

**FEBRUARY 1, 2024
JASPER, FLORIDA**

SPECIAL SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in special session on February 1, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the WSHR development project in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Travis Erixton, Robbie Roberson, Jimmy Murphy, Richie McCoy and Robert Brown, a full Board being present. Also present were County Attorney Andy Decker and County Coordinator Gary Godwin.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCoy.

DISCUSSION FEMA FUNDING

Emergency Management Director Pam Allen discussed the FEMA reimbursement and availability of Hazardous Mitigation funds available to cover the costs of items possibly not covered by FEMA. After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to participate in the loan program and discussed several projects that could be covered using the funding program. Ms. Allen reminded the Board that a follow-up meeting will be held on February 15th at 5:00 p.m.

The Board also agreed by unanimous consent to allow the budget for the food pantry to increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for this fiscal year due to the hurricane and not being able to get the program started in the prior fiscal year.

DISCUSSION OF WSHR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

County Coordinator Gary Godwin presented the Board with the development proposal from WSHR Development Group and outlined the economic development request. Mr. Godwin advised the Board that County Attorney Andy Decker and himself met with Mr. Levine and others to discuss their development proposal. Mr. Decker presented the Board with the legal guidelines for the project per the request and explained to the Board that if public funds are provided to a business or developer that a substantial benefit to the public must be present. After a lengthy discussion of the phases and timeline of the project, Mr. Decker's recommendation to the Board due to the limited timeframe and the lack of information available would be to decline the funding request for infrastructure development due there being no substantial public benefit. The Board thanked staff for their diligence in putting the information together and requested that Mr. Levine be encouraged to submit additional information for the project which could be further discussed at the next regular Board meeting.

County Coordinator Gary Godwin presented the Board with a quote from Plumb Level Construction for the changes to the Watson's Health Clinic roofing project which would allow for the roofs edge to be extended approximately eighteen (18) inches beyond the eve of the roof.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson, to declare an emergency and approve the quote for the roof as previously discussed. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman McCoy adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

RICHIE MCCOY, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

