

DECEMBER 7, 2021
Track: 85
JASPER, FLORIDA

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Randy Ogburn, Robert Brown, Richie McCoy and Josh Smith, Commissioner Muphy was absent due to being sick. Also present were 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.

Chairman Smith announced that Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors would not be present due to the birth of his grandchild.

PRORATING LEAVE TIME FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES

Clerk of Court Greg Godwin discussed with the Board the labor-intensive prorating of leave time for employees. Mr. Godwin explained the payroll process for those employees that are short of eighty (80) hours per pay period and requested the Board to consider a ten (10) hour forgiveness and amend the Personnel Rules and Regulations to not require leave to have to be prorated if the total hours are within ten (10) hours of their regular hours for a pay period.

- Motion by Commissioner McCoy to allow the payroll department to no longer be required to prorate leave if the total hours per pay period are within ten (10) hours of the employee's regular hours and for this process to begin on December 15, 2021 which is the first day of the next Board pay period. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

Economic Development Director Chadd Mathis provided the Board with a status report on the development projects. Mr. Mathis provided the Board with several articles and marketing materials for the county and gave pertinent details on the ongoing projects. Mr. Mathis also discussed with the Board the planning of a Leadership Dinner to be held in March or April. Mr. Mathis after the discussion advised that he would put an agenda together and report back to the Board before making a final decision on the date and time. County Attorney Cliff Adams presented the Board with a map showing a 100 acre parcel of land owned by Nutrien that is in consideration of a swap for the Project Bark property. After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed staff to discuss the property situation with Nutrien to see if they have property that is more usable with no wetlands.

DISCUSSION OF GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Smith explained the current situation with county grants and suggested that the Board consider a grant administrator. After a lengthy discussion as to whether to hire an individual or firm to administer the county grants and pursue other State / Federal grants the Board directed staff to provide available options for consideration at the next meeting.

GREEN POINT RESEARCH – UPDATE – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

David Hasenauer, with Green Point Research, provided the Board with an update as to their business plan. Mr. Hasenauer advised the Board that they are continuing to relocate individuals to the Hamilton County facility and hoped to have everything completed and fully operational by June 1, 2022 at which time they will invite the Board to do a site visit and walk-thru to better understand their process.

RECONSIDERATION OF MOTOR GRADER BIDS

County Coordinator Louie Goodin presented the Board with three (3) possible scenarios for the Motor Grader purchase after discussing the issues with both Beard Equipment and Ring Power. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to wait until the first meeting in February to make a decision due to the uncertainty.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT

County Coordinator Louie Goodin provided the Board with an update regarding the current Ship, CDBG-CV and American Rescue Plan due to the absence of Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors. Mr. Goodin advised the Board that the first American Rescue Plan funds release has been received by the county and that the draft agreement with Windstream has been completed.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT

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

OFF ROAD TRAIL EXPLORATION – Mr. Bailey discussed

with the Board as to whether to pursue an ATV riding trail in Hamilton County. After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Bailey and Mr. Williams to pursue the development of an ATV trail.

SW 90TH BLVD. – Mr. Bailey provided the Board with an update for the SW 90th Blvd. paving project and stated that the right-of-way is being staked with any questions to be forwarded to Mr. Moses. Mr. Bailey also stated that his firm is continuing to work with the other State Agencies to secure the State permits for the paving project and has completed the wetland mitigation report which with the determined credits will be approximately \$16,000.

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve invoice no. 16996 in the amount of \$6,500 for NFPS. Second was made by Commissioner McCoy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

OAK STREET – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that they are working with Duke Energy for the relocation of utility poles with the clearing and grubbing in progress.

CITY OF JASPER 1ST AVENUE FROM SE 5TH STREET TO SE 7TH STREET – Mr. Goodin provided the Board with a map showing the approximately 2,000 ft. paving request of 1st Ave. from the City of Jasper. The request would be for the City to provide the materials with the county to provide the labor.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the paving request by the City of Jasper for 1st Ave. from SE 5th Street to SE 7th Street with the City to provide the materials. Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

BAISDEN LAKE LOOP / SW 107TH AVE. – Mr. Bailey advised the Board his staff is finalizing the contract with FDOT.

CR – 137 – Mr. Bailey advised that the close out meeting with Anderson Columbia and Locklear was held. Mr. Bailey stated that there have been reports of water standing on portions of the road and Locklear will be checking on the issue during the next rain.

FDOT SCOP AND SCRAP PROJECTS – Mr. Bailey provided the timeline for submitting the SCOP and SCRAP projects. The Board stated that they plan to submit the list of projects previously approved by the Board for the 5-year road plan.

GIBSON PARK BOAT RAMP – Mr. Bailey advised the Board that his staff is working on the plans for the project.

SW 69th DRIVE – Chairman Smith provided the Board with a map showing the intersection of SW 69th Drive, SW 61st Ave. and W 59th. After a brief discussion, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Ogburn to approve for legal staff to negotiate the acquisition of the needed right-of-way for the intersection. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 151457 – 151783 and checks 066893-067028). Second was made by Commissioner Ogburn, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Attorney Cliff Adams discussed with the Board the postponement of the Code Enforcement hearings.
- Commissioner Ogburn advised the Board that Mr. Goodin and himself will be meeting with Nutrien to discuss reclamation issues.
- Clerk of Court Greg Godwin advised the Board that the VFW plan to replace their sign by the end of the week.
- Commissioner Brown reminded the Board that the Christmas parade in White Springs will be Friday evening and Jasper Saturday evening.
- Commissioner McCoy stated that he has checked the signage installed by Nutrien on the roads and shared concerns regarding the Animal Control Officer. The Board directed Mr. Goodin to involve Commissioner McCoy and address the concerns.
- County Coordinator Louie Goodin advised the Board that Commissioner McCoy and himself would be attending the Rural Development Summit in St. Augustine. Mr. Goodin also stated that the legislative appropriations requests are moving forward.
- Chairman Smith questioned staff as to the investigation of the Internet Café's. According to staff, the Sheriff's Department is still investigating the activities of the businesses. The Board discussed the possibility of placing a moratorium on any new

Internet Café's. County Attorney Cliff Adams advised that he would provide the Board with information at the next meeting.

- Chairman Smith also discussed the clinic remodeling. Mr. Goodin advised that he is waiting on the contractor to submit a change order for the Board's consideration.
- Chairman Smith then discussed the Jennings Bluff property and requested that the Board allow the Road Department to pick up trash in the area. The Board agreed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Ogburn adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

JOSH SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK

