

**OCTOBER 17, 2023
JASPER, FLORIDA**

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.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 Attorney Andy Decker and County Coordinator Gary Godwin.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

FY 2023 – 2024 FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, INC.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the 2023 – 2024 funding agreement with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2023 HAZARDOUS WASTE AGREEMENT

County Attorney Andy Decker provided the Board with an explanation of the service and suggested that the Board consider allowing the service to be provided in-house and discontinue the service with North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to follow the recommendation from County Attorney Andy Decker and to discontinue the Hazardous Waste Agreement with North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Decker advised the Board that he would advise NCFRPC of the Board's action.

PUBLIC HEARING – SE 23-01 - PETITION BY DEWITT CASON AS AGENT FOR THIRD POPE LLC REQUESTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION BE GRANTED AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 4.5.5.16 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO ALLOW FOR AN AIRSTRIP IN AN AGRICULTURE – 1 (A-1) ZONING DISTRICT ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Chairman Brown recessed the regular meeting and called the public hearing (SE 23-01) to order at 6:05 p.m. Land Use Administrator Mathew Morgan explained the application being presented. Mr. Morgan also advised the Board that the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of the petition. Mr. Cason was present to answer questions from the Board and the public.

There being no further comments from the Board or public, Chairman Brown closed the public hearing and reconvened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve SE 23-02. Second was made by Commissioner McCoy, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Commissioner Erixton abstained from voting due to having a business relationship with Third Pope LLC.

PUBLIC HEARING – SE 23-02 - PETITION BY HENRY BRUENING, JR., REQUESTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION BE GRANTED AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 4.5.5.9 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO ALLOW FOR A CAMPGROUND FACILITY IN AN AGRICULTURE – 4 (A-4) ZONING DISTRICT ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Chairman Brown recessed the regular meeting and called the public hearing (SE 23-02) to order at 6:12 p.m. Land Use Administrator Mathew Morgan explained the application being presented. Mr. Morgan also advised the Board that the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of the petition. Mr. Brueing was present to answer questions from the Board and the public.

There being no further comments from the Board or public, Chairman Brown closed the public hearing and reconvened the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to approve SE 23-02. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHES CLOSET – PAM ALLEN

Pam Allen provided the Board with an update as to the food pantry and clothes closet. Ms. Allen advised the Board that the grand opening is tentatively set for November 1st at 11:00 a.m. The Board thanked Ms. Allen and also commended the CERT team for their assistance with the storm issues.

2022 ANNUAL OPERATIONG AND RECLAMATION PROGRESS REPORT AND 2023 ESTIMATES WHITE SPRINGS AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS, INC. D/B/A PCS PHOSPHATE – WHITE SPRINGS

Greg Hitz, with Lampl Herbert, provided the Board with a review of the 2022 operating and reclamation progress report and the 2023 mining estimates. Mr. Hitz stated that he had no findings or non-compliance issues and stated that the financial assurance documentation was in order. Mr. Hitz briefly discussed the gyp stacks and stated that they to are in compliance with State standards. Nutrien representatives were present to answer any questions.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to approve the 2022 Annual Report and 2023 Estimates as recommended by Mr. Hitz. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM / CDBG-CV – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors was not able to be present for the meeting, County Coordinator Gary Godwin provided the Board with a written status report for the Ship, CDBG and CDBG-CV grants.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

There was no one present for the agenda item.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS EREPORT

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 Lake Baisden Loop paving project is progressing according to schedule and that the contractor is also preparing to begin construction of the box culvert. Jean

JOBS GROWTH GRANT – Mr. Bailey stated that the geo-tech survey has been completed for the site and that preparation for the SRWMD permit is underway.

CR-25A – Mr. Bailey advised that the final plans are under review by FDOT with the project to be let for bids upon approval.

WATER AND SEWER FACILITY – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that NFPS is still evaluating treatment options before making a final recommendation to the Board. Mr. Bailey also stated that the Wastewater permit renewal application will be due in December with the current permit to expire in June 2024. The Board also discussed the construction and permitting of a dump station.

LIMITED MAINTENANCE – SE 140TH COURT – Commissioner Erixton discussed the need for a Limited Maintenance Agreement for SE 140th Court. County Attorney Andy Decker explained the process and advised that he would prepare a resolution.

ROAD DEPARTMENT – EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

County Coordinator Gary Godwin presented the Board with a quote from the State bid list for a mulching head in the amount of \$37,323.00. After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed staff to bid the mulching head and for Commissioner Murphy to review the specifications prior to being released for bid.

DISCUSSION OF ROAD DEPARTMENT WAGE STUDY

The Board reviewed the Wage Study for the Road Department and after a brief discussion, took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve the Wage Study for the Road Department with the changes to be applicable for the next pay period. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

STORM RELATED ISSUES – DISCUSSION AND REQUESTS

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to extend the Local Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Hurricane Dalia. Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board discussed the need for Road Department personnel to work additional hours due to storm debris and other related storm issues. County Coordinator Gary Godwin stated that he would enact the direction from the Board. The Board also discussed a request from certain individuals to have building permit fees waived due to storm related issues. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to only allow the electrical permits to be waived as previously approved.

DUKE ENERGY INVOICES FOR SERVICES PERFORMED AT 1846 HAMILTON AVE. LODGE JENNINGS (PRG CLAIM)

County Coordinator Gary Godwin presented the Board with a written explanation as to the Duke Energy transformers being demolished and removed from the site by Road Superintendent Jimmy Daniels. County Attorney Andy Decker discussed the issue and advised that he has sent a letter to Boone Construction requesting information as to their role if any with the demolition of the transformers. After a lengthy discussion, the Board requested Mr. Decker to continue to investigate the issue and collect the required documentation. Commissioner Erixton explained the discussion between Boone Construction and the Road Department prior to the Board hiring Boone Construction to perform the demolition.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve the bills (vouchers 163170 – 163431 and checks 071923-072026). Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Commissioner McCoy abstained from voting on the bills due to invoices from individuals related to him.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT FUNDING REQUEST

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve the TDC funding request as presented by TDC Chairman Richie McCoy. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Coordinator Gary Godwin advised the Board that construction on NW 13th Drive is set to begin.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

ROBERT BROWN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

