

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Regular Session**  
**September 15, 2022**  
**6:00 P.M.**

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman Gene Hall, Commissioners Stephen Walker, Chris Tuten, Betsy Barfield 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. Habitat for Humanity gave a presentation concerning some of the services that they could provide for the County. Chair Hall asked if we could put this issue on the next BCC agenda for further discussion of this partnership.
3. The Sheriff let the Board know about the grant they received for approximately \$55,000 for renovations to their evidence room.
4. Tim Stranahan from TEKNIAM Broadband Connection discussed the type of assistance that they could provide for County residents with access to the internet. They made it clear that they were not an internet provider but a technology company that could help facilitate better internet service to areas of the County that were lacking.
5. County employee Christie Lashley indicated that over the past three years she felt like she has been harassed by a commissioner and let the Board know that she would be filing a hostile work environment complaint with the County Manager about this Commissioner.
6. Citizen Tom Randle publicly thanked Commissioner Tuten for all of his hard work and assistance on the Turney Anderson road project.
7. Citizen Phil Calandra introduced item 5h, County Manager Update. He gave an update on the research and work that he has been doing.
8. Julius Hackett of Tri-County gave an update on the Broadband project. Commissioner Barfield asked the Board to bring forward Committee Member recommendations to Mrs. Metty by Friday. Commissioner Hall asked for this to be placed on next BCC agenda.
9. Kim Albritton, Director of the Jefferson County Health Department gave an update on the services that they have been providing to the citizens of Jefferson County and volunteered to be on the Jefferson County Broadband Committee.
10. The County Attorney requested that an additional item be added to the Consent Agenda, on a motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved adding item 4i, the County's contract with the Florida Department of Health for services with the County Health Department. Then **on motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the list**

**of accounts report, the Commissioners Report, the Voucher List Report, the 8-4-22 and 8-18-22 BCC regular session meeting minutes, the following budget workshop meeting minutes (7-14-22, 7-21-22, 7-28-22, 8-4-22, 8-11-22, 8-18-22, 8-25-22 and 9-1-22), the purchase and sale agreement, deed of conveyance and resolution for the surplus sale approval of Yunok Road, the purchase and sale agreement, deed of conveyance and resolution of the surplus sale approval of Sage Street, the Board approval for NOI for Non-Ad Valorem assessments and the contract with the County Health Department.**

11. The County Attorney's introduced item 5a, the Econfina Timberlands Development. After discussion, it was recommended that based on outside legalities, the Board was required to approve the initial development plan but that they were allowed to put conditions in the plan that would need to be met before moving the project forward to potential completion. The conditions noted were: Lots 2, 10, 11, and 25 would be delineated as lots within the wetlands; a floodplain benchmark would need to be established; an inclusion of 60 foot easements; the applicant would bear the entire cost of all road improvements; lots 1, 2, and 3 could not be divided; there could only be 1 house per lot; any additional permitting fees and costs would be paid for by the applicant; stormwater compliance must be met; all current Land Development Code requirements must be met. After the Board developed the conditions, the Attorney for the development agreed to the original conditions from 2019 but objected to the additional conditions and indicated that they felt Commissioner's Barfield and Tuten should not vote because they were not impartial. County Attorney Greg Stewart acknowledged the concern but noted that after investigation a potential conflict was not found. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the initial Econfina Timberlands project plan with the before mentioned conditions.**
12. County Manager, Shannon Metty introduced item 5b, the Road List Discussion. She went through the attached list and several modifications were made. No vote was taken, this is for informational purposes and will come before the Board at the next meeting.
13. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 5c, Executed bid documents for Lake Road. Due to administrative issues, this issue will come back to the Board for their review and approval at the 10/6 meeting.
14. Item 5d, the Solid Waste Year to Date Program Review was not discussed and will come back at a later Board meeting.
15. Item 5e, Audit Review was not discussed and is going to be on the BCC Agenda for the 10/6 meeting
16. The County Attorney's gave an update on item 5f, the Forensic Audit.
17. For item 5g, Audit Selection Committee, it was determined that the current external auditor will be used moving forward and this issue will be brought back to the next Board meeting.
18. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 5i, Repeal Chapter 30. **On a motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Surles, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this issue.**

19. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 5j, Fire Protection Assessment. **On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this issue.**
20. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 5k, Solid Waste Service Assessment. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this issue.**
21. County Attorney Encinosa introduced item 5l, Board approval of a resolution adopting revised rules of procedure for meeting. **On a motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Barfield, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this issue.** County Attorney Encinosa also noted that under parliamentary voting procedures, should a commissioner not vote on a motion the vote is counted as a yes.
22. County Attorney Encinosa informed the Board she had located the Santander contracts in question from a prior meeting.
23. Commissioner Barfield stated that she felt approved contracts should be signed by the Commission the night of the approval and given to the Clerk to be put in a public place. **On a motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried, the Board approved this issue.**
24. Commissioner Walker spoke with the Clerk in regard to having a line item in the budget specifically for boat ramp projects and improvements. He referenced a fund which comes from payments made to the Tax Collector for boat registration. A brief discussion of different locations that could benefit from this took place.
25. Commissioner Surles requested that Road Department Manager, Tom Kisamore should get quotes for mowers so a decision can be made how to move forward with that need.
26. Commissioner Surles asked County Engineer Jack Husbands for a brief update. Mr. Husbands touched on the status of the DOT grant situation. Commissioner Surles asked to have an Engineer comment section created for future agendas.
27. Commissioner Hall asked Mrs. Metty to look into Wi-Fi abilities at the Rec. Park.
28. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles, 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