curtis Young, had recommended with the upcoming hurricane season, this be extended for one more additional year.

Chair Hinson stated that anything that affected the Budget should not be in the Consent Agenda.

CURTIS YOUNG, Director of Public Works, stepped forward to address the Board and stated that the contract had expired and they were trying to get an extension to be able to get through the hurricane season.

Commissioner Taylor asked the County Attorney, with this being a fiscal impact, should it be on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Weiss responded there was no legal reason why it could not go on the Consent Agenda.

Chair Hinson asked if this item could go under General Business at the next Board meeting.

Commissioner Croley pointed out the vote had been taken already to approve the Consent Agenda.

Chair Hinson said the vote could be rescinded.

Commissioner Holt said she felt it was OK to proceed forward with this, if there was a fiscal impact, to bring it back up under General Business at that point.

Chair Hinson said the Board needed to be consistent, if funding was to be impacted by the General Revenue, it could not be under the Consent Agenda and they were going against what they earlier said.

Commissioner Taylor said she needed to go on record and could not vote for it at this time, she would rather have it agendaed for a later item, even though the majority could move it forward.

Chair Hinson commented to Commissioner Holt that since she was on the winning side of the item, she could move to either rescind or reconsider the item.

Commissioner Croley said he did have the same concern, but understood they were coming up on the hurricane season.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO RECONSIDER ITEM 8.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests.

13. Public Hearing-Adoption Of Ordinance No. 2014-002, Adopting Procedures To Consider Acquisition Of Property Interests In And Acceptance Of Maintenance Responsibility For Certain Private Roadways In The Unincorporated Area Of The County Under Certain Conditions

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and commented the County Attorney had developed the Ordinance for the Board's consideration. He explained there were a couple of changes that had not been discussed previously and made a note that the attorney wrote the Ordinance and his opinion was that one requirement be that the roads be brought up to County standards before the County could accept it.

Mr. Weiss further explained the procedures to the Board members.

Commissioner Taylor asked who set the standards.

Mr. Presnell said the standards were outlined in the Land Development codes, which required a 60 foot right-of-way.

LARRY GANUS, 2174 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and thanked them for the opportunity to speak on this issue and mentioned that he lived on one of the private dirt roads that they were maintaining themselves and was in favor of this Ordinance. He mentioned the only thing in the Ordinance that he really did not like and would like to see struck from the

Ordinance was the clause “but not paving”. He thought it would be a better Ordinance for those roads that the Board accepted to be “silent on that issue” and let it run its natural course for roads to be ranked on the road paving list if and when the County started paving dirt roads again.

Mr. Weiss said that was not the intent, intent was the County would be agreeing to accept maintaining the responsibility of the roads, but not present paving and it was never the intent that the road could never be paved.

Mr. Ganus said he thought everyone understood they were on a maintenance schedule, not necessarily a paving schedule.

Commissioner Holt stated she was not in favor of removing that language because there were dirt roads waiting to be paved and they would not be happy, after they had waited 20 years, to have someone come in ahead of them and have their road paved.

Mr. Ganus asked how often the road paving list was updated.

Commissioner Holt said the list could be updated, but the County had no money.

Chair Hinson said he has worked in the past with Mr. Ganus on the P&Z Board and what he said was absolutely right, but he also understood where Commissioner Taylor was coming from.

Commissioner Croley disclosed that he and Mr. Ganus had had an extensive conversation regarding the Ordinance and the concept behind it and there did need to be in the County a reasonable and legal method to expand the County transportation system. He said some of the concerns, like the attorney referred to, was the County could not do public work on private property and could not give the benefit to bring that road up to county standards unless the County had accepted it, but it could not be accepted if it did not meet the standards. He said they should also consider the costs of maintaining the roads. He added that, conceptually, there had to be a way for the transportation system to be expanded and serve the needs of the citizens across the unincorporated areas of the County.

Commissioner Holt said she was in favor of the process, but was uncertain how to proceed and it needed to be fair per district.

Commissioner Taylor said there were issues now; obviously the engineers would need to look at the roads so as not to cause residents to have more of a problem and maybe each district could be given a mile a year. She added that the unincorporated areas were the County’s responsibility and she did not agree that the paving part should stay in, but make it understood that there were other roads that would come before them on the list and the language needed to be cleaned up. She added that, as a Board, they needed to look at the Ordinance together and see if they could come up with language that could push this forward and then proceed on.

Commissioner Morgan said he and Mr. Presnell had spoken in the past regarding this item and based on his experience as the Administrator and the Public Works Director for 13 years, asked if he thought it was a good decision to take on additional roads with the situation with the County.

Mr. Presnell stated that anytime additional work was added for existing resources, you would stretch yourself thin. He said that all he asked was that it be limited to projects that were feasible and that was the reason the Ordinance was written in the manner it was. He added he thought the original discussion was a mile a year, but it seemed to be on a lot broader scale and 20 miles a year would be bad.

Commissioner Morgan asked to speak with the Public Works Director.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director, came forward.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Young and his department for their service during the heavy rains and said he knew their calls had been tremendous and had been handled quickly. He asked him how adopting additional roads would affect his department.

Mr. Young stated the way the Ordinance was written now was working but if it went the other way, it would hurt them because they would not only be using the motor grader, but would need to use additional equipment.

Commissioner Morgan asked what was wrong with the system now.

Mr. Young said there was no problems, as long as they could evaluate it, get in and out, there was no problem.

Commissioner Morgan then asked that Allara Gutcher come forward.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Morgan asked Ms. Gutcher if she could expound on this matter.

She said from a Land Use perspective, she did not have an inventory of road right-of-ways and did not know the complexity of the issue and even if there were an inventory, the inventory would be probably only what the County owned.

Commissioner Morgan said it was his opinion that would cost the County a lot of money. He said there was no road-paving list being adhered to and everyone has asked for one for some time. He thought the plan that was currently in place was working fine and until the County could take care of the roads that they have, thought the County needed to stay where they were for the time being.

Commissioner Taylor said they had to do their due diligence around the Board and discuss things thoroughly. She added she heard what the Public Works Director said concerning the roads, but what about the people that lived on the dirt roads that were asking for their roads to be adopted.

Chair Hinson asked when the last time was that the County adopted private roads.

Mr. Presnell said the last time the Board entertained the private road issue was when the E911 system was put in.

Chair Hinson asked how roads were adopted previous to that.

Mr. Presnell said roads were adopted one by one and the only mass adoption change was when the E911 went into effect.

Commissioner Holt said the Board should move the item and it could always be critiqued.

Commissioner Croley said it was appropriate that they have an Ordinance process in place that would allow expansion of a transportation system in an orderly manner, but work could not be done on private property, because doing so would put them in an illegal situation. He added that they also needed to consider the maintenance costs and there were no answers regarding that. He further added that there was language in the Ordinance that was not quite right and some of the roads had legacy trees that people would not want taken out. He said the Ordinance needed more work and he could not support it the way it was written.

Commissioner Holt said if more work was to be done to the Ordinance, the length of road per year should be added and the road had to be brought up to standard.

Commissioner Morgan said some folks had built nice homes on dirt roads and new the roads weren't paved when the homes were built and didn't want to necessarily live on paved roads. He added that this Ordinance would make a change and a number of the residents would not have a say-so in this because there were a number of roads where there were landowners, but they don't live in Gadsden County and thought they were not considering everything and they really needed to slow down on this and give it a lot of consideration.

Mr. Presnell added, on a practical standpoint, there was approximately 100 miles and that data was available at the Public Works Department, of private roads in this County, and unless this Board directed Legal Counsel to talk about the standards or the LDC was changed, out of the almost 100 miles, there was 5-6 miles in the County that would qualify for this program, unless they specifically addressed the standards.

Commissioner Croley asked where the County would get the resources to deal with the water that was not as strongly mentioned in the Ordinance.

Chair Hinson said it was their job to take care of the citizens and they were in a pretty good situation as a County as a whole, the funding was there and they needed to support the people that needed it. He added there was \$6.4 Million in the budget, but was not saying to spend it all, but was sure Preble-Rish could find funding, just need to start talking about it. He then asked for Justin Ford, Preble Rish to come forward.

JUSTIN FORD, PREBLE-RISH, appeared before the Board and said a few were coming up, Lewis Lane was in the process of being designed and will be constructed shortly.

Chair Hinson stated grant money and not county money would be paying for it. He then added that he was not after paving every road, just if someone's road was in great shape, it needed to be considered.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Ford if he had reviewed the Ordinance and he had not. He said that, conceptually, he had no problem with having an avenue to expand, but his concern was with this process, there might be some roads that would not meet the criteria.

Mr. Presnell said it would limit the roads and nothing would be brought to the Board that had not been evaluated, decided and ready.

Mr. Weiss explained it did have a screening process, but if a complete petition was gotten, it would come before the Board, even if the County Administrator's recommendation was impossible to do it.

Commissioner Croley made a motion to move the Ordinance forward without any specific number of mileage of road and leave as written.

Commissioner Taylor said there was 98 miles of road in the county, if the term "standard" was to stay in as written, there needed to be language added with the Administrator or Public Works Director to also make a judgment call and allow flexibility in the language.

Chair Hinson asked if there was a second to Commissioner Croley's motion. Motion died for lack of second.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE WITH CONSIDERATION OF TWO CHANGES 1) PUT IN AMOUNT OF MILES AND 2) HAVE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO BE ABLE TO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE TERM "STANDARD" PER ROAD.

Commissioner Croley raised an objection on the motion that Mr. Presnell was an employee of the County, not a sworn official and could not make those deviations to the standards and 2) would need to see the ordinance re-written with that terminology in it before it could be lawfully voted on because it was not properly written.

Commissioner Taylor withdrew her motion.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR THAT THE ATTORNEY BE DIRECTED TO PRODUCE LANGUAGE TO ALLOW THE BOARD FLEXIBILITY IN REGARD TO STANDARD. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 TO APPROVE OPTION THREE. COMMISSIONERS HINSON, HOLT AND TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT TO BRING THE ORDINANCE BACK WITH ONE MILE LIMITATION AND STANDARDS RE-WRITTEN TO NO LESS THAN 45 FEET WIDE ON ROADS, BEFORE A SECOND, THERE WAS BOARD DISCUSSION.

Mr. Weiss shared Commissioner Croley's concerns with deviating from the normal standards on accepting the roads and added if they wanted to change county road standards to a minimum of 45 feet, he did not think there was any problem with that, but there might have to be some input

from Public Works and the Planning Department.

Commissioner Holt withdrew her motion.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE TO BRING IT BACK TO ONE MILE CHANGE AND KEEP THE STANDARDS. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER CROLEY CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Weiss suggested the Board be specific in the language for the one mile and where they wanted it and then it may not need to come back for another public hearing.

Commissioner Croley asked if it was up to one mile in the county per year or if it were one mile per district per year.

Mr. Thomas where the money would come from to be able to do this and added one issue that would need to be visited was the declining revenue and the transportation fund and fund balance and the other matter was relying on the attorney to make sure nothing violated the use of the transportation funds.

Mr. Weiss said they needed to make sure they were not spending public funds on private property and that was the purpose of having the roads brought up to county standards before the road could be accepted. He also said another point to the ordinance was the Board still had to make a determination that accepting the road benefited the public at large.

Commissioner Holt asked the County Manager if it were feasible to do one mile per district per year.

Mr. Presnell said knowing the roads the way he did, there was no way they would have the time or equipment to do one mile per district per year.

Chair Hinson said if they agreed to do one road per district per year, they could get more out of that.

Commissioner Croley asked if the Ordinance would be coming back.

Mr. Weiss asked if it was a maximum of one road per district per year and the answer was yes.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE ONE ROAD PER DISTRICT PER YEAR AND HAVE IT BROUGHT BACK BEFORE THE BOARD. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

14. Public Hearing For The Amendment Of The Land Development Code Chapter 2, Definitions; And Chapter 5, Development Standards, Section 5003, Non-Conforming Uses And Structures

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said in the Land Development Code, the non-conforming uses were lumped together as Non-Conforming and there were “Non-Conforming Lots”, “Non-Conforming Structures” and “Non-Conforming Uses” and this would clean-up the language in that section of the Code.

Chair Hinson asked for public comment and there was none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

GENERAL BUSINESS

15. Cr 270A (Flat Creek Road) Resurfacing-Additive Change Order

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and explained it was to seek Board approval to approve a change order for Peavy and Son Construction to utilize the remaining grant funds of approximately \$100,000 to further enhance the overall project and replace a culvert on the road.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

16. Approval of Interlocal Agreement With City of Midway and the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the Board was seeking approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Midway and the Gadsden County Building Inspection Department to provide inspection and permitting services. He said the item had been before the Board earlier and had been voted on, but when the Agreement was presented to Midway, they requested some minor adjustments to the Agreement, limiting the agreement to 10 hours a month.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, ATTORNEY WEISS ASKED TO POINT OUT SOME CHANGES IN THE AGREEMENT.

Mr. Weiss pointed out that the document that had been discussed and voted on at the March 18th meeting and when it was executed by Midway, it was not the revised Agreement and did not reflect changes the Board had requested. The Board asked what the changes were and Mr. Weiss said he added a provision for termination, indemnification and liability and made a stronger provision that what was originally in the Agreement.

THE CHAIR CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

17. Selection and Appointment of Member(s) to the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was a request for the BOCC to appoint a member to the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council. He said two people were interested in the seat: Ms. Lynn Badger, Owner/Operator of White Dog Plantation Bed and Breakfast in Havana and Mr. Nick Bhakta, General Manager of the Comfort Inn Hotel in Midway.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE MS. LYNN BADGER. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

18. Transportation Agreement between the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners, City of Quincy and Big Bend Transit, Inc., to Provide the Quincy Shuttle Bus Service

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the Transportation Agreement between BOCC, City of Quincy and Big Bend Transit to provide the Quincy Shuttle Bus Service. He stated the contract had expired on April 30, 2014, but an extension of the contract had been worked out with Big Bend Transit to provide the service at the same rate through September 30, 2014.

Chair Hinson said he wanted to disclose and make sure it was on record that he had a contract with the City of Quincy marketing their broadband last year and the contract had expired on December 30th.

Commissioner Croley asked where the shuttle covered and Mr. Presnell responded it covered all over the City of Quincy and made a couple of runs a day to the City of Gretna and Havana.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the funds covered through September 30th and the City of Quincy approved it.

Mr. Presnell said yes.

Chair Hinson also pointed out that the Town of Havana approved to give \$5,000.

UPON MOTION OR COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

19. UPDATE ON BOARD REQUESTS

Mr. Presnell informed the Board that Allara had brought in someone to put on the first of two Visioning Workshops with the TDC and thought it was a very good session.

He reminded the Board the first Budget workshop would be May 29th at 4:00 p.m.

He said there would be an event at the main Library on May 13th at 10:30 a.m. for Social Security.

Commissioner Morgan left the meeting.

Relay for Life-He thanked all the employees for their participation in raising \$4300.00 to help fight Cancer.

Summer Youth Program-He reminded the Board, names were still needed for the applicants they had or if they preferred, names could be chosen from the list they had.

He also informed the Board there was a very interesting meeting recently with the railroad people and folks with the Port St. Joe port in Greensboro at the Depot. He said the port would be dredged and already had two clients signed up and there was finally some life coming into that project and there was an opportunity for warehousing, distribution and a lot of options. He also told the Board of plans for a cruise ship starting in 2015.

CRTPA-Long range planning meeting scheduled for May 22nd.

Legislature-the basic programs, library, solid waste, the day-to-day things were all funded, but on special projects, such as Courthouse, nothing was funded. He added the Ag center was just about lost, but came back to life and received \$800,000 in the House and Senate budgets and then was cut \$250,000 last Thursday night. He also said Midway received \$70,000 to do sewer work and the big winner for Gadsden County was a group for at-risk kids that received \$500,000.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

19. UPDATE ON VARIOUS LEGAL ISSUES

Mr. Weiss said there was nothing to report, but was happy to answer any questions the Board might have.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

20. REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS PERTAINING TO COMMISSION DISTRICTS AND GADSDEN COUNTY

Commissioner Taylor-District 5

Social Security Office-Commissioner Taylor said there was a need to do a little better job on community awareness with regards to the Social Security Office. She said there was a meeting scheduled for May 13th and there was nothing out there to inform the public. She added that the numbers at the main library would determine what Social Security would do at the other libraries in the future.

Dirt-She said there had been a lot of requests for dirt and asked how long the turn-around was once there was a request.

Mr. Presnell said the problem was the dirt was wet, but if dry dirt could be obtained, getting it to where it needed to be was a problem because the trucks could get stuck.

Summer Employment- She asked what the start dates were because parents were starting to call inquiring of that.

Relay for Life-She commended the staff on Relay for Life and the effort that was put forward and was a great morale booster.

State of Emergency-She thought the Governor had declared a State of Emergency because of the flooding and asked Mr. Presnell if Gadsden County was able to capitalize on that.

Mr. Presnell said no, until the threshold was met and in Gadsden County that was approximately \$350,000 in damages to qualify for that.

Land Use Change-Asked that it be placed back on the agenda and if they should entertain that matter while the attorney was critiquing the language with regard to standards so everything could be handled at one time or if they could get something and wait for a later date with regard to standard language.

Mr. Weiss said with the way the Ordinance was drafted would allow for a change to the standards so if the language was changed in the Land Development Code, it would automatically change in the Ordinance.

Commissioner Croley-District 2

Commissioner Croley recognized the County Administrator for taking the lead on getting the guard rail safety issue addressed on Shady Rest Road and said there were some phone lines out, but that was due to the City of Havana cutting a cable at almost the same time the guard rails were being moved. He also acknowledged Mr. Curtis Young, Public Works Director and his staff at how well they responded across the County to the many concerns recently. He asked about the status of safety stripping on the roads.

Mr. Presnell said there was not enough money in the budget last year and there was \$100,000 last year and proposing the same amount this year.

Commissioner Croley asked if most of the stripping work had been completed for this year and Mr. Presnell said he did not think so.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director, stepped forward and said all the stripping had not been completed but should be complete within the next couple of months.

Commissioner Croley said that was good because the public continued to ask about that, especially when the roads were wet because it was hard to see the stripping.

He also commended Mr. Presnell on the meeting with Economic Development and the port people and said it was a concern across the region and hoped it continued to move forward.

Commissioner Holt-District 4

CRTPA-She asked about the bike trails and placement of bike racks so people could safely park and lock up their bicycles.

Commissioner Croley said that was a good question and had come up in all four counties and cities and was trying to find a way to get the bike racks in for the ones that would ride bikes to school as well as the bike trail. He said they were looking for funding, but as far as he knew, staff had not identified exactly where to obtain that from.

Staff Concern- She reminded the Commissioners that the staff answered to the Manager and not to the Board and they need to control how they talk to the county staff.

Grant Writer-She expressed the need for a grant writer and knew there was one with the engineers, but expressed the need for someone that was responsible for organizing and applying for some of the things talked about at the meetings.

Visioning Process-She added that the person that came in with the Tourist Development Council was great and expressed the need to show some of these plans to the Economic Development and Planning and Zoning and also to have them attend some of the workshops.

Social Security Administration-She said this is was matter they needed to push because the kiosk would not be attainable unless the video computers were in each of the libraries and the kiosk needed to come second.

Apalachee Regional Planning Council-She said she serves on that council and several business have applied for funding for different start-ups and they needed to look into some of them to see what they might be able to do to help them.

Civility-She reminded the commissioners if any constituents contacted them that did not live in their districts, to have them contact their commissioner or the County Administrator.

Commissioner Hinson-District 2

Commissioner Hinson said he wanted to send a Resolution to Ms. Sarah Kirkland, who had recently passed away and didn't know if any of the other commissioners would like to join him.

Relay for Life-He complimented Mr. Presnell and staff for what they did on the amount of money raised.

He asked that they continue to "agree to disagree" and not to "hold feelings on your shoulders" and not do things in a spiteful way.

RECEIPT AND FILE

22.

- a. Gadsden County Division of Emergency Management Quarterly Report (12/2013-03/2014)
- b. Gadsden County Small Business Service Center Quarterly Report (April 2014)
- c. Florida Department of Health-Gadsden Quarterly Progress Report for ½ Cent Sales Tax Prevention and Education Program (January 2014-March 2014)
- d. April 9, 2014 Letter from United States Special Operations Command (Military Training April 29-May 9, 2014)
- e.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

-May 20, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

May 29, 2014-1st Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
May 6, 2014 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:54 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA




ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 20, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M., THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: **Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1**
 Brenda Holt, Vice Chair, District 4
 Doug Croley, District 2
 Gene Morgan, District 3
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. (Chair Hinson was present for the previous workshop, but had not yet returned to the meeting.) Commissioner Holt asked everyone to stand for a silent prayer and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Opportunity Florida Update

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

Jim Brook, Executive Director - Opportunity Florida Managing Partner, Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC, appeared before the Board and gave a brief update of the goings-on with Opportunity Florida, a public/private partnership and said they cover nine counties within the eastern part of the panhandle.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Hinson appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

He explained they were a middle mile operator and a middle mile internet and broadband provider and their primary purpose and the target of the project was to provide expanded retail broadband access to Community Anchor Institutions and to last mile providers. He added that as of March 31st, the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) middle mile network was 98% complete. He said 42 wireless towers were planned for the north region and 38 towers have been completed, 3 were postponed indefinitely, one of which was located in Gadsden County at the County Jail and State prison. He explained that the tower was managed by Harris

Corporation for the State of Florida and an unacceptable 10 day vacate clause prohibited FRBA from locating on that tower. He said they were still looking for a suitable site for the south of Quincy.

Commissioner Holt asked why the vacate clause on the tower located at the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Brook explained that the Harris Corporation contract had a requirement in the contract that if they require you to vacate, you have to agree to vacate your equipment from the tower within 10 days and that was not acceptable to a broadband serving a wholesale or retail market.

Commissioner Croley said the City of Quincy had a water tank slightly north close to the jail site and asked if that would work.

Mr. Brook responded it very well may work and would take that back and look into the availability.

Commissioner Croley asked how the citizens would benefit from the increased broadband capacity in their homes or businesses.

Mr. Brook responded they were a middle mile provider, but were seeking other relationships with other internet service providers.

Commissioner Morgan asked about price of services for the citizens.

Mr. Brook said this was taxpayer money and was building out capital facilities through this project and therefore the price of the service from this network should be less expensive than would have been provided without taxpayer money.

Commissioner Taylor mentioned on the south side of town there was a lot of underground cable going in and asked if any of that fiber was associated with them and if there were any health risks.

Mr. Brook answered he did not think it was directly related to their project; however it could be associated with another wireless carrier.

Commissioner Croley asked for periodic reports from them.

Clerk of Courts

Mr. Thomas spoke to the Board regarding e-mails previously sent to the Board members concerning distribution of funds since the change in the contract with the Capital Regional Medical Center and the second was distribution of half cent tax.

Clerk Thomas said with Capital Regional Medical Center, prior to the change, the dividends and interest from the Trust went to Capital Regional and since the change, the County would get to keep it, which currently was \$150,811 that could be used for long-term maintenance. He said the distribution of the half cent indigent tax and the bond was refinanced and the savings went to CRMC. He further explained the debt service was paid first, the savings from the bond refinance would go toward offsetting the return of the dividends from CRMC to the county for long-term maintenance

and build out of the hospital, CRMC was guaranteed \$460,000 from the indigent tax or the difference was made up from the dividends and that was left was distributed to the Health Department/Health Council for indigent services.

Commissioner Taylor asked what the total amount of revenue was before any debt service or distribution.

Clerk Thomas said currently it was just over \$1.4 Million.

He then talked briefly about the fuel tax. He provided an analysis of the transportation fund and pointed out there was a slight problem last year with revenue being down, but said it now seemed to have stabilized and more than likely would increase as things move forward without increasing the cost of gas at the pump.

Chair Hinson asked the reason for the analysis.

Clerk Thomas explained he was specifically asked at the last meeting if there were enough gas tax revenue to pay for additional paving of roads. He said additionally it was discussed during the budget process and was pointed out that revenues would be short and fund balances declining because the current year budget was appropriated \$700,000 of transportation fund balance to balance the transportation budget. It was projected at that pace, in a couple of years, the fund balance would not be there and there would be a problem. Clerk Thomas further explained there was a problem in 1991 when the bottom fell out of the gas tax revenue and as a result, the Board made a rash decision to cut the staff operating back to 32 hours a week and he was providing them with the information to keep them from having to make rash decisions.

Chair Hinson asked if less was spent in transportation this year and Mr. Presnell explained fund balance was used to fund transportation.

Commissioner Croley said the Federal Highway Trust Fund was declining and was being subsidized with General Revenue according to his readings from the federal. He said that money came down from the states and it was anticipated that there might start being an impact from that. He asked if the information the Clerk provided them strictly related to the fuel taxes levied within the county government or if it included the fuel taxes provided by the state.

Clerk Thomas said it included the county levy and the state.

Commissioner Croley pointed out that the total amount of budgeted revenue was less than the expenditures and there was a net loss.

Commissioner Holt pointed out that was the reason for a budgeting director and they had to be a creative person to go after what was levied against within the budget.

CONSENT

Commissioner Taylor asked to pull the quarterly reports.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. ITEM 3 WAS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION.

2. Approval of Minutes

- April 1, 2014 Regular Meeting
- April 15, 2014 Regular Meeting

3. ~~Approval to Accept the FY 2014 2nd Quarter Report~~ Pulled for discussion.

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

3. Approval to Accept the FY 2014 2nd Quarter Report

Commissioner Taylor said in reviewing line items in the report, there should be at least 50% of the budget spent and asked why on some, there was 19-26% spent on some, and asked if there would be a spike in expenditures in some of the line items between now and the end of the fiscal year. She asked if there was a spike coming if the line items were over-budgeted.

Mr. Presnell said while a couple of the items were over-budgeted, but like with the hospital maintenance, there was a big ticket item like the boiler and once the repairs were done and the items paid, it would be caught up. He added his personal goal each year was to spend 90% and then the money could be returned to reserve.

Commissioner Morgan said the quarterly report was a very good tool and asked if it was posted to website.

Mr. Presnell said yes.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE REPORT.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

Robert Copeland, 331 Ross Road, Quincy, FL, 7th grade math teacher at Shanks, appeared before the Board and said there was a need for a community outreach/prevention program for youth in the County. He said he would like to create a musical arts/musical performance program to teach students how to shoot music videos, record music, do graphics, web development, etc. and had no funds and asked if the Board had any suggestions for assistance.

Chair Hinson explained the deadline to apply for county funding had passed, but he needed to establish a 501(C)3 as well as seeking help from the business community.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. PUBLIC HEARING-Transmittal Hearing for the Amendment of the Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan to the Department of Economic Opportunity for Review.

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this was for approval to transmit the housing element of the comprehensive plan.

Allara Gutchner, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the Board and explained the amendments and that it reflected statutory changes.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Ms. Gutcher said the amendments were updating the housing elements and bringing it into compliance with the requirements of the statute and would clean up language where the goals and objectives match the policy in the document.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Ms. Gutcher said there also was a whole packet of data analysis where they did some historical background checks on Gadsden County, including housing construction, permits issued, did comparisons between unincorporated portions of the county and each of the jurisdictions, did a vacant land analysis that showed current density subtracting out wetlands for a net developable acreage to see how many units could be put on the vacant lands in the county.

Chair Hinson stated he was proud that Ms. Gutcher identified the wetlands because “that’s the makeup, that’s the purpose of Gadsden County, the rural area and a lot of folks don’t realize that’s where the tornados and hurricanes and all that stuff come at, when you try to get rid of those wetlands. So, Quincy By-pass, I’m quite sure we were able to dig up some wetlands area there and I hope that in the future that don’t hurt Gadsden County by that By-pass, just digging up wetlands. In Miami they did the same thing years ago in the early 1900’s, something like that and in South Florida, they got rid of all the wetlands and built homes and houses and all those hurricanes came through. Now, they went ahead and rebuilt the wetlands areas again and it was man-made-rebuilt wetlands up and got rid of everything because of those hurricanes. So I hope we can make sure we stay strong on that and we don’t dig up any more wetlands areas. That was before I got on board though, the By-pass. I just want to put it out there.”

Commissioner Holt said reason she asked to discuss this was this was a public hearing and it needed to be explained to the public. She also thought it would help to have this information on the table and available to the public when there was a public hearing

Commissioner Croley said there were no attachments in his packet, nothing showing additions, deletions, and there was nothing showing that it had been before Planning and Zoning. He asked what this meant exactly.

Ms. Gutcher said in May, 2013, the Department of Economic Opportunities sent a letter to Gadsden County Planning Division Department that stated because the Comprehensive Plan had not been updated based on the evaluation and appraisal report that had been adopted previously, our plan was frozen and could not make any changes until such time as we moved forward with the EAR based amendments. She said in talking with our contact at the Department, it had been indicated that as long as we were diligently moving forward and transmitting a component of the plan to DEO, our name would be removed from the frozen list.

Commissioner Croley asked why we were delinquent in getting the comprehensive plan updated and was placed on frozen list and why was substantial money paid out earlier.

Ms. Gutcher said the foremost difference in the existing version and the current version is the reorganization of the goals, objectives and policies so that the policy matched the objective that

matched the goal.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. Keith and Shady E. Trim; Parcel ID No. 6-02-1S-4W-1270-0000C-0100/Code Enforcement

Mr. Presnell said this matter was dealing with a code enforcement case and was the first code enforcement case under the new program where the County cleaned up the lot and a lien had been placed on the property. He informed the Board that a foreclosure proceeding was pending, but the foreclosure took precedence over the lien. An offer of \$1,500 has been offered to release the lien.

Commissioner Holt felt the offer should be accepted.

Commissioner Croley asked if the property was obtained and the lien was filed, what impact would it have on a future purchase of the property.

Mr. Weiss said none, that basically the mortgage holder had the first lien, we would record the code enforcement lien, which would be subordinate to the mortgage. If a foreclosure were filed, it would name the County as a defendant in the lawsuit and foreclose the county's lien with respect to that property.

Mr. Weiss explained pros and cons of releasing the lien and added the code enforcement lien covered this property as well as any other property owned by the Trims in the county, now or in the future as long as the lien was in effect.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE

6. Approval & Execution of Resolution 2014-010 and the Non-Exclusive Interlocal Subscription Agreement Granting Florida PACE Funding Agency the Authority to Offer Voluntary Financing through Non-ad valorem Special Assessments to Gadsden County Property Owners for Qualifying Improvements to Commercial Properties and Properties Subject to Non-Conventional or "Jumbo Loans."

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said in the July 16, 2013 meeting, the Board approved this item for commercial properties and said the above Resolution would lock this in and the funding was now available.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked that they explain difference in the non-conventional and jumbo loans.

LISA MILLER, Subject Matter Expert, and David Ash, Consultant for Florida PACE Program, appeared before the Board to answer questions.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

HOPE CHILDREE, Independent Green Technologies, General Manager, appeared before the Board and was in support of PACE funding and mentioned they did have commercial clients in Gadsden County that were ready to move forward. She explained their company was primarily solar design and installation and added that one of the biggest impediments to the expansion of this industry was the financing options and with this financing, they will be able to move forward.

7. Selection of Legal Services Provider for Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for the selection and approval of a firm to provide legal services for the Board of County Commissioners.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO CONTINUE WITH THE AUSLEY LAW FIRM FOR CONTINUITY PROVIDED THEY MEET WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND CLERK TO NEGOTIATE AN APPROPRIATE LEGAL AGREEMENT. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Chair Hinson asked if it were decided to go in that direction; to go with a one year renewal not 3 year renewal and to not be charged for telephone calls and e-mails.

Commissioner Holt felt that the Ausley law firm represented too many entities in the county now and they needed to reconsider this in case of conflicts. She wanted to make sure they were being represented properly and she recommended the Nabors law firm.

Commissioner Taylor felt that anything said at this point was for nothing. She said they were not receiving things in a timely manner and she did not feel there was equal representation around board. She added it was time to improve and do something different.

Chair Hinson said his intent was the Nabors law firm throughout this proceeding because he could not communicate with the attorney because of being charged, if emailed, got charged, bill was \$180,000 and went down to \$120,000.

Commissioner Taylor said if using the expenditures as a gauge, to look at previous years because they knew contract was up for renewal, they needed to look at the history.

Chair Hinson said for the record the Board did not always agree on everything and vote together.

Commissioner Morgan said the Board was here to make a decision on legal advice, not economic development and the reason he supported the Ausley law firm was the hospital and the expertise they had received in that area and he pointed out the Ausley laws firm also employed Gadsden County citizens. He also pointed out that costs had been reduced on legal service fees the last six years in excess of 70%.

Commissioner Taylor said she stated facts based on her experiences being on the Board and had tried to keep it above-board and professional, but she was frustrated after having taken bids and proposals and they took up peoples' time with applications.

Chair Hinson stated for the record that no-one ever persuaded him, he stood on whatever decision he decided on because that was what he felt like voting on and believed in being fair.

Commissioner Holt said she liked the Nabors firm because of the legislative side and she liked the Ausley firm, but that was not the point, the point was that no-one had yet to address the conflict of interest and she needed assurance of what would happen. She added "My only concern is if we are going to get into any struggles, we need to make sure that we protect the interests of the citizens. We protect the citizens. That's why we have five districts, that's why we're elected. So if we're in a fight with any of these, whose side is the law firm going to be on? That's the same thing I asked before. It has to be answered Commissioners. As I said, if we go one year, we still have no reassurance. We go five years, it doesn't matter. We have to have something in writing. If we are going to go for the motion and you are going to say for one year, I don't have a problem with it. I still think maybe it should be (inaudible) company, but, Mr. Manager, that should be part of his negotiating, that he gets something in writing that says they represent us and if it falls through, then we go to the next company."

Commissioner Croley said all four law firms that responded to the RFP were outstanding firms and had nothing but the highest respect for Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, but he was from the old school, saying, "if you've been working for me and you've been doing a good job and trying and making an effort, I'm not going to fire you just for the sake of firing you for possible things that may or may not happen. I'm going by dependence. This young man over here (pointing at Mr. Weiss) has been doing a good job, he's been diligent. Like every one of us, he can always improve. I appreciate your point about the year and I do thank Commissioner Holt, that some of your points are very valid about making sure that in the negotiations you try to address any of the ethic situations where conflicts may occur. I'm not going to say that if this situation doesn't work out, that the Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson firm wouldn't have my full support. But I would do the same for your firm (pointing to Sarah Bleakley with the Nabors law firm) as I would for the Ausley firm, and to be truthful about it, I don't use either one of them. I don't have any conflicts with either one of them. But I am not going, I've raised the question if you recall the last time, did anyone up here want to get rid of Ausley and nobody responded and that is in the public records. So I respect you Commissioner Hinson for making your own decision, whatever that may be. Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Taylor, and Commissioner Morgan, but I am going to say that I made the motion simply out of respect for the consistency and the fact that if I look at the County financial report that has been provided, the attorney fees are substantially down and I think the firm that we have deserves at least an opportunity to continue with improvements in the contract at even more competitive prices. That's the reason I made the motion. So I'm ready for the vote whenever you are."

Commissioner Holt asked if they would be willing to alter the motion to include one year.

Commissioner Croley said that was agreed on, he made the motion for one year and all the things they had referenced, i.e. phone calls, email and how conflicts would be handled in accordance with the Florida Bar practices.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE THE AUSLEY LAW FIRM TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES. COMMISSIONERS HOLT AND TAYLOR OPPOSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

8. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said there were a few announcements to make.

CRMC would be presenting two lifesaving awards to paramedics on the May 21st that treated and transported a citizen with a heart condition and was instrumental in saving his life.

Quincy By-pass

Thursday, May 22nd at 5:30, FDOT will have a meeting concerning the northern loop of the Quincy By-pass and will do a feasibility study and everyone that has comments or questions are asked to come.

Commissioner Hinson mentioned upcoming Graduation at the area schools and asked that next year, anything for those weeks are planned around the graduations.

CRTPA

Wednesday, May 28th two events are planned- James Bailey with Operation Hope at 3:30 and that evening from 5:00-6:00 p.m. is a transportation improvement meeting.

Budget Workshop

He reminded the Commissioners of the Budget workshop scheduled for Thursday, May 29th at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a position open at Health Department since Mr. Kessler had been moved to Lee County. Chair Hinson said the State was transitioning Max Martinez into his position.

Commissioner Croley wanted the Administrator to follow up on comments about the marketing efforts and prospects with Economic Development and said there was a need for a marketing plan in place.

Mr. Presnell said there were a number of folks pitching in a hand to go after the grant because there was a need for an additional staff person to go after businesses.

Commissioner Croley acknowledged the planning staff on their support of economic development and making changes.

Commissioner Morgan asked about flooding issues in county and if there was anything they needed to keep an eye on.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director, stepped forward and said the Edwards's property was the only one.

Chair Hinson asked in future if there were any road closures in Gadsden County, the administrator call or email the Commissioners and let them know. He then asked if they would agree to do a Proclamation for Alice DuPont for her 30 years of service and everyone responded affirmatively.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

9. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss thanked everyone for their support and the opportunity to continue representing the County and they would try to improve on the services they provided.

He also pointed out that under the Receipt and File portion of the Agenda, there was a letter from the City of Quincy regarding a voluntary annexation of the properties along Pat Thomas Parkway and asked if the County wanted to object and pointed out reasons why they might want to.

Commissioner Holt said she was concerned and if there were any public county roads that were taken, the roads needed to be addressed and asked if there were any such roads.

Mr. Weiss said it appeared there were a couple of large tracts that ran down the Pat Thomas Parkway and did not appear to be any roads within those parcels, but it should be confirmed.

Mr. Presnell said there was a small road that ran in front of the Church that was excluded.

Mr. Weiss said a formal objection could be filed and he suggested approaching the City to ask about the property and the road.

Commissioner Croley said before any action was taken regarding this matter this was in Commissioner Taylor's district and that they should hear from her.

Commissioner Taylor agreed the annexation should be challenged.

Mr. Presnell said he had been in contact with the City and this was to be able to get commercial development at I-10.

Commissioner Holt said she had been after the City of Quincy to do this for approximately fifteen years and she felt the property owners should be asked if they wanted to be in or out.

Commissioner Croley said he gathered that no-one at the meeting was opposed to the annexation, just felt that everyone should get an equal opportunity to be annexed in if they wished to be that was located in that area.

Mr. Weiss reported that his firm was successful in getting the lawsuit dismissed against the County at an early stage. He added that Midway agreed to accept maintenance responsibility on road and the County agreed to do the work to get the road up to County standards.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

10. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County.

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she noticed an ad in the paper regarding the Social Security Office, but according to the way it was brought back to them, the more activity at the Quincy library would merit the East and West library being able to provide the same services, and asked that more information be placed in the papers and maybe have someone appear on WCTV one morning and at Noon.

Mr. Presnell said it had been on Channel 27, WTXL last week.

She also said there were cables going in underground in her district and asked the purpose and that it be looked into.

She also had a conversation with Friends of the Library and they were still having issues with administration from the library and asked him to look into that matter.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said Clerk Thomas had mentioned the Indigent and PAMS program and asked if there was a report that had been received on how the dollars were being spent.

Mr. Presnell said there was one received quarterly, but it was not very detailed.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan had nothing to report.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley said it had been customary for the Commission to waive the second meeting in June because of the Conference.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO WAIVE THE SECOND MEETING IN JUNE.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she would like the attorney to look at a policy to see if the County could have say-so in the cities adopting the roads that they were annexing.

She said the more information they could get out regarding Social Security being located at the library would help because they needed to get the numbers up to get video computers and kiosk for social security assistance at the other libraries.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
May 20, 2014 – Regular Meeting

She told the Board she had received a call to travel to Washington, DC to testify before the Committee on Aging on June 18th.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO HAVE TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, DC FOR COMMISSIONER HOLT PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he had listened to ESPN and this was National Mental Health Month during the month of May and he asked that everyone be considerate when talking to people.

Commissioner Morgan left the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson said he received a telephone call earlier in the day regarding someone that had issues with the Citizens Bill of Rights and asked that it be added to the next agenda for discussion.

RECEIPT AND FILE

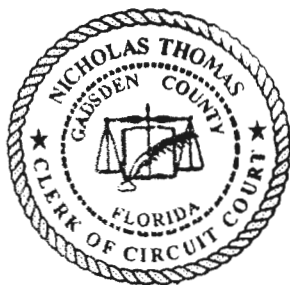
- 11. April 28, 2014 Letter from the City of Quincy (Voluntary Annexation of Properties on Pat Thomas Parkway)**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- May 29, 2014 – 1st Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.
- June 3, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- June 17, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:37 P.M.



GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 29, 2014
AT 4:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS
WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4 (arrived late)
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5 (arrived late)
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney (arrived late)
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

BOARD PRIORITIES AND DIRECTIONS

Chair Hinson called the meeting to Order at 4:02 p.m. Mr. Presnell welcomed everyone and gave a brief over-view of Board priorities and directions. He said this was the first of three workshops for the 2015 budget year and would like to give a few highlights of what they had been working on, a presentation regarding the jail, construction of an administrative building to get the Sheriff's office out of the Woodham building and staff needed direction regarding the non-profits.

He explained there was a decline in property taxes of over \$258,000.00 and the Major 8 revenue sources were estimated to be about the same. He added the gas tax was a concern and was down approximately \$100,000. He further stated they were waiting for the State's estimates and that was due in June and the Constitutional Officers' budgets were due the next week.

He said the current budget was \$42,952,000 with 194 authorized positions and was looking to add two positions. He said the departments had requested \$320,000 more in spending than they had in their fiscal year 14 budgets and after going through that, had made \$450,000 in cuts and resulted in approximately \$130,000 net savings.

Commissioner Holt arrived at the meeting at this juncture.

He said money was included for the Quincy Shuttle; \$75,000 for the Summer Youth program and Code Enforcement remained the same at \$50,000.

Commissioner Morgan asked what participation the City of Quincy would give for the Shuttle. Mr. Presnell said the City was doing the same with their budget. Commissioner Morgan asked about the Code Enforcement money since they had used all that was budgeted and asked if that amount could be increased for next year.

Mr. Presnell said they were trying to keep the spending items in line at this point in the budget process with revenues issues they had and this was the first chance to have a workshop with the Board to see what their priorities were.

Commissioner Morgan stated he wanted the Code Enforcement to be as effective as it could be and would like to see a number that made sense and asked if money was no object, what amount would make sense.

Mr. Presnell said the \$50,000 was spent in approximately seven to eight months and if they were going "full speed ahead" with the current staff and going through the Magistrate process, \$75,000 would be a good figure.

Chair Hinson said he would have liked to have had the information ahead of time to review and said he had no problem in postponing this workshop to a later date to give the Commissioners time to review.

Commissioner Croley said this was simply a workshop to discuss things, nothing would be decided tonight.

Mr. Presnell stated they were looking for guidance tonight from the Commissioners, if there was urgency from the Board to make the numbers more or less and would have a book at the next workshop.

Mr. Presnell said they were adjusting Medicaid to \$670,000 according to the State of Florida's schedule that was worked out last year and would be steadily increasing unless something changed with the Legislature.

Commissioner Holt asked if Capital Regional was still using the \$600,000+/- for match and Mr. Presnell said yes. She said that was a problem because the \$670,000 that the County was giving them, they were sending to the federal government and getting a dollar for dollar match back. She added that would increase but they would not get any funds back out of that and they used to get the dollar for dollar match.

Mr. Presnell said the \$670,000 was in addition to the money she was referring to.

Commissioner Holt said there was approximately \$1.1 Million that they would get and get a match back of approximately \$2.4 Million. She asked them to remember she said they should not give the Medicaid money to Capital Regional, they were already funding it and they were getting \$450,000 from the County, and asked Mr. Presnell to explain what else they were receiving.

Mr. Presnell stated the bond was refinanced and they were getting some of the interest from the bond when it was refinanced.

Commissioner Holt stated this would be an additional \$1.2 Million and it was time to now look at this.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Presnell to get with the Clerk to prepare a spreadsheet with everything broken down exactly what is being received by the Hospital.

Mr. Presnell said the Emergency Housing Repair would increase to \$40,000 and would give each district \$8,000.

Commissioner Croley asked what classified as an emergency.

Mr. Presnell said the Board passed a policy some time back to mirror the SHIP program, the difference with this was the applicant is at the discretion with each commissioner.

Mr. Presnell stated there was \$25,000 budgeted for various park improvements; \$100,000 for stripping of roads and there was \$50,000 in the Reserve Contingency Account.

Commissioner Morgan asked where they were on that and Mr. Presnell said they had spent a couple of thousand.

Chair Hinson said he would like to see funds added for 10 additional students for mentally disabled students.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out that this originally started out at \$50,000.00 and now was at \$75,000.00 and Chair Hinson was now asking for more money and Commissioner Croley asked where the money would come from.

Chair Hinson said that was why they were budgeting the money and Commissioner Croley pointed out they could not budget what they did not have.

Chair Hinson pointed out there was \$6.2 Million in the budget, the county had the money.

Commissioner Croley pointed out the Cash Balance was \$6.2 Million and while that amount of money might be in the Bank and was the recommendations of the audit firm, that amount of money was not available to be used.

Chair Hinson asked that Mr. Presnell put a red star by the budget item for the addition of ten "mentally handicapped or mentally retarded" students.

Commissioner Croley suggested that some of the money could be set aside that they had already earmarked, but adding to it, there might not be cash to do it.

Chair Hinson stated they might be able to cut some other things, but he just wanted it there for the conversation.

Mr. Presnell said tonight was to get feed-back to be able to build the budget for the second workshop.

Commissioner Holt asked the status of the FRDAP grant and Mr. Presnell stated there was one approved and it would be used for the Rosedale Park and the next one coming up...

Commissioner Holt interjected and said the next one should be Friendship Park because it was moved over for the Lamb Park in Havana. Mr. Presnell stated that Friendship was currently being taken care of and Commissioner Holt stated it was at \$30,000 and they were missing approximately \$100,000. Mr. Presnell stated they were only \$50,000 and Commissioner Holt said they were missing \$20,000 and asked that Friendship be put on the list and whatever amount was moved to go to Friendship, she wanted in place for Friendship. Commissioner Croley asked about Scottown and Commissioner Holt said she wanted Scottown on the list also, but Friendship was already on the list.

Commissioner Morgan suggested they discuss the amount of money to put in the budget and discuss what parks it would go to at a later time.

Mr. Presnell said they did not have the medical insurance rates yet, but would have them at the next workshop.

Commissioner Holt asked if it were possible to look at what was offered under the "Affordable Healthcare" and then compare it to Capital Health and Mr. Presnell stated they were supposed to be doing that already.

Mr. Presnell stated there were a number of department head retirements coming up and he was recommending that they fund a few dollars for one month of cross training. He also stated he would like to see budgeted two positions-one for a grant writer position and an animal control officer at the cost of \$85,000.

Commissioner Croley asked if there was an Interlocal Agreement in place from the municipalities to offset the cost of the animal control officer and why the need to employ a full-time grant writer and not use services of companies that have a grant writer on board. Mr. Presnell said the Board had expressed an interest in that for years and it was ultimately the Board's decision, he just put it in there because of the interest in the past.

Commissioner Holt stated she was in full support of a grant writer because they did not know how to go after the money, have not gotten the money and probably never would get the money otherwise.

Mr. Presnell also stated they were adding four full-time EMS employees, but they were eliminating several part-time positions.

Commissioner Croley said he had received an email from a company called "Resource Associates" that has done grant writing for twenty years for Indian tribes, counties, schools, etc. and asked if they could get some information on that and compare it to the cost of having a full-time writer on county staff.

CAPITAL OUTLAY AND PROJECTS

Mr. Presnell said the hospital chiller was included in the current budget and was being rolled forward along with a vehicle for the lawn and building maintenance.

Commissioner Croley asked why it was being rolled forward and had not been addressed yet. Clyde Collins appeared before the Board and stated because of working on the jail and other things, they had not gotten to it yet and there was an eight week wait time on it and could not be installed by the end of the year. He stated they were trying to not have to pay for a chiller from this year's budget.

Mr. Presnell stated they were replacing an air handler at the Jail (\$20,000) and they would not be able to complete the radio tower by September 30th and the \$35,000 would be rolled forward for the repair of the rusty cross braces of the tower.

He said Code Enforcement had a vehicle replacement at \$22,000 and Extension Services had a vehicle replacement at \$25,000 and \$25,000 for playground equipment and that intention was to finish the project started at Friendship. He added that the animal control crematory equipment was budgeted at

\$60,000.

Fund 112-Transportation

He said they would like to replace the mowers and tractors and the budgeted amount was \$340,000; there was a need for a vehicle for Public Works for public works vehicle State Road Right of Way department vehicle \$20,000; and \$20,000 for vehicle maintenance. Commissioner Croley asked about a pot hole repairer. Mr. Presnell said prices were being gotten for that equipment.

Mr. Presnell said with regard to Fire Control they were able to put only an additional \$35,000 for additional fire hydrants for the County and there was a fire truck purchase in there to go along with a grant, but didn't think they would be able to do it because the dollars came from Public Works and with the reserve as low as it was getting did not think they could take advantage of that. He added maybe when they got a little further along, things would change with the budget, but they would need to budget over \$100,000 out of the Transportation Fund to but another new fire truck.

Expand Jail and Build Administration Building

Mr. Presnell said they had discussed over the years and had been working on plans and prices, evaluating what other counties were doing and what the requirements and future growth might be and they had a two part program to present. The first part was the Woodham Building owned by TCC and then building an Administrative Building in front of the Jail to house the Sheriff's Administrative Offices. The second part would be adding capacity to the Jail by an addition of a pod and said there were a couple of different concepts to present to them. He added that the Administration Building would cost approximately \$2.5 Million and there were some concept drawings included in the packet. He further stated with going with this route, it would get the Sheriff's Office out of the Woodham Building and there were a number of issues there, specifically with the roof, chiller, boiler and a pump and was approximately \$1 Million. He stated the current budget this year was \$400,000 for specific projects. Mr. Presnell stated it was his opinion if they were going to spend that kind of money, to build something energy efficient, smaller and easier to maintain and would have no maintenance for a number of years. He explained that the Administration Building was an 18,000 square foot building. He said the Jail pod would be an addition on the northwest corner of the current jail and had two different scenarios, one with minimum security and one was more dorm style and with the dorm style there would be more capacity. He said he was confident they could both be built for approximately \$6 Million, \$2.5 Million for the Administration Complex and \$3.5 for jail expansion. He explained options that were listed out on payments for the bank loan and difference scenarios for an increase in gas tax to help identify monies to pay for the buildings. He added that if they did the Administration Building or even both projects, they would realize approximately \$104,000 a year savings by just getting out of the Woodham Building.

Commissioner Morgan asked what they hoped to accomplish with an expansion of adding a jail pod. Mr. Presnell stated it would reduce over-crowding. Commissioner Morgan said it made good sense to him and did not think there was a need to increase the taxes, the County was in good shape financially and could make decisions from the budget to get it done. His concern regarding the jail was he had always heard numbers around \$8 Million for a new pod and had two things that concerned him:

- 1) Now Fifty to sixty over capacity on a regular basis in the existing jail and with a pod added,

- still see over-capacity and would that solve the problem or help the Sheriff out?
- 2) Would they have a pod that was built so the federal inmates could be housed and receive dollars to go back into the coffers for housing them.

Sheriff Morris Young approached the Board to answer questions that the Commissioners had.

Sheriff Young said they had to classify the inmates and the additional pod would critically help on that part.

Commissioner Taylor joined the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

He said it would reduce the over-crowding because they did not have direct supervision and with the new pod they could have direct supervision and have the correctional officers directly in the cell with the inmates.

Commissioner Morgan asked about the federal prisoners and Sheriff Young stated there were six other jails in the State of Florida that was currently doing that and there were not enough federal inmates out there and the numbers were reduced.

Commissioner Holt said the Sheriff had appeared before them before, the County had a chance for federal funds, lobbyists were fired and the chance was missed to receive the funds.

Commissioner Croley applauded the Sheriff for his leadership and told Sheriff Young he had his support for the Administrative Building, but said was not comfortable doing both the Administrative Building and pod at same time without the Sheriff doing more convincing regarding the jail pod. He asked where the extra population in the jail came from because there was an extra judge, paying his travel, meal expense and why so many prisoners were being held and further asked about the work programs they were going to initiate.

Sheriff Young stated that on any given day there was approximately 10,000 people wanted in the County and if there was a warrant task force out there, the jail could be loaded up. He added he tried to not house misdemeanor convicts and try to get the worst of the worst, but when they were sentenced to the jail, he had no control over that.

Commissioner Corley stated he could not build enough capacity and expect the public to pay for it, but there needed to be something they could do better.

Sheriff Young stated when the jail was built in 1989, the population was not what it was today and the number has increased. He said there needed to be homework done. He said currently they were short-staffed, people spread around town, from the Courtrooms, Admin Building uptown and the Jail and if the building was built, everyone would be in one place.

Commissioner Croley said he would like to work with him on the Administration Building, wanted to have a visit with the Sheriff concerning the jail pod because he continued to have concerns and if they looked at the whole budget, the Sheriff's Office was getting the biggest slice.

Sheriff Young stated no-one there was on the Board when the Community passed the one cent sales tax. It was done to build the jail, it was built and in 1996 it was paid off. The Board decided to take

the one cent sales tax, now that it was paid off and it was used for other reasons; the taxpayers did not make a decision. He said now, twenty-something years later, they need a facility and it was the most used building that the County owned, and it was over-crowded. He added he thought the community needed input in this and wanted them to see it. He asked them to consider that the decision they make today will affect things 20 years from now.

Chair Hinson said his "thing" was intervention, GED, vocational training and would like to see something like that here.

Sheriff Young asked them to come out and view their re-entry program and explained what was offered in the program.

Commissioner Holt expressed the need to go back to Escambia County and review what programs they offered and said the bottom line was, when each one of the inmates left the facility, they had a savings account to help them stand on their own.

Sheriff Young stated there were some success stories from people that were incarcerated, learned skills and once they were released from jail were able to get a job from things they learned.

Commissioner Morgan said they all agreed on the need and the revenue was there if it was used smartly and needed to be prioritized.

Sheriff Young said six years ago, there was \$800,000 allocated for repairs to the jail, which was still going on today; repair of jail locks for the doors, etc., but did not think it was fair and not fair to the taxpayers that this money was allocated toward other projects and not used for what it was intended for.

Commissioner Croley asked if there had been a meeting of the Public Safety Committee that was statutorily required and if they had looked at the jail pod as well as the Judges, Prosecutors and Public Defenders?

Sheriff Young said not this particular item; this was the first time...

Mr. Presnell stated they had not seen the plans but they were fully aware, but they had met late summer...

Commissioner Croley asked if that was a meeting with the Public Safety Committee with the Judges, etc. that the statutes required?

Mr. Presnell said they had not had it this year, it was usually held in late summer.

Commissioner Croley said it would help if they could do that.

Commissioner Holt said most of the people in jail were there because of being from a poor county and for not paying child support because they did not have jobs and it stemmed from poor economic development and felt the funding should be put in economic development, go after jobs, manufacturing to give jobs so bills could be paid.

Commissioner Morgan wanted to be clear he was not in favor of a new tax, but was in favor of prioritizing the existing tax.

Sheriff Young pointed out that he ran the jail, but the Board of County Commission owned the jail and his predecessor pointed out problems with the jail ten years prior, it was sixteen years old when he took it over and has just gone downhill since then.

Commissioner Taylor asked with the first Ordinance, was it in effect for thirty years and Mr. Presnell stated it was for ten years and the Board re-enacted it and it did not expire and was forever. She asked if the debt service was already being spent out of those dollars toward other debts the County had and Mr. Presnell stated it actively funded the fire department budget and Public Works. She asked if a funding source had been identified. Mr. Presnell said a two cent gas tax would fully service the debt and they could have the pod and the Administration Building and half of the note would be paid by people traveling through the County.

Chair Hinson said he knew that transportation was “near and dear” to her heart and the Board had thought with raising taxes, they had to figure which was more important, the transportation or the jail and said they needed to look into all those considerations.

Commissioner Taylor said she knew it was their jail and they were responsible, but always had a bitter taste when they would insinuate the County had made other decisions with the dollars, “it was not very relaxed done, it was done out of necessity and I don’t want to give the community the concept that we are just having a hay day with what they voted on up. I don’t think that’s a fair message to send out”. She said she agreed that they used the dollars for other things, but tack on the fact that the dollars were to make sure the roads were safe and if a house caught fire, someone was there to help. She added it would be beneficial to have a workshop with the Board, Sheriff personnel and judicial personnel and she felt both the administrative building and the pod were needed. She added the Sheriff was asking for everything to come from the Board and there was a lot of labor at the jail that could be put to use to help the County.

Sheriff Young pointed out they do that every day, that the County did not pay for Staff to do some of the things that the inmates were doing and Commissioner Taylor said the Sheriff had a 200 plus population on any given day at the jail, but she was seeing less than one percent out working, she would see a crew of 5 or 6, or a crew of 4 or 5, but the masses were not coming out. Sheriff Young pointed out that they could not let everyone out; they had to be classified and were there for a reason. She added she felt the Administrative Building would reduce a lot of overhead, costs with maintenance and would get them closer to the jail that would cut down on gas and travel and would have fewer issues with the jail. She asked other than the two cent sales tax on gas, what other funding sources were they looking at.

Mr. Presnell asked Jim Gollahon to come forward and address questions the Board had.

Jim Gollahon said in going through the existing revenues and existing debt and what was available, they had taken advantage of the local sales tax for infrastructure in the hospital and there were no additional sales taxes that could be levied. He had looked at the State Revenue Sharing and it was maxed out and the gas tax was an avenue where some of the sales tax from monies they had discussed would be released from Transportation back to the General Fund to cover some capital costs in the General Fund and that would free up revenues in the General Fund to pledge toward

the new loan for this project. He explained they could not pledge the local option sales tax without a referendum; it could only be used for pay as they go capital items. He added by taking it out of the Transportation fund, they could use it to pay for approximately \$400,000 a year in capital items and it would free up some of the other General Fund Revenue and they identified the half cent sales tax that they received from the State (not local) and that was a very good source of repayment on a bank loan and they recommended pledging that to service the debt.

Commissioner Morgan stated another way to “plug the hole was not to spend as much money”.

Commissioner Taylor asked what other source was available, they had originally talking about gas tax and was there another option?

Mr. Presnell said no, other than paying for it by General Revenue and they did not see that as an option.

Commissioner Holt asked if 20 years was an option.

Mr. Presnell said that was an option, but they were recommending Option 3. He added that what kept getting lost was the amount they would save by getting out of the building, the light bill was \$10,000-\$12,000 a month and were anticipating at the new facility, for it to be \$2,000-\$3,000 a month.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could build the Administrative Building without increasing the tax and Mr. Presnell stated yes, that was Option 4.

Chair Hinson stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley said he saw approximately 52 percent of the workforce of this County commutes somewhere for work and if they looked at the national trends on fuel tax, they were all declining and they were placing their hopes on something that was declining. He added he was very hesitant to support anything to do with tax increase.

Chair Hinson returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley added that the downward trend would increase as the fuel efficiency increased and that was his major concerns.

Commissioner Holt asked for clarification that it took four votes to have something placed on the ballot for a tax increase and Mr. Presnell said yes.

Mr. Presnell explained that they were going to service that debt with part of the penny out of the Transportation side, because this Board, with a super majority had already approved a corrections facility as part of that penny and did not need to have a vote from the Commissioners or the public and that would be devastating to the Transportation fund and to make up for the transfer of the money, the two cent gas tax would make it whole.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was no debate, why they were talking about it; if everything was funded, the transportation department was not going to feel a big hit...

Mr. Presnell said the two cent gas tax would require a super majority vote.

Commissioner Holt said she understood that and asked what it was being used for now. Everyone responded there was not one. She asked if they did not have one, what they were debating. Commissioner Morgan said whether or not to approve voting on a new tax. Commissioner Holt said she wanted to make sure because the Hospital was going to be funded for a hospital and they ended up with an emergency room and she wanted to make sure and there was no bed to sleep in.

Mr. Presnell stated if they wanted to build the Administrative Building and the pod, they would need to enact a two cent gas tax and would need to have a super majority vote.

Commissioner Holt said if they did not have that, there was no need to keep talking. She added if there were not four votes, they could cut that out and move on. If they wanted to do the Administrative part, she had questions. She said she wanted to know if they had approval of four votes and Commissioner Taylor pointed out that could not be done in a workshop and Commissioner Croley said they could not take straw polls. She said, "I want to know right now, I want people to know right now before the next meeting comes and make up your minds whether we are going to do the two cents. You don't have to think about a thing, you don't have to vote, don't tell me anything, but I will have this (inaudible) to come back."

Chair Hinson said "Personally, I think like you say Commissioner Holt, I think this is, we just need either/or unless y'all can work some magic out some kind of way, I think that this is a dead issue, we're just having a good time and trying to figure out how well we can speak into the mike right about now..."

Commissioner Holt said she had a question and asked if they could fund the Administrative part, how they could do that out of what they had now and they were still in the building, how much would it cost them to service it while they were there.

Mr. Gollahon said in talking to staff and as he understood, it would take just a few months to build the building, they would stay in the building and they were thinking if the Commissioners wanted to proceed with the Administrative Building, they could bid the loan out in September, close it in October, they would be in to the new budget year and meanwhile, put plans together and hopefully have the building done in four to six months. From that point forward there would be savings. He also reminded them they only had this opportunity approximately once a year and would need to be activated by August to take effect January 1st.

Commissioner Hinson asked for a spreadsheet of all current expenses of the Sheriff's Department and once it was received, they could make a better informed decision and also wanted to know how much the City of Quincy would be paying.

Mr. Gollahon said currently interest rates were low and when inflation kicked up, interest rates would kick up, the loan would be in place for the building. If they waited two or three years down the road and the State or Feds were on their back, they would be looking at more money to build the pod.

Commissioner Taylor asked the Administrator if he was comfortable with the \$100,000 savings he stated earlier with utilities and he said yes. She then asked if he was comfortable with \$100,000 of general revenues to go to that debt service. Mr. Presnell said they had not built the budget by any means, they were giving the Commissioners options. She further stated it looked like if they wanted to do both at twenty years, they needed to find another couple hundred dollars in the budget to make it happen. She added that every year there was between \$300,000 to \$400,000 turned back in and felt they should go ahead and go forward with this. She thanked the Sheriff for personally appearing before the Board and expressing his concerns and needs.

Sheriff Young said it costs to go to jail and they do return funds to the county from revenue they get from the incarcerated and did everything they could to offset costs to run the jail and did everything he could to keep the community safe, keep the seniors and everyone else in the county safe.

Mr. Presnell asked to take a few minutes while the Sheriff was present to inform the Board of improvements and updates made at the jail and if there were a jail inspection tomorrow, he was unaware of anything that would be needed. He also said a work program was brought to the Board five months ago where the Judges gave ones sentenced to the County instead of the jail, there had been 153 people come through who had worked a total of 1,224 hours and was working well and growing.

Non-Profit and Community Organizations

Mr. Presnell said they still had the Non-Profits and Community Organizations and probably should look over this and be addressed it at the next workshop.

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to see Economic Development placed in its own category outside of Non-Profit and Community Organizations.

Commissioner Holt said she would like to see an increase to \$500,000 for Economic Development to be able to go after companies and jobs.

Commissioner Taylor asked when the next budget workshop would be and Mr. Presnell said it was scheduled for July 24th @ 4:00 p.m.

Employee Compensation

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:12 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Attest:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JUNE 3, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M., THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5 (arrived late)
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked Mr. Sapp to come forward to say a prayer. He then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. Deputy Clerk, Marcella Blocker, took a silent roll call.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell added Item 2A under Awards, Presentations and Appearances and Item 16A under General Business to the Agenda.

Chair Hinson asked everyone's opinion on his pulling Item 16 to discuss at a later date and hold a workshop regarding the matter.

Vice-Chair Holt stated there were people in the audience that had come to speak regarding the matter and thought they should have the opportunity to speak regarding this matter since it had been advertised.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD
VOTED 4-0 TO AMEND THE AGENDA AND TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.**

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

**1. Recognition of Hernon and Earnest Henderson for the Opening of South Main Street
Restaurant on Henderson Strip in Havana, FL.**

Chair Hinson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Hendersons in honor of their revitalization of South Main Street in Havana, along with a Drop Back In program for students, a restaurant and a housing complex.

Commissioner Taylor arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

The Hendersons had a few words to say and thanked everyone.

2. Proclamation Honoring the Service of Ms. Alice DuPont to the Gadsden County Times and the Gadsden County Community

Chair Hinson introduced the above item and asked the Board to join him in presenting the Proclamation to Ms. Alice DuPont and then read the Proclamation aloud.

2A. Recognition of the 2013/2014 Valedictorians and Salutatorians

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated he felt it was very important to recognize the high school seniors that were exceptional in their performance and were the Valedictorians and Salutatorians of their class at their high schools. The Chair then called the students up and they were presented with a plaque.

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Thomas was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

3. Approval of Minutes

4. Approval of Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Transportation

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items pulled for discussion.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Sam Palmer, 1225 Berry Street, Quincy, FL 32351, Video Cameras, spoke in favor of the return of cameras to the board meeting.

EMILY ROWAN, 1200 Little Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL 32351, Gadsden County Library Board, appeared before the Board to give an update on recent programs at the Library. She said face-to-face internet service for Social Security was only available at the McGill Library and Social Security internet service was available at all Gadsden County Libraries.

Mary Smith, 3137 Atwater Road, Chattahoochee, FL, appeared before the Board and said she always wanted to know what the Commissioners did for the constituents. She said she was having racial issues on her property. She said her son had 2 felonies charged on him because of the incidents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS-Approval of Resolution No. 2014-011 and Budget Request to Authorize Expenditure of Courthouse Facilities Reserve for Related Emergency Repairs to the Public Address System in the County Felony Courtroom Located at the Guy A. Race Courthouse Annex and Other Expenses

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

Bill Wills, Court Administration, appeared before the Board and apologized for going outside of the budget request and asking for additional funds. He explained the need for an upgraded PA system in the Felony Courtroom.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BUT BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, CHAIR HINSON ASKED THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO HIRE LOCALLY. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Chair Hinson asked if there was someone local in area, to give them the job. Mr. Presnell said would have to be bid, but every effort was made to employ local people. Chair Hinson then asked that the procurement process be emailed to everyone.

6. PUBLIC HEARING-Adoption of Ordinance No. 2014-002 Adopting Procedures to Consider Acquisition of Property Interests in and Acceptance of Maintenance Responsibility for Certain Private Roadways in the Unincorporated Area of the County Under Certain Conditions

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and explained it was to adopt an ordinance providing procedures to consider acquisition of certain private roadways for maintenance responsibility.

Cora Spencer, 116 Freddie Bryant Lane, Quincy, FL 32352, spoke to the Board and said not everyone who lived on this road agreed to give up some of their land and asked what options they had.

Marion Lasley, 5 Dante Court, Quincy, FL spoke to the Board and stated was in favor of this Ordinance.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt clarified that this would not be paving the roads immediately.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley said he was not sure the Ordinance was legal and referenced FS 125.01(7) regarding the use of **ANY** county revenue for this type purpose and asked the County Attorney to explain the Statute.

Mr. Weiss said it was a prohibition against double taxation for municipalities and the County could not use ad valorem tax funds to make improvements on projects that would not benefit municipalities, it could only benefit unincorporated areas. He further stated that there had to be a real and substantial benefit to residents in the municipalities and that the Ordinance addressed that issue by saying “the County has to find in order to accept these roads, that it is going to be a benefit to the citizens of the County, keeping in mind that it would not probably be beneficial to all the residents of the County to take a road that has three homes on it and is a dead-end cul-de-sac.”

****THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING BOARD DISCUSSION, PLEASE GO TO THE CLERK’S WEBSITE AT WWW.GADSDENCLERK.COM TO VIEW THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING.****

Dewayne Smith, 3137 Atwater Road, Chattahoochee, FL, appeared before the Board to explain problems he was having with neighbors and with private roads.

Commissioner Morgan said the intention behind the Ordinance was for the Board to find a way to acquire certain and particular roadways and the reason was so the roads could have maintenance responsibility shifted to the county and was trying to break this down on the most simplest of terms and the main things they needed to consider was 1) potential legal issues that will be invited into the County; 2) potential significant indirect and direct costs to the citizens of Gadsden County, who the Board was trying to help, and need to keep in mind, as the Clerk reported at the last meeting, revenues were trending down and that could be for the foreseeable future. He asked why the current process was not adequate to address the issues. He further stated this was a very complicated matter and “would be opening the door to a lot of potential issues and unknown costs”. He added he thought they had a great program in place.

Commissioner Holt said this was a two edge sword, she was in favor of 60 foot right-of-ways because it would enable them to go after funding from other programs, but the property should be brought up to standard before it was adopted. She explained that once the property was adopted, the road belonged to the county and she further explained. She added the budget would not support one road per district and there was a need for a costs analysis and the numbers needed to be there to support it.

Chair Hinson said they needed to figure out their priorities. There was a meeting last week where it was discussed putting the Sheriff’s Department into a different area and they needed to either put them in a comfortable place or fix muddy roads so EMS could get to an elderly lady if needed. He said the funding was there and needed to figure out what direction the Board chose to go in.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Presnell if the County maintained, in proper form, all of its current county-owned 60’ Right of ways.

Mr. Presnell answered that most of the ones that they were lucky enough to have 60 foot on, they tried to utilize that.

Commissioner Croley then encouraged Mr. Presnell to verify the length of the roads in GIS and Public Works. He added he was supportive of an ordinance that allowed for reasonable expansion of the transportation system until someone pointed out Section 125.01(7) of the Florida Statutes and it did not state anything about ad valorem tax or fuel tax, it said NO REVENUE and that meant all of it. He further stated he did not believe the ordinance was in compliance of the law. He commented that he “was not going to raise the taxes on all the citizens in this County on the gas taxes to fund taking on these private roads”.

Chair Hinson stated he had been on the Board for almost ten years and had never raised taxes before being on the County Commission Board or School Board. He then asked Mr. Weiss if this was a legal ordinance.

Mr. Weiss stated the way the ordinance was drafted was not illegal and as long as the guidelines were followed when implementing the Ordinance and not accept roads that would not be of any benefit to municipalities, could operate under the Ordinance legally. He added the roads would need to be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

****THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING BOARD DISCUSSION, PLEASE GO TO THE CLERK'S WEBSITE AT WWW.GADSDENCLERK.COM TO VIEW THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING.****

Commissioner Morgan asked if it made better sense to adopt this ordinance or keep the current policy in place, that if the County took on more roads, there would be more of an impact to the County.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ONE ROAD PER DISTRICT WITH STANDARDS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY PROPERTY OWNERS AT THEIR EXPENSE, BEFORE THERE WAS A SECOND, THERE WAS COMMISSIONER CROLEY RAISED AN OBJECTION.

Croley raised an objection on procedural grounds and said if they were going to amend the Ordinance; it could not be passed without it being properly written and published.

Mr. Weiss said they would have to figure out how to re-write the Ordinance for the mile because the way it was currently drafted, all the owners on the road had to sign a petition and be willing to donate.

Mr. Weiss suggested they make a motion to amend the Ordinance.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE TO ONE MILE PER DISTRICT AND REMAINING LANGUAGE TO STAY AS IS. COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Public Officials Bond Reviews

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was the Public Official Bond reviews and explained in the first meeting of January and June each year they were required to review their bonds for each commissioner.

Commissioner Taylor moved approval.

Commissioner Croley asked to hear from Mr. Lawson and recommended to pass the item to January because he never received the email with the bond information.

Mr. Lawson appeared before the Board and said the concern that Commissioner Croley and he had discussed was the fact that the individual County Commissioners have individual bonds with the State and there is a blanket bond that covers the other constitutionals and Commissioner Croley had asked him to do some additional research to find out whether or not it was

appropriate for them to have a blanket bond whether than an individual. He said if they chose to do that, he would need more time to do research.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Commissioner Croley stated he would still like to have the information.

8. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Chattahoochee for Mosquito Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated this was for approval of the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Chattahoochee for mosquito services.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. Approval of Amendment of Contract with AshBritt, Inc. for Emergency Debris Management Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for Board approval of an amendment to an existing contract with AshBritt, Inc. and explained this contractor would only come in if there were a major storm event and was more than the County could handle.

Commissioner Holt asked if any of the debris removal companies were local.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

10. Approval to Renew Service Contract with Allcol Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above and said this item was for Board approval to renew the current service contract with Allcol Technologies, Inc.

Commissioner Morgan moved approval and Commissioner Croley had a question.

Commissioner Croley pointed out they had dealt with the same vendor for years and asked why and RFP was not done.

Mr. Presnell said in prior audits, there was a “ding” for no disaster preparedness backup and this company had intimate knowledge of the County’s Information Technology staff.

Commissioner Croley stated he did not have a problem with that, but they did make the commitment that the existing contracts were to get a second look, whether they stayed with them or not.

UPON MOTION OT COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

11. Approval of Extension of Contract with Capital City Bank for the Purchase of the Thomas Motor Cars Property

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking an extension to the contract with

Capital City Bank to seek grant funding for the purchase of Thomas Motor Cars property and explained they missed the grant cycle and was seeking an extension to try for the next funding cycle.

Commissioner Holt said they did not need that property because they could use the hospital and added that Capital City Bank brought the CDBG project to them, they did not go to the Bank.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT TO NOT APPROVE THIS, COMMISSIONER HINSON SECONDED FOR DISCUSSION.

Chair Hinson said he was thinking if this was not approved, buy property and have a place EMS could stay, because he would hate to utilize the CBDG grant if there was a chance of a business coming to the area.

Commissioner Croley confirmed with Mr. Presnell that if this item was approved and the Bank applied for the grant, it would still need to come back before the Board for approval and if someone came in with a better project, they could back out.

Mr. Presnell said that was correct.

Sterling Bryant, Assistant Vice President of Capital City Bank, appeared before the Board to explain the Department of Economic Opportunities grant cycle deadlines had been moved earlier than they anticipated and they were unable to complete the grant in time. He said they would begin the application process immediately and asked for an extension of the contract to allow them time to complete everything.

Commissioner Croley thanked Mr. Bryant for coming before the Board and explaining the grant cycle and then asked if there was a contractual obligation to go forward.

Mr. Bryant explained the County was basically in a contract with no costs to the County and the Bank would pay for the grant writer and the County would apply for the grant.

Commissioner Croley, for the benefit of the public, clarified that Mr. Bryant was stating that the Bank missed the grant cycle and did not follow through on their contractual obligation and did this cause a breach of the agreement because the contract expired.

Commissioner Holt said if there was no contract, there was no need to extend.

Commissioner Croley said since the contract had expired and before they could move forward with the grant application or give an extension, they needed to get the contract back in place.

Commissioner Morgan said it was hard to talk about the contract when a copy of the contract was not attached.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO NOT APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

12. Approval of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Functional Classifications Maps for the Florida Department of Transportation

Mr. Presnell introduced the item and stated it was for approval of the FEMA Functional Classifications Maps for Florida Department of Transportation.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

13. Approval to Award RFP No. 14-02 for County Auditing Services to Purvis, Gray and Company of Tallahassee, FL

Mr. Presnell introduced the item and stated this was for approval to award the contract to Purvis Gray and Company. He stated the RFP was issued and two proposals were received, one from Purvis, Gray of Tallahassee, FL and the other was from Harvey, Covington & Thomas of Hollywood, FL.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO NOT APPROVE THIS CONTRACT. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked Commissioner Holt her reason to not approve this item.

Commissioner Holt stated she had two reasons: 1) Had no problem with them other than they were auditors before this time and 2) she always has a problem when they were asked questions as to why they did not do an in-depth on this department or that department and the response was they were not asked to.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

14. Approval of Legal Services Contract for Gadsden County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Presnell introduced item and was for Board approval of the Legal Services contract for the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners. He stated at the last meeting, he was negotiated a contract with Ausley McMullen, as instructed. He stated they managed to negotiate a lower monthly retainer of \$7,750 with increased hours of fifty-five hours and phone calls and emails were included.

Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt asked why Mr. Glazer's rates were higher at \$265.00 an hour over the rate of Mr. Weiss at \$175.00 an hour and it was too much.

Mr. Presnell explained his rates were higher for all the clients due to his expertise in certain areas of the law and the County used him for was the hospital.

Chair Hinson said it was not to our advantage to keep him, that Mr. Weiss could represent us with the hospital and we are not getting anything out of the deal and asked the motivation

behind keeping Mr. Glazer.

Commissioner Croley stated that Mr. Glazer was one of the most knowledgeable medical facilities attorney in the area and he would only be used for as needed basis for hospital issues.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION FO COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Holt said she had questions regarding if a conflict should arise because the firm represents other entities in the County and what happens if a conflict did arise.

Mr. Presnell referred the Board to paragraph 6 of the contract that addressed Conflicts.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

15. Approval of Commissioner Holt's Travel to Washington, DC to Provide Information Regarding Services for Senior Citizens

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said Commissioner Holt had been asked by Senator Nelson's staff to testify before the Senate committee in Washington, DC regarding services for senior citizens.

Commissioner Croley said he was uncomfortable in supporting this and asked if she would be representing the Board or speaking on behalf of herself as Commissioner of District 4.

Commissioner Holt stated she was not asked to represent the Board, she was asked to represent citizens of the County regarding Social Security matters in this county.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16. Discussion-Citizens Growth Management and Planning Bill of Rights

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and stated at the May 20, 2014 meeting, the BOCC requested that the Citizens Growth Management and Planning Bill of Rights ordinance be brought forward for discussion.

Marion Lasley, 5 Dante Court, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and stated she would like to hear discussion before speaking.

Arrie Battle, 919 Hardin Street, Quincy, FL, asked how the citizens could get the Citizens Bill of Rights on the ballot to be voted on and asked them to name any other county where the super majority vote is in effect. She also asked for citizen input before they decide on budgets.

Sam Palmer, 1225 Berry Street, Quincy, FL 32351, appeared before the Board and requested that commissioners repeal this because this was a negative impact to the county and was a deterrent.

Chair Hinson asked if they could answer Ms. Battle's questions first.

Mr. Presnell said St. Johns County has a Neighborhood Bill of Rights and Martin County amended their Comp Plan to require super majority vote to require amendments that would increase negative impact to the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie estuary. He also said that was being challenged so it had not been adopted into the Comp plan just yet. He also said Sarasota County had adopted Comp Plan amendments that were limited to density increases.

Mr. Weiss said he did not think it could go on a ballot for a vote because there was no provision for adoption of ordinances by referendum or initiative

Ms. Battle asked if the citizens could get a petition signed to get this on the ballot.

Mr. Weiss said it was adopted by the Board and the way the County can adopt, amend or repeal ordinances was through the County Commission and the answer was no.

Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Star Highway, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and asked for clarification of Ms. Battle's questions.

Mr. Weiss said it was a representative form of government and the citizens could petition their commissioners to change the law, but they could not petition to have the matter placed on the ballot for citizens to vote on.

Marion Lasley reappeared before the Board and stated there were plenty of citizens in favor of this ordinance as it stood and did not want to have this repealed and felt it important that citizens have notice of major land use changes.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

She also stated that this provided protection from developers threatening property owners and this was for land-use changes and major subdivisions that would have a huge impact on homeowners in the area.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt said there were two or three ways the issue could be addressed: 1) take the Board to court and sue; 2) petition the Board; or 3) remove the commissioners from office. She also said the citizens need to attend the meetings when zoning laws being addressed.

Sam Palmer reappeared before the Board and said he could almost guarantee if the Citizens Bill of Rights was not repealed there would be litigation.

Charles Morris also reappeared before the Board and asked if the County had a charter.

Mr. Weiss explained this was not a charter county and that non-chartered counties were authorized to make laws that were authorized by state statutes.

Commissioner Taylor said when she first saw the Citizens Bill of Rights, she was excited because

she felt it was something good and gave citizens some rights, but now, looking at it closer, she still had appreciation of it because citizens were given the right to be notified before businesses being set up in a “bedrock” community.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

16A. Review and Approval of the TDC Marketing event/Tour of Gadsden “A Taste of the South”

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was an added item and there was a request from the TDC for \$10,000 to be used on an annual event, “A Taste of the South”.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WERE QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan said he knew this generated funds for the county, but asked specifically what the funds would be used for aside from transportation.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of meeting.

Mr. Presnell said they were looking into a bus or buses for a mode of transportation to allow attendees and their families’ access to events in the county.

Commissioner Holt said they were looking to keep them in the County and allow them to spend their money here.

Commissioner Croley asked the attorney his concerns of the transportation issue.

Mr. Weiss said his concerns were initially this was a Sheriff-based event and when they were asked to fund transportation for “our event” and he did not think it was an authorized use of funds, but if TDC held the event and the TDC did a tour of Gadsden County, that was a different matter.

Allara Gutcher, Planning & Community Development Director, appeared before the Board to better clarify the proposed item. She said anyone who wished to partake could join, it was not limited to the ones in town for the Safety Summit.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM. COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

17. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said he was asked at the last meeting to look into the cable installation and the City of Quincy had a contractor installing the cable.

He said there was a Roast and Toast for Superintendent Reginald James on June 14th and tickets were being sold.

He reminded them there would be a ribbon cutting at the Havana Restaurant on Thursday, June

5th at 10:30.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

18. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available for questions.

Commissioner Taylor said he had the highest regards for the County Attorney law firm and hoped things could be handled on a timely manner.

Chair Hinson said he knew the auditing firm was approved and asked if it would be on the next agenda.

Mr. Presnell said it would be on the next agenda.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

19. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said they had talked one time regarding adding mobile homes to the emergency repair funding and hoped it could be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said regarding the CDBG grants for the EMS facility, he asked to have it placed on the agenda again.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 IN FAVOR OF THIS. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley requested permission to approve a proclamation honoring Ms. Sara Adams, who will be 100 years old.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said regarding Items 10, 11 and 13, those items should have been left up to the Board to approve and not recommending that they be approved.

She asked the status of the grant position.

She also said until they looked at the Comprehensive plan, they were in trouble.

Chair Hinson asked if the Comp Plan was on a disk so everyone could start reviewing it.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
June 3, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Presnell said they could be furnished a copy of the book.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

RECEIPT AND FILE

20. a. May 6, 2014 Letter from the City of Quincy (Voluntary Annexation of Properties)

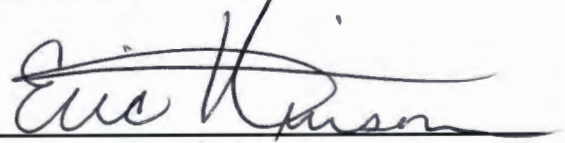
UPCOMING MEETINGS

21. CANCELLED-June 17, 2014 Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
July 1, 2014 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
July 15, 2014 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
July 24, 2014 - 2nd Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:49 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA


ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners



ATTEST:


NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JULY 1,
2014, AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDURES WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3 (arrived late)
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. He then asked for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

There were no awards, presentations or appearances.

CLERK OF COURT

Mr. Thomas was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

1. Approval of Minutes

-May 6, 2014, Regular Meeting

2. Approval of Adopt-A-Road Agreement with the Rittman Family

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

EMILY ROWAN, 1200 Little Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL 32351, came forward to give praise to Mr. Curtis Young and his staff at Public Works Department on their good work on the upkeep of the roads.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Presnell stated that Commissioner Morgan was running a little late, but would be attending the meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING-Adoption of Ordinance 2014-002, Adopting Procedures to Consider Acquisition of Property Interests in and Acceptance of Maintenance Responsibility for Certain Private Roadways in the Unincorporated Area of the County Under Certain Conditions

Mr. Weiss explained the above ordinance and said revisions were made to the Ordinance and this would provide the County the ability to accept property interests in and maintenance responsibility for certain private roads if the roads were able to meet certain standards.

Mike Dorian, 145 Alligator Run, Quincy, FL 32351, appeared before the Board to speak in support of the County accepting one mile of road per district per year.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was a list and said if they were going to do this Ordinance, they would need to do some comparison to have something in range per district.

Commissioner Taylor said in looking at the list, all the districts were covered, but some roads were not on the list because of being limited to the 60 foot right-of-way. She questioned the County Attorney because he said once the citizens signed the petition, brought their road up to standard, the decision was then with the Board if they wanted to adopt the road or not and added that she felt once a citizen had done their due diligence, it was not right that they might be turned down.

Mr. Weiss responded that as a formal matter, they had to ultimately accept the conveyance, right-of-way and maintenance responsibility, but could not be done until all the work was completed.

Commissioner Morgan arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Weiss stated the way the ordinance was written, there could be 2-3 roads in one district that totaled one mile or there could be one road over a mile that would qualify.

Commissioner Holt stated she had a problem with that because what if there were a road that totaled 10 miles.

Mr. Presnell stated there was not a road in excess of 2 miles.

Commissioner Croley pointed out there were two programs to assist private property owners with their roads, private road scraping and the paving program that was already in place.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

He stated that he supported a process that would allow for a reasonable expansion of the county's transportation system.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

He commented he had issues with this program and had five concerns:

- 1) Creating a false expectation in public's mind by suggesting private roads can easily be taken into the public roads system and if they complied with the ordinance, it was an extremely burdensome and expensive process;
- 2) At a time when the fuel revenue is declining nationally due to improved vehicle fuel

mileage, there would not be enough adequate funds and resources at the local level to cover the potential added transportation maintenance costs because the Board had already heard an accolade given to the Public Works Director that was doing a lot with a limited amount of resources;

- 3) It would be extremely difficult to meet Florida Statutes in bringing private roads up to standards;
- 4) If the Ordinance passed the way it was written, the width of the roadside could somehow be reduced and pointed out that Florida Statutes §336.045(4) required that "All design and construction plans for projects that are to become a part of the county road system and are required to conform with the design ... standards" what is known as the Greenbook Standards and those standards set forth the minimum right-of-way requirements, land and shoulder widths and if the roads were brought into the public transportation system, they would be brought into the State transportation system as well and the County would not be able to receive road maintenance money if they do not meet those standards.
- 5) At a time when the County is already facing pressing maintenance issues with the present public road system, they are now talking about the added costs of additional drainage issues frequently associated with unimproved roads that have been brought to standard.

He said he didn't see the logic of trying to go forward in this manner when they were being challenged with on-going maintenance issues.

Chair Hinson asked the County Attorney if there were any legal issues.

Mr. Weiss said as drafted, the Ordinance was a legal ordinance, but in order for them to accept any road into the county road system, they had to find that it served a county need.

Commissioner Holt asked if it would make sense to look at those items before the public spent their money, because once surveyed and everything done, that was an expensive task.

Mr. Weiss responded that the Ordinance was set up that way so after a petition was received, it would come before the Board initially to see if the Board would be willing to accept the road.

Commissioner Holt asked the criteria for meeting the public purpose.

Mr. Weiss responded the criteria was listed in Section 3 of the Ordinance.

Commissioner Morgan asked who compiled the list of roads and Mr. Presnell said the Community Development Department and said they were considering an Ordinance that would be "difficult, if not impossible to implement and we already have a process in place that is working" and said that the County would not be able to afford it.

Commissioner Taylor said the items listed in the criteria was not specific and pointed out the length of the road was not listed.

Commissioner Croley said there was not an "ear-marked" source of revenue to use to maintain the roads and that a lot of the roads on the list were set up in subdivisions of farms from years ago and the County did not take them in because the developers did not want to comply with the County requirements, and said when the Commission allowed them to develop the subdivisions, it raised

questions on what the terms and conditions were on the basis of the developments and he had serious questions on how this would work.

Commissioner Holt said when the subdivisions were being developed; there were some agreements with them previous to this being done.

There was discussion around the Board concerning this matter.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE TO ADD THAT THE ORDINANCE AUTOMATICALLY WILL SUNSET IN THREE YEARS AND SUBJECT TO CONSIDERING PREVIOUS COUNTY AGREEMENTS. THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION.

Mr. Dorian re-appeared before the Board and stated that many years ago he served on the Better Roads Committee and they found that Rich Bay Road had to sue the County to get them to pave the road. He pointed out there was a time in this County that Commissioner and developers made deals that was not fair and forced homeowner associations on people and the developers made out like bandits.

Commissioner Morgan said there was never a good time to pass poor legislation, he offered Option 3 to dis-approve and reject the Ordinance.

The Chair stated there was a motion and second currently on the floor.

THE CHAIR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE WITH THE AMENDMENTS. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Approval to declare items in the Emergency Medical Services Department as Surplus

Mr. Presnell introduced the item.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

5. Appointments to the Gadsden Industrial Development Authority

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this item was seeking approval to appoint or reappoint members to the Gadsden Industrial Development Authority.

Commissioner Croley stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt stated they needed to consider people who were interested in economic development.

Commissioner Croley returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley said the Industrial Board had to have applications to act on and did not think they had received any applications for some time.

Commissioner Morgan asked that a letter be sent to District 3 member, Calvin Dawkins on County letterhead and he be copied.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO TABLE THIS ITEM.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could merge this Board with the Economic Development Board.

Mr. Presnell said the Industrial Development Board could choose where they met, how often they met, who they attorney would be and what they would do, but this Board could not dictate what they do.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting

Commissioner Holt said they could ask for a meeting.

6. Appointment to the Quincy-Gadsden Airport Authority

Mr. Presnell introduced item and said the Airport Authority was seeking approval from the Board to appoint Mr. Ashley May as the Gadsden County representative to the Airport Authority.

Commissioner Croley made motion to approve Ashley May, there was discussion before second.

Chair Hinson asked in the future, for the names of nominees to not be made public.

Commissioner Croley explained this Board was one of the few entities that never asked for money or anything from the County.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

7. Approval of the FY 2013-2014 Public Works Mosquito Control Budget

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated this was for Board approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute the Mosquito Control Detailed Work Plan Budget for submission to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

Mr. Weiss said needed to be a "tentative budget" until Board's final budget was approved.

8. Amendment of the Gadsden County Emergency Repair Program

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking Board approval to amend the Gadsden County Emergency Repair Program. He said last year \$35,000 was budgeted for emergency repairs and this would expand for repairs to mobile homes.

Commissioner Holt asked how this would bring them up to code.

Mr. Presnell said it may or may not bring them up to code, it depended on the problems.

Commissioner Morgan stated repairs could not be done if the home did not meet code.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Holt said she had lived in a mobile home and did not know what could be nailed to in the mobile home.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt returned.

Commissioner Morgan asked questions of Ms. Gutcher.

Ms. Gutcher said the policy and guidelines that were before them had a strikethrough and underlined version and would bring the policy to current figures and in order for this to remain consistent with SHIP program, which did not repair mobile homes, it would remain as presented.

Commissioner Taylor said she had been asked how a mobile home could be brought to code and it could be repaired and said it was just like a regular home and if someone came before the Board for help, should not be disqualified simply because they lived in a mobile home.

Commissioner Holt said she was for people getting things done, but was not for trying to patch something that would not work.

Chair Hinson said he was torn on the issues, that he saw both sides.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO MAKE MOBILE HOMES ELIGIBLE AND THIS WOULD SUNSET IN ONE YEAR AND WAS SECONDED BY CHAIR HINSON. COMMISSIONER CROLEY CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Croley asked what an eligible mobile home was.

Mr. Presnell explained if there was a mobile home with aluminum wiring, it would not be eligible.

Commissioner Croley asked even if a needy person were living in it?

Phyllis Moore appeared before the Board to state in her opinion no mobile home was eligible. She added she was taught if you touched a housing unit and it could not be brought to code, walk away. She added when you replace a window in a house, there was wood to nail into, with a mobile home, there was metal and nothing to nail the window to. She then asked the commissioners if this was approved, would they appoint someone to oversee the projects to ensure they were done correctly.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

9. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell stated the Chair and Vice-Chair would be back from the conference and the scheduled board meeting on the 15th would take place.

Mr. Presnell said they were putting together the Annual Public Safety Coordinating Council that was required by law and currently Commissioner Croley was the Chairman of that Council. The meeting was being scheduled for the first week in August and Board selects the Chair for that Coordinating Council.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPOINT CHAIR HINSON TO THE COORDINATING COUNCIL.

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the Budget workshop scheduled for July 24th at 4:00 p.m.

They scheduled a workshop before the August 5th meeting.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

10. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report was available for questions.

Chair Hinson asked how long audit firm was approved for.

Arthur Lawson, Assistant County Administrator, appeared before the Board and stated the contract was for three years.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

11. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor expressed her appreciation to Commissioner Holt on her efforts in Washington, DC at the Senate hearing.

She said when they talked about the private road situation, in order for citizens to bring roads up to standards, could the public petition the county to do the work and pay them.

Mr. Presnell said if it simply involved blading, scraping, there was a policy for that. She added when the Public Works director distinguished the roads, it showed it was one sided in districts 1 and 2.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan commended Commissioner Holt on her efforts in Washington.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley thanked Commissioner Holt for articulating the needs of not only Gadsden County, but all the rural counties when she spoke in Washington, DC.

CRTPA

Commissioner Croley informed the Board of the Trails to Sea program and said Wakulla and Leon County partnered up in an effort to build bike trails and said everything was moving along.

He also said they had been successful in getting information from Georgia DOT regarding their transportation programs because US 19 was a major corridor to traffic in through Thomasville and most importantly for us was US 27 that was known as the Martha Berry Highway and the four-laning of it was almost complete and would tie Bainbridge into Columbus and Columbus tied into Atlanta and it would help generate a major corridor for traffic through this area into the coastal counties and would help tie into a plan to bring a cruise ship to the port at St. Joe, as it was being dredged.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt thanked the Board for approving her traveling to Washington to speak at the Senate hearing and added that she could not see attacking Social Security at the hearing because there were workers that were laid off. She also added that at the Social Security meeting at the Library, there were people interested in having video computers at the other two libraries.

She also said at one time Disney was looking into the Gulf to do entertainment here in the area and that hopefully the cruise ships would bring them back this way.

Mr. Presnell said there was one signed contract already.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson said something they needed to look at was partnering with cities in the county for a water park.

RECEIPT AND FILE

12. A. May 30, 2014 letter from Chief Judge Charles A. Francis (Tentative Budget Request)
- B. May 30, 2014 Letter from the Town of Havana (Periodic Update on Town's Natural Gas System's Purpose, Reliability, Associated Hazards, Damage Control & Emergency Preparedness Measures)
- C. June 2, 2014 Letter from Mediacom (Changes to local cable television lineup)
- D. June 3, 2014 Proclamation Honoring the Retirement of Ms. Alice DuPont

UPCOMING MEETINGS

13. -July 15, 2014, Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

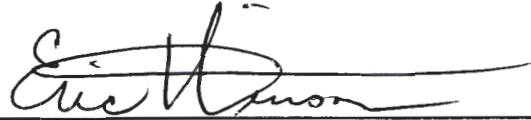
Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
July 1, 2014-Regular Meeting

-July 24, 2014 2nd Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:31 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners



ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JULY 15,
2014, AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3-Absent
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Courts
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Pastor Charles Morris came forward to give the prayer and Chair Hinson led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

Commissioner Taylor arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell stated he would like to add Item 2B-Approval of Commissioner Hinson's travel to Florida Association of Counties Annual Leadership Summit.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD
VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.**

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Update from CareerSource Capital Region

Jim McShane, CEO, CareerSource Capital Region, appeared before the board and gave a brief rundown of their services and added that they serve basically everyone that walked in and they were a universal service system. He explained he covered Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties and there were 6,000 jobs available in the tri-county area.

Mr. Presnell pointed out that if someone was looking for a career change or educational opportunities, CareerSource would pay the tuition, buy books, uniforms, and certification and would have a job upon graduating.

Commissioner Taylor said she was a realist and had a job with the Gadsden County School District working with parents and they had called CareerSource several times and was unable to get a representative to come to their meetings. She asked what the 6,000 jobs that was available.

Mr. McShane said they were in healthcare, truck driving, retail and government.

Commissioner Taylor then asked what percentage was available in Gadsden County and Mr. McShane said a small percentage.

Commissioner Taylor also said she did not mean to sound condescending or disrespectful, but was talking from the heart and expressed the need for jobs in this area.

Mr. McShane apologized for no-one getting in touch with her for their meetings and said two of the representatives were dismissed and he would not tolerate that type of service and they were going to become career specialists in that they would be available to help everyone with career climbing.

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Thomas said he had sent the Board members a couple of memos and wanted to expound on those. He went on the record that he was opposed to the gas tax increase that was part of the proposal to build the new jail administrative building and pod because as it appeared to him there was no net increase to the transportation fund, money was being taken from the 1 cent sales tax to pay debt service and the fund balance of the transportation fund would continue to drop while at the same time they plan on taking on new roads. He wanted to be clear that he was not opposed to the new jail pod and it was something they had talked about with the former Sheriff years ago. He also pointed out they had requested an additional judge to help with the felony cases on trial week and that had not happened and the reason they wanted that first was the jail was at capacity and without additional judge help, prosecutors, defenders, more people would sit longer and would cost more money potentially. He added if they decided to add a pod, the Board would have to sacrifice something.

The second thing he wanted to discuss was the Court Facilities fund. He said in 2004, the Board tacked \$15.00 onto speeding tickets by authority given by the legislature and in 2009, the Board added an additional \$15.00 so everyone who received a speeding ticket in Gadsden County paid an additional \$30.00 that goes into a fund that was to be for Court facilities. He said the problem he had with this, was the County was taking approximately one-third of the money off the top for operational costs, utilities, insurance, security and this was to save the General Fund. He further added that last month he sent a report of four different types of mold growing in the Courthouse and the poor air quality. He said while he appreciated the County Administrator's attention to the problems, he felt the overall response to the report was lacking and it was potentially a serious problem.

Chair Hinson said he thought the problems had been addressed and was very shocked and stated they had given direction to the Manager to look into the problems and thought everything had been cleared.

Mr. Presnell stated the main issues were in the basement and were being addressed and they were installing HV lighting to offset the issues. He also pointed the Courthouse was 100 years old, the issues did not happen overnight, the roof leaked, that was finally addressed and some of the issues were design issues and the Courthouse was not designed for air conditioning and HVAC systems.

Commissioner Croley agreed with the Clerk regarding the environment that he had personally been all over the Courthouse and was aware of many of the issues he pointed out. He asked if the Clerk was dissatisfied with rate of progress that was being made or if he was sharing information.

Mr. Thomas said that Mr. Presnell had responded every time he had talked with him, but he was not satisfied with the rate of progress because some of the issues were serious and there were people in

close proximity of the molds.

Commissioner Croley said the Courthouse was in District 2 and was the heart of the County government and was on the County logo and added the Board needed to be proactive, not reactive in dealing with the issues.

Commissioner Holt said the Courthouse was over 100 years old and there needed to be a plan to get it in shape and asked if the Clerk was asking for the funding source to pay for the improvements.

Clerk Thomas said in a lot of the counties, the \$30.00 was used exclusively for improvements to court facilities and this year they could expect to collect \$290,000 and \$108,000 was already budgeted for routine expenses, such as utilities, insurance, etc.

Commissioner Taylor said the Clerk had a spot on the agenda every meeting and did not ever recall anything in past of any formal requests from him.

Clerk Thomas said he had hoped with presenting it informally to Board and the Administrator, it would be addressed.

Commissioner Taylor said anytime there was an item with costs associated with it, it should be formally presented to the Board.

Mr. Thomas responded that there were some maintenance cleaning issues that had been identified and he thought those matters should be done as part of routine cleaning and did not need to have money allocated for that.

Mr. Presnell said the items he was made aware of dealing with cleaning was in the return air ducts and the HVAC people vacuumed the ducts and he was made aware of the problem approximately one month ago and took action immediately to resolve the cleaning issues.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

2. Approval of Minutes

-May 20, 2014 Regular Meeting

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

John Chafin, 3501 Sharer Road, Tallahassee, FL-drainage problem on his property on McPhaul Road, appeared before the Board regarding the County diverted water onto his property and has caused drainage issues. He said there was a washout approximately ten feet deep and goes across his property the length of 600-700 feet. He said he had given County officials an easement to work on the property and had met with Justin Ford of Preble Rish and a recommendation was made to fix the drainage problem and it had not worked and had only fixed approximately one-third of the problem. He said he also had met with Northwest Florida Water Management. He said he had

retained Scott and Wallace to represent him and a letter was sent to the County Administrator and there had been no response. Recently the County placed a 24" pipe across the road, but there needed to be something done before he took action in Court. Mr. Chafin explained he had his attorneys on hold for the moment to see if something could be worked out.

Minister Alphonso Figgers, 215 North Chalk Street, Quincy, FL 32351-Shaw's Addition Crime Watch and Community Action Committee, appeared before the Board with Certificates of Appreciation for their assistance regarding health fairs that they attended, along with other issues.

Mary Smith, 3137 Atwater Road, Chattahoochee, FL – Racism. Ms. Smith addressed the Board and said she had lived on her property since 1943 and never had a problem until 2005 and that she has lived in other places and has never seen the racism as she has seen here. She stated she has people that trash her property, kick her gates and the law enforcement came and arrested her children. She said the problem neighbors were squatters and the owners of the property did not intend to do anything.

Commissioner Taylor said they needed to look at the legal aspect and if there were squatters on property and were on the property illegally, there might be something legally that could be done to help Mrs. Smith out.

Mr. Weiss said it sounded like this was a private matter and needed more information before they talked any more about it.

Commissioner Holt advised Ms. Smith to seek legal advice.

Dwayne Smith, 3137 Atwater Road, Chattahoochee, FL, appeared before the Board and said they were taking legal action, but their problem was they were not being treated fairly by Gadsden County. He said there were pictures showing where the neighbors were tearing up their property and the Sheriff's Office refuse to stop them from abusing their property.

Tracey Stallworth, 770 Selman Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and asked how they could obtain lights in his neighborhood and he also had a problem with county and city trucks speeding in the neighborhood and said his biggest fear is someone being killed because of the speeding trucks. Commissioner Croley gave him his mobile phone number and asked him to contact him with truck numbers and who was speeding and he would try to help address the problem.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

3. Approval to Declare Gadsden County Health Department's Dental Equipment as Surplus and Authorization to Sell the Surplus Equipment

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking Board approval to declare Gadsden County Health Department dental equipment as surplus and requested authorization to sell the surplus equipment.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Max Martinez, Interim Administrator, appeared before the Board to answer questions and added that as of June 13, 2014, because of Medicaid changes, both locations at the Quincy office and the Havana clinic were closed and they were not able to sustain the dental program. He said to keep services in the County, they outsourced the program to Neighborhood Health and they would help absorb some of the staff and one dentist. He explained the Health Department bought the equipment and it was worth over \$200,000 and they did not expect to make that much on the sale.

Commissioner Croley said after researching the matter and a telephone call from Commissioner Matt Thro with the Town of Havana, this effort was to take the dental equipment and go through the formality of the proper county surplus disposal and both entities would provide the same operations in place for the citizens' healthcare.

Commissioner Taylor said Mr. Martinez had two letters because he sent an email stating they were ready to sell and asked if they were ready to buy. She stated she had talked to both of them and there was a contract, but the contract said nothing according to what she was told about the equipment. She disclosed that she had spoken with Aretha Jones and Max Martinez and felt like the equipment at Neighborhood Health should be left alone and at a reasonable time, make it a sellable item. She said she was with Mr. Martinez, but his timing was an issue and was affecting a program and what they were trying to do was not ethical. She asked that they try to help this program move a little more down the road. She added that the idea now was to make sure they had good services in as many parts of the County as possible. She suggested they promote it, that it was a great program and was paying a decent salary.

Mr. Martinez asked to respond and said he had been working with Neighborhood Health for over a year and the Health Department was very supportive and was trying to do them no harm. He said they asked for other equipment, such as the refrigerator to place their vaccines in and they had the facility manager to install one for them. He said sometime in May he met with Ms. Aretha Jones and her new CFO in his office when they were getting ready to close down before the June 13th deadline. He advised them they were in the process of shutting down the dental office because they could not sustain it and he could lease them the equipment or they could buy it but it would have to go through the Board of County Commissioners. At that time, she informed him she was not interested in leasing, she wanted to purchase it. He said this was conducted across the table and he later contacted her and asked her to put it in writing that she was willing to purchase the equipment and it was done. He later spoke with Joel Montgomery, the CEO of Florida Medical and said the same thing to him, that they were shutting down and have state of the art equipment if they were interested in using it. He was very excited and said he wanted to open a dental office in their facility. When Mr. Martinez met with him again, Mr. Montgomery stated since he had the space in the Jessie Furlow Building, he wanted to start there. He explained it would cost \$20,000 to move it because it would take someone who understood how to move the equipment. He said he was asking if this could be done and all they wanted was something back from the equipment. He added there was an entity that has \$2.2 Million and to give them something for the state of the art equipment and both entities would be satisfied using the equipment and the Health Department no longer has a use for it.

Commissioner Holt said once they knew it was to be brought before the Board, the documentation should have been provided in the packet for them to review.

Mr. Martinez appeared before the Board again and stated he was following instructions of the County Administrator and they were simply asking to get something back on the equipment they had purchased if and when the County chose to sell it.

Commissioner Croley said there seemed to be an individual present that seemed to have some information because Commissioner Taylor brought some information up that he didn't understand or he agreed with Commissioner Holt that the information in the packet was not complete and he would like to hear from anyone else that might have something to add.

Patrice Gray, a representative for Aretha Jones, spoke on behalf of Neighborhood Watch and stated their position was they were informed that they had the opportunity to purchase the dental equipment, but they were understanding the timeframe in which that purchase had to be made. She added they were currently providing services using the equipment in the dental clinic in Havana to patients in the County that were uninsured and currently were not paying for any of the services.

Commissioner Croley asked her how soon they were interested in buying the equipment.

Ms. Gray responded that once they received information as to the costs of the equipment and the timeframe, they would be prepared to move forward, but they have not received that information yet. She said they did received \$2.1 Million to make them a federally qualified health center and the majority, if not all of the funds, were going toward salaries for the specialty providers and the positions they had to hire in the short amount of time that was already addressed.

Commissioner Croley said he saw that Rhonda Woodward had some information.

Rhonda Woodward, Senior Accountant/CPA for Gadsden County Clerk's Office, appeared before the Board, and stated it was brought to her attention that the property purchased for the Health Department under Florida Statutes Chapter 381, once they bought the equipment, they had the authority and were supposed to transfer title to that property to the County, which was why it was before the Board now. She explained that the statute stated that "Anything the County received from Health Departments will be handled in accordance with all other requirements of Section 274", which she explained, required when you surplus property, it had to be disposed of in accordance with the County's bid process, which was also stated in the agenda item. She further stated that she had not seen a written bid process and did not know if the offer that was brought before them was in accordance with their bid process procedures and typically, a bid of this amount was a sealed bid process.

Commissioner Croley withdrew his second and the reason being, he would like this item tabled and allow all parties to review this and get all the information in their packet before it was reconsidered.

Commissioner Holt said there were two or three things going on with this. She added that one was precedence if going to give away property, you had to look at what was done in the past, if going

to surplus and sell the property, then the bid process must be followed. If the property was not surplus, they should follow the process as they did when they gave equipment to the vocational school. She said she had no problem with two entities getting the equipment and no problem with them paying for it and if the equipment were to be surplus, it was fair game to anyone and if someone outside the county bought it, there would be no services at all. She said it was her opinion they would be better off, if they were going to surplus it, to sell it to these two entities, if possible.

Mr. Presnell pointed out that if the Board did decide to surplus the equipment; staff was requesting authorization to sell the surplus equipment through the County's bid process.

Commissioner Holt withdrew her motion.

Commissioner Taylor said Commissioner Holt brought up a very valid point in that if the equipment went through the bid process, anyone could bid on it and it would hurt everyone in the long run and she would like to table this until the Administrator could get with the entities that were interested locally.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE MANAGER COULD MEET WITH THE ENTITIES AND COME UP WITH SOLUTION TO KEEP SERVICES AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT RECEIVE PROCEEDS.

4. Approval of Engineering Consulting Services for Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said staff was directed by the Board to solicit a RFP for engineering services and it was done as instructed. Six firms responded and the recommendation of the ranking team was to continue with services with Preble-Rish.

Commissioner Holt asked about the engineering firm's grant writing process and asked, for example, the Bank offering to do a CDBG grant for the purchase of the property east of Quincy for the ambulance service. She added if they could do a CDBG, the county should be able to get some grants in that area so the County could be competitive with economic development.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, appeared before the Board to answer questions and said that specifically to the economic development site, some of the grants were primarily CDBG economic development grants, along with other types of grants they could pursue. Some of the grants would require the companies to commit jobs to the county on the front end and without the jobs committed, the grant would be pretty well dead. He added if they were aware of a company interested in coming and needed a, b, c, done, they could meet with them, prepare the grant application and submit it.

Warren Yeager, Preble-Rish, addressed the Board and said his firm was focused on small communities and small counties. He said that they could also work closely with the lobbyists in trying to obtain grant funding.

Commissioner Taylor asked with the rebidding if there was any savings. She added that she was not a proponent of Preble-Rish and would not vote for them tonight and there needed to be a change. She further stated there was more going on in some districts that there were in others,

and every district needed to receive a fair shake.

Commissioner Croley stated he supported the agenda item for option 1 and thought the evaluation committee ranked this firm out the highest and they offered a consistency in experience and knowledge of the county and was very involved in small county coalition work. He then asked Mr. Yeager to return to the podium and stated he was either the immediate past chair or current chair of Small County Coalition and was a commissioner from Gulf County and asked him how many rural counties Preble-Rish worked with in North Florida.

Mr. Yeager said that what Commissioner Croley had stated was correct and informed them that his company worked with approximately ten rural counties in Northwest Florida and said that they understood rural issues.

Commissioner Croley said there was not an engineering firm on the list that was not qualified and the decision to choose an engineering firm, rightfully as ranked out number one, should go to Preble-Rish and if they wanted them to work in a certain area, state it and when the Chair was ready would like to make the motion that they accept option one.

Chair Hinson thanked Preble-Rish for coming and said he wanted to break it down and be fair. He read from the Agenda Request and said the four member committee was appointed by the County Administrator and after reviewing the proposals, the committee did not deem it necessary to require presentations and he felt that was a “red flag” because he felt the Administrator should have brought this to the commissioners and he pointed out that the request stated that a copy of the proposals were on file in the Management Services Department. He felt they should have the proposals for them to review and they needed to be transparent. He said he would like to know how Preble-Rish was paid, if it were by percentage of grants and contracts, and wanted to make sure everything was fair. He felt they did not have all the necessary information and wanted to see all of the proposals and wanted to have a workshop regarding this matter.

Commissioner Croley said he wanted Commissioner Hinson to feel comfortable in his decision and pointed out this firm worked with the other two rural counties that made up this region on the Metropolitan Regional Planning and their support was needed to help this county to receive funding to improve the roads, whether it be SCRAP, SCOP, safety projects or LAP.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO TABLE THIS ITEM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

5. Approval of Millage Rate Notification and Set the Date, Time and Place for the Public Hearings to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Gadsden County BOCC Budget

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the millage rate for the TRIM notices. He added that the property values went down and it would take an increase of the millage rate to 9.1443 to collect the same amount of money that was collected last year and they were proposing that the millage rate stay the same.

Commissioner Croley moved that they keep the millage rate at 8.9064 as it currently was.

Commissioner Holt said if they decided to raise it, they could always reduce it.

Chair Hinson said he knew that the other commissioners had more experience and asked if the Budget Director could explain how the roll-back worked.

Commissioner Holt

“But, Mr. Chairman, look, if you are going to be down, if the interest, the millage rate is the same as it was last year, but the value went down, that means that you are going to get the money coming into the county. Because if your property value this year, last year, was \$80,000, now this year it went down to \$60,000. That means that you did not get charged \$20,000, so that means that you don’t get that money. Well, Gadsden County, for the last four years, property values stayed above, stayed up, compared to the rest of the state. Because when I was in South Florida at the FAC meeting, a probation meeting, that’s what they brought up, that’s the first thing they said, was only one county in the whole state where property values stayed up and of course we said where and they said Gadsden County. I started laughing, I said that’s because we can’t afford to pay anymore. But, bottom line of it is, when the property values go down, you are going to pay less taxes. That means that you get less money into the county, but they are going to want the same services. Like, if you are only losing \$200,000, you may not be too bad off. But, my concern is...”

Chair Hinson

“Well, you know, ah, which means \$800,000 now from four years...”

Commissioner Holt

“It could go down...”

Chair Hinson

“I’m talking about the total we lost \$800,000 in four years...”

Commissioner Holt

“It could go back up.”

Chair Hinson

“So, ah, because I know the School Board, we kept on doing the roll-back and it was, it looked like, nobody said anything because it’s, the taxes were not affected by it. So, I’m just, I’m just assuming, because maybe the finance director can tell us something different than what you said. So, I don’t know. Can you please explain to us about the roll-back, because, like, again, I’m lost for words on this.”

Jeff Price, Senior Management & Budget Analyst

“What Commissioner Holt said was exactly dead-on.”

Chair Hinson

“Can you explain the roll-back to us, though?”

Mr. Price

“Yeah, when the roll-back is the rate that you would, how can I explain it, ah, you would get the same amount of money that the County, the County would get the same amount of money this year that we got last year in taxes, \$11 Million.”

Chair Hinson

"So really, what you are saying, when you do a roll-back, no-body's taxes will not go up, really, it pretty much will stay the same."

Mr. Price started to talk.

Chair Hinson

"No, no, hold up, excuse me, excuse me, hold on a second, Mr. Presnell, hold on a second. I want you to tell me the truth, cause one thing I don't like, again, is someone who is trying, someone, I don't like this proposal here anyway, because (inaudible) this proposal here. It throws a different light out here. I want you to tell me the truth. The truth, just tell the truth and we can move forward."

Mr. Price

"There will be some properties that the value may have gone up and some that went down."

Chair Hinson

"Cause you know I'm going to do research on this, right?"

Mr. Price

"I'm sure you are."

Chair Hinson

"I want you to tell me the truth on record about roll-backs with the property values, even a... I want you to tell me the truth. You are my financial director, right? I'm going to come up here, I'm going to do extensive research on this right here. Unfortunately, I did not approve this whole agenda, he (Mr. Presnell) didn't give me a chance to look over anything and ask me anything about do I want to approve the agenda that came beforehand so I was out of town and everything, so I apologize with not getting in contact with you. So, please tell me the truth, because I'm going to do extensive research on this thing. I'm going come back at the next board meeting and we're going to talk about it, so you are 100% right. So, can you tell me the truth about roll-back, so everybody in the audience can know the truth?"

Mr. Price

"There will be some properties that the value has gone up, so if you roll-back the rate to the 9%, they will pay more in property taxes. The majority of the properties have gone down in value. They will pay less or the same as last year."

Chair Hinson

"So, in essence, the majority of folks in Gadsden County, if you keep it as is now at roll-back, majority of people in Gadsden County will still be less or the same."

Mr. Price

"Correct."

Chair Hinson

“Correct. So, but if you bring it down, so if you bring it down, see, Mr. Presnell got about 100 acres of land, right? So it really will affect him. Mr. Croley, you know everybody got a lot of land, it would affect us. We are here to serve the what? The people, right? So, ah, so, what you are trying to tell me, because like I said, we did the same thing, just curious, cause I was going, I was curious that this happened. So you are trying to tell me that we keep it at 9.1, and I’m not saying I’m going go for it, I’m just throwing it out there so we can talk about it, 9.1443, you still going to pay less money than you was as did last year or the same.”

Mr. Presnell

“Exactly the same.”

Chair Hinson

“Well, he said, he’s the Budget Director, he’s the one you pay almost \$80,000 for, right? You said that majority of the people in the county will pay the same or less, right?”

Mr. Price

“Correct, depends on the value...”

Chair Hinson

“The value of the property, right? The small percentage of folks may pay a little bit more, right? So, you keep it as is, I’m not saying I’m going for it, I’m just, we, I just want to make sure the community is educated with this, so, if we bring it down, Gadsden County make less money, less money going to Public Works, that you fighting for, put money out in other areas, less money going to hospital services, less money going to library services, less money going to EMS, less money going to everywhere else and, but if keep it the same, everybody pay the same. Common people pay the same. Almost everybody pay the same. So, I’m going to vote whatever y’all want to vote for, I just want to make sure y’all, I want to make sure y’all know what’s going on. I’m not saying anything different, I just want...”

Commissioner Croley

“That ain’t how it works. There is more to it.”

Chair Hinson

“No, what I’m saying, I just wanted the public, I just wanted the public to know the truth that if you doing the roll-back, right, the majority of the people doing the, they sticking with the roll-back because almost everybody in the county, the majority of people, you gonna pay the same or less anyway. It just look that way, cause look like, cause look like, see look at numbers, you think you thinking you gonna pay lot more taxes, but majority of folks in the county gonna pay what? Less or the same, but, you know, so. It’s just something to consider so we all know what’s going on. But we, you know, I pay \$300-400 a month on taxes myself, so I, you know, so, everybody here probably pay that kind of money, and so, ah, you know, but, when I come here I don’t represent Eric Hinson, I represent the people. So, if I was here for me, maybe I wouldn’t have brought this up, ah, Mr. Croley.”

Commissioner Croley

“I have no idea, Mr. Chair, what you would have brought up.”

Chair Hinson

“So, please tell me, whatever y’all want to do, somebody make a motion, whatever, the majority of the board want to go with it, least I want to make sure the Board...”

Commissioner Croley

“I already made the motion.”

Chair Hinson

“Commissioner Croley made the motion to...”

Commissioner Croley

“Stay at 8.9064. I want to tell you why.”

Chair Hinson

“Go ahead, Mr. Croley, because you want, somebody want to make private roads. “

Commissioner Croley

“You are located, if everything was a stagnant world, you never had any changes and that might be true. There is a millage cap at 10 Mills. You keep going up; you will be at that cap. With all due respect to the Gadsden County School Board and I do not mean this in a disrespectful way, that is not always the model to go by because here’s the situation. We are next door to an urban county of Leon. We have businesses that we are interested in moving over to Gadsden County. One of our most competitive advantages is we have a very favorable tax structure for them to come to. They can move into our Industrial Parks because I keep hearing about jobs. We want to get jobs down here, say in Commissioner Taylor’s district, we want to see the City of Quincy establish that Industrial Park, or build it out with the proper infrastructure. You want a site for them to come to, because businesses in Tallahassee are hit with so many taxes, they are looking for places to move to. So you have an opportunity to bring in more volume and when you speak about this ad valorem tax rate and roll-back, it’s like the car that you’re buying a 100 gallons of gas a month for at a dollar, so that’s \$100 that you are spending on fuel. Then you want to turn around and say, OK, I bought a new car that gets better gas mileage, now I only have to spend \$90, but the store says, or station you are buying the fuel from, says well, we want to still keep \$100 in revenue, so we are going to raise the price per gallon to \$1.11, which is what they’ll have to do to equal the same \$100 in revenue. Well, what happens is, people who are looking to buy fuel are not going to come and pay \$1.11 a gallon, they are going go where they can get it for \$1.00. The point I’m trying to make is, you are, Leon County is being, is driving these businesses out and they will come here, they will buy, they will locate warehouses, there is warehouse jobs, things of that nature. That’s why you see over in your district with the 10/90 Park. So, raising your property taxes and you’ll soon be, if you keep on doing that, you’ll soon be back at 10 Mills, which is where it was before, before the people, the people you are talking about, voted in this state to force the taxes down. So, Mr. Chair, I still let my motion stand, because it’s in our best business interest.”

Chair Hinson

“In all fairness to, thank you too, Mr. Budget Director, I cut you off one or two times, you always been straight up with me and I thank you for your honesty, and also, all fairness too, I didn’t say I was for either/or, I just wanted to know the facts, and so, at least we got the facts, or at least everybody know now the truth and we can just vote on the truth. Whatever y’all decide to go with, that’s the direction I will go with.”

Mr. Presnell

"Mr. Chair, to make sure y'all are comfortable with those two dates, you know there's a rule the School Board goes first and they have to be so many days apart and those are proposed for the public hearings for the adoption of your budget."

Commissioner Taylor

"Let me just say this, we have to do the roll-back, we have to go with the 9.1443 to be in order to balance our budget and be able to do some projects next year. Like you said a moment ago, to take care of the hospital, the roads, the bridges and all else. If when we get our announcement from the Property Appraiser's office and it sounds a little bit more favorable than what we are hearing now, then we can take it back to 8.9, but if we adopt 8.9 tonight, then you won't be able to go up if you are not bringing in money. We need to make sure we'll be able to balance. So, you have a motion on the floor for 8.9, is that your motion (looking at Commissioner Croley)?

Commissioner Croley

"Yes."

Commissioner Taylor

"OK, well, I'm going to back up and I'm not going to support that, I'm going with the 9, I'll back up and I'll wait."

Chair Hinson

"Mr. Nicholas Thomas, can I..."

Commissioner Croley

"I'm only going to say, just bear in mind, you will be raising taxes, millage rate and..."

Chair Hinson

"No, what are we saying, we're not raising, no all fairness, Mr. Croley, if, I'm glad the news media is here, we not raising taxes, it staying the same. It's the same or less, it's just, it just look, huh..."

Commissioner Taylor

"The money collected will stay the same."

Chair Hinson

"Yeah, everything collected will stay the same, it's not like you are raising taxes, nobody will not have no adverse effect, actually, it will probably be less than what you paid before, according to what the budget director said. So, if someone decides to say something, at least it will be said the right way, because Eric Hinson did not say this, the Budget Director said that it was going to be staying the same or what? Less."

Commissioner Croley

"The people in District One didn't send you over to vote for what he said, he lives in Tallahassee."

Commissioner Holt

"Mr. Chair, may I?"

Chair Hinson

"If I get two votes on any side that's the, my thing is that whatever y'all want to do, that's the direction I'm going."

Commissioner Holt

"Mr. Chairman, I don't, it's like I said before, if you vote for 8.9 now, you can't raise it if you need to. When you started this conversation, I said you go for the roll-back and at next meeting, if you need to reduce it, reduce it."

Commissioner Taylor

"Let's just move it."

Chair Hinson

"Because I'm not trying to raise taxes, I've never raised taxes before in my life."

Commissioner Holt

"They're going to beat up on you when you get home."

Chair Hinson

"Who cares? I mean, my thing, my thing is working for the people and, and, and the truth is the truth. The truth is that if, if, if you go with the roll-back, it's going to be the same or less. That's the truth. So, what you're paying, it's going to be the same or less. It's not like your taxes are gonna, at the most, he said 'most of the people'."

Commissioner Croley

"My motion died, I guess, for lack of a second. You, ah, I'm assuming that's the case, because no-one said it."

Commissioner Taylor

"He didn't say that. You need to formally say that, that your motion dies for lack of second, does it die for lack of a second?"

Commissioner Croley

"Are you seconding it?"

Commissioner Taylor

"No sir."

Chair Hinson

"Oh no, I ain't gonna second it. My thing here..."

Commissioner Holt

"Mr. Chairman, go ahead and say it dies for lack of a second."

Chair Hinson

"It dies for a lack of second."

Commissioner Croley

"This is intelligent government. I want everyone to hear that. I tell you what, go ahead, OK, we've

got a motion, go ahead.”

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TYALOR, THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 IN APPROVAL OF THE ROLL-BACK RATE OF 9.1443. COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

Chair Hinson

“The thing here, is that the great thing about this motion here, we are not saying that we are going to stick with this, we can go down, or, we can always go down, we are just using this as a measurement right now, alright? ‘Preciate ya.”

Commissioner Croley

“I want to hear his explanation in the Kiwanis Club in Havana.”

Chair Hinson

“Well, I can, well honestly, honestly, Mr. Croley ahh, I can make sure that by, by, I can make sure November that we can get a good explanation too, as well, in the mid-part of November.”

Commissioner Holt

“OK, let’s go.”

Commissioner Taylor

“Wait a minute, what was that comment you just made?”

Commissioner Holt

“Nothing, nothing, let’s go.”

6. Approval to Apply for the State Funded Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Grant #15-BG-83-02-30-01-020 and the Federally Funded Emergency Management Preparedness Performance Grant #15-FG- -02-30-01-087

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated it was for their approval to apply for State funding for the Emergency Management Grant.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN CHAIR HINSON HAD COMMENTS.

Chair Hinson said he supported the Sheriff’s Office, but they had talked about Economic Development Block Grant and if they voted on this, they could not have two block grants and they commented earlier they wanted the block grants to be for economic development.

Mr. Presnell pointed out this was not a CDBG grant.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

7. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell reminded them of the budget workshop scheduled for Thursday, July 24th at 4:00 p.m.

He said there would be an event Saturday, July 26th 'Prayz in the Park' located in the field by Bradwell Mortuary.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

8. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report, but was happy to answer any questions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

9. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked about access to the Canteen money at the jail and said they wanted to do some things at the jail.

Mr. Presnell said they had made a request and he met with the Clerk's office about it. He said they were under the impression the canteen money was set aside, that they had turned money in, but it goes back into general funds. He said the purchase of the beds would be made out of the general fund because they would be attached to the jail and would be a permanent item.

Commissioner Taylor asked that this item be placed on the agenda for further discussion because she wanted to make sure the funds were used in the best way possible.

She said she had received word from someone in the community that there was state statute that allowed 50 foot wide private roads and would like that brought back after she received the statute and shared it.

She said they had been talking about Planning and Zoning coming back with the Comp plan. She said she would like to see something before October and would also like to have a copy of the Comp plan.

She also wanted to hold community meetings and no-one has initiated that.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley pointed out meetings seemed to stretch out longer and longer and requested the Chair to do something to shorten them up and get better control of the meetings.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she would like to have the events ordinance brought back at the next available meeting.

She said she agreed with Commissioner Taylor regarding the Comp Plan and would like to have it

brought back also.

She said Commissioner Hinson and she attended a workshop in New Orleans and it would be nice to provide in budget for Planning and Zoning members to attend conferences.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said last year he asked the Board to give \$130,000 to hire an executive director for economic development, instead they hired a consultant. He said he did not feel comfortable with that and unless they hired an Executive Director, he wanted to give money back to the Chamber.

RECEIPT AND FILE

10. a. Clerk of Courts Operations Corporation Report (2nd Quarter of CFY 2013-14)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 11.** **-July 24, 2014-2nd Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.**
 -August 5, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
 -August 19, 2014- Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:19 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 5, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5-arrived late
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments and Mr. Presnell stated he would like to pull Item 16 and Chair Hinson asked to move Item 23 to 14A.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

There were no presentations or awards.

CLERK OF COURTS

The Clerk was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

Chair Hinson asked to pull Item 2.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM 2.

- 1. Approval of Minutes
-June 3, 2014 – Regular Meeting**

- 2. ~~Proclamation Recognizing National Breastfeeding Month, August 2014~~ Item pulled**

3. **Resolution 2014-014 Supporting the City of Quincy Adams Street Restoration and Sidewalk Project**
4. **Approval to Declare EMS Items as Surplus**
5. **Approval to Sell Surplus Equipment/Vehicles at Auction**
6. **Approval of Small Road Assistance Program Agreement for Hogan Lane-FDOT and Resolution 2014-013**
7. **Approval of Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement for Design of the South Atlanta Street Sidewalk Project and Resolution 2014-012**
8. **Approval to Propose Safety Studies for County Roads**
9. **Authorization for the Chairman to Execute a Letter in Support of the County's Competitive Florida Partnership Program Application**
10. **Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract-SHIP Program**
11. **Approval of Participation in the Application Process for the FFY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)**
12. **Approval to Accept the Grant Award from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grant Program (FRDAP) to Renovate Rosedale Park-\$50,000**
13. **Approval and Authorization for the Chairman to Execute the Satisfaction of Agreement and Lien Between Gadsden County and Eddie M. Horne and Martha Kemp Horne-Code Enforcement**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

2. **Proclamation Recognizing National Breastfeeding Month, August 2014**
Chair Hinson stated the reason he pulled Item 2 was so at the next meeting it could be presented to someone in the community and asked that it be placed on the next agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THIS ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA.

Commissioner Taylor joined the meeting at this juncture.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens requesting to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

14. Approval of CR 270 (Woodward Road) Widening and Resurfacing Additive Change Order

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated it was a Change Order to the contract that was bid for the Woodward Road resurfacing project. He said the bid came in lower than the grand amount and they were requesting to do additional work on the road and replace all the guardrails along to road.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

14a Review and Discussion of Ordinance 2001-010; an Ordinance Providing for the Regulation of Festivals Providing for Legislative Finding; Providing for the Establishment of Rules Regarding Festivals; Providing for Exemptions; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

Chair Hinson stated he asked to pull the item because someone had called him and said they had a concern about the number of people allowed at events.

Commissioner Holt said she had had complaints about this item because of the number of people allowed at the event and asked that the number be increased from 500.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture.

Commissioner Holt explained it had been requested for the amount to be increased because if there were more than 500 people at an event, they would be breaking the ordinance.

Commissioner Croley stated that he would regularly receive complaints about certain events that have loud music in a rural area and it could be heard from a distance away and there were traffic issues on two lane roads. He added that family reunions would be a different matter; there were no-one selling tickets or doing a "music festival".

Commissioner Hinson said they had the pilau event in Havana every year with 2,000-3,000 people in attendance.

Commissioner Holt said they needed to look at the ordinance and make sure it was brought into compliance.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the ordinance was being enforced at the moment and said he understood the reason to regulate certain activities, but he was not in favor of ordinances that could not be enforced. He asked Mr. Presnell the purpose of the fee.

Mr. Presnell said the ordinance was put on the books because of the luau that use to be held

and would call for protection if an event of that size was to be scheduled.

Mr. Presnell said one thing he would like for them to review was the Clean-up Bond because it seemed to create difficulties for people he had met with.

Commissioner Morgan said he had no problem in getting deposit if it were an event of significant size and if the area was not cleaned up as it should be, they would not get their deposit back.

Mr. Presnell suggested if they wanted to keep their protection, to up the number of people and put down a deposit with the County and they would not be caught in limbo.

Mr. Weiss said if they looked at what the ordinance actually regulated and applied to, it was for "festivals" and said the Ordinance gave the definition of same.

Commissioner Holt said she wanted something to cover if anyone wanted to have activities with large numbers, and wanted to make sure people were not skittish in having events in the county and it not be limited to city events.

Commissioner Croley used for example, when the festivals were held at the Ball Farm Road, music went into all hours of the night and disturbed people who were trying to sleep.

Commissioner Taylor said she agreed with taking this on a case by case basis, she did not want to stop festivals from coming and if the manager felt comfortable in authorizing it, he should be able to do so. She wanted to make the ordinance clearer where families could be comfortable in having reunions and community events. She added where she lived, she hears the music that was coming from a business on Adams Street and did not appreciate that.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO GIVE THE MANAGER THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THIS ITEM AND BRING IT BACK WITH REVISIONS.

15. Approval to Award Gateway Signage and Landscaping Project to Grounds Maintenance Services, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to award the gateway signage project to Grounds Maintenance Services, Inc. to plant wild flowers.

Commissioner Croley moved for approval.

Commissioner Morgan called for discussion and asked the reason for the difference in the amount of bid. He added that he was pleased to see both bids were submitted by local businesses.

Arthur Lawson stepped forward and stated both businesses bid on the same specs.

Commissioner Taylor said she would not approve any change orders if they have to come back and she would not support that.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gretna to Provide Building Inspection and Plans Review Services Item pulled

17. Appointments to the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said appointments were due for the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority and said Mr. Nick Bert had informed staff in writing that he no longer wished to serve. Commissioner Croley and Chair Hinson said he had expressed otherwise to them.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

18. Approval of Health Insurance Rates/Options

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this item was for approval of the health insurance rates.

Mr. Lawson appeared before the board and said the County had been with CHP for approximately 20 years and the renewal rate increase was 1.7 percent increase and the recommendation of the Board was to accept the renewal rate increase with Capital Health as well as absorb the increase so employees continue to pay.

Commissioner Holt stated the reason she asked was she thought it would be great to have a workshop regarding this matter and asked when the deadline for this was and Mr. Lawson said it needed to be decided tonight because open enrollment was coming up.

Commissioner Holt asked about the affordable healthcare plan and if that had been looked onto.

Mr. Lawson stated there were sixteen carriers that were authorized under the Affordable Healthcare Act in Florida and there was an increase between fifteen to thirty percent, that individual policies were cheaper while commercial plans were not.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

19. Approval of Contract with Capital City Bank to Purchase the Thomas Motor Cars Property for an EMS Facility

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this item had been before Board twice before and was for approval of a contract with Capital City Bank to purchase the Thomas Motor Cars property for use as an EMS facility.

Commissioner Holt asked if the soil had been tested yet where the tanks had been located.

Mr. Presnell said yes, it was part of the Brownfield Grant, the site was evaluated and it was all clean.

Commissioner Holt said she did not want to use the CDBG grant for this and they were only allowed two per year, they did not need this piece of property and jobs were needed. She expressed her desire to save the grants until they had a grant writer and they could go after grants for economic development for jobs. She added there was a lot of space at health department available where the dentist office moved out.

Chair Hinson said initially he was against this project, but after thinking about it, he was a proponent of getting as much property as could be gotten, and if they owned the property, they could negotiate with companies to try to entice them to move to Gadsden County. He added if they got the property off of 27 that was commercial land, even if it were decided not to use it for EMS and renovate the building where the Sheriff's Office was located, they still owned the property and could negotiate with other companies to bring in jobs. He added if Capital City Bank could get a grant for the property, the County would not pay for anything and it would be a win/win situation.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Holt called for discussion and said it was the Board's fault there was no grant writer and if they put in for this grant, it would limit what the grant writer could apply for. She reminded them that Quincy was annexed to the Little River and there were opportunities there to partner with the City of Quincy to get jobs in the area.

Chair Hinson said they were looking at a commercial piece of property, Capital City Bank will refurbish the whole building, and it was located on a prime piece of property, and while it may not be the best place for EMS to be housed, if a building was available, companies might want to locate here because of an available building.

Chair Hinson called for the vote.

THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE. MOTION PASSED. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

20. Approval of the Agreement with the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office (GAL) for FY 2015 Trust Fund OPS Position Reimbursement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and advised the Board had historically funded this in the past and asked that this year there be a formal agreement.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

21. Authorization for Chairman to Sign the Advertising Matching Grant Letter of Agreement to Receive the Visit Florida \$2,500 Grant for the Tourist Development Council

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking authorization for the Chairman to sign the Visit Florida Advertising Matching Grant Letter of Agreement for the Tourist Development Council to develop a mobile phone application showcasing tourism activities and

attractions in Gadsden County.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOITED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

22. Approval of the Tourist Development Council 2015 Spring Event – Crappie Tournament

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was seeking board approval for the Tourist Development Council to host a Crappie Tournament in the spring of 2015 to be held at Lake Talquin.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Holt said there were two groups and the second was unable to be present for their presentation and it was handled by email because the TDC had not met again for the second group to be able to make their presentation.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the TDC made their recommendation and was now asking for Board approval.

Commissioner Holt said the second group never had a opportunity to present and there was not a chance to hear from them. She added the first group made their presentation and it was not an item that was bid on because they could go only go to \$5,000. When it ended up being \$12,000, TDC was told they had to go back and bid it and TDC did not meet again for the second group to be able to present.

Commissioner Croley asked if TDC did meet with this group and approve this item.

Commissioner Holt said TDC met, but it was before the other group had an opportunity to make their presentation.

Attorney David Weiss clarified that the discussion was based on the County's procurement policy and when it was apparent that it would cost \$12,000, they needed to get quotes, which is what happened. He added they were not able to make their presentation before the Board, but did email quotes as to what they would charge.

Commissioner Taylor asked what kept the group that did not get the opportunity to present from making their presentation.

Commissioner Holt explained the TDC only met so many times in the year and they did not get an opportunity. The first group that presented was over the \$5,000 limit. While the other group did send an email, they were unable to make their presentation in person as the other group had done and she was just advising the Board of that.

Commissioner Taylor asked the attorney if there could be any legal ramifications if the Board moved forward with this.

Mr. Weiss said the procurement policy said for items over the \$10,000, there needed to be two

or three quotes and his understanding was these were the only two in the area that were available and he felt they had complied with the policy with getting the two quotes.

**CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE.
COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.**

23. ~~Review and Discussion of Ordinance 2001-010; an Ordinance Providing for the Regulation of Festivals Providing for Legislative Finding; Providing for the Establishment of Rules Regarding Festivals; Providing for Exemptions; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date~~

Moved to Item 14a.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

24. Update on Board Requests

Mr. Presnell Informed the Board that it was time again for the Value Adjustment Board to meet and they needed to re-appoint members and last year's members were Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, Commissioner Gene Morgan, Martha Peeler and Scott Watson.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Mr. Presnell said at the next meeting that the TCC building would be placed on the next agenda so a formal decision could be made to be able to finish the budget.

Commissioner Hinson said he had received a call from the Chairman of the TCC Board and they had been discussing the issue for quite some time. He said the Board was audited and there was an issue with TCC with the building and there was a chance in the next few months that the Sheriff may need to find a new place if the Board decides to move with it.

Commissioner Taylor said this not time to discuss this matter.

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the Final Budget workshop scheduled for August 21st at 4:00 p.m.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

25. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he needed direction on how to handle some pending litigation and needed to have an attorney-client session at the next meeting regarding Escape Lounge v. Gadsden County and it deals with building inspection/code enforcement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

26. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked what type of recourse there was with a business establishment that has an intercom system on the outside that plays music throughout the night.

Mr. Presnell stated if it was in an unincorporated area, the County could address it, but if it was inside the City, it would fall under city codes and the County had no recourse.

Commissioner Taylor left the meeting at this point.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan had nothing to report.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley had nothing to report.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt asked that the RFP process be looked at by the board to see if there was anything that could be included in there for local jobs.

She added with the Interlocal agreements with the cities, if annex into the municipalities, the Board needs to make sure that they annex roads and streets in at same time.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he had been appointed to the Board of Directors with the Florida Association of Counties and there was a board meeting scheduled for September 17th – 19th and Commissioner Holt can handle the meeting in his absence.

RECEIPT AND FILE

27. a. Gadsden County Development Council-Economic Development Q2014 Report

UPCOMING MEETINGS

28. August 19, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
August 21, 2014-3rd Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:15 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON AUGUST 19, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chairman, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., called for a silent prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda and Mr. Presnell said he would like to pull Item 13.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Proclamation Recognizing National Breastfeeding Month, August 2014

Chair Hinson said this was the National Breastfeeding Month and in support asked the Board Members to come forward, he read the Proclamation aloud and presented it to representatives of the Healthy Start Program.

Emily Rowan asked them if they found that the number of mothers' that was breastfeeding had increased and they said yes.

CLERK OF COURTS

The Clerk was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

Commissioner Croley asked to pull items 3 and 4 from the Consent Agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE ITEMS 2, 5, AND 6 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. July 1, 2014 Regular Meeting

3. ~~Approval of Adopt A Road Agreement with the Little River Plantation for Shady Rest Road (Highway 12 to Lanier Road)~~ Item Pulled for Discussion
4. ~~Approval of Adopt A Road Agreement with the Little River Plantation for Lanier Road (from Shady Rest Road south 1.9 miles)~~ Item Pulled for Discussion
5. **Approval of Contractual Agreement Between CenturyLink and Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners**
6. **Approval of Commissioner Hinson's Travel to the Florida Association of Counties Policy Conference & Board Orientation**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

- 3,4 Commissioner Croley applauded Little River Plantation for this undertaking of policing Lanier Road and Shady Rest Road and then moved for approval of this item.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVAL THIS ITEM.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. **PUBLIC HEARING- Adoption of the Amended Housing Element to the Comprehensive Plan**
Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it had been before the Board previously, changes had been made and it had been forwarded to DCA for approval and was approved with no changes that needed to be made and was now before the Board for the final adoption.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any citizens that wished to speak on this matter and there were none.

Commissioner Taylor appeared at this juncture.

Commissioner Taylor stepped back out.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. **Approval to Accept the FY 2014 Third Quarter Report**
Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated this was seeking approval to accept the 3rd Quarter Financial Report.

Commissioner Croley move to approve the item.

Commissioner Morgan asked the County Administrator to summarize for the public the County's financial condition.

Commissioner Taylor returned.

Mr. Presnell said the third quarter report gives a snapshot of where the County is in the budget, showed they are about 75% on spending, which was met or exceeded, with just a few line items where it was over, but overall, they were ahead on the budget. Mr. Presnell added that it was estimated that approximately \$200,000 would be added back into the fund balance.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. Appointment to the CareerSource Capital Region Board

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for an appointment to the CareerSource Capital Region Board. He added there was a recent resignation from the Board and they had received a recommendation for Pam Gay, who is the Senior Vice-President of HR Risk Management with Capital City Bank to serve on the Board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE PAM GAY TO THE BOARD.

10. Approval of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Annual Report

Mr. Presnell introduced the item and said it was for approval of the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Annual Report, which was due to the State and gave an overview of the SHIP program.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11. Approval of Engineering Consulting Services for Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated that on August 14th, the Board interviewed engineering firms and Staff was directed to bring it back at this meeting for the Board to select the engineering firm or firms.

Chair Hinson said they went by the proper procedures and thanked all the firms for participating.

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to move for approval of Preble Rish.

Commissioner Croley said he would be happy to second the motion and asked that there be consideration of an amendment that DPB and Associates be added strictly for the housing and related grant writing and that the surveying and civil engineering continue with Preble Rish.

Commissioner Morgan said the motion stood as was announced.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY FOR APPROVAL OF PREBLE RISH, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, DISCUSSION WAS CALLED.

Chair Hinson said they needed to talk about it first.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with two firms because they needed to look at the economic opportunities.

Chair Hinson suggested putting this item off for two weeks and everyone disagreed.

Commissioner Croley said he seconded Commissioner Morgan's initial motion and they should vote on that.

Commissioner Taylor said she also wanted to have multiple engineering firms because of their history and they need a second set of eyes and did not want to put restrictions on a second company because of the services they may be able to provide and moving forward with one company might prove to be counter-productive.

Commissioner Morgan said Commissioner Taylor mentioned that they should look at the history and that was what he would like to do, that they all were very good firms. He said they should look at the facts, as presented by the existing engineering firm, 96% of their costs were covered by grant funds and they have given back to the county. He added that if a company did not have 100% commitment from the County, the County would not have 100% commitment from the company. He further stated he had not heard a reason for an additional firm.

Chair Hinson said he needed to make sure "that everyone could swallow what they want to do", that he did not come with a second choice in mind and would like to go ahead and do the motion and second and if they want to bring up a second choice, to bring that back at the next meeting.

Commissioner Croley interrupted to say that he had no problem with having one engineering firm, Preble-Rish, because of their knowledge of the small, rural county coalition and things with the roads, civil, surveying and engineering services especially. However, he did recognize the difference in opinion around the Board and if there were other specialty needs, he was willing to entertain that as well, but would like to vote on the motion.

Commissioner Holt said they could choose two firms and that way the Manager knows the jobs and Preble Rish has more experience for the roads. She said that Preble-Rish had experience with the roads and Commissioner Taylor was correct, they could come back and look at other items and specialties that other engineering firms may be able to do. She stated to go ahead and call for the vote, that Commissioner Morgan was not going to withdraw his motion and Commissioner Croley was not going to withdraw his second, that she was not voting for it and time to move it.

Chair Hinson said he wanted to make sure he had his right second company down. He asked if the packet was available.

Commissioner Croley passed Chair Hinson his engineering firm packet.

Commissioner Taylor said he had the right one.

Commissioner Morgan said he wanted to make sure where Commissioner Croley was coming from, he was the first one that brought up a second firm.

Commissioner Croley said he was willing to vote on the motion, if three votes were gotten, he was fine with it, but if there was going to be a second firm, it needed to be a specialty firm that could bring a great deal of resource in a manner that would enhance what the county was getting now.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS HINSON, HOLT AND TAYLOR VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION. MOTION FAILED.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY VOTE THAT THE CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING BE AWARDED TO PREBLE-RISH AND THE HOUSING AND SPECIAL GRANTS INITIATIVES RELATED TO THAT BE AWARDED TO DPB AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AS LONG AS IT DID NOT TIE THE MANAGER'S HANDS AND IT BE AT HIS DISCRETION AS TO HOW HE WOULD LIKE TO USE THEM, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

12. Appointments to the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it seeks Board approval to appoint or reappoint members to the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority and added that three of the five seats were up for reappointment. He added that the members with expired terms were Nick Bert, District 2; Calvin Dawkins, District 3 and Barry Haber, District 5. He said that Nick Bert had informed staff he was no longer wished to serve; Mr. Dawkins said he would like to continue and Mr. Haber had made no contact with staff.

Commissioner Croley stated that Larry Clayton was willing to serve on this Board to replace Mr. Bert.

Commissioner Taylor stated that she would like to reappoint Mr. Haber.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPOINT LARRY CLAYTON IN DISTRICT 2 AND REAPPOINT MR. DAWKINS IN DISTRICT 3 AND REAPPOINT MR. HABER IN DISTRICT 5.

13. ~~Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Quincy for Mosquito Control Services~~

Item pulled

14. Consideration of Offer from TCC for the County to Purchase the W.A. Woodham Building

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was presented for Board consideration of an offer extended by Tallahassee Community College regarding the future use of the W. A. Woodham Building that was currently housing the Sheriff's Office. He added that the County currently had a lease agreement with TCC to lease the building until 2049 for \$1.00 per year and TCC has offered to sell the building to the County for \$100,000 rather than continue the current lease agreement. He added that TCC has indicated that the sale proceeds would be endowed by the College Foundation to provide scholarships for Gadsden County residents each academic

year and the County Commission would receive recognition for the endowment. He also stated that the Board was advised at a previous workshop by Staff the need for extensive repairs that needed to be done to the building.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Presnell if they could continue to occupy the building as was presently being done and make necessary minimal maintenance as needed until such time as TCC should dispose of the building.

Mr. Presnell said the current lease ran through 2049.

Chair Hinson said according to the Board members, TCC was trying to dispose of the building now and if they did so, room for the Sheriff would need to be found somewhere.

Commissioner Croley asked if it was in the budget to complete the administrative 911 and Emergency Management facility.

Chair Hinson said they had not come to an agreement regarding that matter.

Commissioner Croley asked if that was included in the budget.

Mr. Presnell said it was included in the Budget Workshop proposal to build a new Emergency Management/Sheriff's Office in front of the jail.

Chair Hinson said if it were decided by TCC that they were going to tear the building down, and he said he was told that was what they were going to do, either sell the building or tear it down, and if that happened, the Sheriff would need to find a place to go. He said TCC was being pressured by the audit firm to make a decision regarding the building now.

Commissioner Holt said as far as the funding for the Administration Building, they had not voted on the final budget yet and while they may decide to "get the building or not get the building" and they did not "need to put cart before the horse", they needed to vote on the budget first and then vote on the building.

Commissioner Morgan said if they did nothing and left it as it was it didn't matter if the Sheriff's Office stayed or moved because the County would still be leasing the building for \$1.00/year until 2049 and as long as the Sheriff was housed there, they would not tear the building down. He added it was his opinion that TCC was one of the best partners the County had. He further stated the County did not need another building for the sake of having a building and he would not agree to pay for another building and he thought TCC might agree to give the building to the County and if it would help TCC, he did not have a problem with that. He said, as it had already been pointed out, they had already budgeted for the annual cost of the new administration building to the sum of \$212,000 per year and the administrative costs would be much less in the new building. He said this was already budgeted, they would have a much more efficient building, a place where the Sheriff's Office makes more sense to be, would be helping with what the Sheriff asked them to do and would only leave the IT Department that is currently in the building and they could be moved into a small space in several different locations. The building could sit there and the dollars that were set aside to put into the building would not be spent on an antiquated building. He added if the City of Quincy wanted to stay there and make necessary

maintenance repairs, it would be OK, but he had talked to the City about that and they wanted to get out on their own. He said that would solve the problems with everyone and the County would be in a more efficient building and the empty building could be marketed for sale.

Mr. Weiss said he wanted to point out that in looking at the lease, either party could terminate it with 90 days' notice.

Chair Hinson said they had talked about adding a new tax to be able to build the building.

Commissioner Morgan stated he was not for adding any taxes.

Chair Hinson said he had talked with staff and if they invested \$1.5 Million in renovating a 44,000 square foot building, that would be better than paying \$3 Million for a 20,000 square foot building.

Commissioner Morgan said he did not know how he was figuring that when it would cost more to operate said building.

Chair Hinson said if you went to FAMU or Florida State, where they had renovated buildings, it looked brand new after they were finished. He also added that he understood from Staff that it would cost \$1.5 Million to refurbish the building and would cost \$3 Million to build the Sheriff his new building. He then asked Mr. Presnell how they planned on paying for the building.

Mr. Presnell said the new building proposes a \$2.5 Million loan and the annual payment, the service loan would be \$212,000 and half of the payment would come from the utilities savings from the Woodham building and the Board would be funding approximately \$100,000 a year from General Revenue. He added from the presentation that was presented that night, the estimate was \$3 Million.

Chair Hinson stated he was more in line with Commissioner Morgan, if they wanted to give the building to the County, he was fine with it, but could not afford \$100,000 right now.

Commissioner Croley said, as Mr. Presnell said, it would cost \$2.9 Million to renovate an antiquated building from the 1950's and if the building was any good, TCC would not want to get rid of it. He said it was not good business to take \$2.9 Million of the taxpayers' dollars and put into that building, especially when the utilities were so much. He would rather put money into a new building that would be paid for and would multi-serve the Sheriff, 911 and Emergency Management. He added that he was not willing to take the building; it was a ridiculous business move.

Commissioner Morgan felt it was the right thing to do to let them know and make an offer of what they were willing to do.

Mr. Presnell said they would need to vote on it.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THE ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT TCC AND ADVISE THEM THAT THE COUNTY WAS WILLING TO TAKE THE BUILDING AT NO CHARGE.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

Commissioner Croley also wanted to disclose, if they take the building, there are drainage issues now with adjoining property owners and they need to make sure before taking it, they look into all legal ramifications associated with the drainage matters.

Commissioner Taylor said she voted against it because she felt that \$100,000 they were asking was a fair amount because it would be used for the scholarships for students and wanted to support the initiative and felt they could use the building and did not want to see it become a “dinosaur” because it would devalue property value when a building sat unused. She pointed out they had lost a Social Security Office, a Child Support Office, Environmental Office that was next to H&R Block, there was a need for more Judges’ chambers, and added the building could be a great incubator for businesses and said they could get someone to go after a USDA grant and make the building more energy efficient and be an incentive for people to open up businesses.

15. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gretna to Provide Building Inspection and Plans Review Services

Mr. Presnell introduced item and said this seeks Board approval for an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gretna and the Gadsden County Building Inspection Department for inspection and plans review services.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16. Appointment of Commissioner and Alternate to the Canvassing Board

Mr. Presnell introduced item and said it sought Board approval to appoint a Commissioner and alternate to the County Canvassing Board.

Chair Hinson stated that while he did not have anyone biologically related to him running in the election, his uncle’s wife was running for a position on the School Board and did not want any conflicts.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO THE BOARD AND COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO BE THE ALTERNATE. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

When this agenda item was originally reached in the meeting, no citizen had requested to speak. After the Board started discussing General Business, a Speaker form was filled out and the Agenda was amended to let the citizens speak at this time. Commissioner Croley moved that they entertain at this time, the request for the citizens to speak. Commissioner Holt said no motion was needed because the meeting had not been closed.

Mr. Alphonso Figgers appeared before the Board and asked the Board why the Dental Clinic had closed and why the citizens had not been informed.

Mr. Presnell said the Health Department was not under the BOCC, although the County did provide the facilities and some equipment, it was a State ran operation.

Mr. Figgers also said since the bypass was near to completion, would there be sidewalks for Strong Road from High Bridge Road and said he had also talked with Commissioner Croley regarding sidewalks from Strong Road to South Chalk Street.

Commissioner Croley said they were trying to get the sidewalks in under the safety money and they were on the list, including Strong Road, and if there was any money left-over on the project, it might be able to be moved over for the sidewalks and said maybe Mr. Justin Ford, with Preble-Rish, the engineering firm, could elaborate where things stood with the sidewalk.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, addressed the Board and said the sidewalks on Strong Road had been brought up several times, but this was the first he had heard regarding the one on (Highway) 90, but made a note to bring that matter up at next Community Traffic Safety Team meeting. He added that cycle would come up in the Spring.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Ford about the additional funds that might be left from the project, could it be used for the by-pass...

Commissioner Morgan pointed out they were discussing non-agenda items and needed to be careful.

Chair Hinson said he would give Commissioner Taylor a chance to speak since Commissioner Croley had an opportunity and then move on.

Commissioner Morgan asked the attorney if they could do that.

Mr. Weiss said they should be careful when they were taking general public comments to not discuss any non-agenda items.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Ford if he could answer the question.

Mr. Ford stated they did not have anything to do with that project, it was a DOT project, and he did not know if there would be any funds available and he could approach DOT with that request.

Mr. Figgers said he had noticed that a bike lane had been established on the north side of Blue Star Highway and wanted to inquire about the south side and his last question was regarding that Madison or Live Oak just constructed a new hospital and asked if there were any plans for this hospital to go into full operation.

Chair Hinson asked Mr. Presnell if he had any response to Mr. Figgers statement.

Mr. Presnell said there were no plans to expand the services at the hospital.

Commissioner Morgan left the meeting at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Peter Okonkwo, Spectra Engineering & Research, spoke to Board regarding the selection process of the engineering firms and said he had submitted his request to speak while they were discussing that item.

Commissioner Croley pointed out that the presenters were not able to add anything new and the attorney would not have allowed it to be heard.

Mr. Weiss added it would not have been appropriate to allow the firms that were under consideration to come forward and add any further presentation after it had happened. It was questioned if he could speak as one of the engineering firms that had bid on the job and he pointed out he was there to speak as a Leon County citizen doing business in Gadsden County.

Commissioner Holt said he could speak as a citizen, even though he filled the form out that he was speaking on Item 11 (Approval of Engineering Consulting Services for Gadsden County).

Mr. Okonkwo said the commissioners had already voted on the item, but in listening to the commissioners speak and give different ideas as to which firm they must select for the engineering services and wanted to share that having diversity in their procurement process was not a bad thing. He added that several counties hire more than one firm and establish relationships with those firms. He said the reason there were only 6 responses received when they should have received 20 or more is the perception that Gadsden County has the niche of one firm, and nothing could be changed. He said for a while they had stopped submitting bids, but decided to submit again this time. He added that diversity was always good.

Chair Hinson said he was very impressed with his presentation and the Board was committed to minority business and hiring local.

Commissioner Croley pointed out they were not to engage in too much dialogue.

Commissioner Holt thanked him for coming and said he was correct that their record did not look good and needed to improve on diversity.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

17. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said the digital books were up and running at the library now.

He said there was a request for a meeting Monday, September 8th at 1:30 p.m. from TCC to discuss drainage issues that were mentioned earlier by Commissioner Croley and the commissioners were invited to attend or they could designate someone.

Chair Hinson stated in order for that to happen (more than one Commissioner to attend) there had to be an advertisement.

Commissioner Holt said TCC had more money than the County to fix drainage problems so what was the purpose of the meeting.

Chair Hinson said it was not about what TCC wanted; there was a situation from a private person versus a public entity.

Commissioner Croley asked why the Chair would need to attend and pointed out it had nothing

to do with the County Commission and was not an issue if he was not present.

Mr. Presnell said they were contacted by an aid to the President of the University...

Commissioner Croley interrupted to ask if they requested Commissioner Hinson to attend.

Mr. Presnell said they requested two commissioners from the Board and he refused to do that.

Chair Hinson said he did not want to go because it was Commissioner Croley's property.

Commissioner Croley corrected him it was not his property.

Chair Hinson said it was Commissioner Croley's mother's property and the intent was to come after TCC to let them clean up the drainage problem.

Commissioner Croley stated that was not his intent.

Chair Hinson said "that was Commissioner Croley's problem, it's not Eric Hinson's problem and I don't need to attend." He added there was no reason for him to attend because it was a private issue.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

18. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said there was a need to call for a recess at this time for the private meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO MOVE THE SHADE MEETING AFTER THE COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS.

19. Recess BOCC Meeting for a Private Attorney-Client Session

(Pending litigation pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes-Vickie Dilliard d/b/a Escape Lounge vs. Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners)

****Decided to move private meeting to end of Commissioners comments****

20. Reconvene BOCC Meeting

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

21. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor asked that the \$100,000 request be placed back on the agenda for the scholarship.

Mr. Presnell said it did not have to be tied to the building, they could discuss the scholarship.

She said she hoped when they negotiated the engineering firm contract, they received a better rate like they did with the attorney firm.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley had nothing to report.

Commissioner Holt, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she thought the sidewalk issue was good and would like to look at doing something from Atlanta Street going out the City of Quincy and have lights added also.

She said the diversity issue is a problem and they need to look at hiring and contracting, they could get in trouble.

Mr. Weiss said if they wanted to implement minority business consideration, they need to change the procurement policy.

Commissioner Holt asked that the policy be brought back and Mr. Presnell informed the Board that Mr. Lawson was currently working on that.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson thanked everyone for a great meeting tonight.

At this time the Board recessed for the private meeting at 7:31 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:54 p.m.

RECEIPT AND FILE

22. Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

(Gadsden County On-Site Monitoring – July 18, 2014)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 21, 2014-Budget Workshop @ 4:00 p.m.

September 2, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

September 11, 2014-1st Public Hearing (FY2015 Budget) @ 6:00 p.m.

September 16, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

September 22, 2014-2nd Public Hearing (FY2015 Budget) @ 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commission
August 19, 2014-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 7:54 P.M.**

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:01, led with the Pledge of Allegiance then called for a moment of silence. Silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments.

Mr. Presnell stated he would like to add Item 2-A Proclamation for International Literacy Day 2014; add Item 4-A-Redirection of Half Cent Tax and Trust Revenues from CRMC to Medicaid in Order to Take Advantage of Federal Matching Funds and pull Item 6-Approval for the Tourist Development Council to Enter Into a Contract for Marketing Consulting Services with Chisano Marketing Group because the contract was not yet ready.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Chair Hinson read the Proclamation for International Literacy Day 2014 and then presented it to representatives of the Gadsden County Library.

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Thomas said he had a couple of things to speak on tonight, the impact of grants on fund balance. Clerk Thomas said years ago there were cash flow issues and said the Board had done a terrific job over the years of increasing the fund balance. He told them that in the past, the State would give them grant money upfront, but now the grants were reimbursable and this year in the budget, they had \$10 Million in the bank for road grants alone. He also said however, the impact was there was \$3.8 Million outstanding waiting for reimbursement and they would need to use the fund balance to front the grants. He informed them that the Finance Director thought the minimum they needed to run their day-to-day activities without having any cash flow problems would probably be closer to \$6 Million if they were to continue to have those types of grants. He added that four to five years ago they would not have been able to have those grants because of not having the necessary funds in the fund balance.

He said the second thing he wanted to touch on with them was the debt service financing and said this was more of a question for them. He said in the past when they had financed something for more than \$2.5 Million, they had to designate a revenue source and finance things for a few hundred thousand by getting the loan. He said he had a question about their proposed budget and knew they were building a new Sheriff's Administration building for \$3 Million and just saw where there was a transfer to debt service from general fund, no non-ad valorem revenue designated and wanted to make sure they had verified that they could do that because if they had to designate a revenue source, it might mean a slight restructuring of their budget. He explained that usually when you have a designated source, you have to pay the debt service first before anything that is left over can be used.

CONSENT

Chair Hinson stated he would like to pull the minutes because there was a discrepancy.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA MINUS ITEM 1.

~~1. Approval Of Minutes~~

~~July 15, 2014 Regular Meeting~~

~~Pulled for Discussion~~

2. Approval And Signatures For Satisfaction Of Special Assessment Lien(s)-State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program, Gadsden County Emergency Repair (ER) Program

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

1. Approval Of Minutes

-July 15, 2014 Regular Meeting

Chair Hinson stated he saw some inaccurate information in the minutes and could not approve them at this time. He said that when they were discussing the surplus items with the Health Department, none of the Chair's comments were posted.

Commissioner Croley asked for clarification that the Chair's comments were not included in that item and Chair Hinson said that was correct. Commissioner Croley said the Clerk's Office would need to review it and make any corrections, if appropriate and asked if the Chair wished to make that motion.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THE DEPUTY CLERK REVIEW THE MINUTES AND MAKE ANY NECESSARY CHANGES BEFORE APPROVAL.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minute Limit)

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Public Hearing (Quasi Judicial) – Approval Of Variance Resolution V-2014-01 For Crossroad Academy Charter School Variance Request

Mr. Presnell introduced the item and stated the Crossroad Academy Charter School was requesting approval of a variance to Subsection 5404.C.2 Tree Protection Areas of the Gadsden County Land Development Code (LDC) to allow removal of protected trees to allow the expansion of the school.

Brad Begue, Civil Engineer, Barkley Consulting Engineering, representing Ms. Millie Forehand, appeared before the board. He said, as Mr. Presnell had stated, they were requesting a variance for the removal of the six trees to be able to add a new high school building, gymnasium and associated parking.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the seven recommendations would be met.

Mr. Begue said they were in the process of working with the Planning Department and were addressing the seven issues.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell for clarification that all seven criteria had been met.

Allara Gutchner, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the board and said she assumed they were referring to the seven point test regarding the variance and the analysis was based on the seven point test. She added that there were still some issues with the development site plan they were working through that was not related to the tree removal.

Commissioner Holt asked if those things needed to be stated for the record that they had met the criteria. Mr. Weiss said the agenda item would become part of the record.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Approval And Execution Of The CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant #12DB-P5-02-30-01 K65 Closeout Documents

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant close-out documents and this grant was obtained to assist Gretna with the Cauty Lane road project.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

4A Redirection of Half Cent Tax and Trust Revenues from CRMC to Medicaid in Order to Take Advantage of Federal Matching Funds

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was to take advantage of federal matching funds.

Michael Glazer, Assistant County Attorney, appeared before the Board and said this item had been before them the last several years and this was for the matching program with Florida Medicaid Program. He said counties and other governmental entities could contribute funds through the program and receive matching dollars to increase the benefit to the provider, in this case it was CRMC. He added this was monies that would have been paid by the County anyway and the agreement had to be done by October 1st.

Chair Hinson said he had a problem with this item because he had just received this agenda item a few seconds ago and if there was time to type this up, it should have been emailed to everyone.

Commissioner Morgan said they had actually received this item in an email several days ago.

Commissioner Holt said whether they gave the money to CRMC after it was gotten was not the problem, the point was this was their Medicaid dollars and they could get their own match. She said CRMC had not agreed to show where the money would come back to Gadsden County and added there was no accountability in the match dollars.

Mr. Glazer responded that the matching dollars could only go to the actual Medicaid provider, which was CRMC. He added that he had recalled this question from last year and he had asked Mr. Midgett to pull some information regarding what they were doing specifically for Gadsden County.

Commissioner Holt said they were intelligent enough to decide what they were going to do with the \$400,000 and they should not give away their Medicaid match and this was not logical. She said they also had a contract with the hospital that said they were going to put in four beds and where was the accountability?

Mr. Glazer reiterated that this particular program could not come back to the County and the match could only go to the actual Medicaid provider.

Chair Hinson asked for the public's sake, that this be broken down on how the process worked.

Mr. Glazer said when the hospital first came to Gadsden County, part of the agreement was that the half-cent sales tax would go to CRMC for the provision of care to the poor. At that time, the income from the old hospital trust also went to CRMC and the agreement was amended approximately one year ago and Gadsden County would then keep all income off the trust as long as the half-cent sales tax generated a certain amount. He further explained that the half-cent sales tax dollars go to Capital Regional regardless if this agreement were entered into or not, but by entering into the agreement, instead of sending the money directly to CRMC, it was sent to the Medicaid program, and Medicaid then would match the dollars and send the money to the hospital. He added that it benefited Gadsden County to the extent that the hospital was providing services and this helped to underwrite their care.

Commissioner Holt asked the amount of the half-cent tax that the hospital was to get, that this was extra money the hospital was receiving and was not part of the original contract.

Mr. Glazer said that was correct.

Commissioner Holt said the other \$407,000 should show profit to Gadsden County, because it was above the contract they had.

Mr. Glazer said he misunderstood her question and explained that the \$407,000 was part of the half-cent sales tax so the money that Gadsden County sent was part of that half-cent tax.

Commissioner Holt said the match that came back was not part of the contract.

Mr. Glazer said that was the purpose of this agenda item, they had the option to enter it or not.

Commissioner Holt said that was exactly where she was, the \$407,000 would be matched, and CRMC was not accountable for that money coming back in services to Gadsden County.

Chair Hinson asked if the county could negotiate on how much Gadsden County gets back.

Commissioner Holt said Mr. Glazer was the County's attorney and should be telling the hospital what they would do for the County, that every year they received the match, the return on the dollars were never seen.

Mr. Glazer said they now had an out-patient clinic for the first time in many years and specialists were coming to Gadsden County and that was part of the return that has come back to the County as this result.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Glazer for the information and said he remembered they had this discussion the past three of four years and every year he heard because the County was not the Medicaid provider, those funds were not paid to directly to Gadsden County.

Mr. Glazer said that was correct.

Commissioner Morgan asked why the County would not want the benefit of the matching funds to go to who the County was partnering with so there was the opportunity to keep investing the dollars in Gadsden County to improve the services.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan added the County was very fortunate to have a partner willing to assume the risks, as they have done. He added he wanted them to benefit so we benefit, to keep providing the services and continue to improve and grow the services. He said he thought it was important to remember that the County would not benefit from the dollars because they were not the provider.

Chair Hinson said he thought it was good for discussion and asked if any research was done with other counties as to how the dollars were distributed.

Mr. Presnell said legal counsel had done the research.

Mr. Glazer said the program was duplicated all over the state and was a very standard agreement.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Glazer to restate and clarify the \$407,000 and what was going to be done with the \$600,000, if it stayed in the coffers of CRMC or if it was reinvested in Gadsden County.

Ronnie Midgett, CFO, CRMC, appeared before the Board to clarify. He said approximately 85 hospitals participate in this program. He said last year CRMC treated over 27,000 residents of Gadsden County and of that, 58% were either Medicaid or completely unfunded at a cost of over \$4.5 Million to CRMC in cost of care. He said the money did go to help offset the uncovered costs. He said this program was offered when there were severe cuts in Medicaid funding and this was an opportunity for counties such as Gadsden County to participate in the program and the money goes to ACHA, then up to CNS and the Federal government matched the funds back as an opportunity to help with some of the Medicaid funding in states where this program was used.

Commissioner Taylor asked that they recognize the young lady in the audience that spoke out previously.

Amy Sykes, (refused to give address) said many years ago she did work for HCA and she was a Medicaid/Medicare Reimbursement analyst. She said she worked for that hospital when Gadsden County did not have a hospital here and saw the revenue that left this county and went to Leon County and it was tremendous. She said she had been a Medicaid biller for many years and never had she known a hospital to take claims from a hospital out of the billing system and put into their system and not disclose the patients they took. She added that they do a tremendous amount of benefit for this County and the County did not want to become a Medicaid provider.

Commissioner Taylor said Ms. Sykes brought insightful things to the podium. She said she did not want to change providers and she supported this. She said Commissioner Holt said something that she had to echo, Mr. Glazer was our attorney, and the Board needed to look at ways to expand the services at the hospital and needed to look at further opportunities.

THERE WAS A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt said what she was saying earlier, when they were talking to CRMC earlier, when they first came in, there was an attorney sitting in the meeting that sued HCA and won. She said they served on a Board together and she had asked him to sit in on the meeting and he was one of the people that she would get information from on healthcare as far as contracting went. She said that the contract, if it included more money, there should be an increase in services. She added that the referendum that passed was for a hospital, not an emergency room.

Chair Hinson said he was not here when this was started, but they should look at the funding they were discussing, the 2.5%, and what they were saying that it was OK to protect others and

not the citizens' they represented, and the funding was going back to Leon County.

Commissioner Morgan said it was important to understand that the dollars will not come to the County because they were not the Medicaid provider, and if they were the Medicaid provider, they would assume a whole lot of risks.

Chair Hinson called for the vote.

Commissioner Taylor said it was important that the citizens were not denied services.

Commissioner Holt said no-one wanted to be a Medicaid provider other than the hospital, but people were going to TMH every day.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. MOTION PASSED. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

5. Approval of Resolution 2014-015 to Amend the Fees Established for the Planning Division Activities

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it seeks board approval and adoption of Resolution 2014-015 to amend the fees established for the Planning Division.

Commissioner Croley said he was having trouble following the changes.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, came forward and stated that pages 4 and 5 where part of the Resolution and pages 6 and 7 showed the comparison.

Commissioner Morgan asked Ms. Gutcher about the changes made and how they came to the determination of fees and if they were in line with other rural counties the size of Gadsden County.

Ms. Gutcher explained the reasoning for the fees.

Commissioner Holt asked about the fees because some were reduced and thought other fees should be further reduced.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Hinson asked since there were a lot of questions, if maybe they should do a workshop regarding this.

Commissioner Croley said it seemed pretty routine.

Commissioner Holt asked how they could spur growth and if looking at amounts, they needed to look at how they wanted to get jobs in the area and they were not that far off from where they were already charging.

Mr. Presnell explained they intentionally left fees as they were with large scale subdivisions where a bid housing development could come in because there could be drainage issues, etc.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said there had been \$400,000 allotted in the budget for incentives to take care of fees if they chose to waive them. She added when they were discussing the attorneys' contract, they were told it had been reduced, but in actuality, it had only been reduced by \$5.00, but it was the term "reduced" that made them in agreement with it. She said if they told people they would cut costs or waive the fee that was a sellable initiative.

There was more discussion regarding the fees.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BUT BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD MORE COMMENTS.

Commissioner Holt said they were looking at a few dollars, but they were not looking at this from the outside and they needed to look at what makes the developers go elsewhere and not stop here.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

6. ~~Approval for Tourist Development Council to Enter Into a Contract for Marketing Consulting Services With Chisano Marketing Group~~

Pulled

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

7. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said some time back, money was budgeted to help purchase a van for the Disabled Veterans in Tallahassee and the van had been purchased.

He reminded them of the on-line registration for the ethics course.

Chair Hinson interrupted and asked if they could call Shelia Whittico to come forward.

Ms. Whittico filled out a Speaker Request Form and it was handed in after this spot was reached on the Agenda and the Board decided to let her come forward to speak.

Shelia Whittico, 11 Cascade Falls Way, Havana, FL, Havana Heights property manager, appeared before the board. She introduced herself and stated she was the new property manager for Havana Heights. She said she was "cleaning out the drugs" and she was asking for direction because she needed help in getting the area cleaned up and stop the selling of drugs. She asked who the commissioner was in her area.

Chair Hinson said it was he, and there had been issues regarding the fence and the attorney had written a letter to their corporate office.

Ms. Whittico said she found the reason they had blocked the parking lot fence was when the police come, they run through the back.

Chair Hinson said they were concerned about the blocked parking lot.

Ms. Whittico said the reason it was blocked was because of the drugs. She said she opened the gate without corporate's consent to see for herself and after she opened the gate and went back to her office, the whole parking lot was full of drug dealers. She said a security camera had been placed in the parking lot and it was shot out.

Chair Hinson explained problems in the past in dealing with Havana Heights and Ms. Whittico asked that they come to her now.

Mr. Presnell reminded them of the September 11th budget public hearing and the second hearing that was scheduled for September 22th and both were to be at 6:00 p.m.

He reminded them of the Safelite ribbon cutting at 10/90 Commerce park at 9:30 on Wednesday.

Commissioner Croley asked the county administrator when his contract expired and if it could be placed on the agenda for the first meeting in October.

Commissioner Holt asked why the marketing firm was pulled and Mr. Presnell said the contract was still being negotiated.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

8. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report, but was available to answer any questions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

9. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she had a couple of items. She said going back to the hospital beds, there needed to be a conversation with CRMC regarding the beds and if that could happen in the near future.

She said she was fully aware that they have no jurisdiction over the health department, but did not want it to be like the probation office, the social security office, the hospital at one time and she did not want it to close down and she was hearing a lot of rumbling of financial issues. She added that they needed to see what could be done and not be caught off guard and would like to have a conversation to better understand the issues.

Mr. Presnell said he talked with Surgeon General's Office and they assured him the rumors were untrue. He asked for their presence to answer questions. He was advised that Max Martinez was assigned to answer questions and he could bring him before the Board if they liked.

She added that she had noticed the facelift outside with regard to the canopy, but there still

needed to be additional things done to outside of buildings.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had one item regarding the dental equipment at the Havana Medical Clinic and understands the equipment, that was county-owned, was being used.

Mr. Presnell stated they let them go ahead and use the equipment while the bid was out.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the intent was to enter into a lease so some revenue dollars could be obtained from that.

Mr. Presnell said that was the intent, the RFP was on the street now and would be placed on the agenda to come back before the Board.

Commissioner Taylor said she was confused and thought they were going to allow the company in Havana time to get leverage.

Mr. Presnell stated he had spoken to them and they advised him to proceed.

Commissioner Taylor said she thought there was a plan.

Mr. Presnell said he had presented the sale and there were a lot of issues and they agreed for them to have the grand opening in July, and they were operating and doing well, and they will be doing a lease, and currently it was out for bid, and will come back before the Board before any decisions were made.

Commissioner Hinson asked that he be kept apprised of conversations because Channel 6 News had spoken to him earlier and he had no knowledge of that conversation.

COMMISSIONER CROLEY, District 2

Commissioner Croley said Mr. Presnell had sent a letter to the City of Quincy regarding their \$95,000 delinquent fuel bill plus their building inspection fees and asked if it had been settled.

Mr. Presnell said no.

Commissioner Croley asked why they were continuing to carry them when the policy says different, that it was to be paid in thirty days and not go beyond 45 days.

Mr. Presnell said they were charged interest when not timely paid.

He then brought up the County parking lot and said they had just heard from Ms. Whittico regarding drug issues at the Havana Heights parking lot and the County parking lot Saturday morning was full of whiskey bottles, drink cups, beer bottles and they were sitting there with a liability situation and they should not allow public drinking in the parking lot and music going all the time. He said it was a potential liability.

Mr. Presnell said it had been reported multiple times through the years and there had been conversations with the City Manager and the Chief of Police. He added that they clean the

parking lot on Monday mornings and it had been reported that the Police have not caught anyone drinking in the parking lot.

Commissioner Croley said he had ridden with the Police in the past and was with them when they would catch people drinking in the parking lot and have had them pour the drinks out. He said he would like to request that the County Attorney put the City on notice so it is documented for the benefit of the Commission and the citizens and expect under the law that they enforce the law for the legal liability of the County.

Commissioner Holt said regarding the issue with the parking lot, if it was looked at County property, why wasn't the County taking care of and enforcing it.

Commissioner Croley said the Florida Constitution states specifically, County Ordinances shall be enforced and did not make a difference which agency did it.

Mr. Weiss said it was within the city's jurisdiction, and in this scenario, it was privately owned property.

Commissioner Holt said if they forced the open container law there, it must be enforced at other areas within the city limits.

Commissioner Croley clarified that he never said anything about people parking in the parking lot, his concern was the illegal activities that was happening on the county property and he was not asking the Board to do anything, he simply thought it would safeguard the Board's liability if the attorney raised this issue and put them on notice of this situation.

COMMISSIONER HOLT, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said the Clerk brought up grants and the fund balance and said she had brought up a couple of years ago a grant writer/coordinator because they could keep a check on grants coming in, deadlines that were due, etc. She added the grant writer would go after the money and the coordinator would make sure everything was in compliance. She said it was interesting when the Clerk mentioned that regarding the budget, she thought it should also come from the Budget director; they should keep the board apprised of grants available and bring it to the manager's attention and he then should bring it to the board's attention.

Mr. Presnell said there was no problem, the Clerk had indicated there was no cash flow problem, and he was making a statement regarding the reserve. He added they meet every Wednesday.

Chair Hinson said she was talking about the checks and balances. He then asked what the duties and responsibilities were of the budget director.

Mr. Presnell said the Budget Director that works for the Board puts the budget together, monitors it throughout the year with budget amendments and does financial things for the Board and himself and the finance office pays the bills and statutorily that was one of their requirements and not a responsibility of the Board, the auditing, cutting of the checks, investing of the money was the Clerk's responsibility by the Constitution.

Chair Hinson asked if the Clerk paid the bills, why the Budget Director did not warn him of problems.

Mr. Thomas assured the Board there was no problem, there is a spot on the Agenda for Clerk of Courts and from time to time, if he saw things that needed to be reported, he would bring it to them as long as they provide the spot on the Agenda. He added he was only trying to help.

Commissioner Holt said this was not important, it is just the process and if anything came up that was within that Department, they needed to know ahead of time. She added regarding the dental equipment, she was concerned with the contract because if a piece of equipment was torn up, who was responsible.

COMMISSIONER HINSON, Chair, District 1

RECEIPT AND FILE

10. a. Gadsden County Division of Emergency Management Quarterly Report (April 1 – July 30, 2014)
- b. July 25, 2014 Letter from Florida Department of Health (Gadsden County Health Department Quarterly Progress Report for ½ Cent Sales Tax Prevention & Education Program)
- c. August 13, 2014 Notice from the City of Midway (Truckers USA & Community Coffee Voluntary Annexations)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

11. -September 11, 2014 - 1st Public Hearing (FY2015 Budget) @ 6:00 p.m.
-September 16, 2014 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
-September 22, 2014 – 2nd Public Hearing (FY2015 Budget) @ 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 2, 2014 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:01, led with the Pledge of Allegiance then called for a moment of silence. Silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments.

Mr. Presnell stated he would like to add Item 2-A Proclamation for International Literacy Day 2014; add Item 4-A-Redirection of Half Cent Tax and Trust Revenues from CRMC to Medicaid in Order to Take Advantage of Federal Matching Funds and pull Item 6-Approval for the Tourist Development Council to Enter Into a Contract for Marketing Consulting Services with Chisano Marketing Group because the contract was not yet ready.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Chair Hinson read the Proclamation for International Literacy Day 2014 and then presented it to representatives of the Gadsden County Library.

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk Thomas said he had a couple of things to speak on tonight, the impact of grants on fund balance. Clerk Thomas said years ago there were cash flow issues and said the Board had done a terrific job over the years of increasing the fund balance. He told them that in the past, the State would give them grant money upfront, but now the grants were reimbursable and this year in the budget, they had \$10 Million in the bank for road grants alone. He also said however, the impact was there was \$3.8 Million outstanding waiting for reimbursement and they would need to use the fund balance to front the grants. He informed them that the Finance Director thought the minimum they needed to run their day-to-day activities without having any cash flow problems would probably be closer to \$6 Million if they were to continue to have those types of grants. He added that four to five years ago they would not have been able to have those grants because of not having the necessary funds in the fund balance.

He said the second thing he wanted to touch on with them was the debt service financing and said this was more of a question for them. He said in the past when they had financed something for more than \$2.5 Million, they had to designate a revenue source and finance things for a few hundred thousand by getting the loan. He said he had a question about their proposed budget and knew they were building a new Sheriff's Administration building for \$3 Million and just saw where there was a transfer to debt service from general fund, no non-ad valorem revenue designated and wanted to make sure they had verified that they could do that because if they had to designate a revenue source, it might mean a slight restructuring of their budget. He explained that usually when you have a designated source, you have to pay the debt service first before anything that is left over can be used.

CONSENT

Chair Hinson stated he would like to pull the minutes because there was a discrepancy.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA MINUS ITEM 1.

~~1. Approval Of Minutes~~

~~July 15, 2014 Regular Meeting~~

~~Pulled for Discussion~~

2. Approval And Signatures For Satisfaction Of Special Assessment Lien(s)-State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program, Gadsden County Emergency Repair (ER) Program

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

1. Approval Of Minutes

-July 15, 2014 Regular Meeting

Chair Hinson stated he saw some inaccurate information in the minutes and could not approve them at this time. He said that when they were discussing the surplus items with the Health Department, none of the Chair's comments were posted.

Commissioner Croley asked for clarification that the Chair's comments were not included in that item and Chair Hinson said that was correct. Commissioner Croley said the Clerk's Office would need to review it and make any corrections, if appropriate and asked if the Chair wished to make that motion.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THE DEPUTY CLERK REVIEW THE MINUTES AND MAKE ANY NECESSARY CHANGES BEFORE APPROVAL.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minute Limit)

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Public Hearing (Quasi Judicial) – Approval Of Variance Resolution V-2014-01 For Crossroad Academy Charter School Variance Request

Mr. Presnell introduced the item and stated the Crossroad Academy Charter School was requesting approval of a variance to Subsection 5404.C.2 Tree Protection Areas of the Gadsden County Land Development Code (LDC) to allow removal of protected trees to allow the expansion of the school.

Brad Begue, Civil Engineer, Barkley Consulting Engineering, representing Ms. Millie Forehand, appeared before the board. He said, as Mr. Presnell had stated, they were requesting a variance for the removal of the six trees to be able to add a new high school building, gymnasium and associated parking.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the seven recommendations would be met.

Mr. Begue said they were in the process of working with the Planning Department and were addressing the seven issues.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell for clarification that all seven criteria had been met.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the board and said she assumed they were referring to the seven point test regarding the variance and the analysis was based on the seven point test. She added that there were still some issues with the development site plan they were working through that was not related to the tree removal.

Commissioner Holt asked if those things needed to be stated for the record that they had met the criteria. Mr. Weiss said the agenda item would become part of the record.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Approval And Execution Of The CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant #12DB-P5-02-30-01 K65 Closeout Documents

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant close-out documents and this grant was obtained to assist Gretna with the Cauty Lane road project.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

4A Redirection of Half Cent Tax and Trust Revenues from CRMC to Medicaid in Order to Take Advantage of Federal Matching Funds

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was to take advantage of federal matching funds.

Michael Glazer, Assistant County Attorney, appeared before the Board and said this item had been before them the last several years and this was for the matching program with Florida Medicaid Program. He said counties and other governmental entities could contribute funds through the program and receive matching dollars to increase the benefit to the provider, in this case it was CRMC. He added this was monies that would have been paid by the County anyway and the agreement had to be done by October 1st.

Chair Hinson said he had a problem with this item because he had just received this agenda item a few seconds ago and if there was time to type this up, it should have been emailed to everyone.

Commissioner Morgan said they had actually received this item in an email several days ago.

Commissioner Holt said whether they gave the money to CRMC after it was gotten was not the problem, the point was this was their Medicaid dollars and they could get their own match. She said CRMC had not agreed to show where the money would come back to Gadsden County and added there was no accountability in the match dollars.

Mr. Glazer responded that the matching dollars could only go to the actual Medicaid provider, which was CRMC. He added that he had recalled this question from last year and he had asked Mr. Midgett to pull some information regarding what they were doing specifically for Gadsden County.

Commissioner Holt said they were intelligent enough to decide what they were going to do with the \$400,000 and they should not give away their Medicaid match and this was not logical. She said they also had a contract with the hospital that said they were going to put in four beds and where was the accountability?

Mr. Glazer reiterated that this particular program could not come back to the County and the match could only go to the actual Medicaid provider.

Chair Hinson asked for the public's sake, that this be broken down on how the process worked.

Mr. Glazer said when the hospital first came to Gadsden County, part of the agreement was that the half-cent sales tax would go to CRMC for the provision of care to the poor. At that time, the income from the old hospital trust also went to CRMC and the agreement was amended approximately one year ago and Gadsden County would then keep all income off the trust as long as the half-cent sales tax generated a certain amount. He further explained that the half-cent sales tax dollars go to Capital Regional regardless if this agreement were entered into or not, but by entering into the agreement, instead of sending the money directly to CRMC, it was sent to the Medicaid program, and Medicaid then would match the dollars and send the money to the hospital. He added that it benefited Gadsden County to the extent that the hospital was providing services and this helped to underwrite their care.

Commissioner Holt asked the amount of the half-cent tax that the hospital was to get, that this was extra money the hospital was receiving and was not part of the original contract.

Mr. Glazer said that was correct.

Commissioner Holt said the other \$407,000 should show profit to Gadsden County, because it was above the contract they had.

Mr. Glazer said he misunderstood her question and explained that the \$407,000 was part of the half-cent sales tax so the money that Gadsden County sent was part of that half-cent tax.

Commissioner Holt said the match that came back was not part of the contract.

Mr. Glazer said that was the purpose of this agenda item, they had the option to enter it or not.

Commissioner Holt said that was exactly where she was, the \$407,000 would be matched, and CRMC was not accountable for that money coming back in services to Gadsden County.

Chair Hinson asked if the county could negotiate on how much Gadsden County gets back.

Commissioner Holt said Mr. Glazer was the County's attorney and should be telling the hospital what they would do for the County, that every year they received the match, the return on the dollars were never seen.

Mr. Glazer said they now had an out-patient clinic for the first time in many years and specialists were coming to Gadsden County and that was part of the return that has come back to the County as this result.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Glazer for the information and said he remembered they had this discussion the past three or four years and every year he heard because the County was not the Medicaid provider, those funds were not paid to directly to Gadsden County.

Mr. Glazer said that was correct.

Commissioner Morgan asked why the County would not want the benefit of the matching funds to go to who the County was partnering with so there was the opportunity to keep investing the dollars in Gadsden County to improve the services.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan added the County was very fortunate to have a partner willing to assume the risks, as they have done. He added he wanted them to benefit so we benefit, to keep providing the services and continue to improve and grow the services. He said he thought it was important to remember that the County would not benefit from the dollars because they were not the provider.

Chair Hinson said he thought it was good for discussion and asked if any research was done with other counties as to how the dollars were distributed.

Mr. Presnell said legal counsel had done the research.

Mr. Glazer said the program was duplicated all over the state and was a very standard agreement.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Glazer to restate and clarify the \$407,000 and what was going to be done with the \$600,000, if it stayed in the coffers of CRMC or if it was reinvested in Gadsden County.

Ronnie Midgett, CFO, CRMC, appeared before the Board to clarify. He said approximately 85 hospitals participate in this program. He said last year CRMC treated over 27,000 residents of Gadsden County and of that, 58% were either Medicaid or completely unfunded at a cost of over \$4.5 Million to CRMC in cost of care. He said the money did go to help offset the uncovered costs. He said this program was offered when there were severe cuts in Medicaid funding and this was an opportunity for counties such as Gadsden County to participate in the program and the money goes to ACHA, then up to CNS and the Federal government matched the funds back as an opportunity to help with some of the Medicaid funding in states where this program was used.

Commissioner Taylor asked that they recognize the young lady in the audience that spoke out previously.

Amy Sykes, (refused to give address) said many years ago she did work for HCA and she was a Medicaid/Medicare Reimbursement analyst. She said she worked for that hospital when Gadsden County did not have a hospital here and saw the revenue that left this county and went to Leon County and it was tremendous. She said she had been a Medicaid biller for many years and never had she known a hospital to take claims from a hospital out of the billing system and put into their system and not disclose the patients they took. She added that they do a tremendous amount of benefit for this County and the County did not want to become a Medicaid provider.

Commissioner Taylor said Ms. Sykes brought insightful things to the podium. She said she did not want to change providers and she supported this. She said Commissioner Holt said something that she had to echo, Mr. Glazer was our attorney, and the Board needed to look at ways to expand the services at the hospital and needed to look at further opportunities.

THERE WAS A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR A QUESTION.

Commissioner Holt said what she was saying earlier, when they were talking to CRMC earlier, when they first came in, there was an attorney sitting in the meeting that sued HCA and won. She said they served on a Board together and she had asked him to sit in on the meeting and he was one of the people that she would get information from on healthcare as far as contracting went. She said that the contract, if it included more money, there should be an increase in services. She added that the referendum that passed was for a hospital, not an emergency room.

Chair Hinson said he was not here when this was started, but they should look at the funding they were discussing, the 2.5%, and what they were saying that it was OK to protect others and

not the citizens' they represented, and the funding was going back to Leon County.

Commissioner Morgan said it was important to understand that the dollars will not come to the County because they were not the Medicaid provider, and if they were the Medicaid provider, they would assume a whole lot of risks.

Chair Hinson called for the vote.

Commissioner Taylor said it was important that the citizens were not denied services.

Commissioner Holt said no-one wanted to be a Medicaid provider other than the hospital, but people were going to TMH every day.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE. MOTION PASSED. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

5. Approval of Resolution 2014-015 to Amend the Fees Established for the Planning Division Activities

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it seeks board approval and adoption of Resolution 2014-015 to amend the fees established for the Planning Division.

Commissioner Croley said he was having trouble following the changes.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, came forward and stated that pages 4 and 5 where part of the Resolution and pages 6 and 7 showed the comparison.

Commissioner Morgan asked Ms. Gutcher about the changes made and how they came to the determination of fees and if they were in line with other rural counties the size of Gadsden County.

Ms. Gutcher explained the reasoning for the fees.

Commissioner Holt asked about the fees because some were reduced and thought other fees should be further reduced.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Hinson asked since there were a lot of questions, if maybe they should do a workshop regarding this.

Commissioner Croley said it seemed pretty routine.

Commissioner Holt asked how they could spur growth and if looking at amounts, they needed to look at how they wanted to get jobs in the area and they were not that far off from where they were already charging.

Mr. Presnell explained they intentionally left fees as they were with large scale subdivisions where a bid housing development could come in because there could be drainage issues, etc.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said there had been \$400,000 allotted in the budget for incentives to take care of fees if they chose to waive them. She added when they were discussing the attorneys' contract, they were told it had been reduced, but in actuality, it had only been reduced by \$5.00, but it was the term "reduced" that made them in agreement with it. She said if they told people they would cut costs or waive the fee that was a sellable initiative.

There was more discussion regarding the fees.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BUT BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD MORE COMMENTS.

Commissioner Holt said they were looking at a few dollars, but they were not looking at this from the outside and they needed to look at what makes the developers go elsewhere and not stop here.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER HOLT AND COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

6. ~~Approval for Tourist Development Council to Enter Into a Contract for Marketing Consulting Services With Chisano Marketing Group~~

Pulled

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

7. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said some time back, money was budgeted to help purchase a van for the Disabled Veterans in Tallahassee and the van had been purchased.

He reminded them of the on-line registration for the ethics course.

Chair Hinson interrupted and asked if they could call Shelia Whittico to come forward.

Ms. Whittico filled out a Speaker Request Form and it was handed in after this spot was reached on the Agenda and the Board decided to let her come forward to speak.

Shelia Whittico, 11 Cascade Falls Way, Havana, FL, Havana Heights property manager, appeared before the board. She introduced herself and stated she was the new property manager for Havana Heights. She said she was "cleaning out the drugs" and she was asking for direction because she needed help in getting the area cleaned up and stop the selling of drugs. She asked who the commissioner was in her area.

Chair Hinson said it was he, and there had been issues regarding the fence and the attorney had written a letter to their corporate office.

Ms. Whittico said she found the reason they had blocked the parking lot fence was when the police come, they run through the back.

Chair Hinson said they were concerned about the blocked parking lot.

Ms. Whittico said the reason it was blocked was because of the drugs. She said she opened the gate without corporate's consent to see for herself and after she opened the gate and went back to her office, the whole parking lot was full of drug dealers. She said a security camera had been placed in the parking lot and it was shot out.

Chair Hinson explained problems in the past in dealing with Havana Heights and Ms. Whittico asked that they come to her now.

Mr. Presnell reminded them of the September 11th budget public hearing and the second hearing that was scheduled for September 22th and both were to be at 6:00 p.m.

He reminded them of the Safelite ribbon cutting at 10/90 Commerce park at 9:30 on Wednesday.

Commissioner Croley asked the county administrator when his contract expired and if it could be placed on the agenda for the first meeting in October.

Commissioner Holt asked why the marketing firm was pulled and Mr. Presnell said the contract was still being negotiated.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

8. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report, but was available to answer any questions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

9. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she had a couple of items. She said going back to the hospital beds, there needed to be a conversation with CRMC regarding the beds and if that could happen in the near future.

She said she was fully aware that they have no jurisdiction over the health department, but did not want it to be like the probation office, the social security office, the hospital at one time and she did not want it to close down and she was hearing a lot of rumbling of financial issues. She added that they needed to see what could be done and not be caught off guard and would like to have a conversation to better understand the issues.

Mr. Presnell said he talked with Surgeon General's Office and they assured him the rumors were untrue. He asked for their presence to answer questions. He was advised that Max Martinez was assigned to answer questions and he could bring him before the Board if they liked.

She added that she had noticed the facelift outside with regard to the canopy, but there still

needed to be additional things done to outside of buildings.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had one item regarding the dental equipment at the Havana Medical Clinic and understands the equipment, that was county-owned, was being used.

Mr. Presnell stated they let them go ahead and use the equipment while the bid was out.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the intent was to enter into a lease so some revenue dollars could be obtained from that.

Mr. Presnell said that was the intent, the RFP was on the street now and would be placed on the agenda to come back before the Board.

Commissioner Taylor said she was confused and thought they were going to allow the company in Havana time to get leverage.

Mr. Presnell stated he had spoken to them and they advised him to proceed.

Commissioner Taylor said she thought there was a plan.

Mr. Presnell said he had presented the sale and there were a lot of issues and they agreed for them to have the grand opening in July, and they were operating and doing well, and they will be doing a lease, and currently it was out for bid, and will come back before the Board before any decisions were made.

Commissioner Hinson asked that he be kept apprised of conversations because Channel 6 News had spoken to him earlier and he had no knowledge of that conversation.

COMMISSIONER CROLEY, District 2

Commissioner Croley said Mr. Presnell had sent a letter to the City of Quincy regarding their \$95,000 delinquent fuel bill plus their building inspection fees and asked if it had been settled.

Mr. Presnell said no.

Commissioner Croley asked why they were continuing to carry them when the policy says different, that it was to be paid in thirty days and not go beyond 45 days.

Mr. Presnell said they were charged interest when not timely paid.

He then brought up the County parking lot and said they had just heard from Ms. Whittico regarding drug issues at the Havana Heights parking lot and the County parking lot Saturday morning was full of whiskey bottles, drink cups, beer bottles and they were sitting there with a liability situation and they should not allow public drinking in the parking lot and music going all the time. He said it was a potential liability.

Mr. Presnell said it had been reported multiple times through the years and there had been conversations with the City Manager and the Chief of Police. He added that they clean the

parking lot on Monday mornings and it had been reported that the Police have not caught anyone drinking in the parking lot.

Commissioner Croley said he had ridden with the Police in the past and was with them when they would catch people drinking in the parking lot and have had them pour the drinks out. He said he would like to request that the County Attorney put the City on notice so it is documented for the benefit of the Commission and the citizens and expect under the law that they enforce the law for the legal liability of the County.

Commissioner Holt said regarding the issue with the parking lot, if it was looked at County property, why wasn't the County taking care of and enforcing it.

Commissioner Croley said the Florida Constitution states specifically, County Ordinances shall be enforced and did not make a difference which agency did it.

Mr. Weiss said it was within the city's jurisdiction, and in this scenario, it was privately owned property.

Commissioner Holt said if they forced the open container law there, it must be enforced at other areas within the city limits.

Commissioner Croley clarified that he never said anything about people parking in the parking lot, his concern was the illegal activities that was happening on the county property and he was not asking the Board to do anything, he simply thought it would safeguard the Board's liability if the attorney raised this issue and put them on notice of this situation.

COMMISSIONER HOLT, Vice Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said the Clerk brought up grants and the fund balance and said she had brought up a couple of years ago a grant writer/coordinator because they could keep a check on grants coming in, deadlines that were due, etc. She added the grant writer would go after the money and the coordinator would make sure everything was in compliance. She said it was interesting when the Clerk mentioned that regarding the budget, she thought it should also come from the Budget director; they should keep the board apprised of grants available and bring it to the manager's attention and he then should bring it to the board's attention.

Mr. Presnell said there was no problem, the Clerk had indicated there was no cash flow problem, and he was making a statement regarding the reserve. He added they meet every Wednesday.

Chair Hinson said she was talking about the checks and balances. He then asked what the duties and responsibilities were of the budget director.

Mr. Presnell said the Budget Director that works for the Board puts the budget together, monitors it throughout the year with budget amendments and does financial things for the Board and himself and the finance office pays the bills and statutorily that was one of their requirements and not a responsibility of the Board, the auditing, cutting of the checks, investing of the money was the Clerk's responsibility by the Constitution.

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Commissioner Holt said this was not important, it is just the process and if anything came up that was within that Department, they needed to know ahead of time. She added regarding the dental equipment, she was concerned with the contract because if a piece of equipment was torn up, who was responsible.

COMMISSIONER HINSON, Chair, District 1

RECEIPT AND FILE

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

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Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 2, 2014 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk



ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

**AT A BUDGET HEARING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER
11, 2014, P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING
WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4 (phoned in)
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He said in honor of September 11, 2001, he would like to have a moment of silence for the ones that lost their lives and ones that were still grieving today for lives lost and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was conducted by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk. Chair Hinson said Commissioner Holt would be appearing by telephone.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell introduced the agenda and said this was the first of two required public hearings on the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. PUBLIC HEARING-Final Budget Hearing for Adoption of Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Mr. Presnell said this budget had been formulated based on maintaining the current county-wide property tax rate of 8.9064 mills. He added the calculated roll-back millage-rate (the property tax rate that generates the same amount of property tax revenue as last year) was 9.1443 mills. He further stated the current year rate of 8.9064 mills as a percent change of the roll-back rate is 2.67%. He further added there were two things that needed to be accomplished at this meeting besides taking any public input, was the approval of the tentative millage rate of 8.9064 and approval of the Countywide Budget.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ADOPT THE COUNTYSIDE MILLAGE RATE OF 8.9064.

Mr. Presnell said the 2014-2015 Tentative year Budget was \$45,137,380.

Chair Hinson asked for public comments and there were none.

Commissioner Croley asked how much money would have to come from Cash Balance to balance this budget.

Mr. Presnell said they would add \$1.6 Million total, but there would be cash carries forward from the current budget in the amount of just over \$600,000 for a net reduction of about \$1 Million.

Commissioner Morgan said the best he could figure, there was an increase of 5 percent from last year's budget and said in years past, there was a summary page that showed the trending so they could have a "snapshot" of the direction the County was heading and asked if they could have that at the next budget hearing. He also wanted to reiterate that he felt it important for the Board to maintain a 15 percent fund balance based on the budget, and at this point they would be working toward almost \$6.8 Million. He said he understood they did not have that now, but they had \$5-6 Million and did not want them to lose sight, as had happened in previous years to keep working forward. He also added that "we have got some other things in here regarding economic development, and it doesn't mean necessarily that we are going to spend all of the money that's budgeted in here..." He felt it important for the public to understand that because money was budgeted, it did not mean that the money would be spent.

Mr. Presnell said that was correct and there was several hundred thousand dollars that was a need, such as the Supervisor of Elections with new equipment that was a need and they would not be faced with that expense next year.

Commissioner Morgan also wanted to mention the aide for the Commissioners and said he had no problem with that if Chair Hinson felt that was something he needed and thought that figure was left at \$5,000 and said he now saw there was \$30,000 budgeted.

Mr. Presnell said they wanted to make sure there was enough there for other board members in case they wanted to utilize a student as well.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out they had an Administrative Assistant...

Chair Hinson interjected that, for the record, it was not for the aide.

Chair Hinson asked if he were more comfortable with \$5,000.

Commissioner Morgan said he was and it was his opinion they did not need more employees.

Chair Hinson asked if they took the summer off and went with \$10,000...

Commissioner Morgan asked to do what?

Chair Hinson said they would be re-investing back into the community and the student would do research and other things to get the understanding and would be similar to that the Commissioners do anyway.

Commissioner Morgan asked how the rest of the Board felt about that.

Commissioner Croley said he thought Commissioner Holt was trying to weigh in on how she felt.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem with the position of aides and felt that they needed to

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 11, 2014 – Budget Hearing

have research done and if not they were “sitting back and keep spinning our wheels”. She then asked that everyone speak into their microphone so she would be able to hear them clearly.

Commissioner Taylor said she felt they should be responsible for doing research themselves and thought the Chair and Commissioner Morgan had items that needed each other's support and the \$10,000 would be so Chair Hinson and Commissioner Holt could get some help. She added that she would not need it.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 WITH AMENDMENT FROM \$30,000 TO \$10,000 FOR INTERN ASSISTANTS. COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

Mr. Presnell said they would be advertising this and the second Public Hearing was scheduled for September 22, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

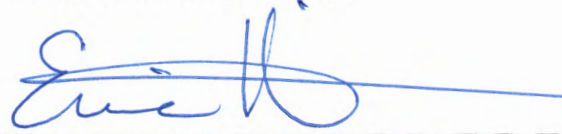
UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 2. October 7, 2014**
October 21, 2014

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:08 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



ERIC F. HINSON, CHAIR



ATTEST:




NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER
16, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1 (Telephoned in)
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

 Vice Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked for a moment of silence and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice-Chair Holt then asked that all cell phones be placed on vibrate or turned off. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA


Vice Chair Holt asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda and there were none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.


AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Gadsden Re-Entry Center Introduction and Update

(Warden Walt Summers)

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said Warden Walt Summers was present to give the Board a presentation regarding the Gadsden Re-entry Center and invited everyone to a Community Partnership event they were hosting on October 14th at 9:00 a.m. He said they were located on the campus of Tallahassee Community College and they were the first correctional facility to have been built on a college campus.

CLERK OF COURTS

 Mr. Thomas said the Board had done a great job with the Budget the past few years, but when he sees potential problems that could impact the County, he felt the need to go on record and inform them of things and then it was up to them on how they would like to handle it. He said in looking through the tentative adopted budget, first was the \$591,000 of Fund Balance. He said they had said all of that may not be spent, but from his standpoint, if it was appropriated, they have to assume, at least on paper, that it will be spent. He said at the last meeting, he pointed out that the \$5 Million was the absolute minimum and once they go below that, they were technically, in the Finance Department's opinion, in "poor financial condition".

The second thing he wanted to point out to them was an accounting issue regarding the new Sheriff's Administration Building and asked how they planned on paying for it and said they would need to account for funds and where the funds would come from. He used for an example, if they were to buy a house, they would close and start making mortgage payments, but if they were to build a house, they could have to have capital upfront to pay contractors. He added that was why he asked them at the last meeting if they had confirmed whether or not they could pay for it with a general fund transfer. He said whether it was a regular bank loan or a bond, they would have to account for the capital, account for the revenue and the expenditures to get the building built. He then suggested they have a consultant come in and do an independent report.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Thomas for sharing his thoughts with them.

Commissioner Holt agreed they did not need to build the administration building before a pod was added and they needed to look at what they could fund now.

Mr. Presnell thanked the Clerk for bringing the matter to the Board's attention and said they agreed with his assessment and Staff was aware and said there would be no contracts until financing was in place.

CONSENT


 **UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN.**

- 2. Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Agreement with The Management Experts, LLC to Provide Emergency Management Training**
- 4. Approval and Signatures on the Fall 2014 E911 Rural County Grant Application for E911 CPE Maintenance and Evergreen Software Upgrade Maintenance**
- 5. Approval for Fire Brush Truck to be Declared as Surplus and Submitted for Auction**
- 6. Approval and Execution of State Aid Agreement**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION


There were no items pulled for discussion.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

 There were no citizens that requested to speak.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 7. PUBLIC HEARING-Board Approval of Ordinance 2014-004 and the Request of Public Safety Academy Housing, Inc. to Refinance the County's \$9,000,000 Revenue Bonds (Public Safety Academy Housing, Inc.), Series 2004 (the "2004 Bonds") and to Issue Additional Indebtedness for Dormitory Improvements**

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said Public Safety Academy Housing, Inc. had

requested that the Board of County Commissioners consider refunding certain 2004 bonds issued by the County for the benefit of the Company and issue additional indebtedness of \$500,000 to finance improvements at the dormitory facilities at the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy.

Mark Mustian, Esquire and Randy Sims, Capital City Bank, appeared before the Board. Mr. Mustian explained there was no liability to the County regarding the bond. Mr. Sims said Capital City Bank was the current holder of the outstanding bond and would be the sole purchaser of the new bond.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Holt asked what was meant the County was not on the hook for the liability.

Mr. Mustian explained there was no way the bond-holder (Capital City Bank) would come to the County for payment and the only thing pledged to secure the debt were the revenues of the facility.

Commissioner Hinson asked if there were any legal concerns.

Mr. Weiss responded there was not.

VICE CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. Approval of the City of Quincy Fire Department Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreement



Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for approval of the Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreement between Gadsden County and the City of Quincy Fire Department.

Commissioner Morgan thanked everyone for working together and said it was beneficial for Gadsden County and fire services to work together to provide the services and fund them. He added that one problem he saw was the volunteer firemen were aging and younger people were not stepping up. He added that the City of Quincy was not the same agreement as with the other municipalities; Quincy had a four year term and the others were a two year term.

Commissioner Croley had questions for the Fire Chief.

Chief Scott Haire, Fire Chief for the City of Quincy, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Croley asked the area of service the agreement covered because the agreement showed automatic aid to Gretna, St. John/Robertsville, Wetumpka, Midway and Interstate 10 from Mile Marker 173 (Greensboro Exit) to Mile Marker 193 (East County Line) and how it would impact the eastern side of the County because there was no reference to Havana and Concord.

Chief Haire stated that Havana and Concord took care of their own, but Quincy would assist if

needed.

Commissioner Croley asked who determined the automatic areas and the aid areas.

Chief Haire said nothing had changed from the previous contract.

Commissioner Croley requested that the agreement be reviewed and brought back to address the needs and areas that were not listed in automatic aid areas. He stated he wanted to make sure the entire county was properly covered.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem in this matter being approved and then bring it back because things could always be added in.

Commissioner Croley moved that the agreement be reviewed and brought back at the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Morgan had a comment and said that he had expressed his concerns because he felt it unfair to other municipalities for this agreement to be put in place and the others were drawn up completely different and said he could not support the agreement as it was, but would like to see it brought back and be a two year agreement so they would all expire at the same time and remove the CPI (consumer price index).

Mr. Presnell said he was concerned about the expiration date of the current contract and had asked the attorney if they could continue the current contract because the agreement expired on September 30th.

Mr. Weiss said he was not certain what the existing agreement said about extension termination because he had redone this and did not have the current contract before him to review.


Commissioner Morgan said he would like to see a one year agreement, and then they all would expire at the same time.

Commissioner Taylor said she had no problem with a four year agreement, but she had a problem with the CPI language in the agreement.

Commissioner Croley said he was in favor of the contract as long as it covered the county in its entirety and he could withdraw his motion on deferring the contract until the next meeting, but would only want to vote to approve this agreement provided that the automatic aid section would be properly reviewed and a report provided back to this Commission so that if there needed to be an adjustment, the Board had the opportunity to evaluate that matter.

IPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH THE AMENDMENT OF ADJUSTMENT OF COVERAGE. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

9. Approval of the City of Midway Volunteer Fire Department Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreement

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and stated this was for approval of the Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreement between the County and the City of Midway Volunteer Fire Department.

Commissioner Morgan asked that the agreement be same as City of Quincy.


Commissioner Holt asked how this agreement compared to the other agreements.

Mr. Presnell said they were pretty close, but did have some differences compared to Chattahoochee, Havana, Gretna, because they received a little more.

Commissioner Croley said he appreciated the terms running together, but they needed to focus on the fire services and wanted to make sure that the citizens in the unincorporated areas were getting proper fire protection.


UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

10. Approval OF THE 2014-2015 Mutual Aid Operations Plan Between Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service and Gadsden County Fire Departments and Acceptance of the 2013-2014 Annual Forestry Report and Operating Plan

 Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it seeks Board approval of the 2014-2015 Division of Forestry Mutual Aid Operation Plan between the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Florida Forest Service and the Gadsden County Fire Departments.


UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11. Approval of Mosquito Control Agreement with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) & Annual Certified Budget

 Mr. Presnell introduced above item and stated this was for approval of the Mosquito Control Agreement with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and was for matching funds and the cost share provided to the County for mosquito control services was \$31,540.


UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Local Municipalities and the Gadsden County School Board

 Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this item seeks Board approval of the annual Interlocal Agreements with six local municipalities for road maintenance and special project activities.


UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

13. Approval to Renew the Services Contract with Con-Techs Health & Safety to Provide Drug and Alcohol Screening and Training Services

 Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this was for approval to renew the services contract with Con-Techs Health & Safety to provide drug and alcohol screening services as well as training to the County and he added it was a local company.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

14. Updates to the Current County Investment Policy

 Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was a document provided by the Clerk of the Court to the Board and was for updates to the current Investment Policy.

Mr. Thomas said in 1995, the Legislature required all Clerks to develop an investment policy as it related to county funds. He added there had been a few updates through the years so the policy has been updated to comply with the Florida Statutes.

Commissioner Holt asked if a workshop could be done with the Clerk regarding this matter.

Commissioner Hinson agreed on having a workshop.

Mr. Thomas said he would meet with them at any time and added that every Clerk was required to develop a policy for their county.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Thomas if the policy had been reviewed by auditors.

Mr. Thomas said it had.

Commissioner Morgan asked if there was a deadline regarding this issue.

Clerk Thomas said there was not, he would like to have them ratify the policy if they liked it.

Commissioner Morgan said he had no problem in going ahead and approving this policy.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Hinson said he would like to have a workshop before voting on this matter.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was any reason to use certain banks over others.

Mr. Thomas stated that the bank had to be approved to accept county funds, the primary depositor had to be in the county and it could not be a credit union.

Commissioner Hinson said he was not against it, but wanted a workshop to ensure transparency.

Commissioner Holt asked where the interest earned went.

Mr. Thomas said the earned interest went to the Board of County Commissioners. He further explained that some years ago the Clerk was able to receive a portion of the interest, now all the interest goes to the BOCC, but the interest rates have been low the last few years.

VICE CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

Commissioner Taylor said some very valid points were made and the Board had the authority to amend anything at any given time they have approved, but concurred with the workshop. She said there were two different topics; one was about policy, which is what was on the agenda and the other was about the actual investment, which is what they wanted to workshop.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

15. Update on Various Board Requests



Mr. Presnell thanked the commissioners that attended the dedication for the Safelite ribbon cutting.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

16. Update on Various Legal Issues



Mr. Weiss stated he did not have anything to report on, but was happy to answer any questions.

Commissioner Croley said there had been a discussion, but no formal vote taken, but thought there was somewhat of a consensus that a letter would be sent to the Quincy Police Department asking for better policing of the public parking lot behind the County Office, especially for open containers and asked if that had been done.

Mr. Weiss said it had not and was not clear in directions regarding that matter.

Commissioner Croley pointed out that it remained a concern about the public liability for the parking lot and wanted to make sure they had done their due diligence to let the Police Department know that there were concerns and their policing of the property would be appreciated and in compliance with the laws.

Commissioner Holt said there may need to be a motion and vote for an official letter to go from this governmental body to another governmental body.

Commissioner Croley said he would be willing to wait until his time and introduce it as a request to be placed on the agenda for discussion.


DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

17. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, District 5

 Commissioner Taylor had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN, District 3

 Commissioner Morgan asked for clarification from the attorney regarding the redistricting issue that has been discussed in the past. He said they were obligated by the Florida Statutes to look at redistricting every ten years and the last opportunity to do that will be 2015. He asked the attorney what their obligations were regarding that issue.

Mr. Weiss said there was an obligation to look at that, but thought the obligation was more frequent, but would need to research the statute to be sure.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan stated maybe there needed to be a workshop and that he did not recall any in-depth examination and stressed that he wanted to make sure they were in compliance with what needed to be done as a governing body and if no changes were necessary, that would be great, but if changes were needed, it should be addressed.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Holt said if this was looked at last year did it need to be addressed again?

Mr. Weiss said he would need to review the statute, but there was an obligation to look into this matter.

Commissioner Hinson said they had looked at this matter last year and was not in favor of it.

Commissioner Taylor said she concurred with Commissioner Hinson, if the attorney needed to share information that was vital that they needed to know, something they needed to look at, then bring it back, because she also concurred with Commissioner Morgan that she wanted to make sure they were in compliance.

VICE CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS HOLT, HINSON AND TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.

Commissioner Croley said they could not overlook the responsibility regarding the redistricting and they had heard from the law firm that provided the information as well as the County Attorney that they had a responsibility to look at that objectively and not being willing to look at that puts

the Board at an “intentable position” because someone could bring a writ and order it done.


Commissioner Morgan said if it was the will of the Board that they had met everything that was fine, but wanted to make sure that as a governing body and the State Statues, they had done what needed to be done and wanted to hear that from the attorney and see the examination that was put forth on the subject, in case he was asked, he could respond that they had done their constitutional duty to address it.

Commissioner Holt said he had no problem with the attorney looking into this matter and bringing it back before the Board.

Commissioner Taylor asked that whatever the attorney brought back, to have it in writing.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER CROLEY, District 2

 Commissioner Croley asked that they agenda the parking lot liability to ensure that they were adequately protected and requested that a letter be sent to police department that they check the parking lot in the manner that was appropriate.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO AGENDA THE PARKING LOT LIABILITY, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Hinson said he thought the administration could work on that.

Mr. Presnell said they had worked on that matter on and off, but he thought Commissioner Croley was asking for an official letter from the attorney to the Quincy Police Department.

Commissioner Croley confirmed that he was asking for a letter from the attorney to the Quincy Police Department to have them better patrol the parking lot at night.

COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A COMMENT.

Commissioner Taylor asked the attorney to check with the City of in case they would like to have someone present at that time.

COMMISSIONER HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THIS ITEM PLACED ON THE AGENDA.

Commissioner Croley reported there was a CRTPA meeting yesterday, and wanted them aware that a was motion made to move forward with a sidewalk project within city of Tallahassee and part of it would be that committee made up of the Chair, Vice-chair and one representative from the rural counties to evaluate the movement of these projects. He said he took exception to that and stated Gadsden was the only county that had six municipalities and he was not comfortable with the projects being turned over to a committee for evaluation.

He stated his final item that had to do with public liability and he did not want to get into current

issues going on with the Sheriff's office and the State Attorney, but the issue before the Court has raised lot of public attention and questions regarding the operation of the Jail. In 2003, the County handed reins to the Sheriff as Chief Jailer. He said there was a set of statutes that pertain to the County Commission, pertaining to gain time for good conduct of the County prisoners and matters that pertain to employment of the correctional officers, designation of who will be Chief Jailer and how all of this will work, etc. He requested that a review of board responsibility of jail be done by attorney and report back to the board so they understand what the where responsible for. Commissioner Croley then asked if a motion was needed for that.

Commissioner Holt said she thought they should wait until after the Show Cause hearing that has been scheduled.

Commissioner Croley said the attorney should be able to tell the Board if things are fine and if not, let them know and an appropriate decision could be made.

Commissioner Morgan said he understood what Commissioner Croley was saying and asked if the information could be provided individually to Commissioner Croley and felt this might not be the right time to discuss that matter in a public forum because he felt it could be perceived as questionable timing.

Commissioner Croley said he only wanted to look at what the Board was supposed to be doing.

COMMISSIONER HOLT, Vice-Chair, District 4



Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he wanted to recognize the Law Enforcement Officer of Year luncheon and awards ceremony and was very proud of Gadsden County.

This luncheon and awards ceremony is co-sponsored every year by the Quincy Rotary Club and the Pilot Club of Quincy and this year Quincy Public Safety's officer, Kevin Brock, was chosen as Officer of the Year.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson went on to state he thought it was their position a few years ago to be out in the local communities and be a part of the events and was not able to show a presence at the event this year, and said he would meet with Mr. Presnell and maybe next year could be a part of that.

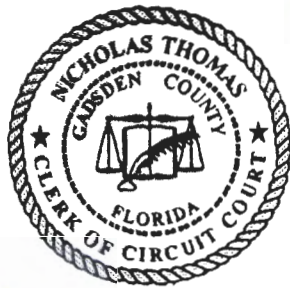
Commissioner Hinson also asked that everyone support the local sporting programs.

RECEIPT AND FILE

UPCOMING MEETINGS

18. September 22, 2014-2nd Public Hearing (FY2015 Budget) @ 6:00 p.m.
October 7, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
October 21, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commission
September 16, 2014 – Regular Meeting



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

BRENDA HOLT, Vice-Chair
Board of County Commissioners

**AT A BUDGET HEARING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER
22, 2014, P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING
WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4 (arrived late)
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
Jeff Price, Senior Management and Budget Analyst
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., had a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell introduced the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. PUBLIC HEARING-Final Budget Hearing for Adoption of Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Mr. Presnell said the operating millage rate was 8.9064 mills and the calculated roll-back millage rate that would generate the same amount of property tax revenue as last year was 9.1443 mills. He added that the current rate of 8.9064 mills would cause a decrease of 2.67 percent.

Mr. Presnell explained that Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2014-016.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE OF 8.9064.

Mr. Presnell said the second part of the public hearing was for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Final budget and Resolution. Chair Hinson asked for public comments and there were none.

Commissioner Morgan said he wanted to reiterate this was a 5% overall budget increase, not 15% as was previously written he said and the fund balance they currently have was approximately \$6.8 Million, which was more than has ever been in the fund balance in the history of Gadsden County.

Commissioner Holt appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Croley said his concern remained that they had the capacity to take out over \$1

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 22, 2014-Budget Hearing

Million for mostly "soft projects" that had on-going costs for the future, revenue would be short and they would be faced with raising taxes or making more drastic cuts next year and the bad outweighed the good in his opinion of this budget.

Commissioner Morgan said as had happened in past, they returned money at the end of the year and because money was budgeted, it did not mean the money would be spent. He added if they continued to follow a good budget, they could provide some services and they were in a county where social program services were extremely important to the majority of the population and they needed to work together as a Board for the good of the County and move forward.

Commissioner Holt said this was a good budget, they needed to look strongly at economic development, money was moved into that area and the Board has done well.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET. COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2. October 7, 2014
October 21, 2014

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:08 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA




ERIC HINSON, Chair
Brenda A. Holt

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**Gadsden County Value Adjustment Board
Organizational Meeting
October 1, 2014**

PRESENT: Sherrie Taylor, Chairman
Gene Morgan (Phoned in)
Martha Peeler
Scott Watson
Audrey Lewis
Bradley Munroe, VAB Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Clerk's Designee as VAB Clerk

1. **Call to Order**

Sherrie Taylor called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and said the first order of business was the election of the Chair and called for nominations.

2. **Nominations and Election of Chairman to Value Adjustment Board (VAB)**

UPON MOTION OF AUDREY LEWIS, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR SHERRIE TAYLOR TO BE APPOINTED AS CHAIR.

Gene Morgan telephone in at this juncture of the meeting and appeared by phone.

3. **Introduction of Board Members**

The board members introduced themselves.

4. **Re-appointment of Bradley Munroe as VAB Legal Counsel**

UPON MOTION BY SCOTT WATSON AND SECOND BY GENE MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPOINT BRADLEY MUNROE AS BOARD ATTORNEY.

5. **Introduction of Clerk's Designee to Act as Clerk to VAB**

Marcella Blocker introduced herself to the Board.

6. **Rules of Uniform Procedure – Instructions from VAB Attorney**

Mr. Munroe discussed the role of the Board and instructed them on their duties and what factors were to be considered in their determination of the Petitions to be heard. Mr. Munroe explained there were certain rules and criteria the Property Appraiser was to follow in assessing the property, he would present his side of the case first and then the party side would present their side. He said the decision must be based on competent, substantial evidence and the Board was sitting as a quasi-judicial body. He explained the eight factors the Board was to consider and said that they may or may not pertain to each property.

7. Rule Chapter 12-D-9; FAC

- Chair to announce that the Uniform Rules of Procedure are readily available on the Clerk's Website.
- Announce that any and all forms needed to participate in the hearing can also be found at the Clerk's website.

It was explained that the Rules and forms needed could be found on the Clerk's website.

8. Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law

- VAB meetings are subject to the Florida Sunshine Law.
- Copy of the Book is in the room.
- A copy of the book may be obtained from First Amendment Foundation at 336 E. College Ave. Suite 300, Tallahassee, FL 32301 or by calling 850-222-3518.

The book is available for review in the Clerk's Office, Office of the County Administrator as well as the public library.

The Chair informed everyone where the Government In The Sunshine book could be found.

9. Discussion of Local Administrative Issues

- VAB Training is available on the DOR Website.
- Encourage members to become certified and turn in certificate to Clerk for the record.

10. Adoption and Ratification of the Filing Fee of \$15.00

UPON MOTION BY MARTHA PEELER AND SECOND BY AUDREY LEWIS, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION VAB 2014-001 FOR THE FILING FEE TO BE \$15.00 FOR ALL PETITIONS FILED.

11. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Chair Taylor asked if there were fifteen petitions and Ms. Blocker explained there were fifteen petitions filed with the Clerk's Office and all fifteen were either withdrawn or settled between the petitioner and the Gadsden County Property Appraiser.

12. VAB Hearing Dates – October 7, 2014 starting at 9:00 a.m. If there is any need to be rescheduled, it will be on October 8, 2014.

All petitions were previously settled and there will be no need for the hearing dates.

13. **Adjournment**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 3:15 P.M.**

SHERRIE TAYLOR, Chair
Gadsden County Value Adjustment Board

ATTEST:

Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON OCTOBER 7, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chairman, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00, Pastor Morris from the New Bethel AME Church came forward and gave the Invocation, then Chair Hinson led in the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent roll call was taken by Deputy Clerk, Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson asked if there were any amendments and there were none.

Commissioner Morgan stated he had a question regarding the Agenda and asked if Item 4 was in the right spot on the Consent Agenda. He said he had no problem with the issue, but thought it should be under General Business since it was a contract agreement and a financial matter and thought it needed to be discussed.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO MOVE ITEM 4 FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO ITEM 11A UNDER GENERAL BUSINESS.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Introduction & Update from Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Chris Rietow, Executive Director, District 2 LEPC Staff, appeared before the Board and gave an update from the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.

Commissioner Holt said there would be a lot of information coming up concerning tax credits, and she added that several of them were not aware that government gets tax credits and something should be able to be done with that in order to get revenue.

Mr. Rietow said it was a very complicated federal tax credit program and if awarded, will allow businesses to receive twenty percent of start-up or expansion costs upfront and would have to go to low-income areas.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the board still met bi-monthly.

Mr. Rietow said they did, on the fourth Thursday and the next Board meeting would be November 20th.

Commissioner Morgan asked if they would consider hosting their meeting in Gadsden County at some point and time.

Mr. Rietow said they would.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas said for the record he forwarded them an email regarding cash balances. He said the good news was all the grant money that was outstanding, most of it had come in. He explained the EMS fund was short of cash and that fund was not allowed to be short and would need to be corrected with a budget amendment within next sixty days.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the county as a whole was financially healthy.

Mr. Thomas said overall as of September 30th, yes.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

- 2. Vickie Dillard d/b/a Escape Lounge v. Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners/Release**
- 3. Approval for Plotter to be Declared as Surplus and Sold for Parts**
- 4. ~~Approval of Annual Contract between Gadsden County BOCC and The Florida Department of Health for the Operations of the Gadsden County Health Department~~ Moved to Item 11A**
- 5. Approval of Minutes**
-July 15, 2014 Regular Meeting

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 minute limit)

Mrs. Kruize, Black Heritage Museum, appeared before the Board and said the Black Heritage Museum opened on May 25th at the old Stevens School. She said their primary goal was to build self-esteem, values and appreciation with others. She said they also wanted to attract tourists and said people had come from Miami and Tallahassee to see the museum. She added that it was only open by appointment and the contact telephone numbers were 305-252-3535 and 786-287-1157.

Mary Lee Lancaster, 2140 Concord Road, Havana, FL, appeared before the Board regarding loose animals. She said there were stray dogs that terrorize the neighborhood at night. She stated that she knew there was an ordinance regarding pets running loose and asked if there was an ordinance that held pet owners responsible for cleaning up after their pets. She was told

no, Leon County has such an ordinance, but Gadsden did not. She asked that the county consider enacting this type of ordinance to hold pet owners responsible.

Commissioner Taylor suggested that she talk with the County Administrator regarding this problem.

Rev. Alphonso Figgers, 215 North Chalk Street, Quincy, FL, appeared before the board and shared a flyer for the Shaw Quarters/Addition Community Day scheduled for October 25, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and invited everyone out to the event.

He said that at an earlier meeting, the TCC building was discussed and a thought occurred to him that possibly \$50,000 could go towards the repairs of the building and the other \$50,000 could go towards the scholarship for the students.

He said his third thing he wanted to mention, he said he did not see anything in place to honor and respect 9/11 this year for the first responders and military men and thought next year something could be coordinated for a County-wide event and held on the Courthouse Square.

He said he saw that Safelite had opened a new business in the 10/90 Commerce Park and hoped more businesses would come.

He had asked at a previous meeting if the Hospital would be opened up for full operation and Commissioner Croley had passed that question on to the Administrator and he said no. He asked if that was the consensus of the Commissioners if it would be opened up in full operation in the future.

Commissioner Hinson explained that normally they listen to comments from the citizens and do not make comments regarding what they discuss, but believed the Hospital was of great value.

Commissioner Taylor said she thought it would be good if he sat with the Administrator and discussed this matter.

Commissioner Holt said the Industrial Park located on Joe Adams Road belonged to the City and they would not be able to address that matter.

Rev. Figgers then thanked Commissioner Croley for his services during his term as County Commissioner.

Willie Scott, 26 Shaw Lane, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board representing the Senior Citizens Services and said there was a problem with the Center and they were before the Board to ask the County Attorney to research the by-laws to make sure the by-laws were being complied with correctly. He added he was not sure how far back the by-laws went, but the building was established in 1987.

Chair Hinson asked him to get in touch with the County Administrator.

Commissioner Morgan asked if it would be more productive if the County Attorney, the Administrator and Mr. Scott met.

Commissioner Taylor said this needed to happen as soon as possible.

Larry Clayton, Post Office Box 704, Havana, FL 32333, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Clayton informed the Board he was filing a formal complaint for code violations on land use on property described as 2-02-3N-3W-0000-00331-0100. He added that the land use description was Ag2 and was now being used as commercial. He said some of the examples of the code violations were car shows, concerts, remote control airplane shows, soccer games as well as loud music. He told the County Commissioners that the community was tired of the loud music and said this has been an ongoing problem with complaints made to the County Commissioners and the Sheriff's Office. He added that he had no problem with activities that were within the land use codes, but some of the issues they have were parking along the side of the road.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Clayton thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to speak and hoped they would do something about the problem.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. PUBLIC HEARING-Amendment of the Land Development Regulations as it pertains to Development Agreements and Adoption of Ordinance 2014-005

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this was an update of the Land Development Code to move the regulations pertaining to Development Agreements from Chapter 9 to Chapter 7, combining the two and amending Chapter 7 title to "Development Orders, Development Permits and Development Agreements". He added in addition, there was an amendment to Chapter 2, Definitions, as it pertained to development agreements and the adoption of Ordinance 2014-005. He added they would like to include in the motion an Exhibit B that was not in the Ordinance that renamed Section 7703 to Section 7704.

Mr. Weiss said upon review of the item, there was a scrivener's error in the body of the change ordinance and there were two subsections 7703 and the second subsection 7703 needed to be renumbered to reflect 7704 so when the motion was made, it needed to adopt the revision to include Exhibit B and the correct numbering.

Chair Hinson asked if anyone in the public wished to speak and there was no-one.

Commissioner Morgan had a question for Allara Gutcher.

Allara Gutcher, Director of Planning and Community Development, appeared before the board and explained this would take Chapter 9 and consolidates it into Chapter 7 and would concisely describe what the Development Agreement Process was and refers heavily to the Statute. She added, if they agreed to adopt this ordinance, the one thing that would change was the maximum timeframe the development agreement could live.

Commissioner Croley asked, for instance, if this pertained to Coastal Lumber, where they put in a lot of their own infrastructure and was able to use that piece of land for that production facility. He asked if this provision would allow for those type facilities to be developed and have some type of long term commitment from the County for that.

Ms. Gutchner said this Development Agreement was more geared to property owner and developer to make a long term assessment of what they wanted to do with their property.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM WITH THE CHANGES TO INCLUDE THE SCRIVENER'S ERROR.

7. PUBLIC HEARING-Transmittal Hearing for the Amendment of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element of the Comprehensive Plan to the Department of Economic Opportunity for review.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said there were no serious changes; it was mainly a housekeeping item.

Chair Hinson asked if anyone wished to speak and there was no-one.

Commissioner Holt asked if the City wanted to do development, how this would affect the project.

Ms. Gutchner said this was essentially set up to help work with other agencies.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

8. PUBLIC HEARING-Amendment of the Land Development Code as it pertains to a change of use of a structure and Adoption of Ordinance 2014-006

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for the amendment to the Land Development Code to address changes of use by amending Subsection 2102 to include definitions and adding Subsections 7002.C.3 and 7201.A.9 to address changes of use, as well as the adoption of Ordinance 2014-006.

Chair Hinson asked if anyone wished to speak.

Larry Clayton appeared before the board and asked if a business closed today, and it was five years before another business wanted to come in, when did the time start and stop.

Ms. Gutchner appeared before the Board for clarification of his question, if he was asking about non-conforming present use or one that was allowable in the district.

Mr. Clayton explained he lived in a rural area and from time to time a convenience store would "pop up" on the edge of a community. If the store went out of business, how long before another business could come in.

Ms. Gutchner said if it were an allowable use by the plan use category, there was no time limit. She added if it were a commercial business that was developed in a commercial land use category and the land use was changed to residential, there was a time limit on how long it could stay vacant before it had to be residential.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. PUBLIC HEARING-Adoption of Ordinance 2014-007, Amending the Gadsden County BOCC Procurement Policy to provide for a local preference in bid awards, to permit the utilization of contracts of other public entities on the same terms and conditions if the contract was competitively bid, and to permit bid awards to the next lowest bidder after rescission of the low bid without a new solicitation; providing for repealer, severability, and modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said the Board had expressed an interest in amending the GBOCC Procurement Policy and had asked the County Attorney to prepare a draft including certain amendments for their consideration.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any public comments and there was no-one.

Commissioner Morgan asked he supported the intent of this ordinance, but did not support putting the financial burden to the taxpayers and asked if there were another way to accomplish what they wanted to accomplish without it costing the taxpayers a potentially additional \$20,000 for a particular service and asked if there were another option.

Mr. Weiss said there were many ways to implement a local preference policy. He said one way to not have an impact and would not be a financial burden, was to offer a price match option, for instance if the next lowest bid were within five percent of the lowest bid, they could have the opportunity to match the low bid or go a dollar under the low bid.

Commissioner Morgan said he would like to see language concerning qualifications for the businesses.

Commissioner Croley said he has seen these before and did not think much of them and was very hard to implement and wound up costing the taxpayers extra money. He added the Administrator and staff had done a great job in reaching out to local businesses within the community, and used Stones as an example for a local store, but their headquarters was based in Georgia. He mentioned Bell and Bates and said they were locally owned and operated, and asked if Bell and Bates would get preference over Stones? He then mentioned businesses in Tallahassee that employ local people. He felt the whole concept was not practical or was in the best interests of the taxpayers, the citizens as a whole or the businesses. He said the businesses here would find themselves being discriminated against elsewhere. He added if there were two bids that were equal, he felt consideration needed to be given to the one closest to the county. He said with this adoption, he felt a business in Havana may be favored over businesses in Greensboro. He also challenged was anyone going to say they had read and understood all of the policy in detail.

Commissioner Holt said this policy was trying to give opportunities to local people and the other

counties already hire their people and give local preference.

Commissioner Taylor said the idea was to grow the economy and if they invested locally, it would happen, but if the dollars were continued to be spent outside of the county, it would not help. She said everyone knew there was not much growth management going on in this area. She added that she agreed with Commissioner Croley in that it is was very complex issue and did not want to alienate other companies outside of the county in doing business. She suggested they do it case by case and do due diligence in picking the best company.

Chair Hinson said he had spoken to almost everyone in Gadsden County, and when he thought of Allen Sports, when business was sent to B & B Sporting Goods in Tallahassee, it hurt Allen Sports. He said if they continued to invest back in area, they would get more out of it. He said everyone knew he was pro-business and he was pro local-government because if he needed someone to help him out with a kid at a school, he could not call Tallahassee or Miami to help. He said there was a need to support local business.

Commissioner Morgan said he didn't think any of them did not want to support local business and felt most of the citizens wanted to help the local businesses when they could, but the issue was if it cost the taxpayers additional money, he was not for it. He added when it made sense to support the local business, they should, but this ordinance could potentially cost the county a lot of money.

Commissioner Taylor said the specs in a bid would eliminate that problem because of experience being a requirement, there needed to be something in place as a guide.

Commissioner Croley said another thing they might be overlooking for instance was the road contract and Peavy was based in Havana and employ a lot of people from Gadsden County. He added that the type projects he did the majority of was funded by the fuel tax revenue and other sources of revenue that require a competitive bid at State level so when he competes against Anderson Columbia, Mitchell Brothers or whoever and faced with the fact that it will be a low bid so the majority of this work does not apply. He added that sometimes people are confusing these types of programs and are disappointed when they find out that could not be done legally. He then said they had not heard from Mr. Lawson.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO APPROVE OPTION 2 MODIFIED WITH THE PRICE MATCH. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Mr. Weiss read in the changes.

Commissioner Taylor said she would be more comfortable to bring this back with the amended language.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO BRING THIS ITEM BACK, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER CROLEY CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Croley called for discussion and the term "local businesses" was on page two and

that had not been defined and included surrounding counties, along with other items that were not defined.

**CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE.
COMMISSIONER CROLEY OPPOSED.**

10. PUBLIC HEARING-Adoption of Ordinance 2014-008, Amending Chapter 58, Article IV, Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, Entitled Outdoor Festivals; Providing for Repealer, Severability, Inclusion in the Gadsden County Code, Modifications That May Arise from Consideration at Public Hearing, and Providing for an Effective Date.

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said the BOCC had expressed an interest in potentially amending Chapter 58, Article IV of the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances which regulate outdoor music festivals.

Mr. Weiss said this was a simple change and all this ordinance would do is clarify that this ordinance would only apply to outdoor music festivals and it would not apply to other activities and would increase the exemption on outdoor music festivals.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any public comments.

Gloria Prather, 924 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board. She said she heard music the other night, there was a big bang, and now they want to increase the number of people from 500 to 2,000. She said her neighbors heard all the noise, you drive down the road and could hardly get by because of how they parked in the road and did not agree with the change because people all over the area were being disturbed.

Michael Dorian, 145 Alligator Run, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and said there were already festivals going on, there was noise, illegal fireworks, people parking on the side of the road and the only recourse they had was to call the police.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

He said even after police coming, it happens again the next week. He said along with the festival, there are model airplane shows, soccer games and there was a steel band there the other night.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Dorian asked what kind of protection they would have with the number of participants increasing to 2000 and there would be parking all down the road. Neighbors would have to listen to the music and fireworks and asked the commissioners to say no.

Larry Ganus, 2174 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the board, and said according to the Property Appraiser's website, he was 1.4 miles from the venue they were discussing and could hear music playing and voices over the loudspeakers and his biggest fear was if this was expanded to 2000 people, the noise would be worse, more traffic problems, parking problems and according to the exemption, all they would have to do is file an affidavit that said they would not have over 2000 people and it would only exacerbate the situation. He asked that

they leave it as was. He also said Chapter 55 was a Noise ordinance, and read that to commissioners. He said the ordinances on the books were not being enforced.

Wayne Hawthorne, 804 Frank Smith Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the board and said he lived in the area approximately 2 miles from the site. He said there was a water shed adjacent to his land and it would tend to amplify the noise problem. He said there was a parking problem with only 500 people and no sanitary facilities, no police and it was a dangerous situation. He said it was a nuisance to be in the country and all of a sudden hear fireworks go off. He asked them to consider leaving the ordinance as it was.

Larry Clayton, 1564 Dodger Ball Park Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the board and expressed concerns with the proposed changes to the outdoor festivals. He asked that they keep it limited to 500 people and understood it applied to any gathering. He said he lived right next door to the event and it was difficult for him to enjoy life and the peace and quiet on his property when the events were going on. He added he did not like the remote control airplane buzzing his horses or the vulgar language over the loudspeakers along with the traffic control and crowd control. He gave the population of Gretna, Greensboro and Havana and they all had a population of less than 2000, but they had a full-time police force to enforce the law. He added that now they wanted to turn 2000 people loose with alcohol in a pasture with no control, law enforcement, no facilities and was difficult for him to understand why. He further added if there were any change to the ordinance, it should be to require a permit for all outdoor activities and events and ensure the safety of attendees, enforcement of the noise ordinance and appropriate facilities to handle the garbage and human waste.

Commissioner Holt said she had this item placed on the agenda, and said this was referred to as the "luau law", and when they had the luau, they provided sanitation, security and parking and was a once a year event. She added if there were less than 500, these things could happen and instead, look at the ordinance and see what should be in there. She further stated that property owners were not allowed to use their property to the best use because of the high unemployment rate. When the luau was put on, they provided 42 local vendors an opportunity to make money that one day. She said she was hearing that these events were happening often and if this was the case, it needed to be addressed. She pointed out when someone went to the Seafood Festival, Mule Day or Forest Festival, there are private property owners allowing people an opportunity to make money and allow property owners to utilize their properties and make an income. She said maybe this should be addressed in a workshop. She added that the people that were in favor of this were not backing down.

A person in the audience asked where "they" were and Commissioner Holt stated "they" did not have to attend, they had her representing them.

Commissioner Holt read a portion from the proposed Ordinance and said if it were a private event on private property, why would the County want to look at how many times events had been done in the past year.

Commissioner Morgan said any ordinance not enforced, which there were a number of, needed to be addressed. He said he had listened to concerns from the public regarding this issue, thought they were genuine and if he lived in the neighborhood, he would have the same concerns. He said he saw nothing good in raising the amount of people and from a safety

standpoint, did not think it wise to increase the number.

Commissioner Croley said this event was occurring regularly in District 2. He said while he appreciated the citizens that came, they were not the only ones that have voiced displeasure. He said this ordinance did begin with the luau and before the school was built, the property was owned by St. Joe Paper company and he saw first-hand the parking issues and what went on. Next, he said, was the music festival that started in Commissioner Taylor's district, then it moved to Ball Farm at Point Milliken at the dead-end road. Same complaints from everyone, now soccer games taking place on Highway 12 and now it has moved to the north. He said he was not sure how they would place 2,000 people on 20 acres and did not think changing the ordinance was a good idea. He added this was not impeding family reunions, church sings, and dinner on the ground, etc. He added this related to problems with traffic, noise generated by amplifiers, music happening late at night and disturbing peoples' tranquility. He said he had no problem with the idea of a festival in an urban or well regulated setting and did not support the change.

Chair Hinson asked what was meant by "relevant background qualifications".

Mr. Weiss said the purpose of that was a matter of making sure that whoever applied for the permit had experience and qualifications that entitled them to actually put on an event of this nature.

Chair Hinson said there was a young Hispanic woman that put on a Cinco de Mayo show, it was her first time and the place was packed and this was the reason he asked about the background checks and it may be an issue because they did not want to discriminate against anybody. He added that his issue at first was the pilau held in Havana every year, but they had officers and clean-up crews and had a problem at first because of those events and the events in Chattahoochee, the pow-wow and boat races, but saw this did not relate to those events. He added that he believed everyone was now on the same page.

Commissioner Holt said it had nothing to do with the \$500 and if the document was looked at, it needed to be fixed. She asked why they were concerned whether this band or that band had played or shown up at different events. She added that was not county business and that was infringing on their rights and they either needed to approve the event or not approve it.

Commissioner Hinson said some of the things in the Ordinance could be cut out, but one thing was the safety issue, the second was the need to have law enforcement present and the third was trash on the side of the road. He added that the language needed to be revised.

Commissioner Taylor agreed the ordinance did not need to be changed and said if your home and community was being compromised, it upsets a lot. She said, however, she supported growth and development. If there were an organization that wanted to host such an event then it should go through the proper channels and come before the board to be heard.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY TO APPROVE OPTION THREE, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER HOLT HAD COMMENTS.

Commissioner Holt said she needed to be on the prevailing side so she could bring this back. She reiterated that the document needed to be reviewed and brought back, did not need to have some of the issues in it. She added she was in favor of insurance.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR OPTION THREE.

GENERAL BUSINESS

11. Approval to Rescind the Gateway Signage and Landscaping Project Bid Awarded to Grounds Maintenance Services, Inc. and Award the Bid to CSI Contracting, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to rescind the Gateway Signage and Landscaping project bid that was awarded to Grounds Maintenance Services, Inc. and award the bid to CSI Contracting, Inc. He explained Public Works had held a meeting with Grounds Maintenance Services and GMS voluntarily withdrew from the project and realized they had made a grave error in what was expected of them. He said two bids were submitted and they checked with DOT with regard to going with the next bidder.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11A. Approval of Annual Contract between Gadsden County BOCC and The Florida Department of Health for the Operations of the Gadsden County Health Department

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it sought board approval of the annual contract between BOCC and the Gadsden County Health Department for the operation of the Gadsden County Health Department.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

12. Approval of Interlocal Agreement between Gadsden County and the Town of Greensboro for Animal Control Services

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for approval of an Interlocal Agreement between the BOCC and the Town of Greensboro for Animal Control Services and authorization for the Chairman to execute the agreement.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor asked who was paying the money and Mr. Presnell said the Town of Greensboro would pay the funds to the Gadsden County Animal Control Department.

Chair Hinson said he had seen an influx of calls regarding animal control and it was in the budget at one time to hire another animal control officer and maybe there could be an officer on both sides of the county. Mr. Presnell said early on in the budget there was another position for an animal control officer and the position was removed to cut costs.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

13. Approval of Professional Services Agreements for Engineering Consulting Services for Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said was for approval of an agreement for the two engineering consulting services.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MOVED APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the second firm had a set rate.

Mr. Presnell said one firm had a set rate and the other had a range and the rate the County was accustomed to working with was in that range and the hourly rate would be firmed up by the time the Board approved the task orders.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

14. Approval of Contract for the Tourist Development Council (TDC) to Host a Crappie Tournament Utilizing the Services of Crappie USA in January of 2015 and Authorization for the Chairman to Execute the Agreement

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said was for approval of the contract for the TDC to host a crappie tournament and utilize the services of Crappie USA.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVAL THIS ITEM.

15. Approval to Cancel the November 4, 2014 BOCC Meeting

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said there had been a request to cancel the November 4th BOCC meeting because of the General Election being the same day.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND THERE WAS A QUESTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN.

Commissioner Morgan asked if they were required to have a certain number of meetings per year.

Commissioner Holt said she had this item placed on the agenda and added they have never met on election day because they had to be over the election and this was the first time she had ever seen a meeting scheduled on election day.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16. Approval to Extend the Lease Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said the item sought Board approval to extend the lease agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture for the FSA Building.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

17. Approval of Contract for the Tourist Development Council (TDC) to Utilize Chisano Marketing Group for Tourism Marketing Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to enter into a contract with Chisano Marketing Group to allow the TDC to use their services for marketing Gadsden County and authorization for the Chairman to execute the contract.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

18. Consideration to Renew County Administrator's Contract with Robert Presnell

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for renewal of Robert Presnell's contract as the County Administrator for one additional year.

Commissioner Holt stated she had spoken with the Administrator and he had expressed an interest in working for another year and she supported the one year contract.

Commissioner Taylor said she was in agreement with a two year contract.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell if he was amicable with a two year contract.

Mr. Presnell said, as he had expressed to the Board, he appreciated the opportunity and would serve as long as the Board desired for him to.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 FOR A TWO YEAR CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

19. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone about the on-line ethics workshop and stated Commissioner Taylor was the only one that had complied so far.

He informed them that the Solid waste franchise agreement was coming up in December.

Commissioner Croley said the agreement included recycling and reminded them when they looked at the agreement four or five years ago, they were now looking at an in-county business that included recycling and the waste was going to Decatur County in partnership with them and saved the County a lot of money. He added that Waste Pro was doing a really great job.

Mr. Presnell wanted the Board aware that they were still negotiating with the City of Quincy on the fuel payment. He said another payment had been made, but the usage almost equaled the payment. He said he had tried to work with the City, the end of the fiscal year was coming up,

but the dollar amount (around \$80,000) was at the point some action may need to be taken.

Commissioner Morgan asked that he keep them informed of any actions so they were not caught off guard.

Commissioner Croley asked if there was an interest rate added, (yes, around 7%), the building fees, and animal control fees, of they were current.

Mr. Presnell said they might be at 30 days now, they were current last month.

Commissioner Holt asked that he write the City Commission a letter.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

20. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said the only item he had was the alcohol consumption in the parking lot. He said he had done some research and the County was within their rights as a property owner and the County in general to enforce the ordinance which does not permit alcohol consumption on the County owned parking lot.

Commissioner Hinson said he had problem because he has daughter with asthma, and had more problem with employees smoking on site and thought that issue needed to be addressed as well to be fair about the situation.

Commissioner Croley said he brought up the subject of the parking lot because of the safety concerns.

Commissioner Hinson interjected that he would also make his concerns on smoking on site a motion as well.

Commissioner Croley said they knew they could not enforce the law themselves and asked that the attorney write a letter to the Chief of Police to have them properly patrol the parking lot to enforce the ordinance because of the concern of public drinking in a parking lot with posted signs.

Commissioner Hinson stated there should be signed posted and Commissioner Morgan stated there were but they were not reading the signs.

Commissioner Morgan said that should be done and be pro-active and if down the road there was a serious event, it showed that the Board had properly notified the appropriate authorities.

Commissioner Holt said she was not sure it should be addressed from the attorney to the Police Department, but instead from this government to the government that was over the police department.

There was discussion among the Board as to who should draft the letter and to whom it should be addressed to.

Commissioner Croley asked the attorney to send the letter to the police department.

Commissioner Croley said the attorney had put before them the information regarding the redistricting process and asked if this was his response to the request for information.

Mr. Weiss said this was basic in terms of obligation and if the Board wanted him to get into a lengthy legal analysis, he would.

Commissioner Morgan asked if it made sense to the Attorney that they had met the requirements of the Florida Statutes and if it honored the intent of same and if it would make sense to have an independent firm come in and look at the present census population, how each district was represented and say everything was in great shape or either recommend other action.

Mr. Weiss said in response to the question, yes, the Board should review and analyze any relevant data that could be collected. He added if the County had the ability to do this in-house they could, but he did not believe the County had the resources to do so.

Mr. Presnell added that there were people available through FSU that had the computer modeling that could move the census balls around and they could pay the \$5,000 and it could be done very quickly.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out that the \$5,000 expense could turn into a lot more than that if someone contested that the County did not do as they were supposed to do and they were tied up in court and it was their job to make sure it was properly addressed every ten years.

Commissioner Taylor said back in 2012 or 2013, this commission looked at this and did all they needed to do and there was not that big of a change with the census. She added as far as she was concerned, it had been properly vetted and she was willing to let it go.

Commissioner Croley disagreed an analysis was properly done because there was a recommendation from the Supervisor of Elections that an outside consultant be hired to do this, the Administrator provided information to that effect as well as the County Attorney and an outside law firm made a presentation to that as well. He added in reviewing the Attorney General's opinion that "...guess work' is not a reasonable exercise of the discretion vested in the county commissioners" and that "...the county commissioners may not simply do nothing because the United States Census Bureau had not provided sufficient data and may not rely on pure guess work." He said this had not been reviewed according to the information they were provided by the County Attorney. He further stated he felt it opened them to future issues next year, which was the odd year and one of the few times the County had left to look into this and it was well documented in the records.

Commissioner Taylor responded that the term "subjected" meant how she felt, an emotion, but when she states census, that was a fact, not an opinion and that was what the redistricting was based on, what the growth was. She added that she felt the way the district lines were drawn now was fair. She further stated if she could be shown where the numbers indicated where they needed to change, she was willing to do so, but otherwise she was not for it.

Commissioner Morgan said all he was after was an objective firm to come in and have a proper analysis done and if there needed to be changes made, make the changes, if not, they were good.

Commissioner Croley said if the districts were properly balanced, they would know it, if not, they would also know that and all he was after was getting a proper analysis done.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

21. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Department Overages

Commissioner Taylor said they had received an email from the Clerk and he spoke with regards to some of departments having overages and asked if it were still an issue.

Mr. Presnell said with EMS, they did not over-spend, it was a collection issue. He said they were starting off the new fiscal year and he was not sure how often the Clerk's Office looked at things throughout the year.

Clerk Thomas said he had mentioned this back in March of the possibility. He said they had increased their fees in hopes it would generate more money and was not going to budget a general fund transfer and he encouraged them to do so and they did. He added if they had not done that, it would have been much more significant.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

He added that it had been proven for the last thirty years the General Fund has subsidized EMS and it had never completely made it by itself with the collections. He added with the fiscal year that just ended, it needed to be ratified with a budget amendment and would need to be watched closely in the current fiscal year.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Road Improvements

She said they had discussed refinancing the bond and asked when that might be brought before them.

Mr. Presnell said Mr. Gollahon would be present at the next meeting.

Parks

She asked if the money was still there. Mr. Presnell said yes. She asked if there was a list.

Mr. Presnell said it was in their Comprehensive Plan, the Board approved the list and only one was left and they would need to update that list in the near future.

Senior Citizens

She said there was a great showing of the Senior Citizens tonight and asked that they not be smoothed over and for their concerns to be addressed.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said it was mentioned earlier about animal control and there was a need to address the problem.

Redistricting

He added he would like to see an independent firm come in to make analysis to see if there was a need to make any changes.

He also commended the administrator on his job.

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Commissioner Croley said he had been successful in getting GIS mapping and complemented Justin Ford for putting the map together and complemented Robert Presnell as the County Administrator for his assistance. He said it was a five year crash data history and pointed out roads with major problems.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4

Commissioner Holt said she liked Commissioner Taylor's question about EMS. She said they were unable to recoup money if a patient was transported from here to Tallahassee because CRMC claimed the money and EMS could not recoup the money.

Commissioner Hinson asked if each commissioner could do what was right for Gadsden County and forget about the politics of the hospital and the emergency room and see how the matching funds worked and try to find money that could help the County out.

Commissioner Holt said the reason she brought the matter up, CRMC could say since the County furnished the ambulance, they could take care of the costs, or they could say the County was running the ambulance free and every time a Medicare patient was transported to Tallahassee, they could reimburse 50% or even 10% so that money could stay in the County.

She also said that she did not want anyone to think she did not appreciate the Administrator, but she had talked to him before the meeting and he indicated he wanted a one year contract.

She said she went to the site at the Alabama-Florida line, where Jackson County is doing at Campbellton. She said it was 2,240 acres they have purchased and there was a railroad on (Highway) 231. She added if they got the Toyota plant or any plant that large to support that plant and they were looking at the railroad and looking at the west side of the county. She said they were hoping to get some of those companies here.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson said he had received a phone call today concerning the Havana-Concord Road and someone had been involved in a car accident there and there was a need for a traffic light at that intersection.

Mr. Presnell said Preble-Rish had conducted two engineering studies and the most recent was

approximately two years ago.

Commissioner Hinson said he was sick of studies, there needed to be action taken.

Commissioner Holt asked if Mr. Presnell could look into that matter.

Mr. Presnell said there was certain criteria that had to be met with the State and asked Justin Ford with Preble-Rish to address the process of traffic lights.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, appeared before the Board and said that was something that came up every month at their safety traffic meeting. He invited the Board members to attend the next meeting, which was the next day at the Bus Barn at 10:00 a.m. He said the DOT has a formal process and when the study was done, it did not meet the seven step criteria.

Commissioner Morgan said the County could do something tomorrow, but it would tend to tick off as many people by adding rumble strips and stop signs as if nothing had been done.

RECEIPT AND FILE

- 22. a. August 28, 2014 letter from Mediacom (October 1, 2014 Rate Adjustments)
b. Certificate of Completion-Ethics, Public Records, and Sunshine Laws Workshop Part 1-Part 3 (Commissioner Taylor)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

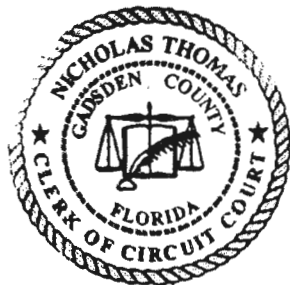
- 23. October 21, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
November 4, 2014-Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

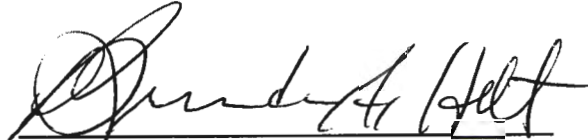
Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
October 7, 2014-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:27 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA




ERIC F. HINSON, Chair

ATTEST:



NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON OCTOBER 21, 2014, AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Eric Hinson, Chair, District 1
Brenda Holt, Vice-Chair, District 4
Doug Croley, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., said the prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call taken by Deputy Clerk, Marcella Blocker.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Hinson asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda. Mr. Presnell stated he would like to add Item 8-A under the Consent Agenda for Approval of Travel for Commissioner Hinson and Commissioner Holt to the 2014 Economic Development Summit; add Item 8-B under Public Hearings for Adoption of Amended Procurement Policy; and Item 9-A under General Business Request by Property Appraiser for Reinstatement of Field Appraiser Position.

Commissioner Morgan asked how they could add a public hearing and Mr. Presnell responded it had been advertised in the Tallahassee Democrat to meet the ten (10) day requirement.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA.

8A ITEM REQUESTING TO BE ADDED: Approval of Commissioner Hinson & Holt's Travel to the 2014 Florida Rural Economic Development Summit

8B ITEM REQUESTING TO BE ADDED: Adoption of Ordinance No. 2014-007, Amending the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners Procurement Policy to provide for a local preference in bid awards, to permit the utilization of contracts of other public entities on the same terms and conditions if the contract was competitively bid, and to permit bid awards to the next lowest bidder after rescission of the low bid without a new solicitation; providing for repealer, severability, and modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and providing for an effective date.

9A ITEM TO BE ADDED: Reinstatement of Field Appraiser Position

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Chair Hinson said they wanted to recognize Commissioner Croley for his service and hard work to the Board and the community.

Commissioner Croley had some words to share.

The Commissioners had comments for Commissioner Croley.

1. Update from Quincy Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

(Regina Davis, Manager)

Regina M. Davis, Manager, Quincy Community Redevelopment Agency, appeared before the Board and gave an update. She said she began the job in October of 2013 and since that time, they paid off all outstanding bills, paid off the Regions Bank line of credit, obtained a permanent permit for Tanyard Creek-Phase 1 from DEP, closed out the BEO CDBG grant, along with other accomplishments. She invited the Board members to attend their board meetings that were on the second Tuesday of each month and the advisory board meetings were on the third Tuesday of each month and both meetings were at 5:00 at the Quincy City Hall.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there were any plans to apply for another CDBG grant to help with the senior citizen homes.

She said she was in the process of verifying information and when they were eligible to apply for another grant.

Commissioner Holt said when the CRA started, there was a big fight over the funding and that was the problem then on getting any representation in Havana or Quincy.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the CRA had a website or if it were a part of City of Quincy's website.

Ms. Davis said it currently was a part of the City's website.

Commissioner Croley asked the area that the CRA covered.

Ms. Davis responded to the businesses north of the Courthouse.

Mr. Croley said the reason he asked if there were any progress in securing a parking lot that would serve the downtown area.

Ms. Davis said during their workshop, she liked the vision that Joel Sampsom had of the indoor corridor of parking, but was unsure of how many people responded, but would be looked at to see if feasible. She explained she was also researching other options for funding.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

2. Discussion on the Timetables and Issues Regarding the Road Bond Refinancing and New Loan

Jim Gollahon, Gollahon Financial Services, Inc. appeared before the Board to discuss the Road Bond Refinancing and new loan. He said he had been asked to address the transportation needs of the County and a fifteen year loan would help accelerate some of the transportation needs.

He added that the County currently had a gas tax loan that could be re-funded next year. He said if the loan was restructured, it could be combined with approximately \$6.4 Million of new money for needed improvements and payments on a 15 year loan would be approximately \$9.15 Million with an estimated interest rate of three percent, the payments would be \$760,500, which was just over \$10,000 more than was currently being paid. He further added that the security for the loan would be what it currently was, the 1¢ of the County's gas tax and 2¢ of the constitutional gas tax so no additional pledge was needed. He said the earliest the loan could be closed was April 27, 2015.

Commissioner Morgan asked about the fixed operating costs and the overall impact.

Mr. Gollahon said if the road was paved and no longer had to be graded, there hopefully would be savings.

Commissioner Croley asked Mr. Presnell how much asphalt had gone up.

Mr. Presnell said the last bid, which was before the fall of the decrease in fuel the past thirty days, was well over \$100 a ton.

Commissioner Holt asked about the \$2.7 million and if it would be rolled over into the new financing and how much of that figure was interest.

Mr. Gollahon said that was a principal amount and between now and April 27th, they would pay interest rate on the old loan and on that day, they would owe Suntrust Bank, who made the loan, \$2.7 Million. He added they would be paid off and it would be rolled in with the additional \$6.4 Million to whoever wins that bid and there will be one payment for both loans. He added if the interest payments hold in his estimates at three percent, the payment would be approximately \$760,000.

There was further discussion regarding the road improvement loan between Mr. Gollahon and the Board members. The audio/video can be viewed at the Clerk's website at www.gadsdenclerk.com.

Mr. Gollahon said the second project he was asked to discuss with the Board members was the bank loan for the new Sheriff's Administrative building.

Chair Hinson said he had instructed the County Manager as Chair, he did not want to discuss that matter at this meeting and was an "interesting situation" to him. He then instructed Mr. Gollahon that he could continue since the matter had been brought up.

Mr. Presnell said one matter they needed to discuss, and Chair Hinson interrupted him and advised him, as the Chair, he should have come to him so he "was in the light" since he set the agenda so he would not be "in the blind".

Mr. Gollahon said the information Mr. Presnell was referring to was in order to get the advantage of a bank-qualified loan, they had to keep their new debt under \$10 Million for the calendar year. He said he understood this loan as a part of their budget was approved this year and they had narrowed it down to two options:

- a) Proceed with this as budgeted and funded in this year and in order to do that and get the County the best loan, it would need to close by December 31st of this year;
- b) Wait until January, 2016 and if there were another project they wanted to finance, it could be rolled into the Administration Building and still get the better interest rate if under \$10 Million.

Commissioner Morgan said Mr. Gollahon was talking about the timing of refinancing/refunding and asked if the interest rates were trending upward.

Mr. Gollahon said for the most part, until the past month or so, rates were low, but generally, the thought process was the Feds cutting back, not buying the bonds in the open market to suppress the interest rates and rates should be going up, but at the moment they were not. He further stated if they wanted to close this fiscal year and take advantage of the interest rate, they would need to close by December 31st.

Commissioner Morgan said the Board had one meeting in November and there was not a lot of information to absorb and did not want this given to him at the last minute.

Mr. Presnell said they were not there to debate the question at this meeting, and he thought the Chairman thought he was trying to, but he wanted them to know that the \$10 Million they were limited to each year and they did the road bond, this project would be a 2016 project and he did not want them to find out about it in the middle of December.

Chair Hinson said that whomever was the Chairman, they did not need to be in the blind and as he suggested a few months ago, asked that any presenter who came before the Board to have the information for the Board members to review beforehand.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas said there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Taylor asked the placement of travel being on the Consent Agenda and had concerns since it involved money, if the Consent Agenda was the right place for that item to be and the item had not been advertised.

Mr. Weiss responded since the money was already in the budget, he did not think they were prohibited from adding it to the agenda.

THE CHAIR CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. August 5, 2014 – Regular Meeting
- b. August 19, 2014 – Regular Meeting

4. Approval of Proclamation Supporting the Observance of November 2014 as Pancreatic Cancer

Awareness Month in Gadsden County

5. **Approval to Apply for the 2014-2015 EMS County Award Grant with the Florida Department of Health and Resolution 2014-019**
6. **Approval to Declare EMS Equipment as Surplus**
7. **Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract-SHIP Program**
8. **Approval of Commissioner Hinson & Commissioner Holt's Travel to the 2014-2015 Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items pulled for discussion.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

Maurice Grant, 8701 Salem Road, Quincy, FL, 5F Farm, appeared before the Board concerning events at Salem Road. He said he was told some issues were raised at the last meeting and he was not present to address them and would like to do so. He said he met with the County Administrator regarding an event that was held because there were concerns regarding noise, restrooms and parking issues. He said the event that was held was a family event and he was appalled at the allegations. He showed the Board a flyer promoting the event. He said his event monies go to TMH Diabetes Camp located in Gretna. He added that because of what the Governor signed in 2013, every one of the activities they had was according to the tourism law he signed in place.

Chair Hinson said the county did not scrutinize his event and said he was upset because he was not invited.

Commissioner Holt said normally the Board did not speak on things that came from citizens requesting to be heard, but since she had received telephone calls, that needed to be acknowledged that and told the ones that called to call and them have a get-together and if there were problems, they needed to learn to work together.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture.

Commissioner Croley said Mr. Grant's facility was in District 2 and he applauded him for the good work that he did. He explained there was two separate issues: 1) the music festival ordinance that did not directly affect him, but one gentleman, under the Citizens Requesting to be Heard did register a complaint with the situation that was going on on his property. He added he hoped they would be able to meet and them understand what he was doing and him to understand that their concerns were.

Mr. Weiss advised the Board members that according to their ordinance, the Commissioners should not, at this time in the meeting, be interacting because it was not an agendaed item.

Emily Rowan, 1200 Little Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL-Sycamore Fire Department, appeared

before the Board.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Mrs. Rowan thanked them for the funding of the Volunteer Fire Department. She said their house caught fire in September and she was grateful for the assistance they received from the Sycamore Volunteer Fire Department and the fire was not that bad.

Commissioner Holt returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Linda Dixon, 4332 Attapulugus Highway, Quincy, FL-Annual Events. Ms. Dixon appeared before the Board and said she wanted to piggybacked Mr. Grant's comments regarding the event. She said she attended the event and it was well organized, decent and in order.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

8B Adoption of Ordinance No. 2014-007, Amending the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners Procurement Policy to provide for a local preference in bid awards, to permit the utilization of contracts of other public entities on the same terms and conditions if the contract was competitively bid, and to permit bid awards to the next lowest bidder after rescission of the low bid without a new solicitation; providing for repealer, severability, and modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Weiss introduced the above item and said this was for the adoption of Ordinance 2014-007 for the amendment of the County's Procurement Policy.

Commissioner Morgan asked when the information was sent to the Board members because he had never laid eyes on it before tonight and would not vote on it.

Commissioner Holt said there were two items the Attorney was to look into and she had no problem in voting on it and she was one that asked to have it brought back to give a fighting chance for local businesses and contractors.

Commissioner Morgan said he understood the premise behind this and asked where the fire was in voting on this item tonight.

Chair Hinson said he knew this was a pressing issue for the Board when they discussed it last time and it was after the Agenda package was put together and put out.

Commissioner Croley said, like Commissioner Morgan, he did not receive an email regarding the change in the policy and if it was going to be a public hearing, the public should have an opportunity to speak on it.

Commissioner Holt said she had no problem in waiting, but felt it was very important that local people get a chance at the contracts.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COIMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO TABLE THIS ITEM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

9. Small County Outreach Program-Lewis Lane Bid Award

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for the award of the Bid for the Small County Outreach Program for the Lewis Lane paving project.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9A Reinstatement of Field Appraiser Position

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and it sought to reinstate a position that was temporarily removed from his budget.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE.

There was questions around the Board regarding this issue.

Commissioner Taylor asked if funds were in the budget and it was funded.

Mr. Presnell explained the Property Appraiser did have the job filled in previous years and the State has recommended he add a full-time position to specifically look at agricultural properties and review each parcel and he was asking to reinstate the full-time position. He further explained they would have to amend the budget, budget amendment would be presented to them in the second meeting in November and if it were approved tonight, there would be time to get the paperwork done and present it to them.

Commissioner Taylor asked for clarity and was this a State mandated position.

Mr. Presnell said it was not state mandated, but there was a letter from the Department of Revenue recommending that he appoint a full-time position to review agriculture classifications throughout the County.

Commissioner Morgan asked to hear from the attorney regarding this issue and what the dollar amount would be and where the funds would come from.

Mr. Weiss said this item was a little different from the earlier item regarding travel and it would impact the revenue and thought they should not take action tonight and made no real difference because nothing would happen until the next meeting and then would include the budget amendment.

Commissioner Holt withdrew her motion.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO TABLE THE ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

10. Commission Appointment/Reappointment to the Inmate Commissary and Welfare Funds Committee

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for appointment/reappointment to the Inmate Commissary and Welfare Funds Committee.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE COMMISSIONER MORGAN TO THIS COMMITTEE.

11. Bid Award and Contract Approval for EMS Debt Collection Service

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was a bid award recommendation for a contract for debt collection service for EMS accounts.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, THERE WAS QUESTIONS.

Chair Hinson asked how many bids were received.

Mr. Presnell said one bid was received.

Chair Hinson asked where the bid was advertised.

Arthur Lawson, Assistant County Administrator, stepped forward to address the questions and responded the bid was advertised in the three local newspapers, the website and the State PRIDE website.

Commissioner Taylor asked if this was the same company that did the collections previously and Mr. Lawson stated it was a new company.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. Approval to Lease Surplus Dental Equipment to Neighborhood Medical Center

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to lease surplus dental equipment to the Neighborhood Medical Center.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THIS ITEM.

Chair Hinson said he was able to talk with the Executive Director of the Neighborhood Medical Center and wanted to recommend the County to offer the equipment for purchase at the one-time fee rather than the year-to-year lease. He said his reasoning was only one person bid, the equipment cost almost \$100,000 and it would be good if they could put a price on the equipment.

Commissioner Morgan disagreed with him and said he thought the County should maintain ownership of the equipment because once they did not own the equipment, they would lose all options.

Commissioner Holt said there was a recommendation on the equipment for \$1,000 for one year and then the item would come back before the Board.

CHAIR HINSON CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

13. Approval to Apply for FRDAP Grant to Renovate Scottown Park

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to apply for a FRDAP grant to renovate the Scottown Park and October 30th was the deadline to apply.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CROLEY AND SECOND BY COMMISSINER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

14. Update on Various Board Issues

Mr. Presnell reminded everyone of the October 28th BOCC/GCDC meeting scheduled at the IFAS Center at 4:00 p.m.

He reminded the Board they needed to think about the list for the parks in their district.

He said they had seen the Annual report and the video that went with it and Staff was excited about it.

He said there had been a request for a new bus stop on the east side of town. He said he had spoken with Big Bend and starting November 1st, there would be a new stop at the Hospital.

He said they would be announcing a grant they had been working on that had been approved for expanded bus service and would be coming to the Board very soon for approval.

Chair Hinson asked if Big Bend Transit was still servicing citizens of Quincy.

Mr. Presnell said that service stopped in September.

Commissioner Holt said at the Economic Workshop that was to be held at the IFAS Center, she wanted everyone to come and discuss economic development.

Commissioner Croley commented that a great job was done on the annual report.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

15. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available if there were any questions.

Chair Hinson asked the progress with Havana Heights Apartments. Mr. Presnell said contact was made and the ball was in their court.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Croley, District 2

Transportation issue

He wanted to make sure they were aware of the I-10 West improvements from West Highway 90 onto the Leon County line. He said there were plans to make the Leon County side six lanes coming into Gadsden County.

Commissioner Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said they had covered the annual report and expressed the need to make sure the meetings ran appropriately as they were required to do per State Statutes.

Commissioner Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she had nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Holt, Vice-Chairman, District 4

Commissioner Holt said they still needed to look at projects for the Apalachee Regional Planning Council. She said the Council had decided they were going to vote on the next meeting to sell the tax credits of each County. She added if they did that the company that handled the sell would be able to get twenty percent of the sale. She said they were getting them each year but not using them and her concern was when they approved it, the company would go with the Council. She said she lobbied last meeting to try to make sure they would accept new projects.

Commissioner Taylor asked if it was restricted funds or earmarked for specific projects.

Commissioner Holt said they were told there were no restrictions because they received them anyway.

Commissioner Hinson, Chair, District 1

Chair Hinson said EMS was called and the patient had to walk herself to the ambulance and requested to be transported to Tallahassee CRMC and they brought her to Quincy instead. He asked what the protocol was if they requested to go to Tallahassee. Mr. Presnell said if there was an emergency or they were short of trucks, they would do that, but he would check on that.

He then thanked everyone for supporting the Senior Citizens throughout the County, thought they had an awesome budget this year and was able to bring in \$640,000 toward the economic development and \$400,000 toward seed money. He said he had been talking to local folks and they were advocating and calling other people to come to Gadsden County.

Commissioner Taylor said it had come to her attention since the Senior Citizens were mentioned, that Quincy was having issues regarding members on the Board.

Mr. Presnell said he had a meeting with them and said they did not have to be formal about it, if they would submit five names, they would be approved and placed on that board.

RECEIPT AND FILE

UPCOMING MEETINGS

17. November 18, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

December 2, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:24 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**BRENDA HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

**Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners and
Gadsden County Development Council
MEETING AGENDA
Joint Workshop and Information Fair
October 28, 2014
4:00 p.m.**

1. WELCOME

Vice Chair Brenda Holt with the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners and Chairman Lee Garner, with the Gadsden County Development Council, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner Holt had everyone around the room introduce themselves and then she and Mr. Garner had some words to say.

2. Announcement of Award of the Competitive Florida Partnership Program

Bill Killingsworth, Department of Economic Opportunity, appeared and said they were here to acknowledge and recognize Gadsden County, last year they recognized four counties and this year Gadsden was the fourth to be recognized. He explained the Competitive Florida Partnership Program and stated they wanted to help the community to understand their vision or help to obtain and establish their vision of where they would like to go and help obtain strategies to get them there. He added with regard to Gadsden County, Gadsden was the highest ranked proposal they had and one reason the community was ranked so well, they looked for collaboration among the community. He further stated they were impressed with the number of organizations that were involved and it was not just the Chamber of Commerce. He said they viewed this as a “multi-year process” and wanted to establish a number of communities that could interchange ideas with each other, learn from each other and celebrate with each other. He said they looked forward to working with the community and introducing the ways they would help achieve the action items.

Julie Dennis, Department of Economic Opportunity, came forward and they presented Gadsden County and the GCDC with a certificate.

3. Overview of the Information Fair and Topic Tables

Beth Kirkland, CECD, Gadsden County Development Council, came forward and said she spoke with Commissioner Holt and the County Administrator, Robert Presnell; the feedback was how they could get to know more of the entities and organizations that were involved in the county and get more feedback so an idea of the “information fair” came out of that discussion. She added, with Allara Gutcher of the Planning Department’s efforts and applying for this partnership program, this became an opportunity for the award to be presented at this Workshop and Information Fair.

She then invited everyone to visit all the tables that were set up around the room and what the different entities had to offer. Before the break to visit the tables, Ms. Dot Inman-Johnson asked to speak on behalf of the City of Midway because they did not have a table set up and she would like to inform everyone of what was happening there.

Ms. Dot Inman-Johnson, City Manager, City of Midway, came forward and said there would be a

workshop in Midway on November 18, 2014, between 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for Small and Minority Business Support and if there were any small minority or women-owned businesses in the area that needed help with resources or to find out how to get the financing to expand or maintain their business, to please direct them to this workshop because there would be experts there on the panel to share some of the information on the programs they have available.

Commissioner Holt then invited everyone to visit the tables and asked that they write down their questions or suggestions to be talked over a little later in the evening.

4. Information Fair Commences (4:20 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.)

5. Questions/Comments

Mr. Garner and Vice Chair Holt asked everyone to take a seat and asked if there were any questions or suggestions. Ms. Kirkland suggested they go around the room and asked if there were any questions or suggestions.

Commissioner Holt talked about the Enterprise Zone and said almost everyone was unaware of the tax credits and it never was developed and never got off the ground. Commissioner Holt explained if you hired someone in an economically distressed area, you were eligible for a tax credit, if you hired someone and they lived in an economically distressed area, you received two tax credits.

Commissioner Holt said there was also a need for a website for the County, not just for the County Commission, but that way people were looking for or at our county would be able to see what the county offered.

Mr. Garner said their door was open, they were inclusive, the Chamber had a seat on the Board and they hoped they would join the meetings and work together as one. He then asked if there were any other comments, and stated he felt the workshop had been a success.

Homer Hirt, Board of Directors with RiverWay South, spoke and said he “lived and breathed tourism” and liked what was said regarding something “that might not be good for one county but would be a good fit for another” and how the counties needed to work together and learn there were no boundaries on tourism. He also said they were working with Goodwill to do hospitality training so if someone was at a restaurant or a hotel in the area, the person at the desk or the waitress would know things to do in the surrounding areas.

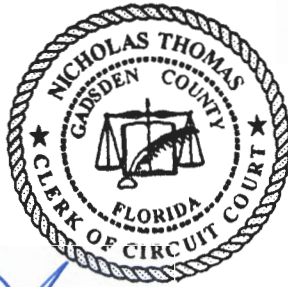
Joe Munroe, Quincy MainStreet, spoke and said they had participated in Porchfest this past weekend, where different musicians were on the front porches of different homes and businesses in the historic district of Quincy and it was quite a success and a very good turnout. He added next year they hoped to turn this into a signature event for Quincy, adding food trucks possibly around the square and make it a bigger event.

Bernie Howell, Mainstreet Chattahoochee, invited everyone on November 9, 2014, at 3:00 to Chattahoochee to the unveiling of the historical marker for the Indian Mound on the River Landing. He added that Dale Cox donated the money from the profits of his book, and there would be several different appearances and it would be a great event.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
October 28, 2014 - Regular Meeting

6. Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:18 P.M.



ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

BRENDA HOLT, Vice-Chair
Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 18, 2014 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, Vice-Chair, District 1
Dr. Anthony O."Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He said a prayer and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hinson reminded everyone in the audience to turn off their cell phones and asked if there was anyone who wished to speak to fill out a Speaker Request form and give it to the Deputy Clerk or raise their hand to be recognized.

He then asked if there were any amendments.

Mr. Presnell said he would like to pull Item 16 from the General Business Agenda, add Item 26A- Discussion of Board's Policy for Press Releases and Press Conferences and move Item 25 to the Consent Agenda as Item 10A.

Commissioner Morgan asked if Item 21 "Approval to Renew the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement with Waste Pro of Florida, Inc." needed to be pulled because of the 120 day provision if not going to renew or automatically renews for 5 years.

Mr. Presnell said he had met with Ralph Mills of Waste Pro and it was missed last month, but he was still in agreement with the contract.

Mr. Weiss said, technically, the contractual matter, if no notice was provided, it would automatically renew without action.

Mr. Arthur Lawson stepped forward and explained the terms of the contract and the meeting with Waste Pro.

Commissioner Morgan said it could stay in and be approved.

**UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD
VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.**

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Chair Hinson said they now had the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Mr. Presnell said historically they make nominations for Chair first.

Commissioner Viegbesie nominated Commissioner Holt; Commissioner Morgan nominated Commissioner Taylor and she declined.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ELECT COMMISSIONER HOLT AS CHAIR.

Chair Holt nominated Eric Hinson and Commissioner Morgan nominated Commissioner Taylor. Commissioner Viegbesie seconded both nominations. Chair Holt called for the vote on the nomination for Commissioner Hinson and the Board voted 3-0 by voice vote to elect Commissioner Hinson as Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

2. Proclamation Honoring National Home Care Month

Vice Chair Hinson presented the Proclamation to Shannon Griffin on behalf of home health care.

CLERK OF COURTS

CONSENT

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting
- b. September 11, 2014 Budget Hearing
- c. October 28, 2014 Joint Workshop and Information Fair (GBOCC & GCDC)

4. Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Rehabilitation Contract-State Housing Initiative Partnership "SHIP" Program

5. Approval of Physio Control Technical Support Agreement for Cardiac Monitoring Equipment

6. Approval of Library Annual Plan of Service 2014-2015

7. Approval and Execution of 2014 E911 State Grant Application

8. Approval of 2015 Holiday Schedule

9. Approval of the 2015 County Commission Meeting Calendar

10. Approval to Accept the FY 2015-2016 Proposed Budget Calendar

10A Approval of Commissioner Hinson's Travel to the 2014 Sayfie Review Florida Leaders Summit

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minute Limit)

Robert Copeland, 802 2nd Street, Quincy, FL 32351 possible program replacement for Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Copeland agreed to wait until this item appeared on the agenda.

Minister Alphonso Figgers, 215 N. Chalk Street, Quincy, FL Shaw's Addition on Crime Watch and Community Action Committee, Donation for Christmas Baskets for Senior Citizens and Handicapped, asked for donations for baskets for senior citizens.

Sam Palmer, 1225 Berry Street, Quincy, FL Citizen Bill of Rights, saw where BOCC allocated money for economic development and added if the Citizens Bill of Rights was not disposed of, it would just be money donated. They needed to make sure nothing negative was standing in the way to bring jobs into the County. He asked that they look into the Bill of Rights and consider repealing it with their super majority vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

11. PUBLIC HEARING-Adoption of Ordinance 2014-007 Amending the Gadsden County BOCC Procurement Policy to provide for a local preference in bid awards, to permit the utilization of contracts of other public entities on the same terms and conditions if the contract was competitively bid, and to permit bid awards to the next lowest bidder after rescission of the low bid without a new solicitation; providing for repealer, severability, and modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was for the Procurement Policy.

Mr. Weiss explained the Ordinance.

Chair Holt asked if there were any comments from the public and there were none.

Dr. Viegbesie said he understood the intent of the amendment, but looking at it from an economist point of view, it insulated to the local businesses not exposing them to competition, competition breeds quality and insulation breeds mediocrity in product provision and he didn't understand if this was insulation of local businesses from outside local area or competitive with local businesses being allowed to match the outside competitive bid. He added if the latter was the case, it was a good idea, if not; the industry or local business was being insulated from outside competition.

Mr. Weiss said his provision would be for the latter and would allow for competition and the normal bidding procedure would be followed.

Commissioner Hinson said when he had the opportunity to talk with different business owners and citizens, he was in favor of it. But now, he thought there were some things that needed to be work on before they voted.

Commissioner Morgan said it was wise for the Board to consider any type of policy or ordinance that would enhance local businesses, but he was concerned it was not a clear enough of its intent and was afraid it would open up to legal issues for the County. He asked the Administrator and County Attorney their “take” on the ordinance and asked for feedback.

Mr. Weiss said as long as it was followed the way it was presented, it would not open up legal issues. He further explained there were multiple counties that do something similar to provide various local business preferences.

Commissioner Morgan said in speaking with Mr. Lawson concerning previous bids and there was limited responses from area folks and did not understand why and wondered if this might accentuate the issue.

Mr. Presnell said the concern they had was it may start off well, but it may limit competition. He said people may bid for a few times, but after a few times of bidding, if they were not awarded the bid, they may tire of placing bids.

Chair Holt said she had seen it both ways and added there was not that much activity and not much to bid on currently and was why they were trying to stimulate growth by putting money into economic development. She further added that at any time they saw the ordinance was not doing what it was intended to do, it could be amended.

CHAIR HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson said he felt there was not enough information to change the policy around at this time.

Chair Holt said in order for them to continue discussing this item, there had to be a second.

MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

12. PUBLIC HEARING-Approval of Close-Out Budget Amendments for FY 2014

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was to seek approval of Resolution 2014-020 and authorization for the budget amendments to be completed and executed to close out the Fiscal Year 2014 BOCC budget.

Chair Holt asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

Chair Holt then asked that next year for close-out amendments, they have a quick workshop before the regular meeting to review the transfers and address any issues.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

13. PUBLIC HEARING-Approval of Budget Amendments for FY 2015

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said the item was seeking approval of Resolution 2014-021 to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to adjust the Fiscal Year 2015

BOCC budget. He added there was a request from the Property Appraiser to add a position for field Appraiser and because the item was tabled, whatever decision made needed to be contingent on approval of Item 14.

Mr. Weiss said motion needed to be for approval, but contingent on approval of Item 14.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN FOR APPROVAL OF THIS ITEM CONTINGENT ON APPROVAL OF ITEM 14, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, CHAIR HOLT ASKED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND ASKED THAT THE MOTION AND SECOND BE RESCINDED.

James Anderson asked what the position was to be filled.

Clay Vanlandingham, Property Appraiser, appeared before the Board and explained the Department of Revenue recommended they fill a position dedicated to an agricultural appraiser.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THIS ITEM CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF ITEM 14.

GENERAL BUSINESS

14. Reinstatement of Field Appraiser Position

Mr. Presnell stated this item was for the reinstatement of field appraiser position with the Property Appraiser's Office.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

15. Write-Off of EMS Accounts

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said this was for the annual write-off of the EMS bad debt accounts. He further stated the write-off amount was \$681,221.59. He said the accounts would still go to the collection agency in an attempt to recover some of the money in the future.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE.

16. ~~Final Approval for Financing and Constructing the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Administration Building~~ Removed

17. Approval and Execution of Every Toddler Has a Story: Supporting Emergent Literacy Through a Family Writing Initiative Grants Agreements

Mr. Presnell said this item was for approval and execution of a grant for the Library in the amount of \$65,262 awarded by the Library Services and Technology Act. He added there was a \$3,000 match and that amount was included in the budget.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE ITEM.

18. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend, Inc. for FY 2014/2015

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Big Bend, Inc. for FY 2014/2015.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Robert Copeland, 802 2nd Street, Quincy, appeared before the Board and said in the last seven years, the Board has paid the Boys and Girls Club to run the locations in Chattahoochee and Havana. He felt the community should feel more of an impact with that. He said he runs a company named Music Heads and has partnered with 21st Century and TCC and goes to some of the area schools and teach the kids how “to make beats”, how to record and do graphics. He added that music and art have been cut from the schools and he gives them an opportunity to believe in something. He further said that he liked the Boys and Girls Club, they give the kids a safe place, but they do not give the kids a skill to apply in the future.

Commissioner Morgan asked for clarification regarding Section 15 under Additional Provisions as to why in that section, it reads “Nothing herein will prevent the County from entering into the Agreement prior to the adoption of a budget for any fiscal year or for a term exceeding one year, the Agreement prior to the adoption of a budget for any fiscal year or for a term exceeding one year, but the Agreement shall be executory only for any amounts which are not available for lawful expenditure” and asked the county attorney the reason that was in.

Mr. Weiss stated it was a protection for the County, the agreement was good for one year and after that year, the County could extend the same contract. He said without the funds being budgeted, there were no funds available. He added that any time there was a contract for more than one year, he likes that language because it protects the County in the event the money was not budgeted to support the contract, the county would not be liable for the money.

THERE WAS A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Taylor said she looked at this item when they were going through the budgeting process and was not in agreement with moving forward with the funding because the participation was not there. She said she supported after school programs, especially with regards to State-wide testing, but if what they were investing in was not functioning at the level needed, they needed to look at it more closely.

Commissioner Morgan said the program was very successful in Chattahoochee and he had seen the benefits of that club. He added that he liked the 1 year agreement with a two year option.

Commissioner Hinson stated there were plenty of students at the Havana club and he fully supported it and was ready to move forward.

Chair Holt said she was interested in all students, she was a teacher, but there was no program for the students in the county.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

19. Approval of Resolution 2014-022 to Support the Continuation of the Rural Areas of Opportunity and the Enterprise Zones Program, Specifically for the Region Served by Opportunity Florida

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for Board approval of Resolution 2014-022 to support the continuation of the Rural Areas of Opportunity, formerly known as the Rural Areas of Economic Concern and support of the Enterprise Zone program.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Chair Holt explained this item was coming before the Legislature and needed to be supported heavily and if the item sunset, it was dead.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked what efforts were made in the past to inform citizens of the advantages of the program to increase the use of it, because there were a lot of advantages to it.

Chair Holt said he was totally correct and now if it sunsets, will would be gone.

James Anderson, appeared before the board and asked if the motion carried on the previous item concerning the Boys and Girls Club and the Board informed him it did.

Lillian Johnson, 2150 2350 Camp Road, Havana, FL appeared before the Board and asked where the zone was in Havana.

Chair Holt said she was happy she asked that and added when the Economic Workshop was held at the IFAS Center, the Enterprise Zone map was up and she said it needed to be added to the County's website so everyone knew where it was at and would enable a business to know where the zones were located.

Robert Gonzales, 115 East 8th Avenue, Havana, FL, appeared before the Board and said he had purchased a building in Havana; it was ready for new businesses, was willing to work with new tenants and wanted them to understand that small business was the engine to the economy.

Emily Rowan, 1200 Little Sycamore Road, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and said she had been attending the meetings for approximately twelve years and had never been allowed to speak without filling out a Speaker Request form and asked if they were changing the rules, that they please notify people that the form was no longer necessary and asked that they go back to old rules and forms being filled out for more organized meetings.

Chair Holt explained the forms were for non-agenda items, but citizens could speak on agenda items.

Mrs. Rowan said she was not aware of that and had attended almost every Planning & Zoning meeting and never knew about the Enterprise Zone. She added that Commissioner Viegbesie was the first to explain the benefits of the Zone. She asked that they stick to the rules.

20. Approval to Sell a Parcel of County Property

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was to seek approval to sell a parcel of land owned by the County on Crawfish Road. Several properties were listed with realtor and offer was made. He said the Attorney had comments he would like to say regarding the matter.

Mr. Weiss said FL Statutes 125.35 required that the property be publicly bid and this was premature and there needed to be public bids and if this person was the high bidder, go with that person.

Chair Holt said the item needed to be pulled from the agenda at this time.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO PULL THIS ITEM FROM THE AGENDA.

21. Approval to Renew the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement with Waste Pro of Florida, Inc.

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to renew the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement with Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. and to authorize the Chairman to execute the new agreement.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, BEFORE THE BOARD COULD VOTE, COMMISSIONER TAYLOR ASKED TO MAKE A COMMENT.

Commissioner Taylor abstained from the vote because Waste Pro had done a lot in the community and worked with some of the organizations she affiliated with.

CHAIR HOLKT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

22. Appointment of Gadsden County Representative to the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said was for appointment of a representative to the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA).

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE TO THE AGENCY.

23. Appointment to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council-Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said there needed to be an appointment of a County Commissioner and an alternate to serve as Chair of the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. He added that Commissioner Hinson had been serving on that Board.

CHAIR HOLT NOMINATED COMMISSIONER HINSON AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

24. Consideration of State Lobbying Services for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for consideration to renew the contract with Christian B. Doolan and Associates to provide State Lobbying Services for the 2014/2015 fiscal

year or to accept additional quotes for these services.

Commissioner Taylor asked to discuss this item before a motion was made. She asked about the attached letter from Mr. Doolin.

Mr. Presnell said he had received the letter and forwarded same on to the Board. He added that he had contacted Mr. Doolin for the details. He said the current contract was on the table and he thought there was interest in expanding the services and wanted to offer that alternative. He said the other alternative would be to bid the services out.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they were only discussing the item before them and Mr. Presnell said yes.

Commissioner Hinson said he thought it would be good to move forward with Mr. Doolan. He added that he thought they had to bid out anything over \$25,000 and suggested they stay with Mr. Doolin, but felt they needed someone who could handle specific projects for the benefit of Gadsden County and it be someone who understood the legislature. He added that he knew the letter had Mr. Doolin working with Al Lawson, Jr., but would like to separate the items. He said he would like to fund Mr. Doolin \$10,000 to continue the current contract, but also asked the Board for \$20,000 for a second person to handle specific projects for Gadsden County and wanted to separate the items instead of them working jointly.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked what the firm had done for County and the Commission and if the lobbyists had made arrangements with the legislators during the legislative session so the Board members could present their case with their items. He would like to require from the firm a prepared legislative agenda with a list of items of interest to the Board and the County and the firm then go to the legislators and arrange meetings for the Board to meet with the legislators and provide productive service for the money the contract calls for.

Commissioner Morgan said Commissioner Viegbesie had a very valid concern and said since he had been on the Board since 2008, Mr. Doolin had done exactly what he had talked about, they have had a legislative agenda, had the opportunity to meet with them on Legislative Day or individually if they had chosen to do so. He added that he had disagreements with Mr. Doolin and that had been discussed and appreciated his candid remarks. He said they had invested \$10,000 for the past three years and had been pleased. He asked that the Administrator expand on the letter received requesting \$25,000 for that service for a year and said with that, it included the addition of Senator Lawson as part of their team and thought that would be a great value to Gadsden County. He said he understood the agenda item and thought they could renew the agreement for the \$25,000 or if they had to stick to the original amount.

Mr. Weiss asked where the additional amount come from.

Mr. Presnell said there would have to be a budget amendment done.

Commissioner Morgan asked the Board to consider and would give Commissioner Viegbesie an opportunity, is to bring this item back at the next meeting and felt it made good sense to move forward in the manner they were approached by with Mr. Doolin.

Chair Holt said they were under a time constraint and had no time to play. She said the legislative session had started, they were already choosing committees and it would help tremendously to have a former Senator on their team. She explained that the letter that was referenced was from Mr. Doolin and referenced Mr. Lawson. She added the County needed their help desperately.

Commissioner Hinson made a motion to pay Chris Doolan \$10,000 and hire Mr. Lawson's firm for specific projects and pay them \$20,000.

Mr. Weiss said there was \$10,000 in the budget currently and in order to entertain a motion for additional amounts, there needs to be a budget amendment.

Commissioner Viegbesie said what he expressed was not to bring in district representatives here, he meant the lobbyist, he said he was not sure what kind of services the current firm brought to the County.

Commissioner Morgan said they should address what was on the agenda and he hoped they would stay with one firm and move forward, he had a problem with two separate lobbying firms.

Chair Holt said maybe there was a solution, Chris Doolan had agreed to join with Lawson and Associates and they could approve the current item and then, as a consensus, tell the Manager they want him to secure Lawson and Associates.

There was more discussion among the Board concerning this item.

Mr. Presnell explained they could vote on both tonight because there currently was a contract with Doolin and Associates, they were expanding the scope of the contract with Mr. Doolin to include Mr. Lawson and they were under the threshold amount of \$25,000 that required an RFP or new bid.

Commissioner Taylor said, like Mrs. Rowan had said, they were getting away from their normal way of doing things.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said they were getting away with the general way they did business. She said when they had an item that had not been placed on the agenda and properly advertised, they always brought it back. She added that Gadsden County was already paying \$5,000 to Doolin and Associates through FAC and was one of the few counties in Florida that was paying an additional \$10,000 to a firm.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor said they were receiving no more than other counties that only paid the \$5,000. She added that she did not understand paying one firm \$10,000 and the other \$20,000. She added if they were separate contracts, what was one doing outside of the other. She further stated by law, they should approve this item on the agenda tonight and then bring the additional item at a later agenda. She added she did not feel they were receiving the "bang for their buck" and was not going to vote for him and was certainly not going to vote for an additional contract

that had not been properly advertised.

Commissioner Morgan agreed with Commissioner Taylor's last comment and that was the point he tried to make earlier. He said he did think they were getting their bang for the buck and \$25,000 was not lot of money to have budgeted for lobbyists.

Chair Holt said she agreed to move the item and then had comments she wished to express.

Commissioner Hinson said Mr. Doolan was doing an excellent job, he would like to give Lawson and Associates specific projects to work on and thought they should go with \$10,000 to Doolin and Associates and \$20,000 to Lawson and Associates.

Chair Holt asked if Mr. Arthur Lawson could step forward.

Mr. Lawson stepped forward and said the two contracts would be over the threshold and would have to be bid, that they could only do one contract tonight. He said they could do \$25,000 tonight, but it was a commission decision as to whether the item for \$25,000 was the item that was properly agendaed for execution tonight. He added as far as the Procurement Policy went, they could approve as long as they kept it \$25,000 or less.

Mr. Weiss said the procurement policy did allow the Board to go to \$25,000 with three informal quotes. He said it also applied to contracts that are entered into or amended or revised. He said he felt if they went above the \$10,000, they would need to get informal quotes that were called for under the policy.

Commissioner Viegbesie said in looking at the letter from Doolan and Associates, his understanding was Mr. Doolan was bringing Mr. Lawson on board to work as a team for the total fee of \$25,000 and now he was hearing the Commission wanted to split them and give away additional money, more than what they were asking and he did not realize the County had that much money to give away.

Sheriff Young asked if letter from Doolan and Associates could be read aloud.

Chair Holt read the letter for the benefit of the audience.

Commissioner Taylor said they were asking for an additional \$25,000 but the scope of services would remain the same. She suggested they make this item \$25,000 and move this to the next meeting and have an opportunity to come up with legislative ideas they want to give to them and have it properly advertised.

Linda Dixon, 4332 Attapulugus Highway, Quincy, FL appeared before the Board and wanted clarity. She said the letter clearly stated that Mr. Lawson would be added, and not that it would be two separate entities and not talking about \$10,000 here and \$20,000 there. She understood it was for \$25,000 for both lobbyists to work together under the current contract. She asked if there were a list of desirables for the lobbyists to work on and if not, they should vote **CONTINGENT** upon them listening to what the Board had to say and the Board listing what they wanted for the citizens of Gadsden County.

Chair Holt explained they do exactly that each year.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT FOR APPROVAL OF \$25,000 FOR CHRIS DOOLIN AND ASSOCIATES TO INCLUDE SENATOR LAWSON IN THE CONTRACT. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION FOR \$15,000 FOR SENATOR LAWSON AND \$10,000 FOR CHRIS DOOLIN. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD A COMMENT BEFORE THE SECOND.

Commissioner Taylor asked if he agreed for Senator Lawson's contract to come back at the next meeting and if so to state such in his motion.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT TONIGHT FOR DOOLIN AND ASSOCIATES AND PUT SENATOR LAWSON ON AGENDA IN TWO WEEKS, BEFORE VOTE WAS TAKEN, THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Morgan asked if Commissioner Hinson's motion was to approve the item before them that had been properly advertised and Commissioner Hinson said yes. Commissioner Morgan said he had no problem with that and no problem with Senator Lawson's services, but had problem with attaching the two items together.

Commissioner Hinson rescinded his motion and Commissioner Taylor rescinded her second.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH CHRIS DOOLIN AND ASSOCIATES. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED.

25. Approval of Commissioner Hinson's Travel to the 2014 Sayfie Review Florida Leaders Summit
Moved to Item 10A

26. Approval of Revisions to the County's Travel Policy

Mr. Presnell said the above item sought Board approval to the County's travel policy as it related to approval of the commissioners' travel requests.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, COMMISSIONER MORGAN CALLED FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Morgan asked why the policy was being changed so the public would understand.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Holt said in the past, the Chairman approved travel for everyone and the Vice-Chair approved travel for the Chair.

Commissioner Morgan said has proven to be helpful, along with other policies that were put into place in 2009 and had helped to improve the financial position and felt important to "stick with what got us to the dance" and was in very good shape financially.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-1 IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

26A Discussion of the Boards Policy for Press Releases and Press Conferences

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for clarification on the Board's policy for press releases and press conferences.

Commissioner Morgan thanked the Board for allowing item to be added. He said that currently there was no policy or guideline in place for press releases or press conferences established and had an instance last week concerning economic development and Gadsden County being open for business. He said, however, it was not properly vetted through the commission to see if that was the message and venue to have in order to do that and felt it did not show respect for the board. He added he would like a policy in place to help guide so did not happen in the future and thought it was evident that he was agitated at the press conference. He further added that he heard his feelings were hurt and said that was not the case, he was angry and did not feel it was handled properly.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO HAVE THE ADMINISTRATOR BRING BACK A GENERAL POKICY FOR BOARD APPROVAL.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

27. Update on Various Board Issues

Mr. Presnell said he would like to recommend that the Board consider having an Economic Development workshop prior to the next meeting on December 2nd.

Commissioner Taylor said they had not designated the money either way and they still had \$240,000 as a line item and suggested they advertise so they could take a vote.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan clarified there was the GCDC and the Gadsden Economic Development Council under the Chamber, it was not the Chamber and never had been, it was an economic development arm within the Chamber.

Commissioner Viegbesie suggested a workshop with each body, let them market themselves showing what they have and have not and see how each one panned out.

Commissioner Hinson stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor wanted to hear from both of them to make sure they were getting the best bang for their buck.

Commissioner Morgan said they had received quarterly reports over the past few years from their economic development investment and were available from the Administrator to review. He asked when the current contract with the GCDC expired.

Mr. Presnell said it expired September 30th.

Commissioner Morgan said they were preaching that Gadsden County was open for business, had the money and no contract for economic development services with anyone. He added in reviewing over items at tonight's meeting, they had to rush because the information was not before them in a timely fashion to consider and they did not need to put themselves in that position with economic development.

Commissioner Hinson returned at this juncture of the meeting.

The Board decided to hold the Economic Development workshop on December 2nd at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Presnell said the next item was for legislative priorities workshop and get ready for the delegation meeting.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

28. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available for questions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

29. Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Eric Hinson, District 1

Commissioner Hinson thanked the Board for everything, congratulated Commissioner Viegbesie, congratulated Chair Holt on becoming Chairman and thanked the staff for making the impossible possible. He also thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the GCDC and everyone involved in the press release. He also pointed out that Dr. Nesmith was in the audience.

Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, PhD, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie expressed his appreciation of the welcome and warmth received from the Commission and added he saw a true need for a unity of purpose. He said that J.K. Rowling once said, "We are only as strong as we are united and as weak as we are divided". He added that he hoped as they continued to work together, they take their individual personalities out of the discussion process and work toward making Gadsden County better.

He added that he proposed some initiatives:

- 1) Revisit Citizen Growth Planning and Management bill; and
- 2) Suggested if not already in place, they require staff to be available to attend conferences so the knowledge of what happened outside of Gadsden County be broadened to be able to help execute policies to move forward in achieving goals.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan congratulated Commissioner Holt on the election of Chair and Commissioner Viegbesie and looked forward in working with him.

He expressed his thanks to Shawn Wood and Emergency Management that responded to the Sycamore area where a tornado touched down and was able to quickly get roadways cleared. .

He said he felt a need to focus on better planning on the agenda items and work backwards on deadlines to alleviate the rush.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, District 4

Chair Holt commented on the ambulance having a deficit with EMS, there was in the contract with CRMC that an ambulance sits at the hospital. She said there was an incident that a teacher passed out at Carter Parramore, one ambulance was in Tallahassee, and another one was on a run. She said the one on the run, the run was cancelled and came back. She said the ambulance at the hospital was contracted to CRMC so there was an ambulance missing and needed to be fixed.

She said Commissioner Taylor was correct in her comment about the amount of money received by CRMC in the transportation of patients. She said if patients were picked up and were Medicaid patients and taken straight into the Emergency Room, CRMC filed and received the funding for it and the County cannot receive the money for the transport.

She said when Commissioner Morgan mentioned the tornado that touched down, she asked the former Chair if he was notified and he was not. Emergency Management should have notified them because the State looked at the Commissioners for anything that happened in the county.

She further said that the \$640,000 for Economic Development, when she brought up the \$500,000, it was for recruiting new business.

She further stated that sidebars were needed at times when things happen.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she saw where EMS had a deficit because they were unable to collect unpaid services and they were looking at another service to come in to attempt to collect.

Mr. Presnell explained that each year they try to set a target number of what they think will be collected and the budget is built around that and that was the reason it was off each year.

Commissioner Taylor said she thought CRMC was capitalizing off some of the dollars with Medicaid and since the County services were being used to bring patients to CRMC, bring them to the table and discuss having some of the costs offset.

She further stated they had \$400,000 set aside for Economic Development and thought the press conference was a little premature because nothing had been outlined as of yet.

Mr. Presnell said Allara was working on a document for a start.

She said they set a trend for the meeting, and the audience can feel when there was tension and collaboration and asked in going forward, they read each item, discuss it, and move forward with respect and also that sidebars be kept to a minimum.

Commissioner Hinson said received today that SBA sought nominations for Small Businesses of the Year.

RECEIPT AND FILE

- 30. a. October 15, 2014 Gadsden County Health Department Quarterly Progress Report for ½¢ Sales Tax Prevention and Education Program**
- b. October 20, 2014 Letter from Gadsden County Health Department (Variance Report-10/2013-9/2014)**
- c. October 8, 2014 City of Midway Community Coffee Annexation Ordinance 2014-10**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

31. December 2, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
December 18, 2014 – Regular Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
November 18, 2014 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**BRENDA HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk