

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 2, 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 and County Attorney Cliff Adams.

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

SUWANNEE VALLEY ELECTRICAL COOPERATIVE – JON LITTLE – NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY RESOLUTION

Jon Little, with the Suwannee Valley Electrical Cooperative, gave the Board a brief update on the SVEC's activities in the county and introduced his employees, Jason Hurst and Bruce Spradley. Mr. Little read the resolution declaring National Lineman Appreciation Day for Monday, April 8th.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Resolution as presented. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS / SECURITY

Greg Bailey, with NFPS, advised the Board that the frames for the glass wall are being installed. Clerk of Court Greg Godwin advised the Board that the samples for the tile and carpet are ready for review and a final decision from the Board.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR OLD HOSPITAL LAB RENOVATIONS

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with specifications for the old hospital lab renovations. After a lengthy discussion of the specifications, the Board listed several items and agreed to make a final decision on the renovations at the next Board meeting. The Board also directed staff to budget a roof for the facility in the next fiscal year's budget.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD – CODE ENFORCEMENT

Greg Law and Danny Smith, members of the Construction Licensing Board, addressed the Board concerning the need for a code enforcement officer in order to eliminate unlicensed construction and to enforce the LDR's to not allow camper trailers / RV's as a permanent residence. County Attorney Cliff Adams explained that under the current situation, staff cannot take action against unlicensed work unless they are caught in the act. After a brief explanation of his research regarding code enforcement in other counties, Mr. Adams suggested that the Board allow staff to draft a code enforcement ordinance for the Board to review. Emergency Management Director Henry Land stated that the 911 mapping office receives two (2) to three (3) requests per week for campers / RV's to be placed in the county. Chairman Smith then requested that the Board review the code enforcement documentation that was provided a few meetings ago and allow staff to draft an ordinance. Mr. Adams explained the type of ordinance that will be drafted and after a lengthy discussion of campers / RV's and homestead property, Mr. Adams stated that one of the only ways to keep someone from violating the LDR's would be to not allow an address for the property. The Board then stated that the ordinance should establish a fair uniform code of enforcement for the county. Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors stated that code enforcement would benefit the Ship and CDBG programs. County Engineer Greg Bailey also advised the Board that code enforcement is vastly different in all counties and that the Board would need to determine what is best for Hamilton County.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors gave the Board a status report of the current Ship and CDBG grants. Mr. Nabors advised the Board that the environmental review for the CDBG program is in progress. Mr. Nabors also presented the Board with a list of nine (9) qualified homeowners and also provided the Board with a list of three (3) applications that was denied.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the CDBG homeowner list of nine (9) as recommended by Mr. Nabors with ITC. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Regarding the Ship program, Mr. Nabors stated that the purchase assistance issue with the Holton application has been taken care of.

2020 CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION - VICTOR CORA

Victor Cora, with the United States Census Bureau, explained the benefits of having an accurate census count and also discussed with the Board the optional ways of getting a better count by using advanced technology online. Mr. Cora explained how the local count would take place and encouraged all of the local governments to get involved and serve on the committee which will assist the workers in creating an accurate count. Mr. Cora also stated that only census workers will be compensated and that the committee will encompass seven (7) to twenty (20) people with the training to be on April 20th.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the census resolution. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, 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 Anderson Columbia has made the necessary repair to a culvert extension on the CR-137 construction project and that the project is complete.

SE 141st BLVD. – Mr. Bailey stated that the contractor is still working on the clearing and grubbing for the SE 141st Blvd. paving project.

NW 104th AVE., CHANBRIDGE DRIVE, NW 35th DRIVE – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the contractor has started the construction project and is currently working on the drainage portion.

OAK STREET – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that construction of the Oak Street paving project proceeding according to schedule. Commissioner Burnam questioned staff as to the paving at the Ben Bates road junction. After a brief discussion, Mr. Bailey stated that he would take a look at the issue.

SW 55th DRIVE – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that very little activity has taken place on the SW 55th Drive paving project in the last couple of weeks.

SW 90th BLVD. – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with a digital fly through showing the alignment concept for the SW 90th Blvd. paving project. Mr. Bailey requested approval of the design.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to accept the design for the SW 90th Blvd. paving project as presented by NFPS. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Bailey then stated that he would get quotes for the surveys that will provide legal staff with the documentation to begin to acquire the necessary right-of-way.

CR 152 – County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that Anderson Columbia has requested from FDOT additional items for the CR-152 Lap project which would cost approximately \$62,000 and allow an additional thirty-two (32) days to the contract deadline. The work would be a design change to the end of the guardrail at the I-75 overpass and allow asphalt treatment around culverts and guardrail to eliminate continued maintenance. The Board agreed to allow the request if funding is approved by FDOT.

FDEP – Mr. Adams advised the Board that he received an email from FDEP questioning why a third party is being denied access to the fuel site at the Road Department and advising that legal action will be considered if access is not granted. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to allow Chairman Smith to sign the documentation allowing the third party access to the site.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – HAMILTON COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Chairman Smith stated that his recommendation as to district 2's Planning and Zoning Board representative is Clay Driggers and that after a brief investigation there are no legal issues to prevent Mr. Driggers from serving.

- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to nominate Clay Driggers as the District 2 Planning and Zoning Board representative. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Brown advised the Board that he has selected Woodrow Lumpkin as the District 3 Planning and Zoning Board member due to the retirement of Riley Anderson. Approval for Mr. Lumpkin will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting. The Board also agreed to

have a retirement reception for Mr. Anderson on Tuesday, April 16th at 5:30 p.m.

TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS – FIRE SERVICES AGREEMENT

County Coordinator Louie Goodin explained the changes that were made to the Fire Services Agreement with White Springs. The Board discussed the agreement and Commissioner Burnam requested that once the agreement with White Springs is approved that Jennings be offered the same agreement. Fire Coordinator Henry Land also discussed the agreement with the Board and stated that he agrees with the language and terms of the revised agreement. Town Manager Stacy Tebo then addressed the Board and shared her concerns with regards to the effective date of the agreement and requested that the Board consider making the effective date retroactive to October 1, 2018.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Fire Services Agreement with the Town of White Springs and to make the effective date October 1, 2018. Second was made by Commissioner Mitchell, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Voting against the motion was Chairman Smith.
- Motion by Commissioner Burnam to direct County Attorney Cliff Adams to draft the same Fire Services Agreement for the Town of Jennings pending the approval from the Town of White Springs. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAGE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that the Recreation Department rents a stage for the July 4th celebration in the amount of \$1,000 and would like to build a permanent stage for this event and others. Mr. Goodin stated that the estimated cost for the stage would be approximately \$10,000 or less. After a discussion of the stage, the Board directed staff to provide a drawing / specifications for the stage. Mr. Goodin also stated that several individuals have stated that they would like to volunteer to help with the construction. The Board then discussed the liability of having volunteers performing work on County property and suggested staff to contact the insurance company to determine what would be necessary for them to work. The Board stated that they were in favor of the concept but would like to see the drawing before making a final decision.

The Board then discussed the date for the July 4th celebration to be held. Recreation Director Chuck Burnett suggested that the date be June 29th in order to attract vendors and be able to have the fireworks company put on the show. After a lengthy discussion, the Board took the following action.

- Motion by Commissioner Mitchell to have the July 4th celebration on June 29th for this year. Second was made by Commissioner Burnam, motion carried with a four (4) to one (1) vote. Commissioner Smith voted against the motion.

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. Ms. Ramsey reminded the Board of the Human Trafficking Symposium to be held on April 3rd at the Hamilton County Annex. Ms. Ramsey also stated that the Beautification Grants are still being offered and that Swift Straw will be having a job fair next week. Ms. Ramsey then requested that the Board attend if possible the First Responders Week where the schools will be providing lunch.

SMALL COUNTY SURTAX – CONTINUATION OF ORDINANCE

County Attorney Cliff Adams explained that he has prepared the draft ordinance with suggested changes from the Stated for the continuation of the Small County Surtax. The Board agreed by unanimous consent to allow staff to continue with the process.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed with the Board the need for an additional position in the Maintenance Department. After a brief discussion as to the needed position, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the additional Maintenance position for a full-time qualified Maintenance employee. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE FLA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the Resolution for the

Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement with the FL Division of Emergency Management. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve the bills (vouchers 135640 - 135705 and checks 059668 – 059727). Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board of the Health Insurance meeting on Thursday, April 11th in the Auditorium.
- Mr. Goodin also requested permission to demolish the old cooler at the Annex. The Board agreed by unanimous consent.
- Mr. Goodin and County Attorney Cliff Adams advised the Board that a lawsuit has been filed by an individual regarding ADA compliance for the county website.
- Commissioner Mitchell questioned staff as to lighting for the basketball court at the Recreation Center. Mr. Goodin stated he would take care of the issue. Commissioner Mitchell also stated that he would not be present at the next Board meeting.
- Commissioner Mitchell also advised the Board that the Hospital Board has voted to withdraw from the agreement regarding Hamilton Primary Care. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.
- Clerk of Court Greg Godwin discussed with the Board the scanning of the bills and also advised that the paperwork from Beard Equipment for the two (2) new graders is ready for execution by Chairman Smith.
- Chairman Smith requested that the Road Department grade the milling on SW 90th Blvd.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

