

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 7,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

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

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

4. Amendments and Approval of Agenda

Mr. Morris asked to pull item 6.a, Economic Development presentation.

Commissioner Green stated he spoke with the Attorney about employees being on suspension and he would like for it to be added to the agenda. Chair Hinson stated to add it as item 11.c.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO ADD ITEM 11.C, DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE SUSPENSIONS, AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

5. Approval of Agenda

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

6. Awards, Presentations, and Appearances

Economic Development Presentation – item pulled.

7. Consent

Commissioner Wood asked for item 7.e to be pulled for discussion.

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

7a. Ratification Memo

7b. BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes:

**1. December 17, 2024, Regular BOCC Meeting**

**7c. Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien**

**7d. Public Officials Bond Review**

**7e. ~~Approval of Staff to Engage Clemons Rutherford & Associates Inc., (CRA) to Develop a Work Authorization for the Required Professional Architectural Services for the Chattahoochee Library Telehealth and Career Center Grant Funded Project~~**

**7f. Approval of Older American Act Program III -American Rescue Plan Amended Contract**

**7g. Approval of the FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget Calendar**

**7h. Approval of Gadsden County Indigent Burial Service Provider**

**8. Items pulled for Discussion**

**7e. Approval of Staff to Engage Clemons Rutherford & Associates Inc., (CRA) to Develop a Work Authorization for the Required Professional Architectural Services for the Chattahoochee Library Telehealth and Career Center Grant Funded Project**

Commissioner Wood stated he would like an adjustment. Mr. Morris stated the county received 3 million; they will have an opportunity to construct for hurricane.

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

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Eddie Richardson, 536 Circle Drive**

Mr. Richardson appeared before the board to discuss affordable housing.

**Jane Dixon, 4204 Grove Park Dr. Tallahassee, FL**

Ms. Dixon appeared and stated she works with consulting firm where they assist housing authorities to acquire affordable housing. She stated they could maybe enter in an agreement to utilize property on Strong Road.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 6:14 p.m.*

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 6:14 p.m.*

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Board Approval of the State Division of Emergency Management FEMA Public Assistance Grant Agreement #Z4924 for Hurricane Helene**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

**11.b Board Approval of a Contract with Purvis-Gray in Response to RFP 24-02 Professional Public Officials Bond Review.pdf CRA work Authorization.pdf OAA-III Amended Contract.pdf FY25-26 Proposed Budget Calendar.pdf Indigent Burial Service Provider.pdf 2 Auditing Services**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

**11.c Discussion of Employee Suspensions**

Commissioner Green stated this situation needed attention. They have employees on leave with pay and he wanted to make a motion to allow staff to continue the administrative investigation to get closure.

Mr. William stated to have an outside law firm do the investigation. He asked to be involved himself since it is a law firm. Commissioner Wood stated he was not sure about the county attorney being involved.

Commissioner Green asked for the cost. Ms. Burroughs appeared and stated the cost was a flat fee of \$9,850.

Mr. Williams stated they need a motion to authorize the County Administrator or the Attorney to secure a law firm for the investigation. Chair Hinson stated it was difficult to go with the County Administrator because he was a part of the situation, and the attorney has relationships. Mr. Williams wanted to be clear that this event happened before he got here. Chair Hinson stated he just wanted to show how others may see them.

Commissioner Simpkins stated for the attorney to look at firms and Chair Hinson decides who to go with for the investigation.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO PICK A LAW FIRM TO PRESENT TO THE CHAIRMAN AND TO NOT EXCEED \$9,850. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**12. Clerk of Court**

Mr. Thomas appeared before the board to discuss reports he has sent. He went through the grants report with a total of 55 grants totaling \$52 million dollars. He stated most are reimbursable, they just need to front the money. The Clerk mentioned the Interest earnings report and stated he does not receive any of that money. He also mentioned the half cent tax – a lot of money that is undispersed - 5.1 million dollars.

Clerk stated starting new pay period, they will bring a tax collector for payroll purposes. They need a fund of their own. Commissioner Holt asked what was the purpose for that and the Clerk stated they get audited separately; this was just for payroll.

Clerk mentioned payment of bills – everything they do was an effort to get a clean audit report, which they have always got. Also, to follow the law. When the Clerk questions something, the board should answer. He stated it was frustrating to hear comments about not paying things; they have a duty to fulfill and if they have a question, they could call the finance director.

The Clerk mentioned cybersecurity and stated he requested in the budget on June 1<sup>st</sup> for funding. It was not funded and he was disappointed. Chair Hinson asked about licensing – Clerk stated it was different from cybersecurity; they needed funds to cover cost of equipment and they still need that money. Chair Hinson stated to bring it back as an agenda item.

Commissioner Holt asked if it was required by finance to put the minutes from the approval of the board to attach to the invoice. Mr. Thomas stated it was a routine thing; the Finance Director may ask for additional information. Commissioner Simpkins asked for the Clerk to submit his request again.

Commissioner Green thanked the Clerk for coming. He was under the impression they already approved this through the general revenue fund. The Clerk stated that the board decided to fund EMS through ARPA and now other projects will be funded through general revenue.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 7:05 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 7:07 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:10 p.m.*

**13. County Attorney**

13.a Request for a Shade Meeting for:

- 1) Jackson vs. Gadsden County
- 2) Gadsden County Republican Party Executive Committee vs. Gadsden County

Mr. Williams requested a shade meeting for the above cases, and stated he had some updates for the Commissioners on these cases.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if Mr. Williams had received the contracts that the staff had requested to be reviewed. Mr. Williams stated they gave him some preliminary information but it was incomplete and there have been some internal staff changes, so he has asked that the staff finish it up.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SHADE MEETINGS AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

*Commissioner Wood returned at 7:13 p.m.*

**14. County Administrator**

Mr. Morris stated an email was sent out to each Commissioner in concern with the Legislative request that they need to provide to the house and Senate with the deadline of February 14 to have it turned into the House and Senate. He stated they may need to have a special meeting to finalize that request.

Mr. Morris stated he had spoken to each Commissioner individually about the Project the Sheriff is trying to put together and asked colonel Collins to come forward.

Colonel Collins appeared and provided an overview of the project. He asked for 34k to fund the initial phase of getting the task force put together.

Commissioner Green asked what they were asking from other municipalities, and colonel Collins stated they are not asking them for monetary input, just their commitment and resources as they are also physically constraint counties like Gadsden.

Commissioner Holt stated this a very worthy cause, and asked if there are any other grants, they can apply for to fund this project, and colonel Collins stated there are grants out there.

Commissioner Green asked about the funding source, and Mr. Morris stated he can look at the budget and maybe could move things around without going into the reserve.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to give authority to Mr. Morris to find money and if not found, come back in emergency meeting.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if 2 weeks was too long, and colonel Collins stated it was too long for him because he can't operate on the scale he needs to, as his issue is the funding source.

Commissioner Simpkins requested that Mr. Williams give direction so the correct motion could be made, and Mr. Williams recommends to direct Mr. Morris to find the amendments in the budget to spend within his spending authority and if he cannot find the money, then he will need to bring a budget amendment back to board for the board to vote on.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO DIRECT MR. MORRIS TO FIND AMENDMENTS IN THE BUDGET TO SPEND WITHIN HIS THRESHOLD AND IF THE MONEY COULD NOT BE FOUND, BRING A BUDGET AMENDMENT BACK TO THE BOARD. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they plan to come together as a board to discuss their legislative priorities or are they just doing this by email.

Chair Hinson stated he wants a meeting and has always wanted that over an email.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 7:45p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 7:47p.m.*

Commissioner Simpkins stated the 16<sup>th</sup> would be good for the municipality meeting at 4 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins asked where they were at with the listing of the escheated property, and Mr. Morris stated he will get with Planning and Zoning as they have been working on this list and get back with the board once the list is finalized.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned striping and asked where they are with getting bids or finding out which way they are wanting to go. Mr. Morris stated they were trying to find their own equipment to do it themselves.

Curtis Young appeared and stated the equipment Mr. Morris referred to is only for residential roads and not for main roads. He also stated he already had 1 quote for Jameison but was working on a second one.

Commissioner Simpkins stated to look at railroad tracks needing repairs, and Mr. Young stated they will bring list of railroad tracks to the board for approval to get fixed as DOT will not fund the railroad tracks and that the board would have to fund that.

Commissioner Simpkins requested that the HR director advertise the position for the County Administrator position and to have the IT director to create a distribution email so that emails go directly to the Commissioners when someone applies.

Commissioner Simpkins requested a workshop for January 13<sup>th</sup> for the board to discuss what they want as a board in the new County Administrator.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:00 p.m.*

Special meeting scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to discuss what they want as a board in the new County Administrator.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 8:02 p.m.*

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

Commissioner Wood asked for an update on Cane Creek and Hannah Millpond Road being out.

*Commissioner Holt stepped out at 8:05 p.m.*

Mr. Young stated they did hear from DOT and they will get funding for temporary repair on Cane Creek, but Hannah Millpond Road they have another agreement for that.

*Commissioner Holt returned at 8:07 p.m.*

Commissioner Wood stated according to the website he is still listed as the chair for the Public Safety committee, and he's been gone for 3 years. He stated he would like for Chair Hinson to take that up and that it would be a good opportunity.

Commissioner Wood mentioned the agenda item pulled that was to discuss the former county administrator's payout and the item never came back. Mr. Morris stated that was handled according to Mr. Dixon's contract and has been completed for what was necessary for Mr. Dixon. Commissioner Wood then asked so I take that was without cause or with cause, how did that go down, and Mr. Morris stated no sir, that was without cause.

Mr. Williams stated the item was listed as a discussion item, and the issue was the action of terminating Mr. Dixon had already occurred so to bring the issue back up for discussion and vote on it, the Commission would have to somehow un-terminate Mr. Dixon and re-terminate. He stated once the action of terminating Mr. Dixon had already occurred and there was no discussion about cause, it was just a discussion to terminate so the only interpretation was to terminate without cause. The contract that was drafted basically stated that it was a payout after termination without cause. Mr. Williams stated the problem for the board from a legal standpoint was had the board brought it back up for discussion then there could have been issues created unintentionally because the board had already acted by terminated Mr. Dixon.

Commissioner Wood stated in the future he would like for the Commissioners to decide on these items.

Commissioner Holt stated when the motion was made and Mr. Dixon was terminated, there was no cause stated. She said Chair Hinson did not say Mr. Dixon did A, B, C, D or didn't do A, B, C, D so after the motion was taken it was really done without cause.

Commissioner Green stated all of this should have been taken into consideration, the contract when they decided to terminate Mr. Dixon.

Commissioner Wood wanted more attention on buildings in Gadsden County. He also stated he wants Mr. Morris back on buildings. Commissioner Wood stated he was happy that the Clerk came to the meeting and how he was treated by the board.

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

Commissioner Holt stated she thinks they need to look at the escheated properties to see what they can do as a board before they get the citizens involved to make them generate revenue. She also stated she wants tax incentives, land, and infrastructure grants.

Commissioner Holt stated grants must be written early in the year, but they don't have a grant writer. She stated she's got a young lady checking on something for the CDBG grants.

Commissioner Holt stated she did eat lunch with some lobbyist the other day, not their lobbyist but some she knows from different counties and was brainstorming about how to get more money for Gadsden County.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they need to have the discussion with their federal lobbyist about their return on their investment.

Commissioner Wood asked if the 7 million that's sitting out there for the hospital, could that be a grant match. Commissioner Holt stated they may match.

Commissioner Holt stated she's concerned about stretching their people thin by having them do other jobs and not bring them back to do their regular job, and if they are doing more projects, they need to hire more people.

Commissioner Holt stated they need the \$750k on the books for the CDBG grants.

Commissioner Wood mentioned Rosedale and it being one of the only minority private owned water systems in the country. He stated they are looking to upgrade and have hydrants.

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

Commissioner Green mentioned Old Federal Road issue with the road being closed due to the maintenance with the pipeline that is required.

Commissioner Green stated would like to name buildings after previous tax collector Mr. Dale Summerford and Ms. Shirley Green-Knight who was the supervisor of elections as they held those positions for 20-30 years.

Commissioner Green stated he is not in agreement with putting a hold on hiring positions, as there is a lot of work that needs to be done in this County.

Commissioner Green had a legislative ask in regard to tiny homes for the homeless, seniors, and veterans. He also mentioned possible update of ordinance in order to build tiny homes in Gadsden County.

Mr. Morris stated there is no new or additional ordinance needed for tiny homes in Florida.

Commissioner Green mentioned signage for Lake Talquin drowning victims, and the board has already approved that.



Mr. Morris stated there will be a dedication for the drowning victims and he is working with the family to respect their wishes, but they do have the signage already.

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

Chair Hinson mentioned striping and lighting in the county, and they need to have a workshop.

Chair Hinson stated when he looks at things, he looks at the sense of urgency.

Chair Hinson stated he has no problem with Mr. Morris in his capacity, but he wants to get the County Administrator position filled.

Commissioner Wood stated he agrees with Chair Hinson's statement about Mr. Morris.

Commissioner Holt stated she is just waiting on the workshop so they can do what they're going to do.

Commissioner Green stated he just wants them to make sense with what they're doing as a board, and to have a plan.

Commissioner Holt stated they already discussed having a workshop for what they want for the new County Administrator.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:11 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 14, 2025 AT 5:00 P.M.,  
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

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

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. He led into a moment of silence and then the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

**4.   Amendments to the Agenda**

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

Commissioner Simpkins appeared through Zoom.

**5.   Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND  
COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**6.   Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit)**

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**7. General Business**

**7.a County Administrator's Position**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Chair Hinson asked if any Commissioners had any input. Commissioner Green stated he was fine with it because some of the basic information comes from the description that was already aligned with Florida Association of Counties. He wanted to make sure they were on the same page regarding getting interviews on the go. They had agreed to have a board or group to assist and he would love to have community input on this. Commissioner Wood asked if the board would review the applications or just be a part of the interview process; Commissioner Green stated he thought there should be a vetted process before it gets to the board.

Mr. Williams stated he could recommend a process to consider – the board could have a citizens committee after vetting the first process. People need to be vetted and qualified first before it getting to the board.

Commissioner Simpkins stated her opinion on this was to have citizen input and have applicants introduce themselves. She wanted all applications to go to her email, even if it was 500.

Commissioner Holt mentioned ordinance and the qualifications would already vet people out; she was in favor of a committee.

Chair Hinson mentioned having a credit score qualification. He stated for all to agree to start advertising tomorrow. Commissioner Wood stated they need to have a format so that when they send it out, the applicants will know the expectations.

Commissioner Green stated they could have a timeline for this position to be filled. Chair Hinson mentioned a 30-day timeline of getting the position out there. Commissioner Holt mentioned choosing one person per commissioner for the committee. Commissioner Simpkins stated she would like to know the applicants; interviews are open to the community. Chair Hinson stated it would be a 3-month process regardless and to give applicants 30 days to apply.

Mr. Williams stated the position advertisement is tied to importance of position; he suggested to vote on a time period for advertisement. Commissioner Wood and Commissioner Holt are with a 45-day timeline. Commissioner Simpkins stated she would like 30 days to advertise.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR A 45-DAY TIMELINE FOR ADVERTISING THIS POSITION AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS AND CHAIR HINSON OPPOSED.**

Mr. Williams stated applicants should be vetted before commissioners get them; he recommended a 10-day vetting period with HR. The commissioners could see all the applicants, but they are vetted.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR A 10-VETTING PERIOD FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Ms. Burroughs appeared and stated maybe 15 days to give commissioners to review and interview applicants.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A 15-DAY PERIOD TO ALLOW COMMISSIONERS TO REVIEW AND INTERVIEW APPLICANTS. COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Williams stated they need to vote on whether or not they want a citizens committee to review applications and rank applicants.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A CITIZENS COMMITTEE AND FOR EACH COMMISSIONER TO SELECT ONE PERSON FOR THE COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 TO DENY THIS MOTION. COMMISSIONER WOOD, COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS, AND CHAIR HINSON OPPOSED THE MOTION.**

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A CITIZENS COMMITTEE AND FOR EACH COMMISSIONER TO SELECT 2 PEOPLE FOR THE COMMITTEE AND TO ALSO INCLUDE A CONSTITUTIONAL. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Williams stated it was probably unique to include a constitutional; It would need to be only advisory if they do go that way. He stated the next issue to discuss was regarding the job description. He asked if they wanted to include social science under degree. Commissioners were fine with removing social science.

Mr. Williams stated the next issue was to vote on advertising the entire position description. Ms. Burroughs appeared and stated they usually provide a full description.

Commissioner Wood stated he was not sure why they have 8 people answering to one; he asked if they had the ability to change the structure. Chair Hinson stated they could change the organizational chart. Ms. Burroughs stated in other counties, they have multiple assistant county administrators and this county only has one.

Chair Hinson asked if wanted to add the CFO position on the description; Mr. Morris stated they also need to add elderly affairs under the positions that the County Administrator

would supervise. Commissioner Simpkins stated they never approved the CFO position itself, just the person. Chair Hinson stated whichever one was approved, CFO or budget director, they would add it to the description.

Mr. Williams recommended for Mr. Morris to meet with the HR director, Ms. Burroughs, and then just fill the positions in. Chair Hinson mentioned what Commissioner Simpkins stated earlier, the CFO position itself was never approved. Commissioner Holt stated to just go ahead and vote on either CFO or Budget Director to include in the description.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE CFO POSITION. THE MOTION DIED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.**

Mr. Williams mentioned the CFO being the Clerk; it was better to name it under 'Financial Director'. He mentioned an email from the Clerk that stated he did not want the CFO position to be listed under the job description as he was the CFO of the county.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE POSITION AS FINANCE DIRECTOR AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO ELIMINATE ALL THE POSITION NUMBERS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO HR TO FILL POSITIONS AND INCLUDE THEM IN THE DESCRIPTION. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Williams stated they need to know what they want back from the applicant (resume, references, etc.) Ms. Burroughs stated could do a qualifications statement.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR APPLICANTS TO RETURN RESUME, REFERENCES, AND QUALIFICATION STATEMENT. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Chair Hinson mentioned doing a credit score check and Ms. Burroughs recommended to do it on the back end.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO ADD A 700 CREDIT SCORE REQUIREMENT FOR THE FINAL 3 APPLICANTS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MOTION TO HAVE MR. MORRIS DIRECT MS. BURROUGHS TO PREPARE THE ADVERTISEMENT AND FOR COMMISSIONERS TO REVIEW IT BEFORE IT IS ADVERTISED. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Green asked how soon would this be ready to go. Ms. Burroughs stated it will be ready by next Tuesday.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:57 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood returned at 6:59 p.m.*

Mr. Williams stated to include in motion if there are no concerns, they will advertise it, and if there are concerns, it will be included in the next regular meetings agenda.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO LET THE POSITION GO OUT IF THERE ARE NO CONCERNS, AND IF THERE ARE CONCERNS, FOR IT TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Williams asked what publications they want for the advertisement.

