

**JANUARY 3, 2023
JASPER, FLORIDA**

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Travis Erixton, Jimmy Murphy, Robert Brown, Robbie Roberson and Richie McCoy, a full Board being present. Also present were County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Andy Decker.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brown and led in prayer by Commissioner Brown with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Chairman Brown.

**FIRE SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES
AND COUNTY FIRE SERVICE**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin provided the Board with a brief update regarding the Fire Service Agreements with the Municipalities. Mr. Goodin stated that the Fire Services Agreement for the City of Jasper has been prepared by County Attorney Andy Decker and will be presented to the City Council at their next meeting for approval.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the November Fire Services invoice from the City of Jasper. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board discussed the Fire Services for the Town of Jennings, Commissioner Murphy advised that the Town has stated that they would be willing to provide Fire Services for \$60,000 annually. County Attorney Andy Decker suggested that staff meet with individuals from the Town of Jennings to create an agenda and have their Council draft the agreement as to their level of participation. After a brief discussion, the Board stated

that Commissioner Murphy, Mr. Goodin, Mr. Decker and Mr. Land will meet with the Town of Jennings and the City of Jasper to discuss Fire Services. The Board suggested having a Fire Workshop and directed Mr. Goodin to arrange the date and time.

**CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY
FUND PROGRAM (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN) – THOMAS
HOWELL FERFUSON P.A. – STATUS REPORT AND UPDATES**

Brittany Bechtel, with Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A., provided the Board with a status report for the American Rescue Plan. The Board announced that the Windstream Broadband ribbon cutting will take place at the Annex on January 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM / CDBG-CV – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors provided an update regarding the current Ship, CDBG and CDBG-CV projects. Mr. Nabors advised the Board that he is waiting on affirmation from DEO as to the new CDBG Grant; however, he feels certain that the County will be funded with White Springs and Jennings also doing housing grants.

County Attorney Andy Decker advised the Board that Mr. Bingham is still waiting on documentation from DEO regarding the CDBG-CV grant appeal.

**CITIZEN COMPLAINT OF 911 DISPATCH AND EMS RESPONSE
– RICKY MCCLAIN**

Ricky and Barbara McClain appeared before the Board to discuss a complaint regarding the county’s Emergency Medical Services and 911 Dispatch. Mr. McClain read a statement referencing their complaint and played a recording of a discussion with an EMS Caption that had previously responded to a call involving Mr. McClain’s son Eric. Mr. McClain explained that his son Eric was thirty (30) years old and had a previous traumatic brain injury. EMS Director Tiffany Daniels and Assistant Director John Smith addressed the complaint with the Board and

advised that the patient refused to be transported to a hospital. Ms. Daniels stated that when a patient refuses treatment or to be transported that EMS is legally bound to the patient's direction. Ms. Daniels also stated that the Mr. McClain's parents do not have power of attorney over their son at the current time. After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to allow staff to further review the situation and report back to the Board at the next meeting. The Board also stated that the demeanor of the EMS Personnel could also be part of the issue.

REQUEST THAT BOARD CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NO. 3 DRAGLINE CROSSING AT SE 62ND PLACE DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 29TH AND CR 6 ON JANUARY 31ST – NUTRIEN-WHITE SPRINGS – RACHEL GARLAND, GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS MANAGER

Rachel Garland, Government and Industrial Affairs Manager for Nutrien, reviewed the maps and request to allow the no. 3 Dragline to cross SE 62nd Place during the week of January 29th and CR 6 on January 31st. County Engineer Greg Bailey advised the Board that if Nutrien is planning to cross the roads during the evening hours that additional lighting and signage would be required. Ms. Garland assured the Board that Nutrien would provide everything needed for the crossing and that it would take approximately thirty (30) minutes.

- Motion by Commissioner Mccoy to approve for the No. 3 Dragline to cross SE 62nd Place at night with the additional signage and lighting and for Nutrien to provide the normal signage for the CR 6 crossing. Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

Economic Development Director Chadd Mathis was present for the meeting and stated that he was excited to work with the new Commissioners. Commissioner McCoy asked Mr. Mathis about the negotiations with the individual that owns the old Fireworks Store at the

Jennings I-75 interchange. Mr. Mathis gave a brief update on the property.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

Greg Bailey, with North Florida Professional Services, provided the Board with a status report on the current road projects.

LAKE BAISDEN LOOP – Mr. Bailey advised that the contractor is set to continue construction as scheduled.

GIBSON PARK – Mr. Bailey stated that the SRWMD permit has been approved for the project with the information being forwarded to FWC for approval.

Mr. Bailey discussed with the Board the public’s perception regarding social media and other forms of media with all of the projects that are currently taking place in the county.

NW 13TH DRIVE - The Board also announced that Commissioner Murphy will be scheduling a public meeting with constituents to discuss the right of way for NW 13th Drive.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner Murphy to approve the consent agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the bills (vouchers 158090 – 158245 and checks 069819-069990). Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that the new Animal Control Officer is William Burke.
- Mr. Goodin also reminded the Board that the Windstream ribbon cutting will be Thursday, January 12th at 3:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex. Mr. Goodin also announced that the Legislative Delegation meeting will be held at the Courthouse on January 13th at 5:30 p.m. and that the Rural County Days in Tallahassee will be held on April 25th and 26th. Mr. Goodin advised that Thomas Howell Ferguson will be sponsoring the County's booth with all five (5) Commissioners to be in attendance.
- Commissioner McCoy advised the Board that the Riding Club has a large Rodeo planned and needs additional parking. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to allow Commissioner McCoy to meet with County Coordinator Louie Goodin to review the removal of trees and renovations. Commissioner McCoy also stated that he has an issue in Forest Town; however, he will need to meet with individual prior to discussing with the Board.
- Commissioner Roberson discussed the need to have the dead pine trees at Gibson Park removed. The Board agreed to allow the same individual that will be removing the trees at the arena to address the tree issue at Gibson Park.
- Commissioner Murphy questioned staff as to the removal of the asbestos from the old Holiday Inn property. Mr. Goodin advised that the bids for the asbestos removal are due back on January 13, 2023.
- County Attorney Andy Decker announced that he along with Mr. Goodin will be holding a zoom meeting with Green Point Research at

1:30 p.m. with the company having committed to providing their financial information.

➤ Commissioner McCoy stated that the VFW has requested that the Board attend their meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The Board announced that several Board members will be in attendance.

➤ The Board announced that a Suwannee Valley Transit Authority meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

ROBERT BROWN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

