

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MAY 16, 2023 AT 6:00 PM, THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: **Kimblin NeSmith, Chair, District 3**
 Eric Hinson, Vice-Chair, District 1
 Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2
 Brenda Holt, District 4
 Ronterious “Ron” Green, District 5 – appeared by phone
 Edward J. Dixon, County Administrator
 Clayton Knowles, County Attorney
 Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair NeSmith called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm, asked for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Dixon stated he would like to add Item 19A-Approval of Funding to Support National Homeownership Month, Item 19B---Update on Bicentennial Celebration and Item 19c-Approval of the Engagement Letter and Fee Structure with Coppins Monroe, PA for Case #2022 CA 500 (FCI v. Gadsden County, FL). Mr. Knowles requested that item be moved to 16A.

Commissioner Hinson stated Item 19a had a fiscal impact of \$20,000 and asked if it had to be advertised first since it was under the threshold of \$35,000. Chair NeSmith asked to give the attorney a chance to review. Mr. Knowles suggested to approve the Agenda with the item and if need to pull, they could do so when they got to that item.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER GREEN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THE AGNDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- 1. Proclamation Recognizing EMS Week**
Mr. Dixon said this was EMS week, Chair NeSmith read the Proclamation aloud and was then presented to the EMS workers present. Chair presented the Proclamation to EMS persons. Chief Kris Hood thanked the Board on behalf of the EMS workers for the support provided to the EMS workers.

- 2. Proclamation Recognizing Public Works Week**
Mr. Dixon said the next Proclamation was recognizing Public Works Week. Chair NeSmith read aloud the Proclamation and then presented it to Director Curtis Young. Mr. Young thanked his staff and the board for their support.

- 3. Mental Health Awareness Month Proclamation**
Mr. Dixon said the next item was a Proclamation recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month and asked if there was a representative to receive the proclamation. Chair NeSmith read the proclamation allow old and it was presented to Ms. McMillan and Rev. Hannah.

4. **Family Abduction Awareness Day – May 25th Proclamation**

Mr. Dixon said the next day was a Proclamation for Family Abduction Awareness day but no one was present to receive the Proclamation.

5. **Recognition of Ms. Cathy Johnson**

Mr. Dixon said next was the recognition of Ms. Cathy Johnson by Commissioner Eric Hinson. Commissioner Hinson gave a little background and then read aloud the read aloud the Recognition. Ms. Johnson spoke a few words.

6. **Update on the 2023 Employee Climate Survey**

Mr. Dixon presented the above item.

Becky Maas, Director of Human Resources, appeared before the Board to discuss the update on the 2023 Employee Climate Survey.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they asked for names on the survey and Ms. Maas stated no, it was completely confidential.

Commissioner Simpkins asked what was the total number of people surveyed. Ms. Maas stated 136. Commissioner Simpkins asked if the survey included certain departments. Ms. Maas stated they did not know what 136 responded and there is a total of 220 employees.

Commissioner Green asked if everyone had adequate amount of time to do the survey and Ms. Maas stated correct.

Commissioner Hinson asked why 100+ employees did not do the survey. Ms. Maas said 60% of employees the responded, they have OPS employees that may not been working that week or EMS workers off that period of time.

Commissioner Holt asked if the survey could be done at the beginning of the year or fiscal year.

Commissioner Hinson stated he was ok for once a year,

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOLT AND SECONDE BY CHAIR NESMITH, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Holt/NeSmith 5-0

Commissioner Hinson asked if Mr. Dixon could give a brief summary regarding Item 13. Mr. Dixon read through the item. Commissioner Hinson stated he believed in public-private partnership.

