

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024
JASPER, FLORIDA**

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County, Florida, met in regular session on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida. Present were Commissioners Travis Erixton, Jimmy Murphy, Robbie Roberson, Richie McCoy and Robert Brown, 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 McCoy and led in prayer by Commissioner Erixton with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Chairman McCoy.

**PRESENTATION OF FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR – GREG HICKS,
HAMILTON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE**

Greg Hicks, with the Hamilton County Extension Office, introduced the Seth Adams family as the Farm Family of the Year. Mr. Hicks provided the farming history of the Seth Adams family and presented Seth and his wife Morgan with a plaque recognizing them as the Farm Family of the Year.

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

John Beall, with Thomas Howell Ferguson, provided the Board with a written status report of the American Rescue Plan and advised the Board that their staff is continuing to research alternative grants for the Broadband construction.

SHIP / CDBG PROGRAM / CDBG-CV – STATUS REPORT

Ship Administrator Spencer Nabors provided the Board with a detailed report for the Ship, CDBG, HHRP and CDBG-CV programs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – STATUS REPORT AND REQUESTS

Economic Development Director Chadd Mathis provided the Board with a brief update regarding the current economic development projects and the Geddes properties. Mr. Mathis advised the Board that the Development Agreement with Busy Bee has been executed. Mr. Mathis also discussed the need for the Board to remove the Logistics Park property from the Brownsfield designation. Lastly, Mr. Mathis announced that the Dollar General Market store is now open at the SR 6 / I-75 interchange.

ROAD PAVING PROJECTS – STATUS EREPORT

Kellan Bailey, with North Florida Professional Services, provided the Board with a written status report on the current road projects and reviewed each project.

Georgia Wolfe was present and questioned the Board as to the timeline for the US 129 / CR 158 lift station construction. After a brief discussion of the project, the Board explained the timeline for the lift station project and the benefit for the entire area. Alisha Reddish, representing Ms. Wolfe also discussed the timeline and requested that the Board expedite the project if possible.

SW 87th TERRACE – Mr. Bailey briefly discussed the task order submitted by NFPS for the SW 87th Terrace paving project.

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to approve the task order as submitted by NFPS for SW 87th Terrace. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation Director Chuck Burnett was present to discuss with the Board the following projects. The first project for consideration was the Gibson Park electrical service where only one (1) bid was received from Felknor Electrical Services in the amount of \$10,300. After a brief discussion, the Board took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to award the Gibson Park electrical bid to Felknor Electrical Services in the amount of \$10,300 due to only receiving one (1) bid proposal for the project. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board then considered the bid proposals for a 40 X 40 enclosed Garage/Building for the Recreation Department. The bid results were as follows: Triangle Barns - \$22,696, Plumb Level Construction - \$47,320 and \$52,049, Complete Construction Creations - \$45,067.02 and McCoy Land Services - \$30,525. The Board and Mr. Burnett discussed the bid proposals. Mr. Burnett advised the Board that each bid proposal was in compliance with the bid specifications.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to award the bid for the 40 X 40 building for the Recreation Department to Triangle Barns in the amount of \$22,696. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote. Chairman McCoy abstained from voting due to one of the bids being from a family member.

GRADALL #50 REPAIRS – QUOTES

County Coordinator Gary Godwin presented the Board with a quote from Great Southern Equipment Company for repairs to the County's Gradall (#50) in the amount of \$37,544.16. The Board briefly discussed the repairs and took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Erixton to approve the Gradall repair quote from Greater Southern Equipment Co. in the amount of \$37,544.16. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The Board then discussed the equipment purchase of a used Wheeled two (2) axle Rough Terrain 4X4 Excavator. Mr. Godwin advised the Board that the previous agreement for purchase with Ring Power for a rubber-tired excavator without a telescopic boom has been cancelled. The Board reviewed the quote from Greater Southern Equipment Co. for the used excavator as previously discussed in the amount of \$326,956. Mr. Godwin reminded the Board that the expense to the Board will be the difference between the purchase amount and the insurance refund in the amount of \$150,000 which will be \$176,956.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve the purchase of the used Excavator with a telescopic boom in the amount of \$326,956. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COURTHOUSE PLUMBING ISSUE

The Board discussed the proposal from Barr's Plumbing to repair the Courthouse plumbing in the amount of \$18,436. Clerk of Court Greg Godwin explained that a budgeted amount for the plumbing issue was placed in the Courtroom Renovation appropriation. After a brief discussion, the Board due to the emergency nature and adverse effects of the ongoing problem took the following action:

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to waive the Board's Procurement Policy and accept the proposal from Barr's Plumbing in the amount of \$18,436.00 due to the company being the current plumbing contractor and their previous knowledge of the plumbing issue. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

FEMA DIRT ROAD REPAIR – CONTRACT

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve the first payment to Dirty Work LLC in the amount of \$15,015.00 for the FEMA Dirt Road Repair project. Second was made by Commissioner Brown, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

FLORIDA PEST CONTROL SERVICE – 309 HATLEY STREET

County Coordinator Gary Godwin discussed with the Board the need to remove bats from the former Bay Station prior to demolition and presented the Board with a quote from Florida Pest Control Service in the amount of \$1,225.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the Florida Pest Control proposal in the amount of \$1,225 for the removal of the bats. Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS DISTRIBUTION

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve for the Board to formulize a contract with LSF Health Systems for the second phase of the Opioid Settlement Funds for local distribution. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

STORM RELATED ISSUES – DISCUSSION AND REQUESTS

The Board considered the Florida Department of Emergency Management grant which would provide funding for a generator at the High School due to it being used as a storm shelter.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve for staff to pursue the Florida Department of Emergency Management grant. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE BILLS

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the bills (vouchers 168396 – 168568 and checks 074210 - 074319). Second was made by Commissioner Roberson, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX ORDINANCE

County Attorney Andy Decker presented the Board with Ordinance 2024-04 for Board approval which will repeal Ordinance 2023-01 regarding the Infrastructure Surtax.

- Motion by Commissioner Roberson to approve Ordinance 2024-04 as recommended by County Attorney Andy Decker. Second was made by Commissioner Murphy, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

OPIOID LAWSUIT RESOLUTION

County Attorney Andy Decker provided the Board with a resolution to authorize legal representation for the continuation of the Opioid Settlement lawsuit.

- Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the Resolution as presented by County Attorney Andy Decker for the legal representation for the continuation of the Opioid Settlement lawsuit. Second was made by Commissioner Erixton, motion carried with a unanimous vote.

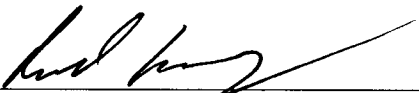
DISCUSSION OF 2024-2025 BUDGET

The Board reviewed the budget recap for the previous action of the Board. Sheriff Reid addressed the Board and made them aware that the Town of White Spring.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Georgia Wolfe addressed the Board and requested a letter of support for a no-wake zone for certain areas of the Suwannee River.
- County Coordinator Gary Godwin advised the Board that a date needs to be set for a workshop to discuss the Animal Control Ordinance and to discuss the plans for the new facility.
- Mr. Godwin also announced that the next Technical Working Group meeting will be held on September 12th at 1:00 p.m.
- The Board discussed the Pool Pond Cemetery and the need to have Nutrien remove their signage and road restrictions.
- Chairman McCoy discussed with the Board the need to market the Genoa property.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman McCoy adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.



RICHIE MCCOY, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

GREG GODWIN, EX-OFFICIO CLERK