

AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JULY 6, 2021 AT 1:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

Present: Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4
Dr. Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, Vice Chair, District 2
Eric Hinson, District 1
Kimblin NeSmith, District 3
Ronterious “Ron” Green, District 5
Edward J. Dixon, County Administrator
Clayton Knowles, County Attorney
Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt welcomed everyone to the Emergency Meeting, asked for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag.

Amendments and Approval of Agenda

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

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD (3-Minute Limit)

Due to COVID-19 and the efforts of the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners to continue the practice of social distancing, Commissioners want to continue to hear from citizens under the Citizens Requesting to be Heard section of the agenda.

If citizens have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email

CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov and anticipate receiving a response within 48 hours.

The Board of County Commissioners would like to thank everyone for their patience and flexibility during this time.

There were no citizens that requested to speak.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Approval of Resolution 2021-027

Mr. Dixon introduced the above Resolution 2021-027 regarding Emergency Management and said Major Shawn Wood was present to speak on this matter.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER NESMITH MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER HINSON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE PRESENTATION.

Major Shawn Wood, Director of Emergency Management, appeared before the Board. He stated after 17 years, FRS has told him he has to retire. He introduced Tashonda Whaley.

Ms. Whaley appeared before the Board and said while the County was not in the cone, a slight shift to the west could impact the County. There are several roads under construction, it was very Important to take pictures as they are now in case of damage during the emergency.

Chair Holt said there was already a Motion and Second and called for the vote.

**CHAIR HOLT SAID THERE WAS ALREADY A MOTION AND SECOND AND CALLED FOR THE VOTE.
THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.**

Chair Holt also said BOCC was responsible for Emergency Management

Commissioner Hinson said that was why he had tried to get in touch with Mr. Dixon. He heard Major Woods was retiring. He felt they needed to have a meeting to interview for the job. Chair Holt said the contact they have now is with the Sheriff's Department, not an individual. Commissioner Hinson said the Board needs to approve the person put in charge.

Commissioner Viegbesie said Commissioner Hinson raised an interesting issue, since Major Woods was here and has been here for his length of time, he asked him a question.

Major Woods said he has been the Director for approximately eight years and the County changed the policy. The Sheriff picks someone and the Board approves it.

Commissioner Green thanked Major Woods for the service he provided to the County over the years and have also witnessed Ms. Whaley and believed they would be in great hands.

Chair Holt said it was almost right, but kind of wrong. She said the process comes from the Board going down. It was like a contractor; they contract with Motorola, etc. The Board has to be in charge.

Mr. Dixon said they have a number of contracts like that; the Department of Health was like that.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was about to say what the Chair just said. The Chair is the spokesperson for the Board.

Chair Holt said if the Chair was not there and the Resolution was not signed, the County could not get paid for it. The Chair has to sign the paperwork.

Commissioner NeSmith also commended Major Woods for the phenomenal job he has done. He said also, FAC has New Commissioners Orientation but the County does not have any orientation for new Commissioners. He asked that something be created for the future so they know the intricacies of what to do.

Chair Holt said none of them have had that. They get sworn in and get right to work and she felt that was a good idea.

Commissioner Hinson asked for a Proclamation for Corrine Herring. Chair Holt said they could only vote on the Emergency Resolution. He said he also went to conference and was why he had a pleather of knowledge about it. He asked the Board to consider having a meeting in July, there were a lot of issues going on that needed to be addressed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
July 6, 2021 – Emergency Meeting

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:34 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk