

AT A PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR  
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 20, 2018 AT  
4:30 P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD,  
VIZ:

**Present:** Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4  
Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, Vice Chair, District 2 – Arrived late  
Eric Hinson, District 2 – Arrived late  
Gene Morgan, District 3 - Absent  
Sherrie Taylor, District 5 - Absent  
Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator  
David Weiss, County Attorney  
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Jackson welcomed everyone to the Pre-Meeting Workshop. She asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Mrs. Jackson said they were going to move around the Agenda a little and she started with an update from the Chamber of Commerce.

**1. Agenda Discussion**

**1. Awards, Presentations and Appearances**

Proclamation Honoring Maline Murray who was selected to represent Talquin Electric Cooperative at the NRECA National Youth Tour in Washington, DC

Historic Courthouse Restoration Update

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- a. February 20, 2018 Pre-Meeting Workshop
- b. February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

**4. Ratification Memo**

**5. Ratification Memo**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**6. PUBLIC HEARING: (Quasi-Judicial)-Perkins Ridge Preliminary Plat (SD 2018-01)-Consideration to Request a Replat of a Lot in a Recorded, Platted Subdivision**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and Jill Jeglie then explained it. She said this was a split of 18.92 acres into a 13.56 acre lot and a 5.39 acre lot.

She said the recommendation was Option 3-Board direction.

Chair Holt asked what the property owners' intent was and Ms. Jeglie said to give the 5 acre lot to their son to be able to build a house.

**7. PUBLIC HEARING: (Quasi-Judicial)-Perkins Ridge Final Plat (SD 2018-01)**

**8. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance No. 2018-002, An Ordinance of the BOCC of Gadsden County, FL amending Chapter 2, Article V, Division 5 of the GC Code of Ordinances regarding the GC Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to delete the automatic sunset provision in Section 2-244, providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the GC Code of Ordinances, modifications that may arise from consideration at a "Public Hearing", and correction of Scrivener's errors; and providing for an effective date; and adoption of revised Bylaws for the GC Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, deleting the automatic sunset provision.**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item.

Mr. Weiss said the BOCC adopted an Ordinance and Bylaws for the Advisory Board and when they adopted it, they wanted to do an automatic sunset on March 31, 2018 unless it was readdressed.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Ordinance 2018-003, An Ordinance of the BOCC of Gadsden County, FL adopting Chapter 66,, Article III of the GC Code of Ordinances, the Gadsden County Emergency Repair Program; providing for repeal, severability, inclusion in the Gadsden County Code of Ordinances, modifications that may arise from consideration at a "Public Hearing" and correction of Scrivener's Errors; and providing an effective date**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item and said currently there was not an Ordinance on record for this.

Mr. Weiss said the Ordinance was fairly similar to the existing policy. He said in certain areas the policy was unclear and the Clerk requested if the Board wanted to continue on with the program, he wanted to have an Ordinance that would be a public declaration of a public purpose and there were concerns on clarity regarding some items. He thought the Ordinance would address those concerns and it was sent to the Clerk and he never responded. Chair Holt asked if this was one that Commissioners decided on and he said no, the Commissioners did not get to decide who received assistance. He explained this was pretty similar to the SHIP process in terms of criteria and documentation that had to be provided.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**10. Consideration of Resolution 2018-001, Revising Gadsden County's Travel Policy**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item.

**Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator**, addressed this item. He said revisions were made in June 7, 2005 and additional provisions were made on April 11, 2006, February 2, 2010 and November 18, 2014. He explained the County has been operating under the 2014 policy since that time. He explained the changes in the policy and it basically would revert back before the 2014 revision.

Chair Holt said the reason it was changed, a Commissioner brought up the fact that travel was announced in a public meeting and would let the public know that their house may be vacant.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he felt this would be a fairly contentious issue. He said there were several corrections and revisions and this was a work in process. He asked about travel that Commissioners or authorized officials did outside of regular meetings, such as if a Commissioner traveled from where they were to meet with a citizen regarding County issues. He said it was not a workshop or a required County Commission meeting but they were traveling on behalf of and to do work for the County and how was that factored into the Commissioners' travels.

*Commissioner Hinson arrived at 5:19 p.m.*

Chair Holt suggested since this would be contentious, to move it to the end of the agenda and felt this item should be discussed at a workshop.

Commissioner Viegbesie suggested they pull this item and schedule it for a workshop soon and that would be his motion in the meeting.

Mrs. Jackson said for the record Staff was working on the entire policy.

#### **11. Sheriff's Office Duty Firearms Acquisition**

Mrs. Jackson introduced the above item.

**Bobby Collins, Captain, GCSO**, appeared before the Board. He said this project or request had been out there for about a year. He said he had been working with County Purchasing Personnel, Connie McLendon, regarding the steps. He said he asked last year what it would take for the Sheriff's Office to purchase patrol rifles for the Deputies and she sent a list of their purchasing guidelines along with the Sheriff's and one was to send the request through the Board for approval and that was what they were now requesting. He said they followed everything to a "T" on her list and the vendors that were identified were State contract vendors and it was not necessary to put it out for bid based on their purchasing guidelines. He said the low bidder was GT Distributors for \$68,830. He said the funds would come from Confiscated Funds, the Forfeiture Funds and they would not have to request the Board to provide any funding for it. He said the money was there and was a dire need. He said there was also a request to outfit their Special Response team with Glock 17 side arms. He said that currently the Sheriff's Office did not buy firearms for any of the deputies and was a cost the deputies had to incur themselves.

Mrs. Jackson clarified it was not the lowest bid but the lowest quote they received from the State contract.

Captain Collins said that was correct and was what Connie McLendon specifically told them to do. He said they followed her purchasing guidelines as well as theirs.

Chair Holt asked if he could give her a copy of what the Sheriff's requirements were so she could compare to hers and he said he could forward her email to her.

Mr. Weiss said he had a couple of questions as to whether this complied with the terms of their Procurement Policy and if there was a purchase from a State contract that was an exception. He said the only other thing, the Statute did require that the Sheriff's Office provide a certification that the funds were being used pursuant to the act and could be real short and sweet.

Captain Collins said to satisfy that requirement, they used the CJST Form 24 and that was one of the stipulations that Mrs. McLendon asked for. He said they did that for all the purchases when they were going forth with forfeiture funds or LEEF funds.

Mr. Weiss asked for a copy of that to go in the record and if Connie was ok with it, then they were alright.

Chair Holt said that should not matter, that what Connie wanted should not matter. Mr. Weiss said that would be in the record and Chair Holt stated it would be in the record because that was what they would do anyway. She then said that was a “dictatorship”. She asked for a copy of their Purchasing requirements to compare to hers.

**12. Approval of Mosquito Control Contract Amendment with Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACs)**

**13. 2018 Striping Project Phase III-Bid Award**

**14. Peck Betts Road-Change Order 1**

Mrs. Jackson skipped to this item to save time. She said this was in the amount of \$74,345.47 to Peavy and Sons Construction. She said there were a couple of issues with the roads.

**Justin Ford, Preble-Rish**, appeared before the Board to explain the item. He said FDOT had approved the change order and when the water was lowered, they could better inspect the concrete pipes and it was determined they were not in as good of condition as first thought and needed to be replaced. They reached out to FDOT and had more than enough money in the budget to cover.

**2. Department Updates**

**3. Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce Update**

**David Gardner, Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce**, appeared before the Board and gave an update of all the activities they had going on. He said they had worked hard on becoming a clearinghouse for information and people would come through their doors all day long needing information. He said they were not only tracking unemployment, but employment and within the last twelve months they had noticed 400 more people had been employed in Gadsden County. Mrs. Jackson asked if the snapshot was representative of people that were employed in Gadsden County or lived in Gadsden County and was employed elsewhere. Mr. Gardner said this was indicative of Gadsden County citizens.

*Commissioner Viegbesie arrived at 4:43 p.m.*

**Rob Nixon** appeared before the Board and said this was Gadsden County data and specific to Gadsden County.

Mr. Gardner said they were seeing a definite trend for employment in the County.

Mr. Nixon gave an update of the Small Business Service Center program and said this was the

specific funding that the County gave to them and showed a snapshot of the list of people they had helped. He said they have been promoting Corporate Citizenship. He informed them that the Chamber hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon as part of Public Safety Recognition. He said this was important to small businesses because they were always concerned about the safety of their equipment, employees and business in general and this helped to build a closer relationship between the Chamber, those businesses and law enforcement. Mr. Gardner added that the next year it would be expanded to all first responders.

Mr. Nixon said Mr. Gardner was recently appointed to the Tallahassee Airport Authority and that was important because it gave them a chance talk about the great things that were going on in terms with tourism and small business opportunities.

Chair Holt said the reason for the pre-workshop was to hammer out any questions and things they wanted to find out ahead of time. Mrs. Jackson said they were starting a Performance Measure Worksheet so GCDC and the Chamber could start reporting and providing a sign-in sheet. Chair Holt said she understood that but for \$80,000 (the County gives them) she wanted to know what she was getting. She said Chambers normally supported themselves and received money from their members. Mr. Nixon said that Gadsden County staff had been invited to review the files and there was information that should not...Chair Holt interrupted and said they did not want personal information. Mr. Nixon said they had sign-in sheets for every event. Chair Holt said the Board needed to know what they were paying money for, not the Staff. She also said "When you get public dollars, you have to reveal your public records".

Mrs. Jackson said she was adding one item to the Agenda. She said there was a group of people that currently occupied the Ag Center and there were some air quality concerns and wanted to relocate them and added a rental lease agreement to the Agenda.

**4. Follow-up Items**

**Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THEM, THE WORKSHOP WAS DECLARED ADJOURNED AT 5:39 P.M.**



**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**BRENDA HOLT, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**