

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session
August 5, 2021
6:00 P.M.

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

1. Chairman Walker called the meeting to order and led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. Commissioner Surles informed the Board that local business owner Tom Randle was requesting a letter of support for Main Street Monticello from the Board of County Commissioners.
3. Commissioner Barfield requested that item (3e), Evans Corner Final Plat Approval, be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion. Commissioner Hall requested that POW/MIA Display discussion be placed on the agenda. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, second by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of agenda as amended, General Fund and Transportation Vouchers, MOA Big Bend Transit and EOC, Community Emergency Management Plan and Jefferson County Small Grants and Non-Profits Awards—was approved.**
4. Commissioner Hall introduced the discussion on the POW/MIA display and stated he had been communicating with Veterans Affairs Coordinator Alvin Swilley about a possible POW/MIA display at the Courthouse. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, second by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the Board agreed to look into a possible display at the Courthouse Annex.**
5. Commissioner Barfield introduced the Verizon Digital Inclusion item. Richard Spurrier, Loren Pruitt and Russ Carrier with Verizon addressed the Board regarding the different programs and price points for students and low income residents. Commissioner Surles asked if the service provided by these programs are an improvement from the current service, to which Verizon answered the service provided would be the same.
6. Commissioner Barfield introduced the Broadband Feasibility item and stated the Board needed to change the scope of the RFQ. **On motion by Commissioner Tuten, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board modified the scope of the broadband feasibility study.**
7. Commissioner Barfield introduced Richard Spurrier, with Verizon, stated there may be potential grant dollars for emergency connectivity related to natural disasters and suggested the Board or its designee visit sam.gov for further information.
8. Planning Official Shannon Metty introduced the American Rescue Plan grant consultant award. She stated that two groups bid on the consulting contract (Langton and Governmental Services Group) but that GSG was scored higher. **On motion by**

Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, GSG was approved as the grant consultant for the American Rescue Plan.

9. Attorney Scott Shirley discussed the ADA Compliance policy. He noted several changes to the ADA policy based on Commissioner recommendations.
10. Commissioner Hall introduced citizen Paul Henry who gave a presentation on the cost/benefit of newly adopted Solid Waste Department operations.
11. Solid Waste Director Beth Letchworth gave an update on her department. She made several recommendations for the Lloyd site, including expanding the days of service to seven days and also having it open from 6:30 am to 7:00 pm. She also noted this new change in hours would necessity closing the gate at night. Commissioner Barfield expressed displeasure with the suggested changes. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and carried 3 to 2 (Barfield, Walker opposed), the Board accepted the above recommendations.** Commissioner Tuten suggested three-month trial with roll off containers at the Lamont, Fulford, Bassett Dairy and Wacissa collection sites. **Commissioner Tuten made a motion to have roll offs at these sites, to which Commissioner Surles seconded for discussion.** Commissioner Barfield stated she would also like a roll off container at the Lloyd collection site. **Commissioner Tuten made an amendment to his motion to include Lloyd, to which Commissioner Walker amended his second. The motion carried 4 to 1 (Hall opposed).**
12. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams introduced the Road Priority item and stated he would be bringing an updated list back to the Board at the next meeting. Commissioner Barfield requested that Hayfield Spur Road be updated to include the entire length of the road and also requested that Lafitte Lukens Road and Miller Road be added to her district list. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board requested Clerk Reams bring back the amended list to the next meeting.**
13. County Attorney Scott Shirley introduced the Floodplain Ordinance item and provided the first reading of the ordinance.
14. Commissioner Barfield presented the letter of support for Langton Consultants. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with the letter of support.
15. Planning Official Shannon Metty discussed the Evans Corner Final Plat item. She noted that the large lots would be used recreationally and the flood plain should not be an issue. **On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved the final plat.**
16. Sheriff Mac McNeill gave an update on the patrol program funded by the Board.
17. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams presented the Board with an invitation from Trulieve to tour their facility. It was the consensus of the Board to wait until the City met, so that the City Council members could tour at the same time as the County Commissioners.
18. Planning Official Shannon Metty informed the Board that the playground project at the Recreation Park is underway.

19. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick noted there may be an opioid settlement in the years ahead that may mirror the tobacco settlements of the past.
20. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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

Stephen Walker, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kirk Reams, Clerk of Court