

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session
September 16, 2021
6:00 P.M.

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

1. Chairman Walker called the meeting to order. Commissioner Hall led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. County Health Department Administrator Kim Albritton updated the Board on the COVID pandemic. She stated that cases and testing are decreasing.
3. It was the consensus of the Board to pull item 3(g), SHIP Bid Awards, from the consent agenda and place under General Business as 4(f). On motion by Commissioner Surlles, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda as amended, General Fund and Transportation vouchers, Verizon Digital Inclusion Agreement and Property Appraiser Budget Amendment—was approved.
4. Planning Official Shannon Metty gave an overview of the major subdivision application for Big Woods Plantation. Staff suggested approving the application, as all requirements and stipulations had been met. Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the subdivision. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Barfield expressed uneasiness in approving a development of this size on that property and also stated this would have a huge impact on existing dirt roads in the area. Commissioner Barfield made a motion, to which Commissioner Hall seconded to approve the proposed subdivision with the caveat that the developer pave several connector roads feeding into the development. The motion failed 2 to 3 (Surlles, Tuten and Walker opposed). There was further discussion by the Board and the developer's attorney on this item. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and carried 4 to 1 (Hall opposed), the Board rejected the application.
5. Commissioner Tuten introduced Robbie Slack with the Solid Waste Department to provide an update on Solid Waste and also the Pinckney Hill site. Commissioner Tuten requested that the Pinckney Hill site be open four days per week instead of the current three days per week. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved opening the Pinckney Hill site for a fourth day per week.
6. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams introduced the Legislative priorities item. He noted that due to the session calendar, a legislative priorities list would be needed by November and stated that the legislative committee would meet soon to bring back a list before the Board.
7. Commissioner Tuten on behalf of the Economic Development Committee introduced the Iron Man Project final agreement approval. Bobby Kelley, owner of Kelley & Kelley, explained that his business is a commercial sheet metal business and he would like to move his home base to Jefferson County. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Tuten and unanimously carried, the Board approved the final agreement.
8. Commissioner Hall introduced the Martin Luther King Community Center item. He stated he was working with Charles Parrish and the community center and was requesting approximately \$35,000 to build a basketball court at the center for the youth to enjoy. The

Board expressed its desire to assist, but it was noted that the County cannot build or pay for something to be built on land it does not own.

9. Commissioner Barfield introduced the SHIP Bid Awards and noted that the all projects exceeded the \$100,000 threshold. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved exceeding the threshold for these projects.
10. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams reminded the Board about the Final Budget Hearing to be held on September 28th at 6 pm and that an additional special meeting would be held at 6:30 pm to discuss the gas tax ordinance.
11. Commissioner Tuten stated he was on the committee to hire a new Solid Waste Director, but they have not yet vetted applications or set up interviews. It was the consensus of the Board to let County Coordinator Barwick finish the process and bring a recommendation back before the Board.
12. 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