



**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 3, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M., THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

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

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

 Chair called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., asked everyone to silence their phones, asked for a moment of silence, and then led the in Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. A silent roll call was conducted by Deputy Clerk Marcella Blocker.


AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

 Mr. Presnell said he had two add-ons and they could go under the Consent Agenda. He requested to add Item 3c Support Letter for Gadsden Arts Renovation Project and Item 3d Request for Approval of a Proclamation for Child Welfare Professionals Recognition Day.

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

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. 2016 Legislative Update

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said the lobbyists were present to give an update regarding the Legislative Session that recently ended.

Al Lawson, Lobbyist, appeared before the Board and gave the legislative update. He said it was a very good session. He said they were happy to report that Gadsden County received over \$1.5 Million was granted in funding and over \$6 Million in additional funding for local projects. He said the BOCC had a number of things they decided to work with other counties on in collaboration but felt the collaboration could have been better. He said the County received for historic properties for restoration \$500,000; for the Multi-purpose facility they received \$500,000; for Chattahoochee water line replacement \$400,000; and for Midway sewer phase 1, they were able to secure \$150,000. He listed some of the projects the \$6 Million was received for.

Sarah Bleakley, Lobbyist, appeared before the Board. She added they were able to fix the Small County Solid Waste program; Legacy FL that will provide a dedicated funding source for water policy issues and land purchasing, starting with the Everglades passed; a proposed constitutional amendment passed that would allow for renewable energy policy passed and fracking did not

pass; Rural Volunteer Firefighter Certificates did not pass; they fought off the mandate for every County to adopt an Ordinance for COPCN; the Seminole gaming compact did not pass; and there was \$1 Billion in tax relief the Governor sought and about half of that passed and most of that called for a school property tax decrease. She added in addition to that, the Governor's \$250 Million Economic Incentive Program did not pass. She went on to state that was a very contentious issue back and forth between the Governor, Senate and the House and they decided approximately two weeks before the Session they would not fund this at all and the issue of Economic Development and how to pay for it and indecision of the Legislature also affected the Legislation that was crafted for small counties to allow for counties to allow for a sales tax rebate for construction materials expended within a county also did not pass. She added she felt the Governor through DEO, Enterprise for Florida and Visit Florida was looking at how to provide a revamping of programs that would be successful in providing further economic develop in Florida and small counties would be part of that because of the way they were positioned with a lot of land and other attributed that were attendant to rural counties as opposed to urban areas. She said Session would be coming up the next year in March as opposed to January. She said Gadsden County was to be congratulated on the coordinated effort they put forth through looking at and making priorities

Commissioner Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Lawson said it was a good year for the County and he was proud of the County's efforts.

Commissioner Viegbesie commended both of them on their efforts of what they had done for the County.

Commissioner Morgan thanked them for the recap, Chair Holt for her efforts and the GCDC with their efforts. He added it was disappointing State employees received no raise, but there were wins for Florida State Hospital and the medical dispensing system that was placed in the budget through Department for Children and Families received funding. He asked how they could improve the process of keeping the momentum going. Mr. Lawson said by continuing the coordination among the County and the municipalities and prioritize.

Mr. Presnell said this year they were taking program little more forward and next Thursday they would have the first of six meetings with the municipalities and hoped to have a better plan to work with next session.

Chair Holt said everyone did a great job. She said it was a learning curve that they had to overcome and needed to work together with the School Board. She asked how to handle with the increase with retirement liability for the County. Ms. Bleakley said it was determined by an actuarial study done professionally and they make a determination of how much was needed to fully fund or fund 85% (which is where the County is) and the way to change it is get more general revenue for that purpose and she did not see Legislature doing that for County Government.

CLERK OF COURTS



Mr. Thomas was present and had nothing to report

CONSENT



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

2. **Ratification to Pay County Bills**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **March 17, 2016-Workshop Minutes**
 - b. **April 5, 2016-Regular Meeting Minutes**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Pastor Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Star Highway, Quincy, FL-Health Care Statistics-Pastor Morris appeared before the Board on behalf of United Gadsden; said people were dying all around and did not appear anything was being done to make things better. He said in looking at statistics, Gadsden was leading in all negative categories. He added he felt the BOCC was the only one with enough clout to call everyone to a common table, approach this from a holistic standpoint and could reverse the trend of the negative statistics. He said they were asking for a sense of accountability and there had already been positive steps with the women's clinic, bringing a doctor aboard full-time; getting a farmers market, etc. He suggested a strategic plan, a budget plan, and accountability from everybody.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. **PUBLIC HEARING-Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2016-004 for a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment for Approximately 25 acres on Fantana Lane**



Mr. Presnell said this was the first public hearing and was to adopt Ordinance 2016-004 for a park in the St. Hebron community.

Chair Holt announced this was a public hearing and asked if there were any questions and there was not.

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

5. **PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance No.: 2016-005, An Ordinance No. 2016-005, An Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County, FL, providing for the assessment and collection of an additional \$5.00 with each civil traffic penalty to enhance driver education program funds in public and nonpublic schools in Gadsden County pursuant to Section 318.1215, Florida Statutes, adopting procedures, criteria, and requirements for the use and distribution of funds providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and correction of scrivener's errors, and providing for an effective date**




Mr. Weiss said this item was regarding adoption of Ordinance 2016-005 for a driver education program funds for collection of \$5.00.

Chair Holt announced this was a public hearing and asked if there were any questions and there was not.

Commissioner Morgan asked of the \$5.00 collected, how much would be seen by individual schools and Mr. Weiss said by statute, it had to be used for the program and all the money would go to schools with a qualifying program.

UPON MOITION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

6. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance 2016-006, An Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County, FL, relating to economic development; establishing an Economic Development Grant Program, setting forth application requirements and evaluation criteria, providing for grant agreements with recipient' providing procedures and requirements for receipt of scheduled grant payments; providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, modifications that may arise from consideration at public hearing, and correction of scrivener's errors, and providing for an effective date

 Mr. Weiss introduced the above item and said it was for consideration of adoption of Ordinance 2016-006 relating to economic development and would establish an economic development grant program.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked the mechanics of the eligibility of criteria that would be used to determine the eligibility and how much they were eligible for.

Commissioner Morgan asked the attorney if any incentives would be applied after ad valorem taxes were paid and Mr. Weiss said that was correct, all taxes had to be paid before being eligible for the grant payment and Commissioner Morgan asked to hear from Beth Kirkland.

Beth Kirkland, Gadsden County Development Council, appeared before the Board and said project drivers would help give guidance to the Board and each project would have different drivers. Commissioner Morgan asked if they should have any defined boundaries within the document to help guide them. Ms. Kirkland said they did not include an example of an application, but had one with her and felt the point system would provide the guidance. She added that ultimately the decision would rest with the Board.

Commissioner Hinson asked what the proposed budget was or how much funding would be available for disposable income funding. Ms. Kirkland responded the way it was designed, BOCC would collect revenues prior to dispensing anything and the amount would almost all be collected in one tax year but the revenues would be dispensed over a long period of time and the total amount dispensed was less than the amount collected so it could be easily budgeted each year. Commissioner Hinson asked if there was a draft copy of the application available and Ms. Kirkland said she brought a sample of the application and then listed items that were on the application. Commissioner Hinson asked if the application fee had been determined and Ms. Kirkland said no, it was a provision for the future should they find it to be administratively requiring a fee. Commissioner Hinson asked if the final report would include all applicants who applied for the

grant and their score summary and Mr. Weiss explained each grant would be a separate application.

Commissioner Taylor said in going back to the scoring criteria, where was the point value and commented it could be scored differently based on opinion. Ms. Kirkland explained the staff (Rob Nixon, Pam Tribue and herself) would package it together and calculate it. She added the point system was all mathematical. Commissioner Taylor asked if there were a failsafe measure in place in the event one of the vendors were not able to meet the seven year obligation if they lost the ability to make profit at the rate they anticipated and Ms. Kirkland explained they were only making a grant payment that was less than the tax revenue taken in for that year and the failsafe measure was in the language.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his understanding was there was no room for subjectivity regarding points because there were different point systems for different target industries, each one had their own point system specific to different areas looked at. Ms. Kirkland explained how points could be accumulated.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture.

There was more discussion around the Board regarding this item. For full detail, please see www.gadsdenclerk.com for more details and to view the video.

After discussion, Mr. Weiss said he did not think the document afforded the Board discretion if the minimum point threshold or criteria was not met. He added there was discretion in terms of amounts if the minimum threshold was exceeded but it was a policy decision.

Commissioner Morgan said this was an incentive tool for a large scale economic development projects and was not in favor of voting for it if they were talking about small scale projects.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson felt the need to schedule a retreat regarding this and economic development.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.


Chair Holt announced this was a public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak and there was no-one.

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

****Toward end of meeting, Commissioner Taylor said she would like to rescind her vote on this matter and then Commissioner Hinson also rescinded his vote making it a 3-2 vote. Motion passed.****


GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Purchase of Property located on Salem Road. Gadsden County, FL

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to purchase two acres located on Salem Road to use as a fire station and for authorization for the Chair to execute documents.


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

8. Approval of the Proposal from CSI Contracting, Inc. for Mitered End Sections on Kemp Road

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to enter into a contract with CSI Contracting, Inc. for installing mitered end sections on newly replaced culverts on Kemp Street.

