

**March 5, 2019**  
**Track 73:99:59:59**  
**JASPER, FLORIDA**

### **REGULAR SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Beth Burnam, Josh Smith, William Mitchell and Randy Ogburn, a full Board being present. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin, County Attorney Cliff Adams was absent.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### **FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES – KEN MONEGHAN – PLAQUE PRESENTATION**

Ken Moneghan, with the Florida Association of Counties Trust, provided the Board with a brief overview of the services being provided by their organization. Mr. Moneghan thanked the Board for the thirty (30) years of success and presented them with a plaque.

### **TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS – SPENCER LOFTON – MAYOR – FIRE SERVICES AGREEMENT**

Spencer Lofton, Mayor of the Town of White Springs, presented the Board with a counter-proposal for the Fire Services Agreement between the Town of White Springs and Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Lofton explained the current staffing of their Fire Department as well as the grants that have been applied for to enhance the service. Mr. Lofton then reviewed the changes to the original Fire Services Agreement with the Board. County Fire Coordinator Henry Land discussed the changes suggested by Mr. Lofton and stated that he was comfortable with all of the changes proposed except for the funding. Chairman Smith then stated that he would not be willing to entertain approval of the Agreement with the Town of White Springs unless the Town of Jennings is also given the same agreement. After a lengthy

discussion the Board took no official action to accept the counter-proposal as submitted by the Town of White Springs.

**SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT**

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors gave the Board a status report of the current Ship and CDBG grants. Mr. Nabors's provided the Board with a list of the top eleven (11) CDBG Applications according to income eligibility, age and handicap status and a list of certified contractors for the Board to review. Mr. Nabors's report also stated that the CDBG Sub-Grant documents have been completed with the professional procurement process being approved by DEO. Mr. Nabors's also stated that the Environmental Review is underway.

**PUBLIC HEARING – VAR 19-01 – PETITION FOR VARIANCE FOR SETBACK REQUIREMENTS IN AG-4 ZONING (CITY OF JASPER)**

Chairman Smith recessed the regular Board meeting and called the Public Hearing (VAR 19-01) to order at 9:54 a.m.

Land Use Administrator Megan Carter explained the action before the Board as a petition by the City of Jasper to grant a variance for the setback requirements in an AG-4 Zoning District. Jeff McGwire, representing the City of Jasper, explained the current setbacks as they exist with the lay out of the property. Ms. Carter stated that there was no opposition to the variance at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting with their board recommending approval of the variance.

There being no further questions from the public or Board, Chairman Smith closed the public hearing and reconvened the Board meeting at 10:00 a.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve VAR 19-01 which will waive the setback requirements as presented. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING – VAR 19-02 – PETITION FOR VARIANCE FOR MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF AN ON-SITE SIGN (APOGEE SIGNS)**

Chairman Smith recessed the regular Board meeting and called the Public Hearing (VAR 19-02) to order at 10:01 a.m.

Land Use Administrator Megan Carter explained the action before the

Board as a petition by Apogee Signs requesting a variance for maximum height of an on-site sign. Ms. Carter stated that there was no opposition to the variance at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting with their board recommending approval of the variance.

There being no further questions from the public or Board, Chairman Smith closed the public hearing and reconvened the Board meeting at 10:05 a.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to approve VAR 19-02. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

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

Greg Bailey, with NFPS, gave the Board a status report on the current road projects.

**CR-137** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that staff is still waiting on Anderson Columbia to make the necessary repair to a culvert extension on the CR-137 construction project and that the project's retainage is still available if the contractor refuses to make the repair.

**SE 141<sup>st</sup> BLVD.** – Mr. Bailey stated that the contractor is still working on the clearing, grubbing and pipe installation for the SE 141<sup>st</sup> Blvd. paving project.

**NW 104<sup>TH</sup> AVE., CHANBRIDGE DRIVE, NW 35<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the contractor has stated that he is working on a start date for the paving project; however, no construction has started as of yet.

**OAK STREET** – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the contractor has successfully acquired the Railroad permit and was scheduled to begin construction on February 25<sup>th</sup>; however, no construction has started.

**SW 55<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE** – Mr. Bailey stated that construction for the SW 55<sup>th</sup> Drive paving project is proceeding according to schedule.

**SW 90<sup>th</sup> BLVD.** – Chairman Smith discussed with the Board the possibility of only paving a portion of SW 90<sup>th</sup> Blvd. paving project. Mr. Bailey recommended that the Board proceed with approving the contract with NFPS and once the design is complete then make a determination as to how to proceed with the project. Chairman Smith stated that he would meet with Mr. Bailey and staff after the meeting.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the contract with North Florida Professional Services for the design, construction and CEI engineering services for SW 90<sup>th</sup> Blvd. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**5 YEAR MILLING PLAN** – County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with a completed 5 Year Milling Plan by districts for the Board to utilize. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to accept the plan. Mr. Bailey also advised the Board that FDOT has implemented a new rule that the milling from the future SCRAP and SCOP projects will be donated to the county.

### **COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS / SECURITY**

Greg Bailey, with NFPS, advised the Board that the structural support is in place for the wall and that the framing should take place in approximately three (3) weeks.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES UPDATE – TOBY WITT**

EMS Director Toby Witt presented the Board with an overview of the EMS services for the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year. Mr. Witt stated that the coverage of the county has been enhanced due to stationing a unit in the Town of Jennings and Town of White Springs and also the condition and age of the ambulance fleet has helped. Mr. Witt further explained the Specialty, Pediatric Emergency Care and Regional Urban Search & Rescue Team training that has been possible primarily through grants. Mr. Witt then gave the Board an overview of the budget for the first 5 months of the fiscal year. Commissioner Ogburn questioned Mr. Witt as to Columbia County possibly going back to a county EMS.

### **DOCTORS OFFICE BUILDINGS RENOVATION SPECIFICATIONS**

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with specifications for the Doctors Office building and also stated that staff would have the specifications for the Clinic building across the road by the next Board meeting. The Board agreed to accept the plans and directed staff to proceed with the bid process.

### **APPROVE BILLS**

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the bills (vouchers 135122–135245 and checks 059504 – 059546). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

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

Hamilton County Economic Development Director Susan Ramsey gave the Board a status report of the current economic development projects and events.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin announced that the Wild Azalea Festival will be held in White Springs on March 16<sup>th</sup> and also reminded the Board of the Duke Energy ribbon cutting on March 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Commissioner Burnam stated that the River Task Force met and will be in attendance at the City of Valdosta Council meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the effect on the counties downstream from the Valdosta Sewer Facility.
- Dan Hartley, representing Representative Chuck Brannon, gave the Board an update on the start of the legislative session and the bills of significance to our area.
- County Attorney Cliff Adams advised the Board that several Land Use complaints have been filed regarding individuals placing RV's in environmentally sensitive areas and that staff will be meeting with the concerned individuals.
- County Attorney Cliff Adams gave the Board an update on the Jennings I-75 interchange and stated that attorney Ken Ortel has prepared a letter to the Town of Jennings for the purpose of assisting them in their decision making process regarding the migrant housing issues. Mr. Adams also stated that staff and others will be meeting with AG-Mart on March 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the migrant housing issue.
- Mr. Adams also advised the Board that he is meeting with the legal firm regarding the Opiod litigation.
- Chairman Smith advised the Board that has had a request for speed bumps on the 8<sup>th</sup> Street SW.

- Chairman Smith discussed the need to have two (2) large pine trees removed from the Arena due to being struck by lightning.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

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JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK



