

AUGUST 17, 2021
Track: 73
JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Robert Brown, Jimmy Murphy, Richie McCoy and Josh Smith, Commissioner Randy Ogburn was absent. Also present were County Coordinator Louie Goodin and County Attorney Brittany Cooper.

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

FLORIDA STATE REPRESENTATIVE – CHUCK BRANNON
– CHECK PRESENTATION – APPROPRIATION FOR
HAMILTON COUNTY WELL REPLACEMENT FOR SR6 / I-
75 UTILITY

Representative Chuck Brannon and staff were present and presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$475,000 for a well replacement at the SR6 / I-75 Water / Wastewater Facility. The Board thanked Representative Brannon and staff for their assistance and dedication to Hamilton County.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors provided the Board with a brief update on the current Ship, CDBG, CDBG-CV and American Rescue Plan. Mr. Nabors advised the Board that contracts are being

executed with bids being let next week for the first round of Ship projects. Mr. Nabors also stated that the ERR process is underway for the CDBG-CV program with the application date to be released by DEO this month. The Board discussed the American Rescue Plan and the need to move forward with negotiations with Windstream for Broadband coverage in the county. County Attorney Brittany Cooper and County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed the “Non – Disclosure Agreement with Windstream and questioned the Board as to their intent for the level of funding to be allocated to the Broadband project.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to authorize staff to sign and execute the Non-Disclosure Agreement with Windstream. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Vice-Chairman Smith abstained from voting due to his employment with Windstream.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to allocate \$1.8 million of the American Rescue Plan funds for the Broadband project and for staff to begin negotiating with Windstream. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Vice-Chairman Smith abstained from voting due to his employment with Windstream.

The Board agreed that the Advisory Committee should be comprised of the following: County Coordinator Louie Goodin, County Attorney Brittany Cooper, Commissioner McCoy and Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors. The Board also authorized for Mr. Goodin to sign the Non-Disclosure Agreement.

COVID – 19 (CORONAVIRUS 2019) UPDATE AND STATUS REPORT

Tom Moffses, with the Department of Health, presented the Board with a summary of the Covid-19 effects on Hamilton County

and discussed the positive count within the county and the need to be vaccinated and for some to take the booster. Mr. Moffses then stated that the Department of Health has hired a vendor to provide testing at no charge beginning next Tuesday, August 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. seven (7) days a week at the Southside Sports Complex in Lake City. Mr. Moffses also provided those in attendance with a website regarding the available options when dealing with Covid, floridahealthcovid19.gov.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

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

BAISDEN LAKE LOOP / SW 107th AVE. – Mr. Bailey stated that he is still waiting on the final permit approval from FDOT and SRWMD.

CR – 137 – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an update for the CR-137 paving project and stated that the contractor is in the final stages of the paving project. Mr. Bailey then provided the Board with a change order for the CR-137 paving project in the amount of \$186,574.22 that has been approved by FDOT and been discussed with Chairman Ogburn.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the change order for the CR-137 paving project as submitted by County Engineer Greg Bailey. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SW 90TH BLVD. – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an update for the SW 90th Blvd. paving project and advised that his staff is still working on the mitigation issues as well as the permitting from FDOT and SRWMD. Mr. Bailey also discussed the task order in the amount of \$18,500 to redesign the road right-of-way.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the task order from NFPS for the SW 90th Blvd. right-of-way. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Bailey also presented the Board with a quote from Sherman Frier in the amount of \$4,500 to change the right-of-way survey for the SW 90th Blvd. paving project, however, they stated that it would take them eight (8) weeks to complete the survey. After a brief discussion, the Board requested that NFPS provide a quote and timeline for the survey.

GIBSON PARK BOAT RAMP – Mr. Bailey stated that he is waiting on the water to recede before beginning the engineering of the Gibson Park Boat Ramp grant.

OAK STREET – Ms. Cooper advised the Board that she is waiting on several right-of-way deeds to be returned.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that Economic Development Director Chadd Mathis was out of town and not able to be in attendance. The Board discussed submitting an application for infrastructure through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund for the Development Authority's property at SR6 / I-75. The Board stated that the Development Authority may also need to submit an application due to being the owner of the property.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to allow NFPS to assist with an application to the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 149547 – 149839 and checks 065972-066107). Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Louie Goodin discussed with the Board an estimate in the amount of \$8,500 to repair the wiring harness on the excavator at the Road Department. The Board directed staff to get with Chairman Ogburn and report back to the Board.
- Mr. Goodin also discussed with the Board the scheduled Technical Working Group meeting. Rachel Garland, with Nutrien, was present and stated that the meeting will need to be rescheduled due to Covid restrictions.
- Mr. Goodin then advised the Board of possible issues with the Census data and the possible need to review the Commissioner Districts.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Ogburn adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

JOSH SMITH VICE-CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

