

# JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session  
Courthouse Annex  
December 5, 2019  
6:00 P.M.

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman JT Surles, Commissioners Stephen Fulford, Eugene Hall and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Attorneys Buck Bird and Scott Shirley and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Chairman Surles called the meeting order. Commissioner Hall led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. Citizen Jack Carswell thanked the Board for the small county grant to help fund the Historical Society's calendar project.
3. Katrina Richardson provided the Board with the semi-annual report on the Bed Tax revenues and expenditures.
4. Chairman Surles requested that item 4(e) on the consent agenda be moved to the beginning and also requested that item 4(d) be moved to second. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Fulford and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of: Approval of Agenda as amended; General Fund/Transportation Vouchers; minutes for 11/21/2019 Regular Session; annual Christmas gift to employees and officers; and appointment of Jacqueline Seabrooks to Planning Commission for District 1.**
5. Chairman Surles requested Planning Official Shannon Metty provide an overview of the special exception site plan for the wedding venue. Property owner Justin Hamilton addressed the Board and outlined his plans for their property. **Commissioner Walker made a motion to approve the special exception site plan with the caveats that the noise level remain below a certain decibel level and any large event require an off-duty deputy to manage traffic. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously (4-0).**
6. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Fulford and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the Housing Change Order for M.L. Stubbins (\$3,043.50).**
7. Commissioner Hall introduced the leasing of the A Building and Wacissa Volunteer Fire Department facility item. Citizen Clayton Tolbert expressed concern that the County is paying rent to the School Board for buildings already owned by the citizens of Jefferson County. **On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved allowing Attorney Bird to work with the School Board's attorney to explore the possibility of having these properties deeded to the County.**
8. Commissioner Hall introduced the Jackson Street paving issue. Citizen Clayton Tolbert stated his belief that the County should give the city a larger percentage of the gas tax money or otherwise help pave Jackson Street and possibly other streets common between the city and county. After discussion by the Board, Clerk of Court Kirk Reams gave a summary of how the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> cent taxes came about and how they are utilized. **Commissioner Hall made a motion for Attorney Bird to get with the City of Monticello's attorney to**

**determine if we could modify the amount of gas tax given to the city. The motion died for lack of a second.**

9. Commissioner Hall introduced the Gas Tax general business item. Citizen Clayton Tolbert inquired about the possibility of a higher percentage of any other gas tax revenues being sent to the City to aid with paving of city streets.
10. Citizen Paul Henry reminded the Board and citizens that Pearl Harbor Day was upcoming.
11. Citizen Phil Calandra encouraged the Board to begin the procurement process for hiring a new county auditor. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams explained the statutory requirements for procuring audit services.
12. County Attorney Scott Shirley provided an update on the Thompson gas remediation issue and stated that the state is no longer holding the county responsibility for 25% of the cost of remediation.
13. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried (4-0), the meeting was adjourned.**

**Board of County Commissioners  
Jefferson County, Florida**

---

J.T. Surles, Chairman

ATTEST:

---

Kirk Reams, Clerk of Court