7. **Ratification Memo**

8. **Approval of Minutes**

a) **BOCC Meeting Minutes:**

a. **April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting**

9. **Approval of the EAP Services Contract with Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare**
10. **Sheriff's Office – Training Funding Request (Florida Association of School Resource Officers - 44th Training Conference)**
11. **Acceptance and Signature of the Spring 2023 E911 Rural County Grant Award Agreement for E911 System and MapSAG Annual Support and Maintenance**
12. **Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien**
13. **Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Gadsden County and Second Harvest of the Big Bend**
14. **HCA Florida Capital Hospital Request to Replace the Existing Nurse Call System at the Gadsden Facility**
15. **Approval to Apply for the Historic Preservation Grant for the Gadsden County Courthouse**

Items Pulled for Discussion

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

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.org 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 via Zoom using the credentials on the County's website. The Board's meetings are also broadcast live on the Board's Facebook page.

Chair NeSmith read aloud the above statement.

Bishop Willie C Green, 296 Bradwell Rd Quincy, FL

Bishop Willie C. Green appeared before the Board and asked about the items that were added to agenda at beginning of the meeting and citizens would not be able to read through the items once added during meeting. How will they allow for discussion on the item if it was not on the agenda?

Chair NeSmith stated typically they frown upon items added at last minute but sometimes there are items that need to be addressed that come after agenda approved and Administrator deems important enough to keep business of County moving forward. If it has fiscal costs or something that does not need to be responded to at that moment, they have the right to table the item and bring it back at a later date.

Bishop Green said once they add items, how would the public know what those items were after they were added to the agenda and if they wanted to speak on any of those items, would allowances be made so he could speak?

Mr. Knowles said if any citizen wanted to speak on an item after announced, they have the right to do so when the item comes up.

Sherrie Taylor, 217 W Clark St. Quincy, FL

Ms. Taylor asked for an update regarding the funding for Gadsden Wellness. He met with staff with regards to funding that was approved. She read comments made by the Administrator after the meeting and thought they had different opinion as to what came from meeting. She said they talked about meeting with the funding agency, talked about partnership, but one statement made in the information to the Commissioners, she had a difference of the opinion. She said it was not a refusal in signing the agreement but indicated they were applying for the grant and so was the County to some degree and he wanted to come back to the Board. In his email to the Board, he indicated that the second meeting in May, the item would be placed on the agenda and it was not. She said she shared at the meeting she would be applying. It was stated at the meeting by a couple of commissioners if she applied and received the grant, she would have to return the \$45,000. She asked when it could be placed on the agenda, when they could have discussions so the much-needed funding could go to the seniors at her program. Also, at the meeting where the funding was approved, there were two concerns echoed by two commissioners: 1) sustainability and she said she would present a letter from her bank of 25 years to the Administrator's Office tomorrow morning to show sustainability; and 2) process; she had nothing to do with the removal or the way the grant was given to them, she was only trying to make sure the funding stayed in Gadsden County.

Mr. Dixon stated if the Commissioners would like to agenda this they could. He and the attorney were present and Ms. Taylor did not sign the document and informed them she was a the and applying to the same program the County was. What he understood the Board to say with that, she did not qualify and did not sign the document saying she would not compete and therefore was nothing to bring before the Board.

Ms. Taylor said she was more than willing to sign as is but when she indicated to the Administrator she was applying, he said he was uncomfortable moving forward and would rather take it back to the Board. She stated she told the Board verbatim she was applying and the Agreement was taken off by the Administrator, not by her.

Chair NeSmith asked if there were terms in the agreement she disagreed with because the grant she was applying for was the same grant the Board was applying for. She said yes. Chair NeSmith said that violated the Noncompete clause and she said they were at a stalemate because of whether or not the Board could apply because of the stipulation outlined by the granting agency. The stipulation indicated that they have to be a 501c3 and present documentation indicating such, have to have the necessary experience and present information indicating as much and a couple of other items the funding agency had put in the RFP. One very profound one was no governmental agency could apply, it had to be a nonprofit. Those were bullet points the County could not get around. She stated she felt comfortable applying for the grant because she knew based on the qualifications, the County could not apply.

Chair NeSmith said this was obviously more complicated than they had time to address. He did not think the Commissioners were aware of the qualifications to obtain the grant and would require research on behalf of the Board members.

Commissioner Hinson stated the item should come before the Board so they could look at it.

Commissioner Holt said if Ms. Taylor was applying for the same grant the Board was applying for, then she could not have the money. If she was applying for that money, then she did not need money from the County in order to apply,

Mr. Dixon stated what Ms. Taylor said was her interpretation of what she believed was in a document. That is not what the contract called for, it clearly stated if the County deemed it necessary for her not to compete in this grant, then she would not, not for her to determine if the County was qualified or eligible to compete or not. Those were the simple terms put forth by the Board.

Commissioner Hinson stated they need public-private partnership. This was costing the County almost \$500,000 plus another \$100,000 that they did not have to pay in the past. They need to embrace public-private partnerships more. He felt it was fair to her and the community to have this item placed on the agenda.

Chair NeSmith said research should have taken place before being placed on the agenda and was more interested in having research to sit with the Administrator and Attorney to see what language was being discussed because of the different level of interpretation. They need background before moving forward.

Ms. Taylor stated that the County Administrator stated the same. She said apparently some of the same people were telling them two different things and need a meeting with the funding agency to get clarity and have total understanding. Also, in the same meeting, there was language to drawn up stating the County not to apply for a grant to keep someone else from applying.

Commissioner Green stated it was a needed conversation. He wanted to get clarity that the County was applying and the way they were applying. He stated it was their job to take care of their citizens holistically.

Mr. Dixon stated the characterization that Ms. Taylor put on for discussion was severely misleading. Both their attorney and her attorney talked back and forth about possibilities. He made it clear that the document that was before them was what the Board asked in a Board meeting and was interpreted very clearly. It was not an attempt to keep Ms. Taylor from receiving funds. It was an attempt to keep her from competing with the County. It was her interpretation of what the Area on Agency was saying.

Commissioner Holt stated if it was going to be brought back, the research could be verified before anything was put on the agenda.

Ms. Taylor stated she was glad they were going to take the initiative to work through the details.

Chair NeSmith thought there were a lot of questions from the discussion but he had to move the meeting forward.

Commissioner Hinson stated she should be able to ask the Attorney a question.

Chair NeSmith stated he needed to move the meeting forward.

Pastor Kenneth Frame, 120 McArthur St.

Pastor Kenneth Frame, 120 McArthur Street, Quincy, FL presented a poem for this county.

Commissioner Simpkins stated the poem was awesome. It was fitting especially with the Bicentennial. She wanted to make sure they had his contact information.

Commissioner Green stated he already had the chance to meet with Pastor Frame. He thanked the Pastor for coming.

Commissioner Holt stated it was a beautiful poem. She said it would be great for marketing.

Pastor Frame stated he wrote it for tourism in the County.

Commissioner Hinson thanked Pastor Frame.

Commissioner Holt stated she wanted to invite him to a TDC meeting.

Commissioner Green stated for him to consider radio ads.

Public Hearings

General Business

16. LAP Multi-Project CEI – Task Orders

Mr. Dixon presented the above item and said it was for Board approval to execute task orders with AECOM, Inc. for the CEI services of the Multi Local Agency Program projects (LAP).

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

16A Approval of the Engagement Letter and Fee Structure with Coppins/Monroe PA for Case No. 2022 CA 500 (FCI v. Gadsden County)

Mr. Knowles stated this was presented for approval and ratification of the Engagement Letter and Fee Structure with Coppins Monroe, P.A. for representation in matters pertaining to litigation with FCI.

Zack Scharleep, Esquire with Coppins Monroe, appeared before the Board and said a few words.

Commissioner Hinson stepped out at 7:27 pm.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER GREEN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.

17. Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Mr. Dixon presented the above item and stated it was for approval to appoint members to serve on the Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. He asked for names from the commissioners as soon as possible.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SIMPKINS AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.

18. Approval of Billing Variance Payment to Capital Health Plan

Mr. Dixon introduced the above item and said would be presented by Becky Maas, Director of Human Resources.

Ms. Maas appeared before the Board and asked for approval to issue payment to CHP in the amount of \$77,369.94 for a billing variance as a result of unpaid premiums due to employee terminations that had not been processed in a start its timely basis. She said this was for the time period between July 2021 and November 2022.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 7:31 pm

Commissioner Simpkins asked if CHP billed on a monthly basis. Ms. Maas stated yes. If they were billing on a monthly basis and it goes back to November 2022 for premiums incurred between July 2021 to November 2022 and they were now in May, they were just figuring out that this amount was owed? Ms. Maas said no, it was brought to their attention during the transition period and was originally a much higher amount. They have worked to reduce that amount by doing research to see what communication had been provided to CHP or if there were any discrepancies on their end. That resulted in the original amount of the variance being approximately \$140,000 and working with the clerk's office and the CHP representative, they were able to reduce it to the amount of \$77,369 94.

Commissioner Holt returned at 7:32 pm.

Commissioner Simpkins asked the County Administrator if they received any type of communication from CHP prior to Ms. Maas coming on since this went back to July or since the Clerk actually makes the payment, were they aware of this and did they try to take care of it prior to her coming on. Also, how has it been rectified so the problem does not occur again.

Mr. Dixon stated this was one of the problems they found in going through HR and literally dismantling HR and beginning to put it back together. One problem was in billing between the Clerk's Office, the County Office and the representative, there was a breakdown in the County office with their staff. They did not deal properly or reply to billing properly and have since worked intimately with the Clerk's Office on this issue with their representative, Al Lawson, who represented CHP and with CHP. They had to go through every process they had in terms of insurance and benefits. As they come across situations, they are rectifying them and putting processes in place where it does not happen again. He said part of it was in the house and part was the lack of communication between the parties. He said they tried hard to get along with the Clerk's Office because it is important on small things as well as big things. This was one of the issues with the lack of communication resulted in them not taking care of our spotting

problems when they pop up. They believe a process has been put in place now that will rectify this situation.

Commissioner Simpkins stated when information is sent from the Clerk, was there a communication before her time when he saw there was some type of discrepancy, was there communication they were included on.

Mr. Dixon stated at this level this was a problem Ms. Maas found due to her professionalism and great ability that she brought to Gadsden County in going through every one of the benefits. He said as he understood, the process the Clerk's Office reviewed did not help the situation. It was not a "blame thing".

Commissioner Simpkins said reading "upon going through the previously unopened mail, it was discovered" and that bothered her and she asked if they only receive notifications through the mail and not electronically?

Ms. Maas said during the transition between the former employee and herself, there was a consultant there for a period of time. When she was going through back mail, she discovered that. They do have many checks and balances in place now to avoid this happening again and with the collaborative relationships that have been built with the Clerk's Office has been invaluable to putting those in place. That is a very strong relationship she now values very much. She has personally met with the CHP representative and have a strong relationship with them. They did not have that in the past. As Mr. Dixon referenced, it was a result of inefficiencies and a lack of communication with the other players. They now have checks and balances now and working collaboratively with the Clerk's Office, with CHP and get communication from them in writing and electronically. The Clerk's Office receives that information electronically and multiple players are involved. They are reconciling on a monthly basis which is what should have been happening to avoid this problem ever occurring. When there are issues that pop up now from time to time with benefits, as they do, they are being addressed immediately and were not in the past.

Commissioner Holt stated it was a good thing they had those guidelines in place now and was hopeful they will have other people in place to help with this so they can keep up with the money better.

Commissioner Green stated he recalled individuals who were there during the transitional moments and asked if any way possible, they could they get lists of other findings of things so they would not be caught off guard when the issues or coming.

Commissioner Hinson asked if there were any findings in the audit report.

Mr. Dixon stated they had not done this audit yet and there was nothing signaling things were out of whack. It was an internal thing.

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

19. Approval of the Inter-local Fire and Rescue Service Agreement between Gadsden County and the City of Quincy

Mr. Dixon presented the above item and stated they have been in conversation with the city of Quincy with regards to fire protection. Information has been submitted to the County, the County had responded to them and have met a number of times. They have increasing cost, a lot due to personnel costs and inflation that they are experiencing. They provide service County-wide and have not had an increase in quite some time. Through negotiations they have come up with an increase of \$31,656 in funding over their less contract. This contract is for two years.

Commissioner Hinson stated it was great idea but, they need to make sure they have conversations with everyone. He stated people were misled easily and they needed to have a conversation with all the fire departments.

Mr. Dixon stated they have approved all the other fire departments except Quincy. They were all held to their current budget except Chattahoochee.

Commissioner Hinson stated they need to have a conversation. The County Administrator could tell them what they suggest.

Commissioner Holt asked Mr. Dixon if the others were already done and he stated yes. She said City of Quincy has to go to all the fires in the County. She said they should negotiate all the departments at the same time so they become have the contracts done at the same time. This needs to be approved go ahead and have what is needed in the contracts.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND FOR DISCUSSION.

Commissioner Simpkins stated the City of Quincy services quite a few calls in the unincorporated areas and the amount may not be the amount they need in order for them to expand that. She asked if the contract with them expired and Mr. Dixon stated the contract is just what is said in the analysis, in the interim, a longer-term agreement will be reached.

Commissioner Simpkins stated she agreed with Commissioner Hinson. When the numbers are coming and they are going into an agreement, let the board decided they want to give them \$100,000 or not. Bring it to the table and give them the opportunity to have that conversation. She agreed that they need additional funding, but for the future, she believed when numbers were being discussed, those numbers should come before the Board and let them make that decision.

Chair NeSmith asked Mr. Dixon if they currently had an agreement with the City of Quincy.

Mr. Dixon stated no, it expired last year.

Commissioner Hinson stated the City of Quincy currently receives \$486,688 and will increase \$31,656 to be a total of \$518,344. He asked how many fire departments there were in the County and Mr. Dixon stated 11.

Holt stated need to go ahead and vote. Need to look at that increase because of the services they provide. Need to beef up the training program.

Commissioner Hinson stated he did not want anyone to think the commissioners did not believe in protecting the citizens. He believed in a process that they are a Board and should give directives to the County Administrator. He did not disagree but wanted to clarify because if he did and it would be as if they were going against the fire department.

CHAIR NESMITH CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

19A Request from SHIP Housing program.

Mr. Dixon introduced the above item and it was for approval to support the Second Housing Symposium and fair on June 10, 2023 at the Gadsden County Courthouse from 10 am – 3 pm..

Mr. Knowles stated the line item listed in the agenda item does not presently have the \$20,000 and in order to fund that fund, a budget amendment would need to be brought back to the Board for ratification. He explained they were approving the expenditure of the money without moving the money. The money would need to be moved by separate action of the board.

Chair NeSmith stated this goes back to a point commissioner holt made earlier, they needed to budget these items early.

Commissioner Hinson stated the only reason he was supporting this was because it was below the threshold of \$35,000.

COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND.

Commissioner Green stated there would be things they would have to amend occasionally and this was a good item to amend the budget for.

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

19B Update on Bicentennial Committee Meeting

Mr. Dixon introduced the above item and said it was an update on the Bicentennial Committee Meeting and they met on April 24th and May 2nd. Themes were presented for the Board to review and approve. Different activities were discussed and the different events should be spread out throughout the county.

Charles Hayes appeared before the Board and said the overall consensus for approval of the theme is “200 years Our Community, Our Story”.

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE THEME AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Holt stated she had been in contact with a screenwriter and he was very interested and she will keep the board apprised.

CLERK OF COURT

20. Updates

There were no updates.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

21. Updates

There were no updates.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

22. Updates

Mr. Knowles stated he had a question for the Board. He needed Board directive to adopt an Ordinance regarding the Emergency Housing Program. The Clerk had sent out an email requesting the Board adopt an Ordinance that would codify that program and was brought to them before he came on board around 2017 or 2018. He asked for Board direction and if they wanted to adopt, they could use the one previously presented and bring it for review and later adoption.

Commissioner Holt stated that was fine, bring it back and they could review it.

Mr. Knowles stated he would bring it back to them.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

23. Commissioner Alonzetta Simpkins, District 2

Commissioner Simpkins stated she received a request for a bridge to be named in memory of Earline Chandler on CR 159. She stated the name was Attapulcus Creek Bridge. She asked the protocol for that.

Mr. Knowles stated he and Ms. Bradley had been working on that and will bring it to the Board for ratification.

Commissioner Simpkins asked if they needed to add additional workers with the mowing.

Mr. Dixon stated they have had 4 mowers down the past two weeks.

Commissioner Hinson asked if they had a process in place where they know what area they would be mowing.

Commissioner Holt stated over time they have hired an extra mowing crew.

Commissioner Simpkins stated the Attapulgus Highway had to go back for a re-bid and asked for updates on the railroad track and also the SCOP and SCRAP that was put in for Dogtown Road.

Mr. Dixon stated there was more info on the railroad track that came in today and he would let her know.

Commissioner Brenda A. Holt, District 4

Commissioner Holt stated she hoped to get with the Economic Development Council and locate records and information when they were employed to go out to industrial commercial sites. There were approximately 20 certified sites and a lot of research has already been done.

Agenda Request Items

She said they need to consider procedures for placing items on the Agenda.

Commissioner Simpkins said as long as the information is gotten in 10 days prior, they could request an item on the Agenda.

Commissioner Holt said they have had in the past, where different Commissioners ask for the same thing done different ways.

Mr. Knowles said all requests for Agenda items were to be presented to the County Administrator no later than 9:00 am at least 7 days prior to the meeting that item is to be presented with all appropriate backup materials sufficient to warrant the discussion.

Commissioner Holt said she was glad he read that because he said “with all supporting documentation” and that’s not happening.

Commissioner Hinson said he has been on the Board few years and when he brought Summer Youth Employment jobs, he brought the information. He said Commissioner Simpkins asked four months ago for the Administrator to bring the staffing plan and asked if she had to do research on that matter. With other County Administrators, if something was asked for, it was seen the following meeting.

Commissioner Holt said if a formal vote was taken it would be on there but that was not what she was saying. Until they become better prepared, it will not move as quickly as needed to.

Commissioner Ronterious Green, District 5

Commissioner Green asked Mr. Dixon about an update for Stevens School. Mr. Dixon stated they were currently up to date. There have been delays due to DEO and they could ask for an extension and have done so. They are continuing to keep the same pace to close asap and was shooting for the September 30th deadline.

Commissioner Green asked if he had heard back about the extension. Mr. Dixon said they had asked for the extension and have not heard back yet.

Commissioner Green stated Shiloh Community would be having May Day also and was asking for \$500.00. He asked the Board to support him to give them \$500.

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO GIVE SHILOH COMMUNITY \$500 FOR THEIR MAY DAY PROGRAM AND MOTION FAILED FOR LACK OF SECOND.

Chair NeSmith asked Commissioner Green to put in a motion to provide tents and other items needed for the Shiloh Community.

COMMISSIONER GREEN MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE TENTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR THE SHILOH COMMUNITY AND COMMISSIONER HOLT MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE.

Commissioner Hinson mentioned in the past, directors were present at the meetings in case there were questions.

Commissioner Green stated he will host a District 5 Town Hall meeting next Tuesday, May 23rd at the Senior Citizen Building at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Dixon said he met with the Regional Director of USDA the day before and went through issues. They have requested technical services from them for services. He understood the meeting went flawlessly.

Commissioner Simpkins stepped out at 8:59 pm

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice-Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said on next Saturday there would be a mega reunion at Havana Northside High School.

Commissioner Simpkins returned at 9:01 pm

He said when these events happen, they need to help promote them because it helps fill hotels, restaurants, gas stations, etc. Commissioner Holt said that was also something that could be promoted through Tourist Development Council.

Commissioner Holt stepped out at 9:05 pm

Chairman Kimblin NeSmith, District 3

Chair NeSmith stated today was National Barbecue Day.

Commissioner Holt returned at 9:10 pm

Commissioner Hinson gave the “Greenlight Moment”.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
May 16, 2023 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR NESMITH DECLARED
THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 P.M.**

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

**KIMBLIN NESMITH, Chair
Board of County Commissioners**

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk