

**AUGUST 15, 2023
JASPER, FLORIDA**

SPECIAL SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in special session on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of prioritizing the legislative appropriations for the 2024 legislative session in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Travis Erixton, Robbie Roberson, Jimmy Murphy and Richie McCoy, a full Board being present. Also present was County Coordinator Louie Goodin, County Attorney Andy Decker and lobbyist Patrick Bell.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brown.

2024 LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Sheriff Reid addressed the Board due to an emergency situation with the A/C unit at the Jail. Sheriff Reid stated that the other unit has now completely stopped and that he will need to rent a 20-ton portable unit.

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to declare an emergency and to allow the rental of a 20-ton portable A/C unit for the jail. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Lobbyist Patrick Bell discussed the list of potential projects with the Board and also discussed the effect of HB 1209. The Board made a list of potential legislative appropriations and discussed the details of each of the projects. The Board also discussed the new Senate Appropriations form as well as the House form. After a lengthy discussion with Mr. Bell, the Board agreed to the following list of legislative priorities:

Agricultural / Environmental

- Youth Educational AG Center

Department of Healthcare

- Health Department

Criminal Justice

- Jail A/C Unit
- Courtroom Renovations
- Annex A/C Unit

Transportation Community Affairs

- Emergency Operations Center

Agriculture General

- Fire Equipment
- Veterans Memorial Park Repairs

Mr. Bell explained how all of the appropriations are considered and encouraged the Board and Constitutional Officers to all be requesting the same projects for Hamilton County. Tom Moffses with the Department of Health discussed the current Health Department and the need to solicit additional support for the new Health Department appropriation due to the condition and age of the current facility. Mr. Moffses advised the Board that he would coordinate a meeting with the Surgeon General for support.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

ROBERT BROWN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

