

JULY 7, 2023
JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Travis Erixton, Jimmy Murphy, Robert Brown, Robbie Roberson and Richie McCoy, a full Board being present. Also present were County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Andy Decker.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the consent agenda. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ACCEPTANCE – RECREATION DEPARMENT

The Board discussed utilizing credit/debit cards at the Recreation Department, Landfill and Water and Sewer Department to eliminate the handling of cash where possible as recommended by County Auditor Ken Daniels.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve for staff to acquire five (5) mechanisms from FFSB for the county departments previously mentioned. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY
FUND PROGRAM (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN) – THOMAS
HOWELL FERGUSON P.A. – STATUS REPORT AND UPDATES**

Brittany Bechtel, with Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A. provided the Board with a brief update of the American Rescue Plan. Ms. Bechtel advised that additional compliance items are needed before broadband contract payments can be made to Windstream.

**GREEN POINT RESEARCH LLC – SCOTT CARMEL – STATUS
REPORT**

Commissioner Murphy declared that he would not be involved in the conversation or participate in a vote regarding Green Point Research LLC. David Hasenauer, with Green Point Research LLC., provided the Board with an update as to the timing of receiving equipment and making their Hemp operation fully operational. Mr. Hasenauer also requested that the Board consider the second phase of the Development Agreement and alluded to the amendment which was previously sent to the Board but considered withdrawn due to no representation from Green Point. County Attorney Andy Decker explained the situation according to his research of the addendum and advised Mr. Hasenauer that the original Development Agreement is what is currently in place and that he couldn't recommend the addendum as stated during a previous Board meeting. Several members of the Board shared their concerns with the project to which Mr. Hasenauer requested the issues be put into writing; however, Mr. Decker stated that there would be no need for the Board to put anything in writing because the Development Agreement speaks for itself. Mr. Hasenauer advised the Board that he would invite everyone to the facility once the equipment is in place.

**HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT – SHERIFF
HARRELL REID AND MAJ. JOHN DAVIS – FUNDING
REALLOCATION**

Major John Davis, with the Sheriff’s Department, requested that the Board table the request until further notice. The Board agreed by unanimous consent.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM / CDBG-CV – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors was unable to be present for the meeting; therefore, County Coordinator Louie Goodin provided the Board with a status report for Ship and CDBG grants. Mr. Goodin advised that there was nothing new to report regarding the Ship and CDBG grants.

**FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHES CLOSET FOR HAMILTON
COUNTY – PAM ALLEN, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

Assistant Emergency Management Director Pam Allen discussed with the Board the implementation of a food pantry and clothes closet. Ms. Allen explained the process of the food bank in connection with Second Harvest of Big Bend and the need for a clothes closet. Ms. Allen stated that many individuals are willing to help as well as several of the local Churches and advised the Board that the hours of operation for the facility would be Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a food truck to be delivering one (1) time every two (2) weeks. Ms. Allen answered questions from the Board and stated that the current need will be a cooler for the perishable items and funds for the purchase of food. After a lengthy discussion, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the request for a food pantry / clothes closet by providing \$5,000 for the needed equipment and \$5,000 for the purchase of food. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Palmer Gene Smith addressed the Board and suggested that the group use powdered milk due to the perishability.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

Patrick Bell, the County’s lobbyist, provided the Board with an update on the legislative priorities and provided the Commission with a list of the future committee assignments for the next legislative session. The Board discussed the need to have a workshop to develop the priorities for the next legislative session.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

Kellan Bailey, with North Florida Professional Services, provided the Board with a status report on the current road projects.

LAKE BAISDEN LOOP – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that the Lake Baisden Loop paving project is progressing according to schedule.

CR-25A – Mr. Bailey advised that the survey for the CR-25A paving project is complete and that he currently working on the plans for the resurfacing project.

FDOT PLANNING MEETING – Mr. Bailey stated that the FDOT planning meeting was successful and will continue to work towards a master plan for the interchange.

WATER PLANT WELL – Mr. Bailey stated that the plan is to drill a six (6) inch well approximately 350 to 400 foot deeper to possibly get a consistent water supply. Mr. Bailey also advised that if the water quality is there that the well casing can be utilized.

LIFT STATION – The Board requested Mr. Bailey to survey the area needed for the lift station to allow Mr. Decker to draft a deed to obtain the property.

CROSSROADS FIRE STATION – Mr. Bailey stated that he is finalizing the plans for the Crossroads Fire Station with approximately thirty (30) days needed for the permit review.

SR6 JOBS GROWTH GRANT – The Board discussed the need to proceed with the project, Mr. Bailey advised that the wetland survey for the property has been completed and the next phase will be underway soon.

HAMILTON COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES – APPROVE CONTRACT WITH MC/EMS-ESO

County Attorney Andy Decker advised the Board that he has reviewed the contract for MC/EMS-ESO and recommended a few modifications, with that being said, Mr. Decker recommended approval of the contract.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the contract for EMS billing with MC/EMS-ESO as recommended by County Attorney. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION OF ROOF FOR MEDICAL CLINIC LOCATED AT 506 NW 4TH STREET JASPER, FLORIDA

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that he hasn't been able to obtain a cost estimate for the different types of roofing options for the Medical Clinic. After a lengthy discussion, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to allow Mr. Goodin to get quotes for a gable roof for the Medical Clinic building. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION FOR FLORIDA RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION – FY 2024-2025

Mr. Goodin explained the purpose of the Resolution for the FURDAP grant application.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the resolution as recommended by staff. Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to approve the bills (vouchers 161440 – 161629 and checks 071200-071294). Second was made by Commissioner McCoy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed with the Board the success of the FACT conference.
- Commissioner McCoy stated that the July 4th fireworks celebration was very successful and has a sense of community pride. Commissioner McCoy also discussed the success of the FACT conference.
- Commissioner Roberson questioned Mr. Goodin as to the progress of the sewer dump station. Commissioner Roberson also discussed the success of the FACT conference.
- Commissioner Erixton questioned staff as to the progress of the Jennings Bluff Campground.

- County Attorney Andy Decker discussed the one cent sales tax for Fire Services and the need to prepare an Ordinance by the Board. After a brief discussion, Mr. Decker stated that he would prepare a draft for the next Board meeting.
- Jennifer Gisonni, with Potluck Enterprises, advised the Board that the first of their renovated property will be purchased by an individual with many more to come.
- The Board discussed the appointment of two (2) at-large members to the Development Authority and how the existing members will be placed since the new bill was passed by the legislature. Mr. Bell discussed the issue and stated that he would review the bill and make sure that staff is apprised of the details. The Board agreed to allow Mr. Goodin to put together an application for the appointments from the Board.
- The Board agreed to hold a special meeting at 4:00 p.m. on July 18th to review the asset survey for the property insurance. Clerk of Court Greg Godwin advised the Board that the FY 2023-2024 budget will be available to the Board at the July 18th meeting.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

ROBERT BROWN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