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 7:01 p.m.*

Ms. Burroughs stated they normally advertise on Indeed, LinkedIn, Zip Recruiter, etc.

Chair Hinson stated to add Tallahassee Democrat. Mr. Williams recommended to have Ms. Burroughs give complete list of publications to Mr. Morris and for it to be sent to the Commissioners, and to add or remove from the list as needed.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO HAVE MS. BURROUGHS GIVE COMPLETE LIST OF PUBLICATIONS TO MR. MORRIS AND FOR IT TO BE SENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS, AND TO ADD OR REMOVE FROM THE LIST AS NEEDED. COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE**

8. **Motion to Adjourn**  
**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR GREEN DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:04 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**Ronterious Green, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

AT A WORKSHOP HELD FOR LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 16, 2025 AT  
4:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS  
HAD, VIZ:

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

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Hinson called meeting to order at 4 p.m. Chair Hinson led into moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

No amendments

5. Approval of Agenda

7. General Business

7.a Discussion and Direction on Legislative Priorities

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks dialogue from all the City's to submit to the Legislatures, Corey Simon and Gallop Franklin. He stated he found out that the small County coalition is also going to do the same thing. Mr. Morris stated they have a packet in front of them that shows some of the ideas that represent the County.

Commissioner Wood requested to add to the record everyone introducing themselves.

Everyone presented themselves to the group.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 4:05 p.m.*

Chair Hinson stated he used to speak with Bill Montford all the time. He stated he wants the City's to state their 2 biggest requests.

*Commissioner Green returned at 4:07 p.m.*

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 4:08 p.m.*

Mr. Morris mentioned funding programs and their funding availability like Library, State aid program, Broadband, volunteer fire, etc.

*Antonio Jefferson appeared at 4:10 p.m.*

*Reginald Cunningham appeared at 4:11 p.m.*

Commissioner Green asked if each municipality has what they want to present to legislature ready to present.

Georgette Daniels asked for clarity on the funding available under the GAA and Mr. Morris stated yes.

Commissioner Wood stated water was going to be main funding this year for his 3 Cities; They were 10 with ISO rating in his part of the County, and because of this rating some people's insurance went up \$1000. He stated he wants to see main arteries for water so they can start fighting the ISO ratings and it will encourage development. He mentioned new City Hall downtown Chattahoochee, wanting the old Gadsden state bank building, and a new lift station. He stated the superintendent has asked for help with \$38-40 million dollars on schools to increase the budget to finish what they're going to do at the new K-8.

Commissioner Wood mentioned the Sheriff will be looking into the funding for DEM and the 911 system programs.

Michael Wade stated his top item is replacement of the Town hall/Community Center as it's from the 1950's. He stated it has a lot of issues like wiring and safety; would be about 3 million for engineering and construction.

Mr. Wade also mentioned they need a brush truck for fire department being one of their 2<sup>nd</sup> top priorities as the one they have went down 2 weeks ago. He stated the down truck is a 2008 with over 220k miles on it; would be about \$200-250k for new brush truck.

Mr. Jefferson stated their top priority was a 350-gallon ground storage tank for I10/highway 12 that would be about \$2.4 million. Has active permit with DEP for the construction for that project. Mr. Jefferson stated their 2<sup>nd</sup> priority is approval for fire truck funding, with cost being about \$750k. Mr. Jefferson stated their 3<sup>rd</sup> priority would be for funding for old Gretna elementary school to use for post disaster location for support services, would be about \$1.2 million.

*Elijah King appeared at 4:28 p.m.*

Kendrah Wilkerson, town of Havana, stated her top priorities. She asked for replacement for 2 lift stations that are in critical condition, estimated cost would be \$880k each. Ms. Wilkerson stated they hoped to be further along than what they are with the public safety complex construction project with the \$1 million they already received the last funding cycle but if they fall short, she will be requesting the difference of \$100-200k. She also



stated Havana was on board for water infrastructure. Mr. Morris asked if Havana has capacity for growth for water and sewer, and Ms. Wilkerson stated yes.

Henry Grant, City of Midway, stated Public Safety facility as his #1 priority. Mr. Grant stated his 2<sup>nd</sup> priority would be to address structural issues with one of the fire stations. He stated it would be about \$2 million for both projects, \$1 million each project.

Mr. Cunningham asked Mr. Grant where they were with the Public Safety Project and Mr. Grant stated it was in the design stage.

*Commissioner Holt appeared at 4:36 p.m.*

Mr. Morris stated the rustling pines property has changed hands and mentioned the 2<sup>nd</sup> entrance and there being an issue with crossing railroad tracks. With the property changing hands they will have to go back to the design phase and make sure the new owner wants that.

Ms. Daniels, with City of Quincy, stated their #1 priority would be replacing sewer plant, and she did not have price on that today, but she could have it tomorrow. Also stated they want to replace the Water and sewer lines as they are aging, and the cost is around \$4-5 million. Stated they would like to extend infrastructure at I-10 interchange.

Cunningham stated need to discuss with the state on extending infrastructure at I10 interchange as the state owns most of that property.

Chair Hinson stated they have to put an emphasis on infrastructure.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 4:48 p.m.*

Mr. Cunningham stated his focus was on senior projects like a senior center and VA services. He stated it was time to build nice facilities, if they build it, they will come. He stated the 25 acres off Strong Road that the County owns could be used for a senior center and a VA Center.

*Commissioner Green returned at 4:53 p.m.*

Superintendent Elijah Key stated his main request was for additional funding for the completion of the k-8 school in Quincy. Raising millage rate or half cent sales tax would have benefitted. They need something to keep their schools updated. \$30-40 million dollars to build k-8 school that will be for about 1500 kids.

Commissioner Green stated a lot of people were not educated in regard to the half-cent sales tax and that was why it did not go through.

Commissioner Holt mentioned needing to condense the list, as they were already running out of time cause they're already meeting in Tallahassee.

Commissioner Green asked if they have the leg work to go along with these projects, as the tentative date for the senators and representatives to come is February 10.

Commissioner Simpkins wants everyone to comeback with their priorities ready to go when senators come on February 10.

Ms. Daniels stated they have all given their top 2 projects, and most of them have already been working on those priorities and what the costs are. When they come together again, they should be ready to bring forth what they have.

8. Motion to Adjourn

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:43 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND  
FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY  
21, 2025 AT 11:00 A.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

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

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

**2.    Amendments to the Agenda**

No amendments

**3.    Approval of Agenda**

**4.    Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit)**

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

**5.    General Business**

**5a.   Approval of Resolution 2025-019, Declaring a State of Emergency**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. Chair Hinson stated the county attorney was not present and but was on Zoom. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Holt also appeared on Zoom.

Chair Hinson read through the resolution. He mentioned buildings that the county leases/ owns and asked how they could approve Havana and Chattahoochee into this for shelter.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
January 21, 2025 – Emergency Meeting

Ms. Steele stated that the Attorney stated everything was already covered in that resolution.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AND  
COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Wood stated he would like for Public Information to work with Commissioner Green in regards to shelter; they need to be prepared for electricity to be out with this weather.

Commissioner Green stated the emergency shelter has been running and was asking for it to be open tomorrow; requesting manpower from EMS.

Mr. Morris stated county offices are closed at 12 today and will be closed tomorrow. Commissioner Green asked about road closures and Mr. Morris stated EOC will put out an announcement.

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:26 AM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD FOR LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 30, 2025 AT  
5:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS  
HAD, VIZ:**

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

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

Chair Hinson called the workshop to order at 5:12 p.m. Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance and everyone introduced themselves.

**3.    Amendments to the Agenda**

No amendments.

**4.    Approval of Agenda**

**5.    General Business**

**5.a Discussion and Direction on Legislative Priorities**

Chair Hinson stated Town of Havana was not able to attend this workshop.

Rob Nixon, City of Quincy, stated their priorities. Infrastructure was a number one priority and also mentioned waste water treatment. He asked if this was due tomorrow. Al Lawson stated it was really due on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Angela Sapp stated they have prioritized infrastructure projects.

Antonio Jefferson, Gretna, stated his priority. He mentioned Springfield resource center and plans of improving it; it would be a 2-million-dollar request.

Congressman Lawson stated if they are not on the priority list this year, they will be on it next year. He asked Commissioner Holt about Stevens School and Commissioner Holt stated they are finally out there working.

Congressman Lawson asked if they have a grant writer. Mr. Morris stated no, they are advertising. Mr. Jefferson stated they need to focus on jobs in this community and prioritize economic development.

Commissioner Simpkins stated infrastructure does need to be a top priority; she asked Mr. Lawson what happens next. Mr. Lawson stated the county needed to ask for what they want.

Commissioner Wood mentioned being simplistic on what they ask for – water and sewage. Mr. Nixon stated it would need to be a long-term plan in regards to water and sewage. Mayor Bass-Prieto stated they need to get with economic development; they need to decide what their plan is. Commissioner Holt asked if they could look at sewer lines.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:30 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood returned at 6:32 p.m.*

*Rob Nixon stepped out at 6:32 p.m.*

Chair Hinson stated everyone had to submit their top 2 priorities.

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 6:52 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A MEETING OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FL ON  
FEBRUARY 3, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

**Present:** Carolyn Ford, Chair  
Alonzetta Simpkins, County Commissioner  
Jeff Dubree, Tax Collector  
Charles Williams, Midway City Councilman  
Ronte Harris, Quincy City Commissioner

**Staff Present:** Leslie D. Steele, Tourist Development Director  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Clerk Secretary to the Boards

**1. Welcome**

Chair Ford called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m. and then recessed.

**2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call**

Chair Ford resumed the meeting and Deputy Clerk did Roll Call. Chair Ford then led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Regular Meeting**

**a. Approval of Minutes:**

July 29, 2024, Workshop

August 12, 2024, Workshop

November 14, 2024, Workshop

Chair Ford requested approval of the above minutes.

**COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Ms. Steele stated they need to add an item to the agenda for the 2025 Lake Pro Am Tournament sponsorship and approve \$7,500.

**COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO ADD LAKE PRO AM TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP TO THE AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Ms. Steele stated this funding would come from line 2811. Commissioner Simpkins gave a review of Lake Pro Am Tournament and stated this was the first year that the TDC has been involved.

Ms. Steele stated the \$7,500 would generate into bed tax; this event will also be televised on tv. Sponsor logo will be on skier's bibs, shirts, banners, etc.

Ms. Steele stated it was recommended to approve the pay, and send this to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval; they were working on the TDC ordinance with the attorney.

Mr. Dubree asked how many competitors are in it each year. Commissioner Simpkins stated she was not sure, but maybe 50 or more as there are both men and women competing. The event lasts all weekend.

**JEFF DUBREE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE LAKE PRO AM TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP OF \$7,500 AND COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**Discussion and Action Marketing Grant Fund Request:**

**2024 Kountry Kingz MC Annual Event**

Ms. Steele stated all guidelines have been made and this was coming from line item 54811.

**JEFF DUBREE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE TDC TO SPONSOR 2024 KOUNTRY KINGZ MC ANNUAL EVENT AND COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**2025 Havana Mega Reunion**

Ms. Steele presented the above item.

**JEFF DUBREE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025 HAVANA MEGA REUNION AND COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**b. Discussion and Action for approval of Marketing Strategy**  
**(Leslie D. Steele, Tourist Development Administrator, Dante Filyau and Michael Hall**  
**TDC Marketing Firm MediumFour)**

Ms. Steele presented the above item.

Michael Hall, MediumFour, appeared through Zoom. He stated they are now in Phase 2 and gave an update of the work they have been doing.

Ms. Steele asked for an update on market research. She did go over the documentation provided to all board members and MediumFour representatives in the process of Mr. Hall locating the documentation requested to go over.

Mr. Hall presented the update on market research as requested.



Ms. Steele stated the static website that they approved did not work as there was no public interaction on that site. She stated she asked the marketing firm to charge \$20k instead of \$1 million, and they agreed.

Commissioner Harris asked what CIVICPLUS charge for the average website; Ms. Steele stated \$120k yearly.

Ms. Steele went through the adjusted top 6 months for marketing efforts.

Ms. Steele recommended to start with Gadsden Heartbeats for campaign strategy.

Chair Ford asked what the hotels, and bed & breakfast could do onsite to attract folks. Mr. Hall stated they would need to offer discounts on rooms when they have functions.

Mr. Dubree asked if approving the whole campaign; Tourist Development Council and the community needs more input before jumping into a campaign.

Ms. Steele stated they did not need to approve all the campaigns; They could give directives on what they wanted to approve now and what they want to discuss further.

Mr. Williams stated to recommend approving website and have a meeting to have more time to discuss the other campaigns.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she agreed with Mr. Dubree on not approving entire campaign but did want to vote to approve the website.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they have a set budget amount for website; Ms. Steele stated \$25k and they have the money, and it was already approved.

**MR. DUBREE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MARKETING WEBSITE AND BRANDING AND HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSION ON CAMPAIGNS AND COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Williams recommended to amend the motion on the floor for approving the budget and for Chair Ford to call a special meeting.

**MR. DUBREE AMENDED HIS MOTION TO INCLUDE \$40K BUDGET FOR WEEKS 9-24 AND COMMISSIONER HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Chair Ford stated to set a date for a special meeting.

#### **4. Next Scheduled Meetings**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR CHAIR TO CALL A SPECIAL MEETING AND MR. DUBREE MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

5. **Adjournment**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR FORD DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:17 A.M.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**CAROLYN FORD, Chair**  
**Tourist Development Council**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

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

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

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

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

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

Mr. Morris stated the below amendments:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**8. Items pulled for Discussion:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bishop Green appeared and thanked them for serving the county.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Pat Michael, 6942 Havana Hwy**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Commissioner Holt stated this should be under general business.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Commissioner Simpkins requesting this be brought back in next meeting.

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

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

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

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

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

Item 11.d

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~Pulled from the Agenda.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

**13. County Attorney**

No updates.

**14. County Administrator**

No updates.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No comments.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16. **Motion to Adjourn**

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

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**



AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 7,  
2025 AT 5:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda Holt, District 4  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. Bishop Green led into Invocation and Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Amendments to the Agenda**

Chair Hinson requested to pull item 7.c, Funding Request for Gadsden Wellness Senior Services.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO PULL ITEM 7.C FROM THE AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

5. **Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

6. **Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit)**

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

7. **General Business**

7.a **Interim County Attorney Legal Services Agreement**

Commissioner Holt stated she would like to know a little bit about his firm. Mr. Baptiste stated his firm is Webster-Baptiste, located in Tallahassee. He is authorized to practice law

in Florida, Georgia, and Texas. Their firm has a plethora of experience in open government workspace. They have been successful in holding governments accountable for not producing public records and they have also defended governments when there is an alleged failure to produce public records. This is a first in their law firm to engage as a practice of being a fixed county attorney. Mr. Baptiste has litigated in every district court in the state of Florida and they actively engage in litigation.

Commissioner Holt asked about contract law. Mr. Baptiste stated they have represented tax collectors in regards to contracts and they are currently representing a couple of tax collectors.

Commissioner Holt stated previously, they have had issues with attorneys not transitioning to new attorneys. Mr. Baptiste stated he wanted to put on the record that Attorney Thornton Williams did an amazing job with the transitioning.

Commissioner Wood stated he wanted Mr. Baptiste to be the Attorney for the whole board. Mr. Baptiste stated he serves at the pleasure of the dais and he has reached out to each commissioner directly.

Commissioner Holt asked if Mr. Baptiste intended to apply for the permanent position. Mr. Baptiste stated he does intend to apply. Commissioner Holt mentioned a long-term contract with the hospital and getting out of it. They have a couple of cases that are detrimental to the county.

**Dr. Tracey Stallworth, 1339 P.O. Box Quincy, FL 32353**

Dr. Stallworth appeared before the board and asked Mr. Baptiste what guarantee does he have that he would not let things slip within the county. Mr. Baptiste stated his firm was accustomed to responding to deadlines. He is always watching for deadlines and he did not attempt to miss any.

Dr. Stallworth asked if Mr. Baptiste had any contact with Commissioners before being voted in for this position. Mr. Baptiste stated no, he was unaware they were going to make a motion for him to serve as interim county attorney. If he was aware of it, he would have gone to the meeting in person versus Zoom. Dr. Stallworth asked if he was going to be firm on what he was going to charge. Mr. Baptiste stated they do not fight with clients regarding bills; they can address any issues.

**Bishop Willie Green, 296 Bradwell Road Quincy, FL 32351**

Bishop Green appeared and stated he was not against Attorney Baptiste, just against the timing of it.

*Commissioner Green appeared at 5:24 p.m.*

Bishop Green asked what terms of contract were breached with the previous county attorney. Mr. Baptiste advised the board to not respond to that.

Bishop Green asked what other advantages the county would receive from having Mr. Baptiste serve as interim as opposed to having the previous county attorney. Mr. Baptiste stated the monthly allowance was different and the billable hour rate was also less. In the previous contract, it was \$200 and his is \$175 an hour. Secondly, the previous contract billed \$125 an hour for paralegal work and he bills \$75 an hour.

Bishop Green asked how would he compensate the lack of experience as a county attorney. Mr. Baptiste stated they have represented counties but they have not served in a fixed capacity.

Commissioner Holt stated they have several ordinances needing to be rewritten and updated and she asked Mr. Baptiste if he had any experience with that. Mr. Baptiste stated yes.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY AGREEMENT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**7.b Interim County Administrator's Agreement**

Mr. Baptiste stated he handed the commissioners an amended contract. There has been a change under Section 3, he pulled the financial amount from what the previous county administrator and the previous interim were getting, and matched it to this financial compensation. The second change is under Section 4 under benefits, it states 'still shall receive annual salary of \$140,000 payable in equal bi-weekly installments in accordance with Gadsden County's usual payroll.' Earlier, the parenthesis was blank, now they have added \$140,000. Mr. Baptiste stated for the record, this was aligned with what they paid the previous interim county administrator and the previous county administrator. Also, they added 4d under benefits, where it states 'still shall receive a monthly car allowance in the amount of \$600...'

Commissioner Green stated he has questions for the interim county administrator.

Mr. Baptiste stated he forgot to mention another change under section 3c, it states "still shall receive 20 weeks' severance pay, unless he accepts a different position in the county at the director level or above." This was a recommendation based on looking at other agreements.

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Stiell to give a background of himself and what his intentions are. Mr. Stiell gave a background on his career, where he stated he has a bachelors in architectural studies and also received a master's degree in urban regional planning. He worked for the county as a Growth Management Director for a couple years. Last year, he decided to foster a baby with his wife, and decided that he needed a flexible position for the baby's first year of his life. He got a job with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council as a Planning Consultant. He received a phone call on Monday regarding the interim position. He was later notified that the board voted for him to be the interim county administrator.

Commissioner Green wanted to clarify if it was the former interim county administrator that asked him if he was interested in the interim position. Mr. Stiell stated no, Mr. Morris asked if the company Mr. Stiell worked for had the capacity to help out the county for things such as growth management.

Commissioner Green stated, in his opinion, it would be a disadvantage for other applicants if Mr. Stiell decided to apply for the permanent position. He wanted to make sure they would be fair to all applicants.

Mr. Stiell stated he would be interested in applying for the permanent position for county administrator.

Commissioner Wood stated he did not know who Mr. Stiell was, but he has not heard anything bad about him. He wanted to make sure Mr. Stiell will work with all 5 commissioners. Mr. Stiell stated yes, he will work with each commissioner for the best interest of the county.

Commissioner Green stated he was very concerned about their staff and he wanted to make sure Mr. Stiell had them in their best interest. Mr. Stiell stated he had knowledge of helping staff through difficult times and hoped the Commissioners would give the courtesy to go to him directly before his staff as it would protect both the commissioner and staff from any potential issues.

Commissioner Holt stated she felt like Mr. Stiell should get this interim position as he has the personality for it. In regards to the permanent position, they would need to look at all applicants. If Mr. Stiell was the most qualified, then he would be the person for the permanent position.

Commissioner Green stated the 20 weeks' severance pay for interim was a little steep and suggested 10 weeks of pay instead of 20.

Dr. Tracey Stallworth appeared before the board and stated the morale was horrible here. He asked Mr. Stiell how he could boost morale. Mr. Stiell stated some stability would probably help; he would need to meet with staff first to see what was needed. Dr. Stallworth thought the salary was a little high and he proposed an action plan.

Chair Hinson wanted clarification on what Mr. Stiell stated he was certified on. Mr. Stiell stated he was a certified public manager.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR 10 WEEKS SEVERANCE PACKAGE FOR THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Mr. Baptiste stated if Mr. Stiell were to accept a position at the director level or above within the county, there would be no severance package.

Mr. Baptiste stated Commissioner Simpkins could make a friendly amendment to the motion made by Commissioner Green. Commissioner Simpkins stated it would give Mr. Stiell time and finance if they go with 20 weeks; it was a fair timeframe. She stated she would like to make a friendly amendment to the motion for it to be 20 weeks' severance pay.

Commissioner Green stated he would not accept the amendment as he felt like 20 weeks was a little steep.

Commissioner Holt asked if the interim only worked for a week, would he get the whole 20 weeks' severance pay. Mr. Baptiste stated under this agreement, if he worked for 3 days, and is terminated, then he will get the compensation. If he were to be terminated with cause, there would be no severance.

Commissioner Wood mentioned 15 weeks' pay. Commissioner Green stated he would accept the 15 weeks.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR 15 WEEKS SEVERANCE PAY AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Green stated they need to entertain the salary piece for interim. He thought it should start at 105k.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR THE SALARY TO START AT 105K AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Simpkins stated with the previous interim, they voted 140k and it was stated that it was not the person, but the position. Commissioner Green stated he did support that because the previous interim was also serving as a director in a department he already had, so he was given double duty and needed that pay increase.

Commissioner Holt stated this was an interim position, not a permanent one. So, she would not offer the 140k.

Commissioner Holt asked Mr. Baptiste regarding ordinance. Mr. Baptiste stated he has not had a chance to review the ordinance; the agreement is effective February 25 and any issues can be addressed prior to the effective date.

Mr. Baptiste stated when they get to the motion to approve the agreement, he would ask the maker of the motion to give him the discretion to make the adjustments spoken about in the public record prior to offering Mr. Stiell the contract to sign.

**Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Hwy Quincy, FL**

Mr. Morris appeared before the board. He stated in the county, there has been a staggering rate of turnover at the highest levels. At least 9 commissioners have been hired and fired in just 11 years. This kind of instability not only disrupts county operations, it also undermines public confidence.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR THE SALARY TO START AT 105K FOR THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 AND THE MOTION FAILED.**

Commissioner Wood made a motion for 140k salary for the Interim County Administrator and Commissioner Simpkins made the second. Mr. Baptiste stated there did not need to be a motion for that because that number was already in the agreement. Commissioner Wood stated he will withdraw his motion.

Mr. Baptiste stated to make a motion to approve the interim contract for the county administrator and to give the interim county attorney the ability to make revisions. Chair Hinson stated he agreed but he did want to remove the \$600 in regards to the county vehicle.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR SALARY TO BE AT 110K AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 AND THE MOTION FAILED.**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AGREEMENT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 4D, \$600 CAR ALLOWANCE. CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Mr. Baptiste stated if they choose to allow Mr. Stiell to use a county vehicle, he would have to come back before the board to clarify what restrictions they want. He asked that they modify the motion to include that.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS AMENDED HER MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AGREEMENT SUBJECT TO THE REVISIONS BY THE INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Green stated they need direction on the process of selecting a permanent county administrator. Mr. Baptiste stated the board should establish criteria for a county administrator. It was not on the agenda for this meeting and asked for it be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Green wanted clarity it would be on the next agenda for discussion as it relates to the advisory board.

Mr. Baptiste stated Mr. Morris has day-to-day operations of the county until February 21 as an Assistant County Administrator. When Mr. Morris was removed as the interim county administrator, he reverted to his previous position. The dais does not have the authority to hire an assistant county administrator, that is a day-to-day decision that reverts to the county administrator. Until February 21, the board does not have an active county administrator or interim county administrator, so Mr. Morris would fill the vacuum as an assistant.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:01 p.m. and returned at 7:02 p.m.*

- ~~7.e Funding Request for Gadsden Wellness Senior Services~~  
Item pulled.

8. Motion to Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:03 PM.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

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Eric F. Hinson, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

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NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON FEBRUARY 18,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Assistant County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Pastor Williams led into Invocation and Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Amendments to the Agenda**

Commissioner Green stated Demetrius Branca was here today and wanted to add his presentation to the agenda. Commissioner Green mentioned the advisory board and asked that this item be put on the next agenda. Chair Hinson stated they could have a workshop on it.

*Commissioner Holt appeared at 6:05 p.m.*

Mr. Baptiste requested to include the interim County Administrator contract for Mr. Stiell under his comment section.

Chair Hinson requested to pull agenda item 11.a, Funding Request for Dr. Camron Browning.

5. **Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND  
COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

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

Demetrius Branca appeared before the board and asked the board to adopt a resolution that will save lives in your community and across the state. He Stated he is a dad from Tallahassee and is on a mission to save lives. Mr. Branca stated he is a member of the Florida Handsfree Coalition, which is a group that consists of pedestrian advocates, bicycle advocates, insurance companies, law enforcement, as well as non-profit, and for-profit entities. The coalition has been asking the state legislature to pass a handsfree law in Florida which will compel drivers to put their electronic devices down, especially their phones while driving.



7. **Consent**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.a Ratification Memo**

**7.b BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes:**

1. January 7, 2025, Regular BOCC Meeting
2. January 14, 2025, Special Meeting
3. January 16, 2025, Legislative Priorities Workshop
4. January 21, 2025, Emergency Meeting

**7.c Approval of Management Audit Attestation Letter**

8. **Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Alexie Rittman, 547 Dusty House Road, Quincy, FL**

Mr. Rittman, Fire Chief at Robertsville Volunteer Fire Department, appeared before the board to discuss concerns of the County fire services. He mentioned being kicked out of their station and being disrespected by county EMS.

Chair Hinson stated they will schedule a meeting with the fire department and EMS.

**Kimblin NeSmith, 183 Hardaway Hwy, Chattahoochee, FL**

Former Commissioner NeSmith appeared before the board to discuss the youth program. He stated the commissioner's received a proposal that outlined not only the Gadsden Leadership and Law Academy, but also to include summer youth; Those 2 programs actually blend together.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 6:39 p.m. and returned at 6:41 p.m.*

**Sergeant Vontez Jackson, Sheriff's Office**

Mr. Jackson appeared regarding Mr. NeSmith's presentation. Mr. Jackson stated he went through the program Mr. NeSmith is advocating for and graduated from it being very proud of that accomplishment. He stated the program does have benefactors to it.

**Tony Hannah, P.O. Box 481, Quincy, FL**

Mr. Hannah appeared before the board to ask for a workshop for the PANS program trying to get re-instated and the bus.

Chair Hinson stated he would request a workshop under his comment section for the PANS program and the bus to be re-instated.

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Funding Request for Dr. Camron Browning**

Item pulled.

Commissioner Holt stated Mr. Quick from North Florida Rural Health was here to give a presentation. Chair Hinson stated they must keep things in order and to move on.

Mr. Baptiste stated for the record that Chair Hinson has discretion to accept comment cards.

Commissioner Wood stated this item was pulled and he was not sure if Mr. Quick was for Dr. Browning or against him. It was not fair for Dr. Browning since he was not present. Commissioner Holt stated she could do it in her comments.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO ADD A PRESENTATION FROM MR. QUICK AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE AND MOTION FAILED.**

**11.b Funding Request for Gadsden County Senior Services (Gretna, Midway, Gadsden Wellness, and Greensboro)**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval for funding allocations to support Gadsden Senior Services in the following locations: City of Gretna, City of Midway, Gadsden Wellness Center, and Town of Greensboro, at \$15,000 each.

Chair Hinson mentioned the Clerk of Court sent out an email about some cities not being funded within Gadsden, and he didn't think it was fair that they stopped their funding.

Commissioner Green stated there is an Elderly Affairs department and he thought that something of this magnitude would be spearheaded by that department. He also stated he

would like a more detailed conversation with the facilities they are giving funding to as to what services they provide to seniors.

Mr. Morris stated in the past, there was an interlocal agreement between these organizations and the County for this.

Latoya Fryson, Director of Elderly Affairs, appeared and stated she agreed with Commissioner Green. They will be receiving information on the services provided by these programs.

Antonio Jefferson, City Manager of Gretna, appeared and stated he would appreciate their continued support for their senior citizens program. He gave a brief synopsis of their program and what services they provide.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:33 p.m. and returned at 7:34 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated they should amend the motion that they can vote to give money but with the intention that the programs receiving funding will bring more information to the Board.

Mr. Jefferson stated they do provide the clerk with a financial report that shows how they expended the funds as part of the yearly renewal, if they do budget for their program to receive funding.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ABOVE ITEM AND TO INCLUDE BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND FUNDING BEING PROVIDED WITH INTENTION OF THE ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING INFORMATION ON WHAT SERVICES THEY PROVIDE TO SENIORS, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.c Approval of the Summer Youth Employment for 150 Students**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of Summer Youth Employment for 150 students. The Summer Youth Employment Program offers students valuable work experience, professional development, and financial support during the summer months. By partnering with local businesses, government agencies, and community organizations, the program helps participants develop essential workplace skills, explore career interests, and contribute to the local economy.

Commissioner Green asked about the budget for this program. He also stated they want some definition on somethings being done differently than in the past with the program and may need to revamp some things.

Mr. Morris stated he did reach out to finance, and the board budgeted 552k for the summer youth program.

Chair Hinson mentioned extending the program to 8 weeks with the crime being sky high right now.

Commissioner Holt stated employers are upset over the kids not working and fighting or sleeping on the job; they need to put stipulations in place for the students in this program.

Commissioner Wood stated the program was admiral and he liked the program. He stated supervising children and the liability of having juveniles is very concerning. He stated he agrees on the program but not at 500k.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:56 p.m.*

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 7:59 p.m.*

Commissioner Simpkins suggested to have a workshop on this Agenda item to determine the number of students and what the expectations are for the students and the program.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR A WORKSHOP TO BE SCHEDULED ON THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

**13. County Attorney**

Mr. Baptiste mentioned the Clerk's report. He stated the Clerk received the CRA funds back from Midway, and the funds need to have a motion to incorporate the funds into this fiscal year's budget, but the Board cannot vote tonight as this is not an Agenda item. He requested that they add this to the next meeting's agenda.

Commissioner Holt stated she has been told by several accounting individuals that they must have a budget department and a finance department. They do not mix the two. She asked Mr. Baptiste to check that out.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned that he is working on the fire contract and has been in contact with the City of Quincy. He also mentioned pending lawsuits and stated that the Jackson matter has been resolved and closed. The Gadsden County Republican Committee matter was still pending and the Bopp matter was still in litigation. The bid protest was also still pending.

Mr. Baptiste stated the county currently has employees placed on administrative leave with pay. He has been reviewing this matter and he intends to make a recommendation to the County Administrator to make a change to the pay status for it to be without pay.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned changes to the interim county administrator: Under Section 1.d, nothing in the last line has been added; nothing in this agreement prohibits Mr. Stiell for applying to serve as County Administrator. Under Section 3.c, there was a severance pay provision. If Mr. Stiell separated from the county, then he would have been entitled to the 15 weeks, but there was no mitigation requirement. Essentially, if Mr. Stiell accepted another position, he could get paid from that other position and still receive the 15 weeks of severance pay. The language that he added was called 'setoff language'. The last change was under Section 8, paragraphs B and C were added. If Mr. Stiell was removed for cause, and the county alleged that there was misconduct, then the county was not required to pay any severance pay.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:25 p.m. and returned at 8:27 p.m.*

*Commissioner Holt stepped out at 8:30 p.m. and returned at 8:32 p.m.*

Mr. Baptiste stated the county does have discretion; the contract has not been signed and there cannot be a breach of the contract.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 8:42 p.m. and returned at 8:43 p.m.*

Commissioner Simpkins stated she did not see the leave piece; They need Mr. Morris in his original position. They need to move Gadsden County forward. She believed Mr. Stiell would be an asset at this time.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO NOT APPROVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste stated to rescind the previous motion regarding the approval of the contract from the previous meeting. He also stated to amend the motion to not proceed on both contractual documents.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO NOT PROCEED ON BOTH CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS FOR INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO KEEP MR. MORRIS AS THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UNTIL PERMANENT POSITION IS HIRED AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**14. County Administrator**

Mr. Morris stated he supplied each commissioner with a list of grants and also sent it to them by email, but there are no grants in jeopardy at this time.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins stated she has concerns that there were changes made to the budget and they have no one in that department so they don't even know if they have the funding to fund the changes. She asked Mr. Morris if the HR director could come forward, and he called Ms. Burroughs to come forward.

Ms. Burroughs appeared, Commissioner Simpkins asked about a salary survey the board approved, and Ms. Burroughs stated it has been a stop and go process. Commissioner Simpkins mentioned that proposals should've come before board.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she agrees with Commissioner Woods earlier statement about needing all programs that provide Senior Services to come together with Ms. Fryson to discuss how they can meet all the needs or at least most of the needs for the Senior Services.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she wants the Board of County Commissioners to schedule a meeting with the boys & girls club board.

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

Commissioner Wood mentioned bridges being out; and stated he was told there are a lot of bridges need to be re-done.

Commissioner Wood mentioned a million dollars that they were not expecting to get, and it could be used towards infrastructure.

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

Commissioner Holt asked for Mr. Quick to come forward.

Mr. Quick appeared before the board to provide an update on North FL Rural Health.

Commissioner Holt stated she wants a healthcare workshop. Commissioner Holt asked Mr. Baptiste to look into the Enterprise lease.

Commissioner Holt wants a non-profit workshop. Commissioner Holt mentioned having a fire workshop. She asked if they could get GPS on the firetrucks.

Commissioner Holt asked Mr. Baptiste how commissioners put items on the agenda; Mr. Baptiste stated Agenda items have to be sent to the County Administrator.

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

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Morris about where they are with the budget director position. Mr. Morris stated he will reach back out to Human Resources and will look at applications.

Commissioner Green thanked everyone that attended, and the staff that helped in the memorial for the Lake Talquin drowning victims.

Commissioner Green stated temperatures will drop in the next couple of days, and they will have a warm shelter open on Thursday.

Commissioner Green stated he wanted to give a huge shoutout to the Crossroads Academy school for going to state for Basketball.

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

Chair Hinson mentioned bonds and wanting to look into that again. Chair Hinson asked if they could advertise there is also openings in Chattahoochee for the warm shelter.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:47 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

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

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

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

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

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

No amendments.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Chair Hinson stated Vice-Chair Green was online.

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

**7. Consent**

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

**7.a Ratification Memo**

**7.b BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes:**

1. January 30, 2025, Legislative Priorities Workshop
2. February 4, 2025, Regular Meeting
3. February 7, 2025, Special Meeting

**7.c Approval of CEI Task Work Order for Cane Creek Bridge**



**7.d Approval of FY25 Small County Consolidated Waste Grant Amendment #1**

**7.e – Florida Sun Trail Agreement with Florida Department of Transportation**

**7.f – Approval of Task Order with CSI Contracting, Inc. to Renovate and Repair the Gadsden County Senior Center**

**7.g – Amendment of Mosquito Control Certified Budget and Detailed Work Plan Budget FY2024-2025**

**8. Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Pastor Kenneth Frame, 120 McArthur St. Quincy, FL**

Pastor Kenneth Frame appeared before the board and asked them to adopt his poem.

Commissioner Green stated he did come to a meeting before and presented the poem. He was hoping they adopt the poem.

Pastor Frame read aloud his poem. Commissioner Holt mentioned that it would be great to include it with tourism.

**Kate MacFall, 1206 Walton Dr. Tallahassee, FL**

Ms. MacFall appeared before the board to discuss animal services. She was hoping they consider a new or different location for animal services that feels more inviting. She thanked the county for what they have done.

**10. Public Hearing**

**10.a First Public Hearing: Public Comments and Input; CDBG Recovery Housing Program Grant - \$100,000,000.00**

Mr. Morris stated they have a presentation from the SHIP department and also Andy Easton, Easton and Associates, CDBG Grant Administrator.

Mr. Baptiste stated there needs to be a motion that comments made under public comments regarding the housing department should have been made under public hearing.

Commissioner Holt asked what was required to get the grant. Ms. Burns stated they need the approval.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR ALL PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING THE SHIP/HOUSING PROGRAM BE MOVED TO PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**Helen Jackson, 2040 Flagler St. Quincy, FL**

Ms. Jackson appeared before the board to discuss housing. She thought the county should allow them to get the funding, the department has done what nobody else has. Ms. Jackson stated she has experienced flooding and the city has not done anything for her. The county stepped up and did things to her house that needed to be done for years. She stated the staff was wonderful and are doing the things needed to be done.

**Ewayna James, 11 James Cr Quincy, FL**

Ms. James appeared before the board to discuss the housing department. She had her house re-modeled by them and has it looking brand new. She asked them to please find more funding for this. She thanked them for everything they have done.

**Cynthia Reynolds, 1087 Selman Rd. Quincy, FL**

Ms. Reynolds appeared before the board and stated she was here on behalf of her mother, Ernestine Jenkins, who lives at 93 Jenkins Place Quincy, Florida. She wanted the county to give the funds to housing department because they have made a difference in her mother's quality of life. They repaired her bathroom and also put in a ramp.

Chair Hinson stated the board never suggested to stop funding for housing. Last year, he suggested \$500,000. Commissioner Holt stated they testified so they could keep getting grants.

Sonya Burns, SHIP Housing Coordinator, appeared before the board. She mentioned this was due tomorrow, March 5 by 5 p.m.; the staff learned about this grant less than 10 days ago. She stated the amount of the grant is \$1,287,500.00.

Andy Easton, CDBG Grant Administrator, appeared before the board. He stated this was for temporary housing for people in substance abuse programs; it was a great project.

Commissioner Wood asked about the cost to the county. Mr. Easton stated the cost would be maintenance, being the landlord, basically. He stated there is no administration cost in this grant, unlike normal CDBG grants.

Ms. Burns stated they do plan to have a round-table with the commissioners once this grant was submitted. She also mentioned another grant for housing that is due May 2<sup>nd</sup>. They were eligible to apply and asked them for their blessing to go after it.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 10.A AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Board Direction for Low-Boy Replacement**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. He stated the Public Works department does not have a Low-Boy, and are not able to move heavy equipment from one place to another. They were looking to either purchase or rent a Low-Boy. They were going to have to come back to let the board know the cost of it. Right now, they are asking for permission to go look for one.

Commissioner Simpkins stated it was going to require a transfer of funds as there is no budget in Public Works. Mr. Morris stated they would have to come back with a budget amendment. Commissioner Simpkins requested to know where the funds are coming from before agreeing to this.

Commissioner Holt asked about the total cost. Mr. Young stated \$200,000 with the one they were looking at.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR THEM TO LOOK AT COSTS OF A LOW-BOY, BRING IT BACK TO THE BOARD, ALONG WITH WHERE THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS WILL BE COMING FROM. COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Attorney Baptiste stated when speaking with the Clerk's office, if the board were to pass the motion in the current form, they would probably run into a problem with the Clerk's office. The County has had issues with getting things processed. From his understanding, the Clerk's office requests that an agenda item to pass with a budget line item.

Chair Hinson asked Mr. Young to let the public know what a Low-Boy is and its importance. Mr. Young stated it is a semi-truck to haul heavy equipment.

**11.b Approval of Gadsden County Indigent Burial Service Provider**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. He stated there has is a deceased homeless person in the county.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**11.c Approval of the Florida Commerce Agreement BB219 Awarding the County Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) to Renovate a County-owned Building Located at 604 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, City of Havana to Provide a Telehealth and Career Center, and Approval for Staff to Negotiate a Work Authorization with CRA for the Architectural and Engineering Services**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

Mr. Morris expanded on item.

**11.d Approval of New HRIS System (UKG) and Setup Fee**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Attorney Baptiste mentioned that this would fall under master's service agreement; it was legal to not to do RFP.

Jaime Haskins from UKG appeared to provide a presentation.

Mr. Morris mentioned that he would not put an item on the agenda if they could not address it. Commissioner Simpkins stated this would need to come back in the next budget cycle.

Ms. Burroughs appeared and stated the purpose of this was to be more efficient and compliant with state and federal regulations.

Commissioner Wood stated it was a lot of money and it is for 5 years.

Attorney Baptiste read the contractual language; the county has the ability to exit relationship. The County is paying an upfront fee that is normally non-refundable.

Commissioner Green stated he would like to move forward with this.

Chair Hinson stated he was impressed with this but when a commissioner has heartburns, it was best to wait on it.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 AND THE MOTION FAILED.**

Chair Hinson thought they should table this and mentioned a workshop.

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

Chair Hinson stated he wanted to bring up issues that the Clerk has talked about and mentioned a workshop on it.

**13. Interim County Attorney**

Attorney Baptiste mentioned they have active litigation going on and is working on those cases. He passed around a copy of a Leon County ordinance that allows the interim county attorney to retain professional services of other lawyers for legal matters. He was going to add it into the next meeting's agenda for the board's approval.

Mr. Baptiste requested a motion to give him the authority to address the situation of employees on paid leave and to work with the HR director outside of the County Administrator's office.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO GIVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY THE AUTHORITY TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION OF EMPLOYEES ON PAID LEAVE AND TO WORK WITH THE HR DIRECTOR OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS' OFFICE. COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Holt suggested to consider the fact that they did not complete an investigation.

**14. Interim County Administrator**

Mr. Morris mentioned the calendar that was given out showing the workshops they have scheduled.

Commissioner Simpkins requested for workshops to begin at 6 p.m.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE MOTION FOR THE WORKSHOPS TO START AT 5:30 P.M. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 AND THE MOTION FAILED.**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE MOTION FOR THE WORKSHOPS TO START AT 6 P.M. AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE.**

The workshop with Boys & Girls Club was rescheduled to March 10.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned the county website and requested to add tab "Who is my commissioner?" She also requested for the Zoom link to meetings be more visible to the public.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned the hazardous drop off and would like it available for Saturday for people that work. Mr. Morris stated he did request with Public Works to have this on Saturday as well. Mr. Young appeared and stated they will have it Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins stated there will be smoke detector installations in the St. Hebrew community; they can contact herself or Ms. Whaley if someone needs it installed.

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

Commissioner Wood stated the program with the Sheriff was successful and 25 cameras were set out.

Commissioner Wood stated as they look at the next budget, he was hoping first responders become a priority.

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

Commissioner Holt requested a proclamation for Ruby Bradley's 106<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR RUBY BRADLEY TURNING 106 YEARS OLD AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Holt wanted a workshop on non-profits. Chair Hinson stated they need to be conservative on how they spend this year. Commissioner Holt stated she was not talking about spending money; she just wanted a process in place.

Commissioner Holt mentioned the large item drop off and stated they should be taken to the dump.

Kembrew Jackson appeared and stated the purpose for the software for HR was for consistency across the board.

**15.d. Commissioner Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5**

Commissioner Green asked about the lease for the Boys & Girls Club. Attorney Baptiste stated the lease was still processing, his goal was to get it done by that meeting, March 10. He stated the version of the contract he received had notes from 8 months ago and that was a delay. His goal was to get a draft that the City of Quincy can approve of.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR LAUREN COLLINS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR MS. DAVIS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR DONTRELL HALL AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Green asked about the \$5,000 donation to Crossroad Academy and if it could come out of the administrator's budget without having to come back for a vote. Attorney Baptiste stated he has not reviewed the minutes about limiting funds that the administrator could expend. He will get with the interim administrator and finance. If any issue, he will ask that it be placed on the agenda for March 18.

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

Chair Hinson requested a motion for proclamation for 2025 Havana North Side High Mega Reunion.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR 2025 HAVANA NORTH SIDE HIGH MEGA REUNION AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Hinson mentioned bulky item pick-up is for unincorporated areas and starts March 31- April 3 for district 1. The following week will be district 2 and so on.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:46 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

AT A WORKSHOP HELD FOR CITIZEN ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 6, 2025 AT  
5:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS  
HAD, VIZ:

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1, Not Present  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Clerk Secretary to the Boards

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

Vice-Chair Green called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Vice-Chair Green led into invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 5:06 p.m.*

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Vice-chair Green read aloud the above statement.

**5. General Business**

**5.a Establishment of a Citizen Advisory Committee and the process for the Committee's involvement in the hiring of the County Administrator**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is for the purpose to outline a structured and transparent application review process for selecting the next County Administrator. This process incorporates Board directives to include two citizens from each district, along with Constitutional Officers, in the review panel.

Human Resources Director was not present to present.



Discussion points:

- Confirmation of the application scoring criteria.
- Determining public engagement opportunities.
- Reviewing the timeline for completion.
- Addressing any logistical consideration for panel participation

Mr. Morris stated Commissioner Holt has selected Tracey Stallworth and Bishop Willie C. Green.

*Commissioner Wood appeared at 5:10 p.m.*

Vice-chair Green stated it was his understanding they were selecting two candidates from their district.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she can submit her two names now.

Mr. Morris mentioned he thought there was an ordinance regarding this, and they have to be a citizen of the county.

Vice-chair Green mentioned the name of the committee to being 'citizens review committee'.

Mr. Baptiste stated there was no ordinance requiring the candidate to be a citizen, but there is some language and he read the requirements.

Commissioner Wood stated he selected Rob Presnell who received a notification and Antonio Jefferson.

Vice-chair Green stated he selected Joe Parramore and Juliet Fisher-Jackson.

Commissioner Simpkins stated her candidates are Michael Mason and Kendra Wilkerson.

Mr. Morris mentioned guideline and timeline dates.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she had initially asked for an outside source to verify applications but since that's not the case she thinks there needs to be someone other than the individual who this person will supervise doing the reviewing. She also stated the committee needs to be able to review all applicants and not just the ones Human Resources vets and hands over.

Vice-chair Green disagreed with the board receiving all applications, and stated he thinks the board should only get the applications that meet the qualifications that the board has asked for.

Mr. Baptiste asked Mr. Morris if 5.a was approved or is it a recommendation, and Mr. Morris stated item 5.a was just a foundation for this workshop.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they voted for the constitutionals to be a part of the citizen committee board and if they can't or don't want to be a part of the board then their office is just out.

Vice-chair Green stated he disagreed as there was a representative there tonight for the Sheriff as the sheriff himself could not make the meeting. He stated they obviously can't vote tonight but this is a decision they should come to as a board if the constitutionals can elect a representative.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned redacting personal and sensitive information from the applications if the board wants the committee to receive them.

*Commissioner Holt appeared at 5:31 p.m.*

Vice-chair Green asked Mr. Morris about finding a headhunter, and Mr. Morris stated the cost was very high.

Mr. Morris mentioned using the Human Resources attorney for a headhunter.

Commissioner Holt stated she wants all the applications to go to the committee for review. She also stated she wants to have a pre-background check done on the top 5 candidates.

Commissioner Simpkins stated the committee normally doesn't do ranking; they just give their top applicant picks.

Vice-chair Green asked how many applicants have applied, and Mr. Morris stated they have received 95 applications.

Mr. Baptiste stated because the board is not a part of the committee process, any information that the committee submits to the board will not create any liability for the board.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she agreed with Commissioner Holt on the process. She stated she thinks 10 applications would go to the board and the board takes it down to like 5 finalists and then do background checks.

Vice-chair Green asked if they wanted to change anything on the points grading scale for the position.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she wanted to add the vision for Gadsden County's future, and that was included in the position advertisement.

Commissioner Simpkins stated to change public administrative experience to governmental, local county specifically.

Mr. Baptiste stated in the advertisement, they put municipal county and/or state government.

Simpkins asked if they could say to add additional points for local government experience; Mr. Baptiste stated legally, they can, but to keep it close to what advertisement states.

Commissioner Holt stated she wanted to stick as close to the advertisement as possible.

Mr. Baptiste stated it is recommended by human resources to reduce the committee to 6 people, one per district.

Mr. Morris stated the board will continue with 2 candidates per district since that is what they already agreed on.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned giving his written opinion that clarifies the candidate requirements.

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, VICE-CHAIR GREEN DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:16 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD FOR THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON  
MARCH 10, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1,  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

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

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

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

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

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

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Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

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

**5. General Business**

**5.a Contract Update**

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

Everyone introduced themselves.

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

Rebecca Pustejovsky, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend Board member

Tracie Hodge, Treasurer, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend

Cari Thro, Chair, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend

Kacy Dennis, CEO, Boys & Girls Club Big Bend

Cassandra McLong, Grant manager, Gadsden County Board of County Commissioner

Shawan Moi, Gadsden County Parks and Recreation department

Alma Venisee, Concerned Citizen

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

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

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

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

Commissioner Green stated his concerns with the whole process.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

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

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 13, 2025 AT 6:00  
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD,  
VIZ:**

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1,  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda A. Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney, appeared online  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Deputy Clerk

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

Chair Hinson called the workshop to order at 6 p.m. Pastor Hannah led into invocation and Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minutes Limit)**

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Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Items for Discussion**

**Health Services**

Commissioner Holt stated they need a Certificate of Need (CON) in order for the federal government to fund a rural hospital. She mentioned the healthcare needs assessment that she passed out; she wants to do an inventory.

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 6:06 p.m.*

Dr. Browning appeared before the board. He stated he was chosen by the Town of Havana to take over Dr. Newberry's practice. He stated he has submitted detailed funding to the county to show where the funds will be coming from and he will continue to be transparent. He stated his goal was to prevent people from going to the hospital and to provide quality care for all.



Dr. Browning stated he will be closing a gap of 2,000 patients and will have 24/7 call coverage. Their goal was to achieve financial stability and will be without the lack of government funding, meaning they do not have any grants and will be operating privately.

Dr. Browning stated he has a bachelor's in Health Science, Masters in Public Health, and a John Hopkins fellow. He is a current Family Physician serving this area.

Commissioner Wood stated high blood sugar, high blood pressure, and prenatal care are the ones that continue to come back. He asked about indigent patients. Dr. Browning stated they take an oath to serve everyone regardless of race, status, background, etc.

Commissioner Green asked if Dr. Browning was asking for \$800,000. Dr. Browning stated no, it was \$700,000 over 2 years. Commissioner Green asked if it would be his private practice. Dr. Browning stated yes, he was creating a group of physicians. He stated when he first presented this to them, he called every Commissioner on this board and sent emails. He talked to some of them but he did not hear back from everyone.

Commissioner Green asked if they do go with this, what would be the guaranteed value. He also had concerns about patients with no insurance and cannot afford to be seen. Dr. Browning stated he was willing to see all, has no limitations.

Commissioner Holt stated she asked for this workshop so they could collect information; they have several people here that provide healthcare.

Commissioner Wood stated he was excited Dr. Browning is here. He asked if he would have a problem looking at his plan a different way. He mentioned taking money out of what they would give to Dr. Browning to take care of un-insured patients. Dr. Browning stated yes, he was willing to do that.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she thought it was a lesser amount. Dr. Browning stated the amount was negotiable. Commissioner Simpkins stated he should state he was willing to see a percentage of patients.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned that they have healthcare providers there and wanted them to work together and create partnerships. She asked how he was willing to work with the mobile health unit.

Dr. Browning wanted to clarify that when an individual selects a healthcare provider, they elect to see that healthcare provider. They made that decision. He mentioned that the Health Department was not meant to be a medical home and offer a continuity of services. Dr. Browning stated he was willing to get on the mobile health unit to do home visits.

Commissioner Green stated they have spent 40 minutes on this and they still need to hear everyone else's asks and desires. He felt like putting this as an agenda item for next week's meeting was a bit premature.

Dr. Browning stated the proposal has been submitted to the county.

Nurse Practitioner Brian Ham appeared before the board and stated he was the owner of First Care Clinic in Chattahoochee. He gave a background on his clinic and stated he wanted to form some kind of partnership to continue this clinic. He was close to 2,000 patients right now and gets new patients daily.

Chair Hinson asked if Mr. Ham receives federal funds and Mr. Ham stated no. Chair Hinson thanked them for their service.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 6:56 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:58 p.m. and returned at 7:00 p.m.*

Commissioner Green appeared online.

Commissioner Wood stated Rob Presnell is a long-time citizen of Chattahoochee and would like for him to come up to speak.

Rob Presnell appeared before the board. He stated to tackle the health issues that they have, it was through preventative medicine as it was quicker and cheaper.

Amy Glass appeared before the board. She stated Mr. Ham is her doctor. They need the help of all of Gadsden County to help the clinic stay open.

John Matthew Thro, Neighborhood Health board member, appeared before the board. Commissioner Simpkins asked if they were back in the building. Mr. Thro stated yes, they are allowed back in the building.

Commissioner Green mentioned indigent funds and stated they need an outline of the budget set for that.

Dr. Tracey Thompson with North Florida Rural Health, appeared online and provided a background on her career. Commissioner Holt asked about their schedule. Ms. Thompson stated they have someone there 5 days a week from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Ms. Thompson is there 2 times a month. Dental and Pharmacy were also there twice a month.

Dr. Thompson stated they get funding through insured patients when they charge their insurance company, and also through donations.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:46 p.m. and returned at 7:48 p.m.*

Commissioner Green asked Dr. Thompson about the level of communication with city commissioners. Dr. Thompson stated she has spoken at Chattahoochee's City Council before.

Commissioner Wood asked how many patients they have daily. Dr. Thompson stated she sees about 15-20 patients when she visits. Commissioner Wood asked if she could fix any communication or service problems they have. He stated if she is providing good service, he wants her to be there. He drives by the clinic every day and never sees her car. Commissioner Wood asked for her to circle back with city entities and see if they could fix the communication.

Jessie Furlow Medical representative, Lane Lunn, appeared. She suggested to spend on public health announcements to educate people on importance of healthcare. Commissioner Holt asked about funding. Ms. Lunn stated they receive federal funding.

Dr. Adrienne Cooksey appeared before the board. She stated the Health Department was like a safety net for the uninsured patients.

**PAMS (Prescription Assistance Medical Services)**

Pastor Tony Hannah appeared before the board. Jolleen Williams appeared to provide insight on PAMS. She stated they need help because their budget was low. She was making flyers to advertise the program. Pastor Hannah stated they could email the flyers to the commissioners.

Commissioner Simpkins asked about their hours. Ms. Williams stated they are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Friday.

Pastor Hannah stated when they board voted to cease funding, the Clerk stopped sending the checks. Commissioner Green stated there was a vote about 2 years ago to cease all non-profit funding until there was a workshop on it. Chair Hinson stated that had nothing to do with the board and they need to bring in the Clerk to find out more information on that.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:54 p.m. and returned at 8:58 p.m.*

**Mobile Health Unit**

Pastor Hannah expanded on the mobile health unit. It was their desire to be in all areas as much as possible. They were fired up and ready to go.

Dr. Cooksey stated one of the things they need to consider is a restroom for the mobile unit. Pastor Hannah stated they could bring the bus again for Tuesday's meeting.

Commissioner Holt asked if there was a place on the bus to lock up medications. She stated that was very important. She also mentioned security. Pastor Hannah stated they have not talked about that before.

Stacey Hannigan, School Board member, appeared before the board.

**Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 9:30 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A WORKSHOP HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 17, 2025 AT 6:00  
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD,  
VIZ:**

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1,  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3, *Not present*  
Brenda A. Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Deputy Clerk

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

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

**Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minutes Limit)**

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**Items for Discussion**

**Summer Youth Program**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

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

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 6:05 p.m.*

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

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

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

*Commissioner Holt returned at 6:12 p.m.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Motion to Adjourn**

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

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 18,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

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

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

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

**4.    Amendments to the Agenda**

Commissioner Green stated they should move item 11.f up to 11.a, so as to not keep the seniors waiting.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO MOVE ITEM 11.F TO ITEM 11.A AND  
COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Attorney Baptiste recommended to pull item 11.f, Approval of Payment to Be Dispersed to the Gadsden County Senior Center Foundation. He mentioned an email from the Clerk. What was stated in the email could mean a crime; the board has the right to review all finances.

Mr. Baptiste stated the audit is currently being done for Gadsden Senior Foundation and he advised to wait for the results.

Commissioner Green stated they can follow the advice of the attorney; however, they do need to hear the senior citizens speak.

Commissioner Holt stated the seniors are already here and have the right to speak. Mr. Baptiste stated the citizens can speak, he just requested to pull that item. Commissioner Holt stated the accusation made by the clerk should have been done prior.

Commissioner Green stated when the clerk sent the email, he based it on what he thought with no legal terminology or statute.

Commissioner Green mentioned having an emergency meeting on this. He asked how long for this allegation investigation. Mr. Baptiste stated an audit is currently underway and will find out the timeline.



Commissioner Simpkins stated they have \$700,000 budget for the 3 senior centers; the commission is not holding money from the seniors. The \$15,000 that was allocated to Gadsden Wellness Center back in February was not a part of the \$700,000 budget. Tonight's item was in regards to a portion of funds for the non-profit through their Elderly Affairs Gadsden Senior Foundation.

Mr. Baptiste stated the only motion on the floor was Commissioner Holt's, which was second by Commissioner Wood. The motion failed since Commissioner Wood withdrew his second. As of now, there is no motion on the floor. Chair Hinson stated they will move forward.

Commissioner Green stated they can pull item 11.f, he just wanted to make sure the seniors get a chance to speak. He stated they approved the funding for the non-profit that they have not received.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

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

**7. Consent**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**7.a Ratification Memo**

**7.b BOCC Meeting/ Workshop Minutes**

7.b.1. - February 18, 2025, Regular Meeting

**7.c Approval of Appointments to the Public Safety Coordinating Council**

**7.d Approval to Pay United Rentals \$43,744.00 for the Emergency Rental of a Chiller to Cool the Jail**

**7.e City of Midway Animal Control Inter-Local Agreement**

**7.f Approval of Signatures for Special Assessment Liens and Contracts - ARPA Funds and State Housing Initiative Partnership Program (SHIP) Programs**

**7.g Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien**

**7.h Approval of Local Agency (LAP) contract for South Adams Street Project between Gadsden County and Sandco, LLC.**

**7.i Reinstatement and Adjustment of Annual Leave for Interim County Administrator**

**8. Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

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Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Star Hwy**

Mr. Morris stated he was there on behalf of United Gadsden Incorporated. He wanted to provide an overview of their proposed guidelines for submitting grant requests.

Attorney Baptiste mentioned an ordinance and for there to be no discussion by commissioners under citizens to be heard.

**Reginald Cunningham, 329 Robinson Dr. Quincy, FL**

Mr. Cunningham appeared to talk about the Gadsden Senior Foundation.

**Gwen Parker, 405 Fox Fire Ct Quincy, FL**

Ms. Parker appeared before the board to talk about Gadsden Senior Foundation.

**Evelyn Alexis, 944 Strong Rd. Quincy, FL**

Ms. Alexis appeared to talk about Gadsden senior foundation.

**Dannie McMillan, P.O. Box 1196 Havana, FL**

Ms. McMillan appeared to talk about Gadsden senior foundation.

**Everline Brown, P.O. Box 32332 Chattahoochee, FL**

Ms. Brown appeared to talk about Gadsden senior foundation.

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Funding Request for Dr. Camron Browning**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval for a funding request for Dr. Camron Browning.

Mr. Baptiste stated he did not believe funds can be expended through indigent funds after reviewing the ordinances.

Commissioner Green thought this item being on the agenda was premature.

Commissioner Holt stated she was not in favor of the amount of money being requested.

Commissioner Wood stated he thinks this doctor's office is vital, but stated he agreed with Commissioner Holt on the sticker shock of the money request.

*Chair Hinson called a 5-minute recess at 7:05 p.m.*

*Chair Hinson resumed meeting at 7:11 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated his biggest issue was the funding source considering Mr. Baptiste stated the funds can't come from the indigent fund.

**Mayor Protem, 105 NE 7th Avenue, Havana**

Mr. Protem appeared before the board in support of funding for Dr. Browning.

Dr. Browning appeared before the board. Stated he was asking for commitment from the board in order for the clinic to have stability.

Chair Hinson stated he wants to make the commitment but not approve anything yet.

Mr. Baptiste stated the funding could not come from indigent fund; The county can commit that amount of money and direct staff to provide funding source.

Chair Hinson stated to bring the item back next meeting.

**11.b Board Direction Regarding Appointments/Reappointments of Board Members to the Gadsden Hospital, Inc. Board of Directors**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board direction regarding the appointments/reappointments to the Gadsden Hospital Inc. Board of Directors.

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

Chair Hinson stated he thought the board was dissolved already.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 8:07 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR HOSPITAL BOARD FOR CITIZENS INTERESTED IN SERVING AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Laurel Bradley appeared before the board and stated expired in May, need new members.

**11.c Approval of Resolution 2025-024 Grant Budget Amendment for FY2025**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is presented to the Board for approval of Resolution 2025-024 and authorization for the County Administrator and Finance Director to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2025 BOCC budget.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**11.d Approval to Utilize District 1 Paving Funds for the Resurfacing of Frank Pais Road**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is presented to the Board for approval of the asphalt resurfacing project for Frank Pais Road in District 1, funded through District 1 paving funds. The project entails applying 1.5 inches of asphalt to improve the road's durability, safety, and overall condition. As of December 2024, the paving fund balance for District 1 was \$204,198.07.

Curtis Young appeared and stated they wanted to go with Peavy and Sons.

**Debra Robinson, 380 Frank Pais Rd.**

Ms. Robinson appeared before the board asking to approve this item.

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

**11.e Approval of the Gadsden County Citizen Review Committee Plan and Appointees to Assist in the Hiring of the County Administrator**

Mr. Morris presented this item. This agenda item is due to the County being in the process of selecting the next County Administrator. This document outlines the structured, transparent application review process that incorporates Board directives, including involving citizens and Constitutional Officers as part of the selection panel.

Mr. Baptiste stated several board members stated they would like the committee to have access to all applications.

Ms. Robinson and Ms. Goldwire appeared before the board.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they were comfortable with the dates provided, and they stated yes that they submitted the dates.

Chair Hinson stated his 2 members were Davey Clay and Artevious Jackson.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF CHAIR HINSON'S 2 SELECTED MEMBERS AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

~~11.f Approval of Payment to Be Dispersed to the Gadsden County Senior Center Foundation~~  
Item pulled.

12. Clerk of Court  
No updates.

13. Interim County Attorney

Mr. Baptiste stated he had asked this board for permission to handle the situation of the employees on suspension. He stated HR completed 90% of investigation. Anyone remotely involved have been interviewed by HR. He stated the employees were informed of the decision today.

Commissioner Holt stated she thought they gave authority to the attorney retained with HR. Mr. Baptiste stated that at the last meeting, he asked the commission to give him authority over this matter. The vote was taken and was approved.

Commissioner Holt stated it should have been brought back to Mr. Morris, but she understood what Mr. Baptiste was saying. She stated they did not get the opportunity to see what the results were. Mr. Baptiste stated this board has no authority over day-to-day operations.

Mr. Baptiste stated Florida statute requires that if county property were to be sold, it has to be approved by the governmental unit, which would be defined as this board. He reviewed the Enterprise agreements thoroughly, which does not permit any county employee to sell county property. On October 26, 2024, Enterprise was not a party to that transaction. That auction has nothing to do with Enterprise.

Commissioner Wood stated it would benefit them to have a SHADE meeting. Mr. Baptiste stated there was no need for a SHADE meeting as there is no pending litigation.

Mr. Baptiste stated he will request a SHADE meeting regarding the former county attorney. The former county attorney has reached out to him and based on their conversation, he did believe that there is pending or threatening litigation.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A SHADE MEETING REGARDING THE FORMER COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste stated they sent out a draft copy of the Boys and Girls Club agreement. It has not been sent to the City of Quincy yet and wanted direction if he could share that document with the city on behalf of the county.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO SEND THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB AGREEMENT TO THE CITY OF QUINCY AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste stated he shared a memorandum regarding the Gadsden Senior Foundation and will get that moving as quickly as possible. An audit is currently being done.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 8:39 p.m. and returned at 8:40 p.m.*

**14. Interim County Administrator**

No updates.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins stated she would like a proclamation for Elizah Hutley.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 8:41 p.m.*

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned that the Big Bend rodeo received the recognition “rodeo of the year” and she wanted to recognize them.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned the Advanced Aces Organization and stated that they were requesting a certificate of recognition. She also wanted to request a resolution for them.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPINS MADE A MOTION FOR THE ABOVE ITEMS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Simpkins stated she wanted to recognize volunteer firefighters. She stated they need to do something; more water is needed in the outlined areas.

Commissioner Simpkins also mentioned striping on Jaimeson Road and hoped they were getting somewhere with that.

April 19<sup>th</sup> - Planning family fun day in Havana from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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

Commissioner Wood stated Mr. Morris met with fire chiefs.

Commissioner Wood mentioned the electric bill at cigar bar.

Commissioner Wood stated he would like to look at Corey Field and Joe Ferolito center to maybe purchase.

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

Commissioner Holt mentioned striping on Dewey Johnson Road.

Commissioner Holt mentioned on the 27<sup>th</sup> they will be having a community meeting, and stated she hoped all commissioners would be there.

Commissioner Holt asked Mr. Morris for an update on the EMS and Firetrucks GPS systems. Attorney Baptiste stated he had spoken with Mr. Morris and they intend to create an ordinance for this as there is not one in place at this time.

Commissioner Wood stated communication error with GPS.

Commissioner Holt mentioned invoice and issues with the Clerk.

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

Commissioner Green mentioned speed bumps on Shiloh Road.

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

Chair mentioned bond and stated they need to jump on that quick; may be difficult to receive bond again.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:12 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A MEETING HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON  
MARCH 26, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE  
FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD,  
VIZ:**

**Present:**

Tonjii Wiggins-McGriff  
Reginald A. Cunningham  
David Clay  
Octavious Jackson  
Juliette Fisher Jackson  
Antonio Jefferson  
Robert Presnell  
Kendra Wilkerson  
Mike Mason  
Dr. Willie C. Green

Disclosed that he taught Keith Dowdell in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12 grade, Attorney Baptiste determined that no conflict existed.

Disclosed that he has known Antonius G. Barnes from Pastoring in Panama City and clarified that they have no financial or familial relationship. Attorney Baptiste determined that no conflict existed.

Tracy Stall worth  
Kendra Williams  
Joe Paramore

**Discussion Summary:**

Introduction

Human Resources staff explained the application review process and provided all committee members with the necessary application materials for evaluation. County Attorney Louis J. Baptiste also briefed the committee on legal obligations, including



Florida Sunshine Law requirements, public records law, conflict of interest guidelines, and general ethical responsibilities that govern the conduct of advisory board members.

#### Clarification on Candidate Evaluations

A member inquired whether their earlier question had been answered, prompting additional clarification. Antonio Jefferson expressed concern about fairly evaluating two applicants, stating that he had to make assumptions based solely on resume content and listed experience.

#### Access to Applications and Governing Records

Committee members questioned whether they had full access to all submitted applications. County Attorney Louis J. Baptiste stated he would seek clarification from the County Commission due to inconsistencies between workshop and meeting minutes. He emphasized that official meeting minutes will govern if there is any conflict.

#### Ranking of Applicants

Members asked whether they were required to rank all applicants. Attorney Baptiste clarified that committee members are not obligated to rank every applicant. Instead, members should submit the names of those they believe merit inclusion in the top ten.

#### Evaluation Criteria – Communication, Problem Solving, and Crisis Management

A member shared that they scored written communication skills based on how cover letters and resumes were presented. The same member assessed problem-solving and crisis management based on previous job titles and roles—particularly those in executive leadership. It was acknowledged that in the absence of interviews, these judgments were based on inferences from available information.

#### Longevity as a Factor

Committee Member McGriff asked whether job longevity should be considered. The committee generally agreed it was an important factor to consider and would be weighed accordingly in future deliberations.

#### Concerns About Candidate Pool and Quality

Committee Member Joe Fairmore expressed concern that none of the applicants may fully meet the qualifications outlined by the County Commission. He urged the committee not to settle for unqualified candidates and emphasized the need for a fresh start in County leadership. Members agreed that maintaining high standards was essential.

#### Interview Authority and Requesting Additional Information

A question was raised about whether the committee would conduct interviews. Staff clarified that under the current process, the committee's role is to recommend top candidates, and the County Commission will conduct the interviews. If the committee believes more information is necessary, it may vote to request additional details, which can be conveyed by the Chair through HR or legal counsel to the Commission for consideration.

#### Applicant Contact Prohibition

Attorney Louis J. Baptiste advised that committee members must not contact any applicants directly using the contact information provided in their applications. All official communication or requests for clarification must go through proper County channels to preserve the integrity and fairness of the process.

#### Chair Appointment and Meeting Structure

With the meeting nearing its scheduled end, members discussed planning for the next session. Attorney Baptiste recommended appointing a Chairperson to help facilitate productive discussions. Antonio Jefferson was nominated and appointed as Chair, with formal confirmation to occur at the next meeting.

#### Lighter Moment

A humorous exchange regarding communication skills and a former English teacher brought some levity to the meeting and strengthened rapport among members.

#### Next Steps:

- Committee members will continue reviewing and ranking candidates based on available materials.
- Any requests for additional applicant information may be submitted through a formal vote and conveyed through the Chair to County HR or legal counsel.
- Attorney Baptiste will follow up with the Commission regarding clarification on access and procedural records.
- Antonio Jefferson's appointment as Chair will be formally confirmed at the next meeting.
- A follow-up meeting will be held to review the compiled top ten list and discuss any needed adjustments.

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Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners  
March 26, 2025 – Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM with expressions of appreciation among committee members.

Louis J. Baptiste, in lieu of clerk.

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 28,  
2025 AT 5:15 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5, appeared online  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda A. Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

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

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

4. **Amendments to the Agenda**

No amendments.

*Commissioner Green appeared online.*

5. **Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**7. General Business**

**7.a Cure of Prior Board Action – Reconsideration of Legal Services Contract with Attorney Thornton Williams of the Williams Law Group**

Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney, stated on February 4, the board voted to terminate the previous county attorney, Thornton Williams. At the last board meeting on March 16, the board voted to approve a SHADE Meeting. In preparing for the SHADE Meeting, he realized it was not an agenda item to terminate Attorney Williams. It could be a violation of Florida Sunshine 286.011. When this happens, they have a cure meeting. They are able to give notice to the public if they would like to make comments.

Attorney Baptiste stated he did reach out to the Chair, and the Chair reached out to the Interim Administrator, who then reached out to the commissioners through email; which is in compliance with the ordinance to ensure they were following the law.

Chair Hinson asked if there were any public comments and there were none. He asked for a motion but Commissioner Holt had a comment.

Commissioner Holt asked why the statute was not given earlier. Attorney Baptiste stated the purpose of this cure meeting was to ensure it was on the agenda and to allow public comments. Commissioner Holt stated the citizens did not get a chance to look at the statute.

Attorney Baptiste stated to be clear, he has not read any statute into the record. He extensively researched this issue and has looked at other cure meetings. The language he has taken was based on examples of what has been done throughout the state.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO AFFIRM THE VOTE OF TERMINATING ATTORNEY THORNTON WILLIAMS LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT. THE BOARD WENT INTO DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Holt stated they did not have time to look at this. That was her statement on this vote and that is why she votes no.

Commissioner Wood called the question but Commissioner Green had a comment. Commissioner Wood yielded to him. Commissioner Green asked if they were going to go back and do the same thing again regarding the termination of the previous administrator.

Attorney Baptiste stated that was not on the agenda tonight, so he did not think it was his prerogative to comment on this matter. He advised the board that since that is not on the agenda, to avoid any comments on this matter. If Commissioner Green would like, they could put it on the next meeting's agenda.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO AFFIRM THE VOTE OF TERMINATING ATTORNEY THORNTON WILLIAMS CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO APPROVE.**

Chair Hinson adjourned meeting but resumed due to a public comment. Tracey Stallworth appeared before the board.

8. **Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:35 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 1,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

**Present:** Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda A. Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Assistant BOCC Secretary

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Bishop Green led into the Invocation and Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

Mr. Morris stated to add 11.g, Approval of task order for integrity group.

Mr. Morris requested to pull item 6.b, Recognition of the 2025 Havana Mega Reunion (Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners), and item 11.e, Board Direction for Gadsden County Road Striping Projects.

Commissioner Holt requested to add for discussion the healthcare bus, and the PAMS program.

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

**5. Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE  
AMENDMENTS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY  
VOICE TO APPROVE.**

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

6.a Recognition of the 2024 Big Bend Rodeo Awarded Rodeo of the Year by the Professional  
Cowboys Association

Sharlee Whiddon appeared before the board and gave a brief description of the 2024 rodeo that received the recognition.

6.b Recognition of the 2025 Havana Mega Reunion (Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners)

Pulled.

6.c Recognition of Pastor Willie Lamb (Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners)

Pastor was not present, Chair Hinson stated they will recognize him at a later date.

**7. Consent**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.a Ratification Memo**

**7.b BOCC Meeting/ Workshop Minutes**

7.b.1. March 4, 2025, Regular Board Meeting

7.b.2. March 6, 2025, Advisory Committee Workshop

7.b.3. March 10, 2025, Boys & Girls Club Workshop

7.b.4. March 13, 2025, Health Services Workshop

7.b.5. March 17, 2025, Summer Youth Workshop

**7.c Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien**

**7.d Approval of the Finance Office to Process Payment to Fun Flicks for the Rental of the LED Screen Utilized at the Lake Talquin (18) Event**

**7.e Request for Monetary Support for the Relay for Life of Gadsden – American Cancer Society**

**7.f Approval of the Lease Agreement Renewal between the Gadsden County BOCC and the Marie Brooks Gallery, LLC for the building located at 11 W. Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL**

**8. Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

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staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Derrick Elias, P.O. Box 2171 Quincy, FL**

Mr. Elias appeared and asked when they would develop a fire agreement between the City of Quincy and the County.

Mr. Elias mentioned the boys & girls club.

**Denise Browning, 4130 FL-GA Hwy**

**Tony Hannah, P.O. Box 481**

**10. Public Hearing**

**10.a Public Hearing: Approval of Resolution 2025-025 Budget Amendment for FY2025**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of Resolution 2025-025, and authorization for the Interim County Administrator and Finance Director to complete and execute all budget amendments necessary to maintain a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2025 BOCC budget.

Chair Hinson asked if anyone from public would like to speak, and nobody came forward.

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

**10.b Public Hearing: Public Comments and Input CDBG Recovery Housing Program Grant**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to hold a Public Hearing during a regular scheduled BOCC meeting as required for grant application submittal to the Florida Department of Commerce.

Sonya Burns appeared to provide brief overview of the grant.

Andy Easton appeared and stated this was an advertised public hearing to explain what the grant is, as Ms. Burns explained already. It was also to ask the public if they had any comments on Community needs.

Chair Hinson asked if this should be done in the community or regular public meeting; Mr. Baptiste stated it should be done in the regular scheduled public meeting.

Commissioner Green asked if they could tell the needs from the meeting they already had from the public hearing, and Ms. Burns stated she did not have the needs request at this time, but she could provide that.

Ms. Burns stated the grant is due May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the second public hearing is being held on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Burns asked the board to give staff permission to apply for the CDBG grant.

Commissioner Green made a motion for options 1, 2, and 3 – Commissioner Green rescinded his motion.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO GIVE ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF AUTHORIZATION TO WRITE CDBG GRANT, AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Funding Request for Dr. Camron Browning**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval for a funding request for Dr. Camron Browning.

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Morris to tell where the funding is coming from; mentioned email from Clerk and stated it needed attention.

Chair Hinson stated Clerk questioned who Finance Director was and where funds were coming from.

Mr. Morris stated finance director was able to find money from summer youth program since the summer youth program had been reduced from 300 to 150 youth participants.

Commissioner Green stated they should be saving that money; would rather the money go into a pot than spend it.

Commissioner Wood stated they should have a closer relationship with the Clerk.

Chair Hinson stated this was a commitment to Dr. Browning.

Commissioner Holt stated her concerns with funding this as they had a healthcare workshop the week before and they have not gotten back to the providers that came and had requests.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:38 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood returned at 6:39 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated it would be unwise to vote without knowing the deliverables.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they had a workshop with all providers, and the providers stated their needs; they were not able to use indigent care funding for it.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if Mr. Baptiste spoke with Dr. Browning on deliverables and Baptiste stated yes.

Commissioner Simpkins stated it was not fair to hold this up, they need to just make a decision.

**Shane Bozman, P.O. Box 2403 Havana, FL, Caroline Francis, K. Jones**

In favor of approving item.

**Denise Browning, Anthony Browning, 4130 FL-GA Hwy**

In favor of approving item.

**Yarnelle Matthis,**

Hoped the board will approve this item, as she stated Dr. Browning saved her life and they need good quality healthcare in the county.

Mr. Baptiste stated they were approaching the time limit for this item.

Commissioner Holt stated she does want good healthcare but with no plan in place is what she has an issue with.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO COMMIT FUNDING CONTINGENT UPON THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND DR. BROWNING AND THE COMMISSION APPROVING THE CONTRACT AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

**11.b Approval of the Summer Youth Application and Process**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval for the 2025 Summer Youth Employment Program plan, which includes two potential start and end dates, program parameters, and associated costs. The program aims to provide job opportunities for students aged 14-19 who are residents of Gadsden County.

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:09 p.m.*

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 7:10 p.m.*

Commissioner Wood asked why they were paying youth \$15 per hour when minimum wage is \$13.

Chair Hinson stated it would make sense to go to \$13 an hour.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR OPTION 1 WITH THE CHANGE OF \$13 AN HOUR INSTEAD OF \$15 AN HOUR AT 6 WEEKS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.c Approval to Confirm the Financial Director**

This agenda item seeks Board confirmation of the appointment of Ms. Rose Raynak as the new Financial Director for the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners' Management Services Department.

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

Rose Raynak, Financial Director, appeared before the board and stated she had been looking over the budgets and presented a PowerPoint.

**11.d Community Development / Housing Report and Funding Request**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks (BOCC) approval of \$300,000.00 for housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs.

Sonya Burns appeared to provide an overview on the housing report.

Ms. Burns stated they have a funding request of \$300, 000 for housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs.

Mr. Morris stated they will find a funding source and bring it back to the board.

Ms. Burns stated the \$300k request is to pay the contractors for completed work, and to replace SHIP money that was used to match for USDA grants that have been applied for.

Mr. Baptiste stated Mr. Morris was asking to table the item as it still needs to come back for a budget amendment, so they need to make a motion and move on.

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Morris how soon they would be able to find the funding source; Mr. Morris stated by next meeting he should have identified a funding source.

Commissioner Simpkins asked what is the amount that is out right now; Ms. Burns stated they are asking for \$300k because of invoices that are to be paid that are about \$150k, and the funding to partner with USDA to clear up the 30-35 emergency applications.

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

**~~11.e Board Direction for Gadsden County Road Striping Projects~~**

Item pulled.

**11.f Funding Request for North Florida Rural Health**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval to provide funding to North Florida Rural Health Corporation.

Dr. Traci Thompson from North FL Rural Health appeared online via zoom to request a onetime \$300k to provide better services.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:55 p.m.*

*Commissioner Wood returned at 7:56 p.m.*

Commissioner Holt asked about the low-income pool.

Kyle Kwik from North FL Rural Health appeared online via zoom.

Chair Hinson asked for Clerk to bring all minutes regarding North FL Rural Health.

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

**11.g Approval of Task Order for Integrity Group**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item is presented to the Board for approval of The Integrity Group's Task Order (TO) #2024-03.E1 for the continuation of FEMA Public Assistance Disaster Recovery and Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) F-ROC Abatement Services.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to approve the agenda item and Commissioner Holt made the second with discussion.

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

**11.h Discussion of PAMS Program**

Commissioner Holt stated she requested items be added to the agenda, but then was told Chair Hinson had removed said items, so she asked why Chair Hinson had the items removed from the agenda.

Chair Hinson stated it would only be fair to get all information first from clerk and then discuss it and that's why he had the items removed.

Mr. Baptiste stated he and Commissioner Holt had already talked on this subject and referenced the ordinance 2021-015.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 8:25 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 8:29 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION FOR A WORKSHOP FOR THE PAMS PROGRAM AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**11.i Discussion of Healthcare Bus**

Commissioner Holt stated she wants a workshop on this.

Chair Hinson requested all minutes related to the Healthcare bus be provided to the board.

Commissioner Simpkins stated the bus is a great need, but there is a lot of confusion surrounding it.

Tony Hannah appeared before the board and spoke on the need of the healthcare bus.

Mr. Baptiste stated he will prepare memo regarding healthcare bus, PAMS program, and the health council.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO WORKSHOP THIS AGENDA ITEM AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

Commissioner Green stated would like for emails from clerk to be sent days before the meeting.

**13. Interim County Attorney**

Mr. Baptiste mentioned advisory committee meeting, and stated he took minutes for the meeting.

Mr. Baptiste stated the committee requests to look at all applications, as it was limited to only applications approved by Human Resources. He stated at this time Human Resources needed direction from the board on if the committee should receive all applications or just the 19.

Mr. Baptiste stated the Committee did not feel like they could pick 10 people to recommend from the 19 they have to pick from.

Mr. Baptiste stated committee would like the ability to interview the candidates before sending them to board.

Commissioner Green stated he was not in favor of the committee looking over 100 applications.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 9:06 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 9:07 p.m.*

Mr. Baptiste stated citizen advisory committee will meet tomorrow and will have a formal vote regarding their requests and how they want to proceed with the process.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 9:11 p.m.*

Mr. Baptiste stated the county received the report from governor relating to the DOGE committee and he was asking for a motion to be made giving chair ability to sign letter drafted by staff responding to the governors' concerns.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO GIVE CHAIR HINSON THE ABILITY TO SIGN THE LETTER DRAFTED BY STAFF RESPONDING TO THE GOVERNORS' CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste mentioned the fire agreement and the boys & girls club contracts.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned SHADE meeting for threat of pending litigation, and he does intend to schedule it.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 9:15 p.m.*

**14. Interim County Administrator**

No updates.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned bulky item pick up in her district is on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she is hosting a spring event on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 at the Havana community park.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she would like to schedule a time for the board to sit down and go over their strategic plan and setting smart goals.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned bonds and stated the federal government is talking about taking that away.

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

Commissioner Wood stated it bothers him the way people look and react when he tells people he is a commissioner, and he thinks it starts with the board and how they act. He stated they need to figure out how to be kind and courteous.

Commissioner Wood stated he is ready to get shovels in the ground for the list of projects they have.

Commissioner Wood stated if they are going to be successful, then it starts there with the board.

Commissioner Wood stated he didn't understand why some of the employees were required to attend meetings when the board didn't even talk about their area/department.

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

Commissioner Holt asked for clarity on putting items on agenda.

Mr. Baptiste stated based on the language of the ordinance; The county administrator shall provide a tentative agenda to Chair Hinson who shall then set the agenda for the board.

Commissioner Holt stated when she has employees coming to her about problems, she tells the employees to go the administrator, but when she has employees coming to her saying they have commissioners coming to them, then she tells them how to handle it in house and who they should go to. Commissioner Holt stated they as commissioners are not to be telling staff what to do.

Chair Hinson stated they can ask a staff member a question, they just cannot tell staff what to do.

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

Commissioner Green mentioned Boys & Girls club contract and moving locations. Wanted to know the process. He was nervous about it funding wise.

Mr. Morris stated the grant states that the Boys & Girls club must be in City of Quincy.

Commissioner Green asked about the clearing of the 52-acre property and Mr. Morris stated it was just for appearance's sake.

Commissioner Green stated April 28-May 1 is the clean-up dates for district 5.

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

Chair Hinson mentioned having a meeting about bonds.

Chair Hinson stated he wanted to schedule a date for a board retreat.

Chair Hinson stated the bulky item pick up in district 1 is still going on but stops Thursday, and it is only in unincorporated areas.

Chair Hinson stated they had talked about Public Works being aloud to work four 10-hour days but wasn't sure where that stood, and Mr. Morris stated he gave direction to the Public Works director last month to be able to work four 10-hour days.



**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:51 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A MEETING OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 2, 2025 AT 6:00  
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD,  
VIZ:**

**Present:**

**Tonjii Wiggins-McGriff  
Reginald A. Cunningham  
David Clay  
Octavious Jackson  
Antonio Jefferson  
Robert Presnell  
Kendrah Wilkerson  
Mike Mason  
Dr. Willie C. Green  
Tracey Stallworth  
Kendra Williams  
Joe Parramore**

**Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Assistant BOCC Secretary**

**Absent:**

**Juliette Fisher Jackson**

**Opening**

Interim County Attorney, Louis Baptiste, opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. He stated he gave the board an update regarding concerns expressed to him from this committee. He received feedback from the board and the board will call a special meeting.

Mr. Baptiste stated Antonio Jefferson was nominated as Chairman for this committee; they need a formal motion and second to appoint Mr. Jefferson as Chair.

**JOE PARRAMORE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT ANTONIO JEFFERSON AS CHAIRMAN AND  
KENDRAH WILKERSON MADE THE SECOND. THE COMMITTEE VOTED 12-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO  
APPROVE.**

Antonio Jefferson, Chair, took over the meeting and stated to begin with introductions.

Mr. Jefferson asked if anyone could come up with their top 10 applicants that would be ideal for the board to consider. Mr. Stallworth stated he could not move with any top 10; they were dealing with a volatile board and the person could be removed within 6 months. They need to find someone that will be there long term.

Mr. Cunningham stated he did not think they could get to a top 10 and asked if they would accept a lesser number. Mr. Mason agreed that they did not have a top 10 and Mr. Paramore stated they could maybe get one or two applicants qualified.

Dr. Green stated his concern was that they did not have enough information to make a decision and he thought they needed to start over and re-advertise this position. He stated they should not be broad about this; the applicant needs specific skills and they need to be more specific when they advertise.

Mr. Clay stated that the board wanted to know what they think about regarding applications they review and how many interviews would be possible in a reasonable time.

Ms. Wilkerson stated Oshe could not get to a top 5 with the candidates she saw and did not feel comfortable putting names forward. She also thought that they need to re-advertise. Ms. Wiggins-McGriff stated she did see a couple qualified applicants and she was able to come up with like 5.

Mr. Paramore stated they would be settling and has great heartburns on that; they should re-advertise. Mr. Stallworth mentioned headhunters and asked if it was an option. Mr. Cunningham stated that was a board decision to not use it.

Mr. Jefferson mentioned Mr. Presnell having experience as a County Administrator and asked if he saw any possibilities in this pool. Presnell stated pool of candidates he reviewed, could not get ten that could adequately do job; recommends to re-advertise. They should focus on experience mainly.

Mr. Baptiste read aloud the top 10 applicants in no ranked order. Mr. Clay stated maybe it should be a weighted score instead of a total score. Mr. Jefferson stated the top 10 was based on a weighted score.

Mr. Jefferson stated there is a serious consideration of re-advertising this position. maybe allow 3 or 4 to advance, but still re-advertise.

Dr. Green stated the process needs to be more specific; mixing applicants could be confusing. Mr. Mason stated there may be 3 to agree on and they could submit to the board. Previous applicants need not to re-apply. Mr. Parramore stated the board was willing to entertain some changes in the process.

Mr. Baptiste stated the board is focused on the next County Administrator and they were willing to take any advice this committee gave.

Mr. Williams stated they can go through it and narrow it down and recommend that it would be a better pool of people if they re-advertise.

**DR. GREEN MADE A MOTION TO WITHOLD NAMES, SUGGEST TO RE-ADVERTISE, AND APPLICANTS NEED NOT TO RE-APPLY. MS. WIGGINS MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 12-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

Chair Jefferson suggested for them to each identify 3 – 5 applicants. Mr. Cunningham suggested that they each list their top names and Mr. Green suggested to identify one person each. Mr. Clay suggested to eliminate people and see who was left. Ms. Wilkerson asked if they were talking about the top 10 applicants already established and Mr. Jefferson stated yes.

**Roosevelt Griffin, 280 Blvd Quincy, FL** made a public comment regarding the interview process.

The committee listed their top choices through the applicants assigned number:

Mr. Cunningham: 2,9, 15, 17, 20  
Mr. Presnell: 9,4, 20  
Mr. Stallworth: 4, 5, 15, 16  
Mr. Jackson: 17,2, 4, 9, 15, 1  
Mr. Clay: 2,3,17,19, 20  
Mr. Parramore: 4,17,19  
Ms. Williams: 15,16,17, 20  
Ms. Wilkerson: 2,9,20,3, 4  
Mr. Green: 2,4,9,15,17  
Ms. Wiggins-McGriff: 9,15,16,17,20  
Mr. Mason: 17,19,20  
Mr. Jefferson: 2

Mr. Baptiste stated the top 4 applicants: 2,4,20,17.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Jefferson adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

**AT A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY  
COORDINATION COUNCIL HELD IN AND  
FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL  
3, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

**Present:**

**Eric Hinson, Chairman**  
**Kathy Garner, County Judge**  
**Jevin Matthews, CareerSource**  
**Maddie Berret, Apalachee Center**  
**Jasmine Queen, Apalachee Center**  
**Brylan Jacobs, Department of Corrections**  
**Darlene Rollins, Public Defender**  
**Temeka Rollins, Probation Manager**  
**Keith Parker, Chair of Big Bend Re-entry Coalition**  
**James Beville, Assistant State Attorney**  
**Adrian Boles, Disc Village**  
**Colonel Barkley, Gadsden County Sheriff's office**  
**Captain McWhite, Gadsden County Jail**

**Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney**  
**Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk**  
**Leann Jinks, Assistant BOCC Secretary**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order and went into introductions.

Everyone introduced themselves to the group.

**Election of Council Chair**

Mr. Jacobs made a motion for Mr. Hinson to remain the chair and Mr. Beville made the second. The council voted 9-0 by voice to approve.

**Review of Purpose and Statutory Requirements**

Temeka Rollins presented this item. Ms. Rollins stated the council meets for the purpose of assessing the population status of all detention or correctional facilities owned or contracted by the county and formulating recommendations to ensure that the capacities of such facilities are not exceeded. Such recommendations include an assessment of the availability of pretrial intervention or probation programs, work-release programs, substance abuse programs, gain-time schedules, applicable bail bond schedules, and the confinement status of the inmates housed within each facility owned or contracted by the county.

**Report on the Present Condition of the Jail – Facilities Maintenance, Jail Maintenance, and the Building Department**

Roosevelt Morris appeared to represent the building department.

Mr. Morris stated they recently repaired the HVAC unit; changed some locks due to them being old; overall the jail is in working condition.

Chair Hinson asked if county refurbished building in last 10 years; Mr. Morris stated they work on it annually and a lot of money is put into it every year.

Mr. Parker asked about touring the jail facility; Captain McWhite stated she will address this when she speaks.

**Jail Population Report/ Overview of the Jail Work Camp – Captain McWhite, Gadsden County Jail**

Captain McWhite appeared and stated she was the Jail administrator.

Captain McWhite stated the jail is 35 years old as of April 1, 2025, and the biggest challenge they face is salary for the employees.

Captain McWhite stated the annual inspection was done and has passed inspection in past 4 years 100%.

Captain McWhite stated the challenges they face within the jail: more mental inmates, medical disabilities, more contraband like cellphones, shanks, and drugs, along with overcrowding.

Captain McWhite stated anyone can come and tour the jail.

Chair Hinson asked about the jail work camp; Captain McWhite stated there is only 1 at this time doing work camp.

Mr. Beville asked if Captain McWhite has a breakdown on misdemeanor charges; Captain McWhite stated she did not have one.

Ms. D. Rollins asked about procedures relating to inmates being of harm to themselves; Captain McWhite stated the inmate gets put in confinement, have hourly checks, get checked on by the nurse, but if the behavior continues, they reach out to the judge to get an order to send inmate to PATH.

Colonel Barkley appeared; Ms. Rollins asked him about deputies taking inmates having a mental episode with just a misdemeanor to Apalachee, and he stated yes that is the procedure.

Colonel Barkley stated they do not have to arrest the individual, and just have to take them to Apalachee.

Mr. Jacobs asked about the percentage of violation of probation inmates; Captain McWhite stated it was 96.6%.

Ms. D. Rollins asked for clarification on the percentage numbers, and Captain Mcwhite stated 3.3% are sentenced felonies.

**Gadsden County Jail – Pretrial and Re-entry Report – Colonel Barkley and Ms. Murphy, Re-entry Coordinator, Gadsden County Jail**

Ms. Murphy appeared to talk about re-entry and gave an overview.

Mr. Jacobs asked about average length of stay, and Ms. Murphy stated some individuals have been there for 2 years due to waiting to be sentenced.

Mr. Parker asked about rate of mental health and Colonel Barkley stated they applied for a grant to help with mental health as there is a high percent of individuals with mental health.

Judge Garner stated for misdemeanor court, they do not have a backlog, but she can't speak for the attorneys.

Ms. Queen asked about pre-trial services and stated she sees it next to their name (Apalachee Center) but they don't offer those services; Colonel Barkley stated it is a needed program as it gets inmates out of jail and they lost their pre-trial individual at the jail but are in the process of hiring for that position.

Mr. Matthews asked how soon inmates start re-entry; Colonel Barkley stated immediately after entering jail they fill out paperwork.

**Overview of the Gadsden County Work Program – Temeka Rollins, Probation Division Manager**

Ms. T. Rollins provided an overview of this program. She stated Adrienne Boles was present.

Ms. T. Rollins stated the benefits of the Work Program is jail cost savings.

Ms. T. Rollins stated the program is still available and severely underused.

**Overview of the Apalachee Mental Health Pretrial Services – Amanda Chandler and Jasmine Queen, Apalachee Center Inc., Director and Associate Director of Residential and Forensic Services**

Ms. Chandler and Ms. Queen appeared to provide an overview of the services offered by the Apalachee Center.

Mr. Jacobs asked if this program must be court ordered; Ms. Queen stated yes it does have to be court ordered.

Mr. Beville asked who pays for services offered by Apalachee Center; Ms. Queen stated insurance or if the individual does not have insurance, then the state pays for the services, so it is no cost to the individual.

Mr. Jacobs asked how many participants they can take on with this program; Ms. Queen stated as many as they can get referred.

### **Future Objectives**

Ms. T. Rollins stated future objectives was for recommendations to bringing changes to the jail.

Chair Hinson mentioned small houses for re-entry program.

Ms. D. Rollins stated they have a large population of un-housed people, and there's not much resources for them.

Ms. Boles stated this was a very important meeting and it should be consistent.

Mr. Matthew asked if they should make a motion for being the council that is reported to by the Apalachee Center for their data findings.

Mr. Baptiste stated they need to look at the grant to see what the specific requirements are for their reporting.

Ms. Queen asked who she would need to send the copy of the grant to, and Ms. T. Rollins stated she would send Mr. Baptiste's contact information to her.

### **Questions/ Comments**

No questions/Comments

### **Discuss Meeting Frequency and Schedule Next Meeting**

Chair Hinson asked how frequent they want to meet.

Mr. Matthew stated once every 3 months.

Ms. T. Rollins stated July was a bad month for them as they have trainings; Chair Hinson stated they could look at that, then decide on a few dates, and get with everyone to get it scheduled.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hinson adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.



AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 15,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Eric F. Hinson, Chair, District 1  
Ronterious Green, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2  
Shawn Wood, District 3  
Brenda A. Holt, District 4  
Roosevelt Morris, Interim County Administrator  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

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

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Chair Hinson led into invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Amendments to the Agenda**

Mr. Morris stated the following amendments to the agenda:

*Add item 7.f, Approval of the William S. Stevens COVID Shelter's Change Order No. 2, under Consent Agenda*

*Add item 11.e, Discussion Regarding the Citizens Advisory Committee, under General Business*

*Request to pull item 6.a, Recognition of the 2025 Havana Mega Reunion*

*Request to pull item 6.b, Recognition of Pastor Willie Lamb*

5. **Approval of Agenda**

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

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

**~~6.a Recognition of the 2025 Havana Mega Reunion~~**

**~~6.b Recognition of Pastor Willie Lamb~~**

**6.c Presentation by the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office**

Reginald James stated he was here to address mental health issues of the jail. He stated in the Gadsden County jail, 30% of them are affected. Mr. James stated Sheriff Young has taken a proactive approach to this situation and has applied for and awarded 5.6 million over the next 3

years to treat inmates suffering from mental health. His purpose here tonight was to announce this award.

*Commissioner Simpkins appeared at 6:07 p.m.*

Commissioner Green asked when would the first phase begin and Mr. James stated the beginning of May.

**6.d Department of Elderly Affairs Presentation**

Ms. Fryson appeared to provide a presentation regarding the Elderly Affairs department.

Chair Hinson asked if they receive federal/ state money and how much. Ms. Fryson stated they receive the Old American Act Grant in the total of 272k.

**7. Consent**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**7.a Ratification Memo**

**7.b BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes**

**7.c Approval of Adding Gadsden County Public Health Department as a Participating Entity to the Fuel Services Inter-Local Agreement**

**7.d Approval of Funding Agreements for Human Services**

**7.e Approval of the Food Service Agreements for Human Services**

**7.f Approval of the William S. Stevens COVID Shelter's Change Order No. 2 to Extend the Substantial Completion Deadline to June 1, 2025**

**8. Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Kate MacFall, 1206 Walton Dr. Tallahassee, FL**

Ms. MacFall appeared to discuss animal services.

**Susan Cave, 484 Scott Circle Havana, FL**

Ms. Cave appeared before the board.

**10. Public Hearing**

**10.a Public Hearing: Second Public Hearing for Commissioners and Public Comments and Input for Grant Application Submittal to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**

Andy Easton appeared before the board.

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

**10.b Public Hearing: Approval of Resolution 2025-029 and Associated Budget Amendment**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Mr. Morris stated to Mr. Easton that they would have to bring the resolution back; it was not the correct one. Mr. Easton stated they could add it to the next meetings agenda since it is due May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Holt asked if they could go ahead and vote on it and make it tentative. Mr. Baptiste stated he did not think they should vote on the resolution with it not being before the board.

Mr. Baptiste asked for them to approve the resolution on page 29 of 31.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 25-027 AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**11. General Business**

**11.a Policy Authorizing County Attorney to Retain Outside Legal and Professional Services up to \$10,000 Annually Per Firm**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

**11.b Appointments to the ARPC (Apalachee Regional Planning Commission)**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**11.c Approval of Funding for 2025 Lake 38 Pro-Am Waterski Pro Tour**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**11.d Approval of Purchase of a Day Cab Truck for Public Works**

Mr. Young appeared before the board.

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND TO INCLUDE TRUCK WORK AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

*Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 7:02 p.m.*

**11.e Citizen Advisory Committee Discussion**

Mr. Baptiste stated the citizen advisory committee appointed Antonio Jefferson as Chairman. At their last meeting, they recommended to re-advertise the county administrator position and previous applicants need not to re-apply. Also, the committee has designated 4 names that they would like to keep for the next round of evaluations.

*Commissioner Simpkins returned at 7:04 p.m.*

Commissioner Green asked if there were applications filled out as opposed to just resumes. Mr. Baptiste stated the committee did not receive any applications, just resumes.

Commissioner Holt stated they need to look at goals and objectives. She also thought the committee should not select 4 applicants to continue on as it could lead to people not wanting to apply.

Commissioner Green asked what timeframe were they looking at now if they agree to re-advertise. Mr. Baptiste stated the committee's recommendation was to re-advertise for 30-45 days. Commissioner Simpkins stated they need to be specific on where they are advertising.

Chair Hinson stated to have a workshop on this. Commissioner Green stated they need a special meeting over a workshop so they can vote to make changes.

Commissioner Simpkins requested the special meeting to be on Monday at 6 p.m.

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

**13. Interim County Attorney**

Mr. Baptiste mentioned adopting a resolution to invite DOGE into the county; 3 out of 4 counties in Florida would be involved.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned memo regarding Gadsden community health council.

Mr. Baptiste asked for a motion regarding county having an insurance claim and to give Mr. Morris the authority to sign legal document.

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

**14. Interim County Administrator**

Mr. Morris stated on April 26<sup>th</sup> the Gadsden County probation department will host an event at the jail to provide household items for families of incarcerated individuals.

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Morris about the fire contract. He mentioned conversation had at the city meeting. He asked to not speak on behalf of the board.

Mr. Baptiste stated the county sent a fire contract to the city more than 14 days ago that contained provisions from the city staff. He incorporated it into a new agreement and provided it to the city. The city had that document prior to their most recent meeting. Commissioner Green stated they need to schedule a joint meeting to talk about contracts.

Chair Hinson stated he looked at the Boys & Girls Club contract. At the last meeting, someone had mentioned that it had to be inside city limits. When he looked at the contract, it just states that it has to be in the City of Quincy.

Commissioner Holt stated they need to apologize to the City of Quincy. They sent the contract to them, but then this board started talking about maybe putting it at Corey Field. They do not want to offend the city and want to work with them.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:39 p.m. and returned at 7:40 p.m.*

Commissioner Green stated he called all 5 commissioners and they all would love to sit down and talk about this. They received this information the day of their meeting.

Mr. Baptiste wanted to clarify that in the city meeting, the conversation started over an inter-local agreement regarding South Adams Street sidewalk. The city did not have staff to complete the project so the county stepped in to help. The county was LAP certified.

Mr. Baptiste mentioned that the county received information today from the Department of Transportation that says if the City of Quincy and Gadsden County cannot execute an inter-local agreement, the county will have no choice but to terminate the project. He also wanted to note

that what started this was not a dispute of the Boys & Girls Club and the location; it was the city's understanding as to their financial contribution related to South Adams Street. The financial contribution as confirmed by the city in writing is \$141,855.

Commissioner Green stated they need to be at the table. Commissioner Simpkins stated only one city commissioner agreed to a meeting with them.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO GIVE THEM THE ABILITY TO PAY THE SAME AMOUNT AS LAST YEAR FOR THE CITY OF QUINCY FIRE DEPARTMENT. THE MOTION DIED DUE TO A LACK OF SECOND.**

Commissioner Simpkins stated if they were able to pay, the board would have no problem, but she didn't think they could without an agreement. Mr. Baptiste stated technically, this board is able to allocate funds from general revenue; practically, they are not able to from what the contract says. He cannot verify that they offered the City of Quincy an increase in the fire contract. The administrator met with them and gave them a prior contract and asked them to make any changes to the prior contract to reflect the new contract. In the agreement Mr. Baptiste sent over, he left the number at \$661,500.

Commissioner Green asked about the Assistant Administrator position. Mr. Morris stated they are going to advertise it.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins stated she will be hosting the Sprout & Shout event Saturday in Havana; the egg hunt will be at 12 p.m.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they could take a look at possible locations for the Boys & Girls Club and to have input from the club. She also gave a shout out to Havana Magnet who hosted the resource fair.

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

Commissioner Wood mentioned the Boys & Girls Club and stated there is no facility for people in Chattahoochee.

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

Commissioner Holt stated they need to send representatives from the county when there are items relating to the county in other meetings.

Commissioner Holt mentioned economic development and partnering with people to get business here.

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

Commissioner Green asked for a support letter for the Hands-Free Driving Act. Mr. Baptiste stated that would require a motion.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A SUPPORT LETTER FOR THE HANDS-FREE DRIVING ACT AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste requested a motion for the Chair to sign a letter to Tallahassee State College. Commissioner Green stated TSC sent them emails regarding them wanting to do upgrades to the cafeteria in Gadsden County.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR THE CHAIR TO SIGN LETTER TO TALLAHASSEE STATE COLLEGE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Green mentioned speed bumps on Holt Lane. Mr. Young appeared and stated Holt Lane was completed today.

Commissioner Green asked for an update on the emergency management center. Mr. Morris stated they advertised for A&E and received 2 bids; the state requires 3 bids.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO HAVE A MEETING WITH THE CITY OF QUINCY AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

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

Chair Hinson mentioned May Day and asked for funding. Mr. Baptiste asked to not make a motion due to them needing to allocate funding. Chair Hinson stated they could add the motion to the next meeting's agenda.

Chair Hinson mentioned 5k for each school. Mr. Baptiste stated they were on a non-agenda item and cautioned them to not discuss. Chair Hinson stated to put it on the next agenda.

Superintendent James appeared.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:58 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**



AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 21,  
2025 AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

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

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Chair Hinson led into the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Commissioner Simpkins requested that item 7.e. be pulled from the agenda.

Commissioner Wood asked for a reason why Commissioner Simpkins wanted to pull the item.

Commissioner Simpkins stated due to this event bringing people to the county, TDC can fund this event and that's why she wanted to pull the item.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO PULL ITEM 7.E FROM THE AGENDA AND  
COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND.**

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS RESCINDED HER MOTION TO PULL ITEM 7.E. FROM THE AGENDA  
AND COMMISSIONER GREEN RESCINDED HIS SECOND.**

*Commissioner Holt appeared at 6:04 p.m.*

Commissioner Wood stated the Saw Dust event was not on the agenda.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE SAW DUST EVENT TO THE AGENDA  
UNDER 7.D. AND COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY  
VOICE TO APPROVE.**

5. **Approval of Agenda**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE AMENDMENTS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above.

**Tracey Stallworth, P.O. Box 1339**

Mr. Stallworth appeared and provided documentation for his request. He requested \$45k to provide food/household supplies for seniors. Stated he is a 501c3 non-profit.

Mr. Stallworth stated it will be help for all 6 municipalities.

Commissioner Holt stated Mr. Stallworth should get with Mr. Morris to get the item on the agenda.

7. **General Business**

7.a **County Administrator's Position**

Mr. Baptiste stated they have been asked to address the application for the County Administrator. He stated the citizens advisory committee requested to readvertise the position.

Mr. Baptiste stated he just handed the board a document which is the advertisement they put out for the County Administrators position. He stated Human Resources received over 100 applications and only 20 met the requirements.

Commissioner Green stated he wants to entertain adding the application to the process.

Chair Hinson asked why the application wasn't included to start with. He stated everyone has to fill out an application when applying for a position, so he was confused why that was not included in the process.

Commissioner Simpkins requested to use the resources they have available to them as far as the initial recruitment and search itself. She referenced using Florida association of Counties.

Commissioner Green asked if there was something specific Commissioner Simpkins was looking for.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they should contact Florida Association of Managers; They will supply the timeline and put the advertisement out for the board.

Mr. Morris requested Ms. Robinson come up and asked where they advertised for the position; Ms. Robinson appeared and stated the position was advertised on the County website, indeed, LinkedIn, zip recruiter, FACT, Fnit, and Naco.

Chair Hinson stated the goals, objectives are listed online.

Commissioner Simpkins stated they don't have the demographics of the community listed online.

Mr. Baptiste requested to seek clarification on the motion pertaining to the application.

Commissioner Simpkins stated to answer Mr. Baptiste's question for clarification is to add the questions that the board establishes to the application that human resources create for this position.

Commissioner Holt stated the goals and objectives are not listed online and she thinks they should be to get a good candidate.

Commissioner Green stated each commissioner should come up with 2 questions, email them to Mr. Morris, and then when they come back for the regular meeting and address it being included on the application.

Chair Hinson stated staff should submit 2 questions as well and they pick the best 10.

Commissioner Wood asked Ms. Robinson what they are sending; Ms. Robinson stated the whole packet that the commissioners have is what is advertised on every site they posted the job opening.

Commissioner Simpkins stated once they submit the 2 questions they need to move along because they keep dragging this process out.

Commissioner Simpkins asked Ms. Steele about a video being creating showing who Gadsden County is; Ms. Steele stated there is already a video showing who Gadsden County is.

Mr. Baptiste stated the Citizen advisory committee stated they recommended the previous applicants need not apply.

Mr. Hinson stated all prior applicants need to reapply as they did not supply an application the first go round and that is now required in the process.

Mr. Baptiste stated they are over the time for this item.

Mr. Jefferson, Chair for the citizen advisory committee appeared, and stated they did have 5 people that were good candidates but did not want all applicants to reapply due to human resources had already vetted the applicants.

Mr. Baptiste stated they can't pick and choose who to tell to reapply, so all applicants need to reapply and submit an application.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO INCLUDE THE APPLICATION IN THE PROCESS AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION THAT EACH COMMISSIONER AND STAFF SELECT 2 QUESTIONS TO SUBMIT TO MR. MORRIS TO BE AN AGENDA ITEM AT NEXT MEETING AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION THAT THE APPLICATION IS OPEN TO EVERYONE TO APPLY INCLUDING PREVIOUS APPLICANTS AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO MOVE TO ADVERTISE THE POSITION FOR 45 DAYS AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MAKE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1, TO APPROVE WITH COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS OPPOSING.**

**7.b Approval of Funding for the Six Municipalities (Chattahoochee, Greensboro, Gretna, Havana, Midway, and Quincy)**

Mr. Morris presented above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of funding for the Six Municipalities. (Chattahoochee, Greensboro, Gretna, Havana, Midway, and Quincy)

Commissioner Wood stated the next event is May Day and that's where the money should go.

Commissioner Holt asked about the policy and procedure for this item.

Commissioner Green stated they all know these events bring people to the county. He stated he wanted to make sure they are considered as partners.

Commissioner Holt stated that's what they have TDC for events like May Day.

Chair Hinson stated he's in agreement with May Day as long as all municipalities get the same \$10k.

Mayor Russ Seals of Gretna appeared to provide a video and a brief description for May Day.

*Commissioner Green stepped out at 7:12 p.m.*

*Commissioner Green returned at 7:14 p.m.*

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEM SUBJECT TO A CONTINGENT ADJUSTMENT BY THE BUDGET DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.c Approval of Resolution regarding the Florida Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)**

Mr. Baptiste stated this item comes from the letter the County received from the office of the Governor; He stated the staff needs a motion to be able to compile the information DOGE was requesting, complete the letter, have chair Hinson sign it, and send back to the Governor's office. He stated this is not the resolution.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they identified a single point of contact; Mr. Baptiste stated he is already working with an employee who is the new Finance director and requested that employee remain the point of contact.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE STAFF TO COMPLETE A LETTER TO SEND BACK TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.d Approval of Funding Request for Havana and Chattahoochee 20th of May Celebration**

Chair Hinson presented item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of a funding request for Havana and Chattahoochee's 20th of May Celebrations.

Commissioner Holt stated she is in favor of May Day and wants to fund it.

Commissioner Green asked what the amount is because it is not listed; Commissioner Wood stated they did not come up with an amount.

*Commissioner Holt stepped out at 7:25 p.m.*

*Commissioner Holt returned at 7:26 p.m.*

Chair Hinson asked what Commissioner Wood thought the actual cost would be; Commissioner Wood stated he really doesn't know.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 7:27 p.m.*

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

Mr. Morris asked Ms. Rose to come up; Ms. Rose came up and stated they were tasked with finding money in the budget for the 6 municipalities, 2 May Days, and the mega reunions for 6 schools.

Commissioner Simpkins stated there are different amounts listed for 7.b and 7.d but it's under the same ordinance, and she asked Ms. Rose why.

Ms. Rose stated it is due to a payment not being finalized by the Clerk's office yet, but those funds have been allocated and that is why it is different.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO GIVE \$5k FOR EACH EVENT AND  
COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**7.e Approval of Funding Request for High School Mega Reunions (Havana Northside, East Gadsden, Shanks, Greensboro, and Chattahoochee)**

Mr. Morris presented the above item. This agenda item seeks Board approval of funding for the High School Mega Reunions.

Commissioner Simpkins stated these particular reunions bring in people to the community and fall under TDC and TDC is prepared to fund these events.

Ms. Steele stated TDC already funded Havana's mega reunion with \$5k. She stated TDC can only fund each school \$5k.

Chair Hinson recognized Ms. Dot for everything she does in the community and asked her to come forward.

Ms. Dot came forward and stated she has been with Gadsden County school board for 17-18 years. She loves her job and the children.

Mr. Baptiste stated 7.e is going to TDC so they needed to make a motion for that to happen.

Ms. Carol appeared and thanked the board for supporting the reunions.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO SEND THE ITEM TO TDC TO FUND AND  
COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**8. Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

**AT A MEETING OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FL ON  
MAY 5, 2025, AT 10:00 A.M., THE FOLLOWING  
PROCEEDING WAS HAD VIZ:**

**Present:** Carolyn Ford, Chair  
Alonzetta Simpkins, County Commissioner  
Charles Williams, Midway City Councilman  
Ronte Harris, Quincy City Commissioner  
Richele Robinson

**Staff Present:** Leslie D. Steele, Tourist Development Director  
Louis Baptiste, Interim County Attorney  
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk  
Leann Jinks, Clerk Secretary to the Boards

**1. Welcome**

Chair Ford called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

**2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call**

Chair Ford led into the invocation and pledge of allegiance. Clerk did roll call.

**3. Regular Meeting**

**a. Approval of Minutes:**

February 3, 2025, Regular Meeting

**MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AND MR. WILLIAMS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**b. Discussion and Action FY 25/26 Budget-** - (Leslie D. Steele, Tourist Development Council Executive Director, Rose Raynak, Finance Director, Pheshe Bennett, Budget Technician)

Ms. Steele provided an update on the above item.

Ms. Robinson asked about the treasure hunt and asked that Ms. Steele provide an overview of the event; Ms. Steele stated it is a County wide event that brings people into the County from as far as Atlanta, and she just met with committee, and they are going to have 7 locations. Ms. Steele stated they will give prizes up to \$10k and they are required to advertise this event within a 200 mile radius like they did last year.

Ms. Robinson asked if the Treasure hunt committee prepared a written report for the board to view; Ms. Steele stated she did not have one but could ask for one.



Ms. Raynak and Ms. Bennett appeared before the board to talk about the preliminary budget.

Ms. Steele stated Lake 38 event is not included within the budget they are looking at but did need to be added; Ms. Raynak stated they would add \$7800 to line item 120-0020-54811 for the 25-26 budget year.

Ms. Bennett appeared and stated the budget will primarily mimic the following years budget with a few small changes.

Ms. Bennett stated there was a reduction in legal advertising from \$3k to \$1500.

Ms. Robinson asked about amount regarding grant fund; Ms. Bennett stated it was a total of \$87,800.

Ms. Robinson asked about black history amount; Ms. Steele stated they spent \$41k.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they allocated in the budget for events that may come up that were not already presented; Ms. Steele stated It was in line item 54811.

Ms. Raynak stated they had not added any additional funds for events that might pop up but they could at the request and direction of the board.

Mr. Harris requested to follow the same guidelines for pop-up events as those requesting ahead of time for events.

Mr. Baptiste stated moving funds to reserve was not an agenda item. He stated it would not be something they should vote on as it's not an agenda item. He recommends putting it on the next agenda to be voted on at that time.

Ms. Robinson asked about reunion funding cause she's only seeing \$25k but keeps hearing \$30k; Ms. Steele stated it was 30k, but they had already approved \$5k at their last meeting for Havana so the items listed for that meeting were the remaining reunions that they would be funding.

Budget meeting on May 27, 2025.

**MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULING OF THE BUDGET MEETING ON MAY 27, 2025, AND MS. ROBINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**c. Discussion and Action Marketing Funds and Event Grant Fund Request**

2025 James A. Shanks Mega Reunion

2025 Greensboro High School Mega Reunion

2025 Chattahoochee High School Mega Reunion

2025 East Gadsden High School Mega Reunion

2025 West Gadsden High School Mega Reunion

**d. Discussion and Action Stallworth Associates and Global Annual Juneteenth Celebration Event Grant Fund Request**

Ms. Steele presented items c & d and recommended to approve these events.

Mr. Hayes asked about the Stallworth event; Ms. Steele stated it was an annual event highlighting Juneteenth now that it is a federal holiday.

Ms. Robinson mentioned Juneteenth breakfast and asked for an itinerary; Ms. Steele stated yes, they will receive an itinerary, and the TDC board will have their own table at the event.

Mr. Harris stated he hoped they do not lose focus on May 20<sup>th</sup> celebration moving forward.

**MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS C & D AND MR. HAYES MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**e. Discussion and Action Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism 2024 Payment Request and 2025 Participation**

Ms. Steele presented the above item.

Ms. Steele asked for a motion to pay Peter Patel travel re-imbursement from 2024.

**MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO PETER PATEL FOR TRAVEL RE-IMBURSEMENT FROM 2024 AND MS. ROBINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**f. Discussion and Action for approval of Marketing Strategy-** - (Leslie D. Steele, Tourist Development Administrator, Dante Fillyau and Michael Hall TDC Marketing Firm MediumFour)

Ms. Steele presented the above item.

Mr. Fillyau and Mr. Hall appeared through Zoom.

Ms. Steele stated there are 7 phases, and phase 4 has started.

Ms. Steele stated they need a motion to approve the final strategy.

**MS. ROBINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINAL STRATEGY AND MR. HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Baptiste made a request to amend the above motion:

**MS. ROBINSON MADE A MOTION TO PAY \$75K TO MEDIUM FOUR FOR THE FINAL STRATEGY AND MR. HARRIS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE TO APPROVE.**

**4. Next Schedule Meetings**

Budget Meeting on May 27 10 a.m.

August 4<sup>th</sup> TDC Meeting 10 a.m.

**5. Adjournment**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR FORD DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:42 A.M.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**CAROLYN FORD, Chair**

**Tourist Development Council**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**

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

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

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Hinson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Bishop Green led into invocation and Chair Hinson led into the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Mr. Morris stated the below amendments:

*Pull item 11.d., Approval to Accept the Donated Boat Ramp on Iron Bridge Road*

*Add item 11.f, Board Approval to begin the negotiation phase with Proposers Responding to request for qualifications RFQ 25-02*

Commissioner Holt stated she wanted to add PAMS as well as the health mobile unit funding to the agenda for discussion. Mr. Baptiste stated he looked into the PAMS and mobile health unit and attended a Gadsden Community Health Council meeting. He recommended for the board to not take any action in relations to funding PAMS or the bus due to legal requirements they are still going through. He has had conversations with Reverend Hannah on the issue.

Commissioner Holt stated the items were for discussion not a vote. Chair Hinson stated they should get legal concerns out of the way first. Commissioner Wood asked if she would mind having this discussion under her comments section and Commissioner Holt stated she would have an issue with that because that is not on the agenda. She asked for her items to be put on the agenda.

**COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA AND CHAIR HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.**

Chair Hinson mentioned that Commissioner Green was online.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 TO APPROVE. COMMISSIONER HOLT OPPOSED.

COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE A MOTION TO REMOVE ITEM 6.B. FROM THE AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

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

6.a Recognition of the Big Bend Rodeo

Commissioner Simpkins presented the proclamation to the Big Bend Rodeo.

6.b Recognition of Ms. Aliza Hutley

Pulled.

**7. Consent**

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.

7.a Ratification Memo

7.b BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes

7.b.1. April 1, 2025, BOCC Regular Meeting

7.b.2. April 3, 2025, Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting

7.c. Code Enforcement Lien Satisfaction

7.d. Approval of the State of Florida Department of Revenue Child Support Program Standard Sheriff's Contract

7.e. Approval of 2024 Older Americans Act Program III Amended Contract

7.f. CareerSource Capital Region Interlocal Agreement Amendment

7.g. A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County, Florida, Expressing Its Support for the Designation of Rural Area of Opportunity (RAO), Formerly Known as Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC)

7.h. Approval of Settlement Agreement with Coombs/Geathers/Lawson v. Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners

7.i. Approval of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) RWQ 25-01 Asbestos Inspections of Private Residential Dwellings

**7.j. Approval of the 'Old Courthouse Renovation 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase' Agreement (No. 25. h.sc.100.009) issued by the Department of State**

**7.k. Approval of the Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment Agreement (No. 23PLN40) Amendment No. 1 presented by the Department of Environmental Protection**

**7.l. Adopt-A-Road Agreement with the Gadsden County 4-H Saddle Club**

**7.m. Approval of 2025 Small County Consolidated Waste Grant Application with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)**

**7.n. Approval of Donation to Crossroad Academy**

**8. Items Pulled for Discussion**

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to [CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov](mailto:CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov) until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov).

Chair Hinson read aloud the above statement.

**Gary Murray, 481 Woodberry Rd**

Mr. Murray was not present.

**10. Public Hearing**

**11. General Business**

**11.a. Approval of Resolution 2025-028 Grant Budget Amendment for FY2025**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

**11.b. Appointments for the Small County Coalition**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

**CHAIR HINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS AND COMMISSIONER WOOD. COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**CHAIR HINSON AMENDED HIS MOTION TO ADD MR. MORRIS OR DESIGNEE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

**11.c. Approval to Confirm the EMS Director**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

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

Dewayne Ford, EMS Director, appeared before the board to introduce himself. He stated he was born and raised in Gadsden County. He has been a nurse for 12 years and a paramedic for 5 years. He was honored to serve his community.

**~~11.d. Approval to Accept the Donated Boat Ramp on Iron Bridge Road~~**

Item pulled.

**11.e. Approval of Supplemental Questions for the County Administrator Position Application**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Commissioner Green asked if these questions would be included in the package. Chair Hinson stated it was for application purposes only not for interviews.

Commissioner Holt stated she was glad they are getting the questions, because she would like to see examples of things they have done.

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

Commissioner Simpkins requested that applicants be sent to their website to apply and not on Indeed.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:38 p.m.*

Jeronda Robinson, HR Manager, appeared before the board and stated they were going to be getting the same pool of applicants and she agreed to what Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Holt were saying.

*Commissioner Wood returned at 6:40 p.m.*

Mr. Baptiste stated they were out of ordinance since this item has already passed and advised for them to move to the next item.

**11.f Board Approval to begin the negotiation phase with Proposers Responding to request for qualifications RFQ 25-02**

Mr. Morris presented the above item.

Chair Hinson asked if they have to give public notice to put this on the agenda or were they able to vote tonight. Mr. Morris stated this item was just asking staff to negotiate and it did not need a public notice or hearing.

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

**12. Clerk of Court**

No updates.

**13. County Attorney**

Mr. Baptiste stated he was going to ask for a workshop regarding the kratom ordinance. He drafted an ordinance and would like the board to review it.

Mr. Baptiste stated he was tasked to look at adopting a vehicle ordinance and that would need a workshop as well. The county already has a policy through HR, but he was tasked to draft an ordinance.

**14. County Administrator**

Mr. Morris mentioned the issue of unauthorized use of a county vehicle and stated it has been resolved.

Mr. Morris requested a proclamation for EMS Week and Public Works Week.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR EMS AND PUBLIC WORKS WEEK AND COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

Mr. Morris mentioned upcoming events:

May 16 – Food Drive at Ward’s Lot

May 20 – EMS & Public Works Week celebration at Public Works Dept.

May 21 – Senior Fun Day in Chattahoochee

Commissioner Green mentioned the summer youth program and thought they should explain the process openly. They did not know the process that they used to select the 150 students. He did not know until today that they were randomly picked and he felt like that was an unfair process. He wanted to make sure all students essays were read and they are all interviewed.

Mr. Morris stated he would like to bring up Ms. Robinson for clarification on the process.

*Commissioner Wood stepped out at 6:51 p.m. and returned at 6:52 p.m.*



Ms. Robinson appeared and stated every year, they usually have well over the number of students that they budget for. They budgeted for 150 students this year and they got 290 applications. They received 248 completed applications. She was instructed to pull 30 applicants from each district to make it fair and they used a lottery system to select students for the program.

Commissioner Green asked who instructed the process of picking 30 from each district. Ms. Robinson stated the administrator did.

Commissioner Wood stated he would like to hear from the citizens that requested to speak about the summer youth program. Mr. Baptiste stated that would need a motion.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO SPEAK ON THIS ISSUE AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

**Tomeka Lightfoot, 1300 West King St**

Ms. Lightfoot appeared before the board to discuss the summer youth program. On the day that she delivered her information for the program, she asked how was this process going to take place. She was told that all of the students who submitted all of their information in a timely manner were going to get an interview. She asked what was the process for the interviews since the students were still in school during the day. She was told that they would be interviewed on a Saturday.

Ms. Lightfoot stated her daughter was informed that other students received an email that they were selected to participate in the program, even though they were not interviewed.

**Dahlia Mitchell, 909 W Franklin St**

Ms. Mitchell appeared before the board to discuss the interview process not being done for the summer youth program. She stated they were going to have a lot of kids doing nothing during summer time.

Commissioner Holt mentioned that they need policies and procedures in place. She stated she was the one to ask for the cut of students in the program because in certain cases, things were not being done.

Commissioner Green stated they did not follow the process for this program and he agreed with what Ms. Lightfoot stated.

Mr. Baptiste asked for them to table this issue so that he could look at the legality of the situation before the board does anything.

Mr. Morris stated HR would need adequate time to interview all applicants.

**15. Discussion Items by Commissioners**

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

Commissioner Simpkins stated she had an opportunity to celebrate with Havana Northside reunion.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned commissioners having a retreat to sit and discuss their strategic goals.

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned having an EMS program for students in Gadsden County.

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

Commissioner Wood mentioned the rural renaissance bill and stated it was very important for their county that this pass. Ms. Steele stated it was passed Friday.

Commissioner Wood stated he spoke with the interim attorney and the interim administrator regarding the Cooksey title. He asked where they were with that.

Mr. Baptiste stated he confirmed today that a check was accepted and cashed by the county. A possible solution for this would be for the board to vote to give Mr. Morris the authority to sign correction affidavits/titles to correct the issue but to note that this Board is not ratifying the sell.

**COMMISSIONER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO GIVE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR THE AUTHORITY TO SIGN DOCUMENTS TO TRANSFER THE VEHICLES SOLD WITHOUT COUNTY PERMISSION, AND WITH CLARIFICATION THAT THEY ARE NOT RATIFYING THE SELL. COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND AND THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

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

Commissioner Holt mentioned county properties and getting businesses in.

Commissioner Holt stated they need help in Planning & Zoning; they need 2 planners.

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

Commissioner Green thanked public works for the pick-up.

**COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR MARIAH BRADWELL AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE.**

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

Chair Hinson mentioned having the parking lot re-constructed and adding a fence.

Commissioner Simpkins thanked the probation department for a job well done for the giveaway at the jail.

16. **Motion to Adjourn**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HINSON  
DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:48 PM.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**ERIC F. HINSON, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**