

**FEBRUARY 2, 2021**  
**Track: 49**  
**JASPER, FLORIDA**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Josh Smith, Randy Ogburn, Jimmy Murphy and Richie McCoy, a full Board being present. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Cliff Adams.

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

**SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT**

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors provided the Board a brief update on the current Ship, CDBG and Ship Coronavirus Relief funds. Mr. Nabors stated that the contracts for the last three new construction projects for Ship have been executed with construction underway. Mr. Nabors also provided the Board with a copy of the CRF funding report for review and advised that it has been submitted and approved. Mr. Nabors then reviewed the changes / amendments to the LHAP.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the LHAP Resolution and for Chairman Ogburn to sign and execute the plan. Second was made by Commissioner McCoy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Nabors discussed with the Board the CDBG / CV program as to what expenses / activities would be allowable with eighteen months to complete the projects.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to proceed with the CDBG / CV grant application with staff to assist Mr. Nabors with the applicable projects. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **COVID – 19 (CORONAVIRUS 2019) UPDATE AND STATUS REPORT**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with a summary of the Covid-19 effects on Hamilton County.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve Resolution 2021-03 as a continuation of 2020-01 for an additional seven (7) days. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **PUBLIC HEARING – PETITION TO CLOSE A PUBLIC ROAD – JOHNSON STREET LOCATED IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 2N, RANGE 14 EAST, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Chairman Ogburn recessed the Board meeting and called the public hearing (Johnson Street Closure Petition) to order at 9:25 a.m.

County Attorney Cliff Adams explained the issue before the Board as a petition by Carlton Allen to close Johnson Street. Commissioner Brown also explained that Johnson Street is a platted street that doesn't exist.

There being no further questions or comments from the Board or public, Chairman Ogburn closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 9:27 a.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the closure of Johnson Street as requested. Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS**

Economic Development Director Chadd Mathis provided the Board with an update on the current economic development projects. Mr. Mathis advised the Board that the Project Bark property is being advertised as requested by the Board. Mr. Mathis also stated that GAP Roofing is planning to re-open and expand their manufacturing facility. Mr. Mathis presented the Board with information on a possible Enterprise Florida Grant for the Industrial Park at SR6 / I-75. The Board discussed the road issue at the Jennings I-75 interchange where the Jennings House property meets CR-143 and after a brief discussion

directed County Engineer Greg Bailey to look at the right of way and review the safety precautions and site distances for the relocation of the end portion of the road. County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that the Board would demolish the Jennings House buildings upon request from the Development Authority. County Attorney Cliff Adams explained the magistrate order pertaining to case no. 19-03-03 in relation to migrant housing.

### **REQUEST TO PURCHASE AND USE WEATHERSTEM – HAMILTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – HENRY LAND, DIRECTOR**

Emergency Management Director Henry Land explained a request to purchase and utilize WeatherStem as a forecasting tool for emergency weather information. Mr. Land stated that Emergency Management will fund the maintenance for the application for three (3) years with the cost of maintenance to be approximately \$1,800 annually per station after the three (3) year period. Mr. Land also explained the advantages of the data from the WeatherStem application.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the funding for two (2) Weather Stem stations as recommended by Emergency Management. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT**

County Engineer Greg Bailey gave the Board a status report on the current road projects.

**BASIN LAKE LOOP / SW 107<sup>th</sup> AVE.** – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with a brief update regarding the Basin Lake Loop project.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve and accept the Right-of-way deed for parcel #9 (Duke Energy). Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**SW 90<sup>TH</sup> BLVD.** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the plans and wetland analysis for the SW 90<sup>th</sup> Blvd. paving project are almost complete. Mr. Bailey also presented the Board with a quote from ECS Florida LLC in the amount of \$3,900 to perform the Geotechnical Exploration / slope stabilization

for the project. Mr. Bailey also stated that the right-of-way maps have been completed and the surveyor is working on the legal descriptions for the right-of-way.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve for ECS Florida LLC to perform the Geotechnical Exploration as suggested by County Engineer Greg Bailey in the amount of \$3,900. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**CR-137** – Mr. Bailey stated that construction of the CR-137 paving project will begin soon, and staff will be meeting with Anderson Columbia to determine a start date.

**FDOT** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that FDOT has released their assignments for the Town of Jennings and White Springs.

**NW 20<sup>TH</sup> LANE, NW 3<sup>RD</sup> WAY (LIMITED MAINTENANCE REQUEST)** – Frank Bird presented the Board with a request to approve a Limited Maintenance Agreement for NW 20<sup>th</sup> Lane and NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Way. The Board discussed both roads and agreed to allow Engineer Greg Bailey and Commissioner Murphy to review NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Way before considering a Limited Maintenance Agreement.

- Motion by Commissioner Murphy to approve a Limited Maintenance Agreement for NW 20<sup>th</sup> Lane and to allow the Road Department to stabilize the sandy portion of the road. Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**2014 COUNTY-HELD TAX CERTIFICATES WHICH WILL BECOME NULL AND VOID ON JUNE 1, 2021**

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to follow the Florida Statute and file for a tax deed on all of the 2014 County-Held Certificates with an assessed value over \$5,000. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **DISCUSSION OF TOWER INSPECTION AT WATER/SEWER PLANT AT I-75 AND SR 6**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that the five (5) year inspection of the water tower can be performed by a vendor that is currently inspecting the water tower for the Town of Jennings. Mr. Goodin suggested that the Board piggy-back on the quote and allow the vendor to inspect the county's water tower. Commissioner Smith reminded Mr. Goodin to check on the purchase price for the property adjacent to the County's water tower.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to utilize the vendor inspecting the water tower for the Town of Jennings as suggested by staff. Second was made by Commissioner McCoy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the consent agenda with the correction to item (b) changing the amount on invoice no. 16671 to \$150. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **APPROVE BILLS**

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 146527 – 146676 and checks 064608-064700). Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed with the Board the procedures for selecting a new County Attorney. Mr. Goodin also presented the Board with an official letter of resignation from County Attorney Cliff Adams. Chairman Ogburn read the letter for the benefit of the Board and public. Mr. Adams stated the importance of selecting an individual / firm with government experience and advised that staff would prepare the request for Professional Services for the Board to review at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Commissioner McCoy questioned staff as to several bills and also discussed the FDOT ditch at Momma's Burgers.
- Commissioner Smith requested that the County Coordinator's report be presented for all future meetings and also shared concerns regarding the safety of the Water and Sewer plant.
- The Board discussed the possible placement of a speed bump at the Doctor's Clinic building due to the excessive speed of traffic. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to have the cross walk painted and see how the speed bump for the Courthouse turns out. Commissioner Smith requested that the Board consider utilizing CDBG – CV funds to renovate the old Clinic Building.
- Commissioner Smith discussed the milling of the Burnett Road which will require approximately thirteen (13) loads of millings. The Board requested that staff provide the milling list for the Board to review at the next Board meeting.
- The Board directed staff to have the Newsome / Railroad property appraised to determine a value for the property.
- Commissioner Murphy discussed with the Board the possibility of purchasing 4 wheelers to assist with the trash pickup along the roadways. The Board directed staff to check with the Sheriff's Department for available 4 wheelers and to get quotes for the next Board meeting.
- Town of Jennings council member Jerry Pitman was present and briefly discussed an issue with a road in the Town of Jennings. County Attorney Cliff Adams advised Mr. Pittman that the item was not on the agenda and appeared to be a Town of Jennings issue rather than that of the County.

**LEAVE PAYOUT / CODE ENFORCEMENT BILL**

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to declare an emergency and approve the leave payout for Kimberly Cole in the amount of \$511.83 and a bill for Code Enforcement in the amount of \$160. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER FINANCE REVIEW**

Clerk of Court Greg Godwin and Finance Director Sheri Davis provided the Board with a review of the Board's 1<sup>st</sup> quarter finances.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

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RANDY OGBURN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK





