

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Regular Session**  
**December 1, 2022**  
**6:00 P.M.**

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman Gene Hall, Commissioners Stephen Walker, Chris Tuten, Austin Hosford and JT Surles. Also present were Clerk of Court, Kirk Reams, County Attorney Heather Encinosa and Interim County Manager and Planning Official Shannon Metty.

1. Chairman Hall called the meeting to order and led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. County Judge Robert Plains swears in newly elected Commissioners Gene Hall and Austin Hosford.
3. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles, and unanimously carried, the Board elected Commissioner Tuten as Board Chair for the next year.**
4. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Chairman Tuten, and unanimously carried, the Board elected Commissioner Surles as the Vice-Chair for the upcoming year.**
5. County Manager, Shannon Metty read the proclamation which was a permanent record of gratitude for former Jefferson County Sheriff, Ken Fortune.
6. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the attached vouchers to be paid, the attached TCEC Letter of Support and the small business grant for the Southern Music Rising festival.**
7. County Manager Shannon Metty introduced item 6a, the Comp. Plan Map Change – Road Department. **On a motion made by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to move forward with the changes detailed in the attached documents.**
8. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6b, the Comp. Plan Map Change – Industrial Park. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to move forward with the changes detailed in the attached documents.**
9. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6c, the Comp. Plan Proposal for EAR Review - The Planning Collaborative. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to move forward with the proposal.**
10. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6d, the Road Abandonment – Eighth Street. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the attached document.**

11. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 6e, Ashville VFD. **On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles, and unanimously carried, the Board approved accepting the Ashville Volunteer Fire Department Property back to the County.**
12. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 6f, Tropical Storm Nicole Ratification. **On a motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the attached ratification.**
13. Emergency Management Director, Paula Carroll introduced item 6g, Emergency Management POD/MOU. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the attached MOU.**
14. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 6h, Public Hearing Emergency Management Ordinance. Chairman Tuten opened the public meeting for citizen input and then closed it. **On a motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved moving forward with the attached Ordinance.**
15. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6i, SaferWatch MOU. She indicated that she would like to do further research and bring this item back to a later Commission meeting.
16. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6j, CIGP Agreement (CR 158A Old Lloyd Road). **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the attached agreement and resolution.**
17. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6k, BSCOP Agreement (CR 146 Ashville Highway). **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the attached resolution.**
18. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6l, BSCOP Agreement (CR 259 Wakeenah). **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the attached agreement and resolution.**
19. Chairman Tuten introduced item 6m, DEO US-19 Sewer Project. After much discussion, **on a motion by Commissioner Hosford, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and approved 4-1, the Board approved asking the City of Monticello to return the Grant back to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity because the project does not appear to be feasible at this time.**
20. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 6n, Committee Assignment Updates. After much discussion, there were multiple changes that were needed as former Commissioner Betsy Barfield was defeated in the 11/8/2022 election. This required replacing her on the committee's that she participated on. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously**

**approved, the Board approved the discussed changes and will bring it back to be ratified by the Board at a future meeting.**

21. Clerk of Court, Kirk Reams reminded everyone that the Florida Department of Transportation, Road Grant Awards were coming up shortly. He stated that he would let everyone know which County Road Grant Projects were approved moving forward.
22. The County Engineer gave an update on the current road projects that they are working on.
23. County Attorney, Heather Encinosa introduced item 9a, The Opioid Settlement – Walmart. **On a motion made by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved moving forward with participating in this settlement.** Also, as an FYI, County Attorney Encinosa let the Board know that in the future they would need to put out solicitations for services needed during declared emergencies.
24. County Manager, Shannon Metty gave an update on the Road Bond and let the Board know that Duke Energy gave the County \$20,000 towards our Recreation Park Improvement Project.
25. Commissioners Gene Hall and Austin Hosford both thanked everyone for their respective victories in their County Commission races and both expressed how honored and excited they were to be working with the Board and the citizens of Jefferson County to move the business of the County forward.
26. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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

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Gene Hall, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kirk Reams, Clerk of Court