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

9. Consideration of a Park to be located on Five Acres


 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for consideration of developing a park on five acres of a portion of county-owned property located on Joe Adams Road.

Commissioner Taylor said when this item was initially brought before the Board, the Board had safety concerns. Since that meeting, she had met with community leaders and other parcels were identified and she asked the Board to not consider this parcel at this time because of the location and asked that they look at other areas and asked to pull this item for consideration.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he understood what Commissioner Taylor wanted was for security reasons but felt it should have been done before the agenda was approved.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO DENY THIS ITEM.


10. Approval to Accept the FY 2016 2nd Quarter Report

 Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for acceptance of the second quarter report for the fiscal year 2016.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

11. Update on Various Board Requests

 Mr. Presnell requested the Board to approve a Proclamation for National Public Works Week for the May 17th meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS MATTER.

Mr. Presnell announced a Job fair for this year to be held on August 11th starting at 9:30 at the IFAS Center.

He reminded the Commissioners of the ribbon cutting at Capital Hydraulics May 4th.

He also reminded the Commissioners they were trying to finalize by mid-June to formulate the Legislative agenda to get ahead of the game.

He said there was a meeting scheduled at the IFAS Center regarding the County's health ranking on May 18th.

He gave them a list of dates for meetings with the municipalities.

He reminded them of the Budget workshop scheduled for May 26th in the Meeting Chambers.

Chair Holt asked for a list of what health-care providers in the County was providing health-care wise for the citizens. Commissioner Taylor said the Gadsden County Health Council was where a lot of hidden secrets were and needed to be present at the health ranking meeting at the IFAS Center and Mr. Presnell said they would be. Commissioner Taylor said Gadsden County had always been reactive and not proactive and the reason for the development of the Health Council was before grants could be applied for and they needed to check with the Health Council. She added they need to get out of being comfortable and divide and conquer.

Chair Holt said she would like to have a meeting with the School Board and Superintendent and Mr. Presnell said they would be at meeting scheduled for the 18th but there could be a separate meeting scheduled with them in June.

Commissioner Hinson said they did not want to offend local health care officials and they should call the local doctors and use ones local that live here first and get a team together to see what they could do. Chair Holt said it was a good idea to incorporate medical providers here.

Commissioner Morgan asked for a paving update in District 3 and Mr. Presnell said they should be there on Monday.

Commissioner Morgan asked regarding the scheduled meetings with local municipalities that when they meet with Chattahoochee to consider recognizing Norman "Champ" James who was not running for re-election with the City Commission and when meet with Greensboro to recognize Max Fletcher, who also recently retired from serving the Town of Greensboro and asked for a Resolution honoring their service.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR NORMAN "CHAMP" JAMES AND MAX FLETCHER.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

12. Update on Various Legal Issues

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

13. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie asked Mr. Presnell if the BOCC website was linked to CRPTA and FAC websites with items happening there and Mr. Presnell said if not currently it will.

Commissioner Viegbesie said with the mosquito spraying, he had received a lots of calls regarding the level of mosquitos and with the mild winter there was an overload of mosquitos and asked if they could increase spraying for them.

Commissioner Viegbesie then made a motion for a Resolution to be presented to the Kenon family for passing of their father and for Gregory Houston for his services to St. Matthew Primitive Baptist Church.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO THE KENON FAMILY AND TO GREGORY HOUSTON.

Commissioner Taylor asked if they could get notification in the papers giving the public spraying times. Mr. Presnell said they had done that and 627-5396 was the number to call for spraying. Mr. Presnell added the State had changed the rules and citizens now had to make a specific request and they had to log in requests in order to spray.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

(Made his comments earlier)

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

**Commissioner Taylor said she voted tonight on an item and wished to rescind her vote regarding the Economic Development Incentive and felt she could if she had not left the meeting. She added she felt there should be some changes with regard to the language and point system. She said she would agree with option 2 with changes. Mr. Weiss said there was rescission and reconsideration and Chair Holt asked him to check and they would come back for his response.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said they needed to be aggressive with the mosquito spray because of the Zika Virus and better educate people that have ponds regarding the breeding of mosquitos. He then asked for another dog catcher and mosquito sprayer because Gadsden County was too large for one.

**Mr. Weiss said Commissioner Taylor was simply asking for her vote to be rescinded and not for any board action and she said yes and then Commissioner Hinson asked that his vote reflect nay

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also. Vote was 3-2 and passed.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Receipt and File

14. a. Letter from DEO
- b. FY 2016 Administrative Budget Amendments
- c. Florida Department of Health-Gadsden Quarterly Progress Report

UPCOMING MEETINGS

15. May 17, 2016-Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- May 26, 2016-First Budget Workshop-4:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER ACTION TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:22 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA



BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk