

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON DECEMBER 2,
2014, AT 6:00 P.M., THE FOLLOWING
PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, Vice-Chair, District 1
Dr. Anthony O. "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5
Robert Presnell, County Administrator
David Weiss, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., led in a silent prayer and then in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. A silent roll call was done by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Holt asked if there were any amendments for the Agenda and there were none.

Commissioner Viegbesie arrived at this juncture of the meeting (was present for the workshop that was earlier)

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

AWARDS, PRESENTATION AND APPEARANCES

Chair Holt asked if there were any awards or presentations and there were none.

CLERK OF COURT

Clerk Thomas was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

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

- 1. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. September 16, 2014 Regular Meeting
 - b. September 22, 2014 Budget Hearing
- 2. Approval to Accept Smoke Detector Grant Offered by the Division of State Fire Marshal Bureau of Fire Prevention**
- 3. Approval to Accept the FY 2014 4th Quarter Budget Report**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items pulled for discussion.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Donnell Dawkins, 1158 Bonnie Hill Road, Chattahoochee, FL, approached the Board and asked to speak with regard to a Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Dawkins said he ran a salvage yard in Chattahoochee and had done so the past thirty years. He explained the problem he was having to the Board.

Chair Holt asked Mr. Dawkins that he call and meet with the Administrator concerning this matter and he agreed to do so.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Board Direction Regarding The Allocation Of Funds For The Provision Of Economic Development Services For Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and stated it was for direction of allocation of funds for economic development services.

Commissioner Hinson said he would entertain any motion that was made, but thought they should wait until the Board retreat, set the board's goals, and then focus on the vote.

Commissioner Viegbesie suggested they come up with a plan that would give each body the ability to move in the direction of economic development. He added if the Board wanted to vote on this item tonight, they needed to know how to distribute the money between the two groups asking for it. He suggested that this process not continue every year.

Commissioner Morgan arrived at this juncture of the meeting (was present for workshop held earlier).

Commissioner Morgan commended both groups for their excellent presentation and said during that presentation, he asked the same question of both groups and received very specific answers from them. He said they could find common ground together if they changed the way they looked at things. He also added it was his opinion that this was a government body and did not think they were in business to create jobs, but rather in business to create a pro-business environment, such as adopting policies that would promote fast track permitting to help define how they wanted to lead in the effort. He said there was a lot to offer and they needed to find a way to maximize a return on the investments. He further said it was not fair to have groups come before the Board when it was time to dole out money, instead there needed to be an agreement around the Board that economic development was a priority. He said he thought they needed to move forward, they had already allocated \$240,000 and proposed to invest Gadsden County Development Council (GCDC) \$100,000; invest the Economic Development Council (EDC) \$100,000 and \$40,000 to the Small Business Development Center over a three year period for each entity.

Commissioner Hinson shared information from the Administrator's office showing payments to the Chamber of Commerce from different counties and the payments to the Economic Development Council.

Commissioner Taylor said she agreed with some of what Commissioner Morgan said; her only concern with the display this evening was whether the two groups could work together effectively. She added she heard from some commissioners they would like another meeting in January to see the progress and she was inclined to another meeting and preferred to wait to vote.

Commissioner Hinson said he had talked to the Administrator and the EDC mentioned contracting with the GCDC, but the problem with having two entities was no-one knew who to contact.

Commissioner Viegbesie suggested the two groups meet and give their individual strengths so each one knew the role they could play. He said he did not see funding each one with them doing their own thing.

Commissioner Morgan wanted to be clear on the funding and said he would like to see them under one umbrella working together and not one competing with the other.

Chair Holt said she had heard good things tonight. She asked why they would decide to divide up the money when the Board needed to decide their direction. She said she did not think they were ready to vote, but the workshop was very good and they needed to work more on it.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO FUND \$100,000 TO THE GCDC; \$100,000 TO GCEDC AND \$40,000 TO THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR THREE YEARS. MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Commissioner Hinson suggested giving the Chamber of Commerce \$25,000-\$30,000 now and give GCDC \$30,000 so they would not be in a time sensitive situation and they could be working toward their goal.

Commissioner Taylor said this could be cleared up in two meeting, if there were a strong collaboration and desire to work together, the Board would know. She said to workshop it, agenda it and then make a decision and the groups needed to work as one and come back with a formable plan.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he appreciated Commissioner Morgan's approach but thought three years was too long and they should do it for one year or two at the most.

Chair Holt said Gadsden County provided jobs and lost 109 jobs because in 2009 the Board decided to have a lay-off. She added that she would not support a contract with either group tonight because they must have their deliverables on paper.

Commissioner Morgan said they keep tossing around "deliverables" and he wanted to stress that economic development was a mindset and they needed to change the mindset. He added that the two groups understood the common goal and knew that the Board was trying to maximize and sustain a productive economic development policy.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO INVEST \$240,000 ON THREE SEPARATE CONTRACTS OVER TWENTY FOUR MONTHS-\$40,000 TO EXISTING SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER; \$100,000 TO GADSDEN COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND \$100,000 TO GADSDEN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Taylor said she was willing to support the motion if the amendment included a unified plan to be brought back to the board within a certain timeframe.

Commissioner Morgan agreed to amend his motion and Commissioner Viegbesie agreed and seconded the amended motion.

Commissioner Hinson asked how they could put them in a situation without having a plan first, but would like to let his constituents know that when he gave money to any organization, there was a plan first.

Chair Holt said there was no urgency and this did not need to be done tonight and was unrealistic to give money to the groups without them informing the Board of what they could do and she was against it until they received a plan.

Commissioner Taylor said her vote was contingent on a plan, and if they did not receive a plan that could be implemented effectively, they would no longer have her support, but she added that economic development was a different horse, there was no good time to start it. She said there would always be questions, they would always be looking at development and it would continue to evolve.

Commissioner Hinson said what everyone did not realize, the incentives that were put up by the Board would be what would bring jobs to the County and there was no rush because “everyone should be financially solvent anyway” and the County had \$400,000 to help bring in the business.

Commissioner Taylor said a press conference had already been held and people were expecting that money now and it could not happen because the criteria had not been put out.

Commissioner Morgan said he could amend the motion, but they need to “let them drive the car”, but they need to communicate with the Board.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO INVEST \$240,000 INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTO THREE SEPARATE AGREEMENTS: \$100,000 TO FUND THE GCDC FOR A TWO YEAR PEIOD OF TIME WITH THE EXPECTATION THEY WOULD WORK WITH THE GEDC AND COME FORWARD WITH A UNITED FRONT WITH SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES THEY WILL BE WORKING ON DURING THAT TIME; \$100,000 TO BE AWARDED TO GEDC WITH SAME EXPETATIONS; AND \$40,000 TO THE EXISTING SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR TWO YEARS. COMMISSIONER HINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS MORE DISCUSSION.

Mr. Weiss asked if that was an amendment to his original motion.

Commissioner Morgan said he could have not been any clearer in his motion, but whatever made it a current motion on the floor, to consider it amended.

Chair Holt asked if Commissioner Morgan was amending his motion and asked if Commissioner Taylor amended her second. It was pointed out that Commissioner Viegbesie actually seconded the motion earlier. She then asked Commissioner Viegbesie if he amended his second.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he would amend his second, but he was not clear of where the motion was going now and asked Commissioner Morgan if he was saying that in two years they will come with a plan in place or they have to come with a plan before they get the money for two years.

Commissioner Morgan said the latter of the two was his intent and he meant for them to begin their work together right now because they knew what the Board was going to do because they had been specific in how they were going to fund the effort for the next two years.

Commissioner Viegbesie said if the latter of the two was the intent, then why the hurry because they could wait two weeks.

Mr. Presnell interjected and said they could possible meet back on the 16th for the deliverables.

Chair Holt said they could come back in two weeks and they could present what they had just before the meeting and would not have to hold up the regular meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he would like to make a motion to bring this back in two weeks.

Commissioner Morgan stated he had a motion on the floor.

Chair Holt said his motion would die for lack of second because there was no second on the amendment.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out that Commissioner Hinson seconded his motion and Chair Holt stated that he could not do so because there was a motion already out there and when he stated “contingent upon”, his motion was still there.

Commissioner Morgan then pointed out that motion was not given a chance for a second when Commissioner Viegbesie said he would not second it.

Chair Holt then stated that meant the motion died, she gave Commissioner Viegbesie an opportunity for a second. She then suggested they start over.

Commissioner Morgan said this would be the fifth time he had made the motion.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO INVEST \$240,000 IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THREE SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS: \$100,000 TO GCDC CONTINGENT UPON THEM HAVING DELIVERABLES AND IT WOULD BE FOR A TWENTY-FOUR MONTH TERM; \$100,000 TO GADSDEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS WITH SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES AND BOTH GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER ON A UNIFIED FRONT SHARING WHAT DELIVERABLES ARE WITH THE BOARD AND \$40,000 PER YEAR FOR TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS TO EXISTING SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER. BEFORE COMMISSIONER HINSON WOULD AGREE TO

SECOND, HE HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Hinson asked if this was intended to be under the same umbrella.

Commissioner Morgan said working in the “same direction”.

Chair Holt said if there was no second, the motion would die and then announced motion did die for lack of second.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO BRING THE ITEM BACK IN TWO WEEKS WITH A WORKSHOP AT 3:00 P.M. AND BE PLACED ON AGENDA AND HAVE THEM COME BACK WITH A PLAN. CHAIR HOLT SECONDED MOTION. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS.

5. Appointments/Reappointments To The Small County Coalition Board Of Directors

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for board approval of an appointment or reappointment to two representatives from the BOCC to the Small County Coalition Board of Directors. He added that currently Commissioner Holt held the position as the County’s representative and Commissioner Hinson was the alternate.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO REAPPOINT THE CURRENT REPRESENTATIVES.

6. Approval of Task Order with Preble-Rish, Inc. for Improvements to Hogan Lane

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to execute a task order with Preble-Rish for the survey, design and inspection of the Hogan Lane resurfacing and pedestrian facilities project.

THERE WAS A MOTION FOR APPROVAL MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. CHAIR HOLT HAD COMMENTS BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN.

Chair Holt said she would like to see a study throughout the county regarding this and added there was already lighting on Adams Street and it could go right on across to Hogan Lane.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, appeared before Board and told them they could include lighting in the project.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

7. Approval of Contract with MTC-Medical to Provide Ambulance Transportation for Patients Housed at Gadsden Correctional Facility

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for board approval of a contract for ambulance service with MTC-Medical for ambulance transportation of patients housed at Gadsden Correctional Institute.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Morgan said he had a question for the Administrator and asked what it would be as opposed to what it was.

Mr. Presnell said it would be the same thing, but as the medical provider for the facility, they needed to formalize all of their agreements.

Commissioner Morgan then asked if there was still a motion on the floor and there was.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

8. Approval and Execution of Lease with Gadsden Senior Services, Incorporated to Occupy the Building located at 79 Lasalle Lefall Drive and Adoption of Resolution No. 2014-025, Approving the Lease and Setting Forth its Terms

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was a renewal of the lease agreement with Gadsden Senior Services, Inc. to occupy the building located at 79 LaSalle Lefall Drive.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, BEFORE THE BOARD VOTED, QUESTION WAS CALLED.

Commissioner Morgan asked if there were any changes in the lease from the past.

Mr. Presnell said the attorney did make some revisions to it, but it was basically the same as what they had in the past.

Mr. Weiss said it was very similar in terms to the use of the property, the amount of the lease, but the term had been increased to an initial term of two years and would renew for successive years automatically unless one of the parties terminated the agreement.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. Approval of Contract for State Lobbying Services for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 with Lawson and Associates

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of a contract with Lawson & Associates for them to provide State Lobbying Services for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN CALLED FOR A QUESTION.

Commissioner Morgan asked the Administrator to explain in a nutshell what this was for.

Mr. Presnell said it was a \$15,000 contract with Lawson & Associates for lobbying services to help with the legislative program and lobbying during the session.

Commissioner Morgan said he had spoken with Senator Lawson and Mr. Doolin and said he had no problem in funding the total amount for \$25,000, but he had an issue with the two separate

agreements and felt it should fall under one lobbying contract. He said when he spoke with Mr. Doolin, he said the contract that was approved for him at the last meeting had not been signed yet and he added he was not speaking for Mr. Lawson, but felt neither one of them had a problem working under one agreement for the \$25,000. He then added that he would not support two agreements, but would support one.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked Mr. Al Lawson to step forward and asked him if he currently had the papers necessary for him to be a lobbyist.

Mr. Lawson explained he had to wait out two years but now had the papers and listed some other entities he had lobbied for.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked him if he had agreed to work with the other firm as a team or would they be working separately.

Mr. Lawson explained that the more people lobbying would be a plus and he had three other people that worked with him because of the vast area between the House and the Senate. He said he informed the Commissioner that whatever the County wanted to do, he would work with them in that regard. He added that he did not mind working with someone as long as they were working together for the good of the County.

Chair Holt reminded the commissioners that they were in a situation where there was a need for extra lobbying.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Lawson if his line of thinking was wrong and asked if there was anything negative to this item.

Mr. Lawson stated there was nothing negative; it was the way the money flowed. He said he would like to add that at the last meeting Commissioner Viegbesie asked what the County should be doing and he responded the County should be putting a package together of what they would like to see done.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

10. Update on Various Board Issues

*****There was a citizen that asked to speak that turned in the Speaker Request Form after the Board had passed that point in the Agenda. His concerns were put into that section of the agenda above*****

Mr. Presnell informed the commissioners that there was a draft criteria that they had researched North Florida regarding any economic incentives that were given for development and would like to present a draft. He asked if they would like him to get the draft to them to review or he could schedule a workshop. It was agreed that it would be placed on the agenda.

He said that on December 15th there would be a kick-off of the Compleitive Florida Partnership award at the FAMU Center from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. He said the DEO staff would come work

with the steering committee (Gadsden Development Council) and start the plan of action on that grant.

He said on the next agenda there would be an item that the Commission would need to appoint or reappoint Planning and Zoning members for District 2 and District 4 had one term that was up.

He informed them that the Enterprise Zone maps had been completed and he thought they had been added to the website already.

He said they had just talked about the Legislative plan, he had met with some of them and had input from them and if there were any other comments, he would like to hear from them, get it completed and put on the agenda as soon as possible.

He also added that there had been some Interests in decorating the Courthouse for Christmas by putting up some lighted wreaths.

Chair Holt said she thought it would be a great idea.

Commissioner Morgan asked what the cost would be.

Mr. Presnell said they had found some for about \$400.00 apiece and had LED lights in them.

Commissioner Hinson said he was against it because when he traveled to a town and saw that, the first thing people said was “they are raising the light bill”.

Chair Holt stated she thought they needed to show people they took pride in the building and it was within the Manager’s budget. They agreed to do so.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they needed a motion for that and Mr. Weiss said it was within the Manager’s spending authority and procurement policy and no motion was needed.

Commissioner Taylor said the Clerk’s office might require a motion since it was not a line item and she wanted to ask what the funding source was for Mr. Lawson’s contract.

Mr. Presnell said it would come from contingency.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

11. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was happy to answer any questions and there were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

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

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie said some residents in District 2 have complained about the right of way and set-backs were different than what was in Leon County and asked it be looked into.

Mr. Presnell said the right-of-way on the roads had been set for years and did vary, even on Highway 90. He added that as a rule, the light poles were just inside the right-of-way, but was not always the case.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked that they look at Highway 27 so he could get back with the residents who had approached him concerning expanding their business or building onto their property and could not do so because of the right-of-way issue.

Mr. Presnell asked that he have them contact him or give him an exact location or address.

Commissioner Viegbesie said it was his understanding it was all along Highway 27 from the Ochlocknee River to the Georgia line, but was not that way in Leon County. He asked if Leon County had different requirements from Gadsden County and they were not uniform requirements.

Mr. Presnell said he would get the information for him.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had a couple of things:

1) Wanted to commend the Board for the discussions they had today, beginning with the Workshop that started at 3:00 p.m. He reiterated he thought it was good that they take a leadership role in uniting the two groups and believed there was a common goal on what they wanted to achieve.

2) Would like them to consider in the future and to bring back as an item on the agenda, the televised meetings to enable folks to see what they were doing. He felt that all county government, not just here, was looked at in a negative light and thought this might help shed the right light on the County.

Chair Holt said she was waiting for the City of Quincy to quit fighting, but thought there were some things that needed to be hashed out first.

COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO HAVE THE MEETINGS TELEVISED PLACED ON THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE SECONDED THE MOTION BECAUSE HE FELT THERE WAS A NEED FOR TRANSPARANCY. THERE WAS DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Hinson felt they had done great the past two years working without it and was against it.

Commissioner Taylor said she saw the need for transparency, but not tonight.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 3-2 AGAINST THE MOTION. MOTION FAILED.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she had mentioned the Senior Citizens Board some time ago and the Board was really in need of appointments because members have dropped off. She said they were asking for representatives to be appointed from each district.

Mr. Presnell said they could not appoint to the Senior Citizens Board because of the By-laws, but if names were submitted, they could then appoint someone.

Commissioner Taylor said there were four different Senior Centers in different municipalities that needed to be brought together.

She said they had discussed adopting private roads and had gotten off topic and asked if it could be brought back. She said she thought there was a state statute that would allow them to look at the additional width.

Mr. Weiss said they did adopt an Ordinance.

Chair Holt said one issue was getting the road up to standard before the road could be adopted by the County.

Mr. Weiss said he thought the question was, could they change county road standards and they could not spend money on a private road. He added that once it was improved to a point, they could then accept it as a public road if it met the criteria. He said the issue would be if they wanted to entertain changing county road standards to decrease the right-of-way width and there was some pros to do so, but was also some cons.

Commissioner Taylor said she understood that if state statutes were not followed, they would not be considered for state funding on roads. She thought there was a “grandfather clause” somewhere that would allow them not to be held to those standards or statutes. She said she would like to have the Administrator look into this because there had been no movement with road adoptions.

She said her last item was the Incentive Plan for the \$400,000+ for Economic Development and was wondering if the two entities needed to look at that as well because it would be a part of their make-up to attract new businesses or as a part of their expansion/retention plan.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice-Chairman, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said he had a couple of phone calls over the holiday break of folks who wanted to apply for a county job but the application on one was due on Thanksgiving Day and the other was due on Sunday. He said that did not look good and technology was different thirty years ago and while they could not tell the Administrator who to hire, they should be able to approve the job descriptions of the positions to they could have someone to fit what they stood for. He said he would like, because of what happened, to put a halt to the positions, review the job descriptions and see if that was the direction they wanted to go and move forward. He then asked the attorney if that was something they could do as a Board.

Mr. Weiss said the Board effectively has two employees under their direction, the Administrator

and the Attorney and the Administrator was in charge of hiring everyone under him. He said the Board could give directions to the Administrator on what they would like to see, but as far as making a decision that they would approve every job description...

Commissioner Hinson interjected that they do that with the School Board.

Mr. Weiss said he did not think their desires could not be expressed to the Administrator, but did not know if the Administrator might have a different idea of how he would like to approach things.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they could, as commissioners, put a stop on hiring.

Mr. Weiss explained that he believed they could express their preference to the Administrator and have it known to him what they prefer, but ultimately it was under his authority to make the final decision.

Commissioner Hinson stated it looked bad to him to not give the constituents a chance with the last day falling on a holiday or on a Sunday when no-one was in the office. He felt it was not fair to the constituents or anyone who expressed an interest in working for the County and felt they should not approve, and the Administrator should give them a chance to put their application in.

Mr. Weiss said with respect to any current positions which have been open and were now closed, he would not recommend them reopening them effectively; because they could get into problems with people that did timely apply for the positions.

Chair Holt asked that he bring the statute back so they could look into it.

Commissioner Hinson then asked if it was alright for the last day for someone to put their application in fall on a Saturday or Sunday when no-one was in the office.

Mr. Presnell explained that their Personnel Policy required that the position be posted so many days and he would check to find out when it ended and what happened.

Commissioner Hinson stated it was his opinion the closing date should have been extended until Monday or the Wednesday before Thanksgiving so it ended on a workday. He felt it was not fair to people that did not have a computer at home to not be able to apply and felt it did not look good on the Commissioners if they decided to hire someone anyway and he wanted it put on record that he did not support that.

Mr. Presnell said he was not aware that the positions closed on Thanksgiving, but he would look into the matter.

Commissioner Hinson said he had no problem with Waste Pro, thought they were doing a great job, but he wanted to make sure the contract was not missed anymore.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Chair Holt said she had a couple items. Regarding the two presentations today, neither one referenced the plant in Jackson County. She said she had spoken with one of the commissioners today and they informed her that the negotiations were going well.

Senior Citizens

She said to Commissioner Taylor she felt it was a good idea to bring them together because they were not applying for grants.

Economic Development

She reminded everyone that the \$400,000 incentive was for seed money for new businesses and not intended for expansion of businesses.

Commissioner Taylor said they might want to look at that part of money as to how it could best help the County. She said she appreciated trying to recruit business because it would stimulate the economy, but if the businesses were not there and not knocking at the door at the rate the County needed them to knock, they might need to reconsider.

Chair Holt responded that she was not saying not to help the businesses expand, she meant to have money specifically for that. She said that if the county was able to get the Toyota plant, all the supply companies would have to come this way. She added that the County's opportunity was to have seed money. She further said they must look at manufacturing that would pay the money and Jackson County was doing this and included the County into the project.

Commissioner Viegbesie said it when came to improvement of existing businesses, if the Enterprise Zone was developed, there were incentives and programs that needed to be developed and it could help grow the businesses.

RECEIPT AND FILE

- a. November 1, 2014 Florida Enterprise Zone Program Annual Report
- b. November 14, 2014 Letter to FDLE from Chairman (Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance)
- c. November 17, 2014 Letter from the Florida Department of Revenue (Truth in Millage Certification)
- d. November 18, 2014 Proclamation for National Home Care Month
- e. FY 2014 Administrative Budget Amendments

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:14 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk