

**February 20, 2018**

**JASPER, FLORIDA**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Randy Ogburn, Beth Burnam, Josh Smith and William Mitchell, a full Board being present. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Cliff Adams.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the Consent Agenda pulling item #8 (Loves Bypass Change Order). Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT**

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors presented the Board with a status report regarding the Ship and CDBG programs. Mr. Nabors also presented the Board with a list of homeowners for the Ship program.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the homeowner list as presented by Mr. Nabors, with ITC. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Commissioner Brown abstained from the vote due to being related to Jennifer Brown.

The Board then reviewed the contract for the administration of the Ship program. The Board discussed the letter previously submitted by Mr. Nabors explaining his recent issues. Mr. Nabors also advised the Board that Jeffery Wintors would be willing to fulfill his obligation to the Ship contract in the event that Mr. Nabors is unable to do so. The Board then questioned County Coordinator Louie Goodin as to his participation in the Ship program.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the contract for the administration of the Ship program with Spencer Nabors, In Touch Consulting, Inc. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Voting against the motion was Commissioner Ogburn.

Mr. Goodin also announced that he would be attending a CDBG monitoring workshop on

March 13<sup>th</sup> thru March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **COURTHOUSE RENOVATION / SECURITY**

The Board discussed Courthouse Security with Sheriff Reid and staff. Sheriff Reid stated that a bailiff for the Courthouse Security would cost approximately \$66,000 for salary and benefits. Sheriff Reid then suggested that the Board allow a Risk Management individual with the Sheriff's Association to do a security assessment of the Courthouse prior to the Board making any decisions. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to allow the assessment.

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

Engineer Seth Cohen, with North Florida Professional Services, gave the Board a status report on the current road projects.

**CR-137** – Mr. Cohen stated that a pre-construction meeting was held and the project will proceed as scheduled.

**SW 107<sup>TH</sup> AVE.** – Mr. Cohen stated that the SW 107<sup>th</sup> Ave. is complete.

**SW 55<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE** – Mr. Cohen advised the Board that he is waiting on comments from the SRWMD for the SW 55<sup>th</sup> Drive paving project. County Attorney Cliff Adams explained the request from Loncala regarding the purchase of right-of-way. Mr. Cohen also advised the Board that the asbestos report for the house owned by the School Board is complete. The estimated cost to remove the asbestos is approximately \$13,346.00. Mr. Adams also presented the Board with a deed for acceptance.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to accept the deed for the School Board owned property for the right-of-way on SW 55<sup>th</sup> Drive as recommended by County Attorney Cliff Adams. Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.
- Motion by Commissioner Brown to accept the two (2) deeds for SW 55<sup>th</sup> Drive right-of-way and one (1) deed for SE st Blvd. as recommended by County Attorney Cliff Adams. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.
- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to sign and execute the contract for the CR-137 paving project with Anderson Columbia. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**SW 79<sup>th</sup> Drive** – Mr. Cohen advised the Board that construction on the SW 79<sup>th</sup> Drive paving project is proceeding according to schedule. Commissioner Smith requested that Mr. Cohen provide the Board with a cost estimate to mill approximately another ¼ mile past the end of the new pavement.

**NW 23<sup>RD</sup> BLVD.** – Mr. Cohen stated that the construction of the NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Blvd. is almost complete with the final stripping and signage being completed.

**LOVES BYPASS** – Mr. Cohen stated that the construction of the Loves Bypass is underway.

Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that the plans for 104<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, Chanbridge and Oak Street are complete. Mr. Cohen also advised the Board that the cost to extend the Oak Street paving project is approximately \$400,000.

**SE 141<sup>ST</sup> BLVD.** – County Attorney Cliff Adams and Commissioner Ogburn discussed with the Board the need to acquire right-of-way of 1.32 acres at an approximate cost of \$5,000 to \$6,000 for the SE 141<sup>st</sup> Blvd. right-of-way.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to authorize staff to negotiate the right-of-way for the SE 141<sup>st</sup> Blvd. paving project using the assessed value as suggested by the Hamilton County Property Appraiser. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **CONSENT AGENDA – ITEM #8**

CEI Inspector Megan Carter explained the requested change order #1 as a change in the method of construction for the widening of US 129 as approved by FDOT. Ms. Carter also stated that the change in methodology is at no cost to the county or FDOT.

- Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve Consent Agenda Item #8 change order number #1 as recommended by CEI Inspector Megan Carter. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Ms. Carter also discussed with the Board a change order for the extension of the City of Jasper's sewer lines in the amount of \$3,085.32 that will be contingent upon FDOT's approval and funding. If not approved the City of Jasper would be responsible to extend the sewer lines as requested.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the change order as presented by Ms. Carter regarding the extension of the sewer lines with the stipulations as previously discussed. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **OAK WOODLANDS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATIONS – DONNA EDWARDS AND LISA MCILHENNY – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WITH NW 34<sup>TH</sup> BLVD. (DIP AREA)**

Lisa McElhaney, the secretary of Oak Woodlands Property Owners Association, introduced Donna Edwards, Barbara Herring and Murry Gaskins. Ms. McElhaney then requested assistance from the Board with repairs to an area of NW 34<sup>th</sup> Blvd. known as “the dip”. Ms. McElhaney presented and discussed a set of engineered plans for the project and stated that their Association lacks the necessary funds to complete the project. Ms. McElhaney explained

that the road in its current state is a safety issue. Madam Chairman Burnam advised the Board that NW 34<sup>th</sup> Blvd. is owned by the POA and that the county currently has a limited maintenance agreement for the grading of the road. County Attorney Cliff Adams stated that the road work would take place in the surveyed right-of-way and that only a small portion of the right-of-way would need to be acquired. County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that the project is similar to the Swift Creek Church road issue and would be a repair / replace project with pipes, guardrail and milling needed to stop the erosion and clear the drainage area. Mr. Goodin stated that the POA has riprap available and that the approximate cost would be \$25,000 to \$30,000. Commissioner Smith explained the Board's stance in the past regarding assistance to private roads in subdivisions and after a lengthy discussion agreed re-agenda the issue for the next Board meeting to allow staff an opportunity to provide a revised cost estimate and determine what existing material could be utilized for the project.

### **HAMILTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – STATUS REPORT**

Hamilton County Economic Development Director Susan Ramsey provided the Board with a status report on the current economic development projects. Ms. Ramsey stated that Seth Perring, with Swift Straw, had to be excused from the meeting. Ms. Ramsey discussed the Swift Straw operation and also stated that the business has purchased the old ESP building for their operations. Ms. Ramsey stated that the business has twenty (20) employees and is looking to expand. Ms. Ramsey then advised the Board that Cheek and Scott recently held a tasting for their new diet line. Ms. Ramsey then updated the Board on the current leads she is working on.

### **ARENA ELECTRICAL REPAIR UPDATE**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that the current materials estimate to upgrade the electrical service at the Arena is \$3,089.00 with an additional cost of \$860 for Duke Energy service upgrade.

### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT – BLEACHER SHADE REPLACEMENT**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin stated that the Bleacher Shade replacement at the Recreation Department is a sole source due to only the shade being replaced. The Board directed Mr. Goodin to check with the Columbia County Recreation Department in order to possibly change the covering of the bleachers.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENT – SUWANNEE RIVER ECONOMIC COUNCIL, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Motion by Commissioner Mitchell to appoint Commissioner Smith as the Board's representative on the Suwannee River Economic Council. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **WHEEL LOADER SPECIFICATIONS**

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Wheel Loader Specifications and allow staff to let bids for the equipment. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **DOCTORS OFFICE BUILDING**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with the layout of the current office space at the Doctors Office building. Mr. Goodin advised the Board that Dr. Smidtas has requested to occupy the office space previously used by Dr. Rana. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to renovate the area prior to Dr. Smidtas moving.

- Motion by Commissioner Mitchell to approve for Dr. Smidtas to occupy the space previously occupied by Dr. Rana and for the area to be renovated prior to the move. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **APPROVE BILLS**

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 128402 – 128733 and checks 056615 – 056717). Second was made by Commissioner Smith, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that Octahatchee Property Owners have agreed to allow for one (1) entrance road, staff will proceed.
- Mr. Goodin also advised the Board that the building specs for the Road Department should be available by the next Board meeting.
- The Board agreed to allow Mr. Goodin to purchase a New Holland tractor and Alamo Cutter from the Sheriff's State Contract list in order to keep the same equipment.
- The Board announced that Senator Rubio's staff will be in Hamilton County on February 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Commissioner Mitchell requested that the purchase of t-shirts for the Road Department be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.
- Commissioner Ogburn questioned staff as to Retail Strategies.
- Commissioner Brown advised the Board that the storm drain on 90<sup>th</sup> Blvd. is visible, staff will access the issue.

- Commissioner Smith stated that the Recreation Department looks great and is making progress.
- The Board also discussed the need to market the available land and economic development potential of the county.

There being no further business before the Board, Madam Chairman Burnam adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

BETH BURNAM, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

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