

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
February 17, 2011

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman Stephen Fulford, Commissioners Betsy Barfield, Hines Boyd, Danny Monroe and John Nelson. Also present were County Coordinator Roy Schleicher and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Chairman Fulford announced that the Jefferson County Schools Transition Team Presentation would be moved to General Business, Item L.
2. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the Consent Agenda, consisting of the approval of the agenda, the minutes of the February 3, 2011 Regular Session and the minutes of the February 7, 2011 Fire/EMS Station Workshop was approved.
3. Extension Director John Lilly introduced a Memorandum of Understanding with the Florida Cooperative Extension Service. He explained that this memorialized the function of his department since its inception. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the memorandum was approved.
4. John Dailey, representing a group interested in working for the county to analyze any effects from the BP Oil Spill, addressed the Board with the group's proposal. He explained that his group would be compensated on a contingency basis. Commissioner Barfield expressed concern with interest charged on expenses, to which Lisa Foran, representing the legal side of the group, stated that costs were shared among all clients. Chairman Fulford asked how many firms were performing this function, to which Mr. Dailey replied none locally. Commissioner Boyd stated his belief that BP had been a good steward by sending a representative to the area for months to talk with people about filing claims if they were damaged by the oil spill. Mr. Boyd further stated he felt it would be difficult to distinguish any cause and effect for Jefferson County. Chairman Fulford agreed, saying that he felt damage would be difficult to prove statistically and that BP has tried to help small businesses and individuals. Attorney Bird stated he had no problem with the legal elements of the contract, but that if the county were to pull out of the contract it would be responsible for its pro-rata share of fees. Commissioner Nelson stated he felt it was a "win-win" situation, to which Commissioner Barfield agreed. Commissioner Monroe stated that if the county had suffered any damages, then it was entitled to compensation. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and carried 3 to 2 (Boyd and Fulford opposed), the Board approved the BP Oil Taxing Authority Contract.
5. Attorney Drew Parker introduced the ownership issue regarding the Monticello Maintenance Yard on Martin Road. He presented a map showing land on the site that the county owned as well as land owned by the state of Florida that the county leases. The map also showed the parcel to the north that the state owned, which was the former site of the county jail. Mr. Parker explained that the first step he recommended was to meet with DEP to resolve the restrictive covenant that should have been filed with respect to the area of institutional control on the site. He further explained that the next step would be a request of ownership of the whole parcel from the state. Commissioner Nelson expressed concern about any contamination issues, to which Attorney Scott Shirley responded he would follow up with DEP to ensure no liability existed for the county. Commissioner Barfield inquired as to whether taking ownership of leased land would increase the county's liability, to which Attorney Shirley responded he would try to determine. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Attorneys Shirley and Parker to engage in conversations with DEP in regards to institutional control and to discuss the potential of obtaining ownership of the entire parcel.

6. Attorney Shirley addressed the Board concerning an Industrial Park stormwater issue. He spoke of the need to meet with surrounding property owners to get their consent to allow easement access for the stormwater pipe system in exchange for the county allowing access by extending Industrial Park Road and maintaining a section of Drifton Woods Road. Commissioner Monroe spoke of possible safety concerns by allowing residential traffic access through the Industrial Park. Chairman Fulford concurred, but stated that this arrangement may be the only solution. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Attorney Shirley to proceed with negotiations with the neighbors for the benefit of all parties.
7. Attorney Shirley presented the proposed Community Development Resolution. He explained that this resolution adopts the Comprehensive Plan as the county's Community Development Plan. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, Resolution No. 11-021711-01, Community Development Resolution, was approved.
8. Commissioner Barfield asked Paul Dawson with Public Risk Insurance Agency (Brown & Brown) to give an overview of insurance versus bonds. Mr. Dawson explained that Public Official Liability protected actions of officials, but did not cover intentional or fraudulent acts as a bond would. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams asked Mr. Dawson if there was an insurance policy that would cover intentional or fraudulent acts, to which Mr. Dawson explained that the trend he was seeing in many counties was the purchase of a crime/employee dishonesty policy. Mr. Dawson further explained that the process for this policy was less invasive and provided more comprehensive coverage. Commissioner Barfield expressed her desire to be covered from liability. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated he would work with Mr. Dawson and bring back some quotes for different levels of coverage.
9. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented the Board with photos of the dump truck purchased at the Yoder and Frey auction. Commissioner Boyd presented pictures of a dump trailer and grapple truck available at a different auction that he recommended for the Road Department and Solid Waste Department respectively. Solid Waste Director Beth Thorne responded that she needed a roll-off truck more than a grapple truck. Commissioner Nelson stated his desire to see a tracking program in place for the replacement of vehicles. Commissioner Barfield stated that this issue sounded like something that a Coordinator or Administrator should be handling, not a Commissioner. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher stated that the mechanic could not go to the auction this weekend and it was not a good idea to go to the auction without someone knowledgeable to inspect the vehicles. Commissioner Monroe stated that it was up to the department heads to bring their needs before the Board. Commissioner Boyd stated he felt it was the duty of a Commissioner to identify problems and propose solutions beneficial to county citizens.
10. Chairman Fulford expressed his desire to take the development and implementation of Broadband Plan presented by The Information Institute off the table due to it being more than what the county needed or originally intended.
11. Commissioner Boyd stated his belief that the county was missing an opportunity by not utilizing modular construction for the Fire Rescue Station due to misconceptions about this type of construction. Commissioner Nelson stated that this discussion was more appropriate at a workshop. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher agreed to set a workshop for a later date after other stations have been visited and proposals reviewed.
12. Property Appraiser Angela Gray presented a Powerpoint presentation on the Low Income Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption. She explained that at least one person in the household had to be 65 years of age or older and the property must have been homesteaded as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Additionally, household income could not exceed \$26,203 annually. Mrs. Gray gave a breakdown of projected revenue

losses of \$8323, \$24,968 and \$41,613 for exemption levels of \$5000, \$15,000, and \$25,000 respectively. On motion by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, the Board approved moving forward with a draft ordinance to consider for public hearing.

13. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented a pro/con list for the private dirt road repair program previously discussed. He stated the Board should decide to either create a program and work out the details or decide not to pursue the program. Commissioner Barfield stated that she was in favor of some type of limited program where the county would be required to be presently working in the area where the private road was located. She also stated she would like to see time limited to three to five hours and on Friday and Saturday only. Mrs. Barfield did not want to see the county get into hauling material as part of the program and would require the county be paid up front with a signed no guarantee contract. Commissioner Monroe stated he opinion the county did not need to enter into this kind of program and that it would "open up a can of worms." Commissioner Nelson stated he had talked to many surrounding counties and stated that few had these programs and if they did, the program was very limited. Commissioner Boyd stated this was a long time problem that needed a solution for these taxpayers. Chairman Fulford stated a concern with the county keeping up with the work it currently had and expressed that there was work that even the county had to bid out to private contractors to perform because it could not. He also stated his concern with taking business away from the private sector. Chairman Fulford gave a proposal that would have the county help homeowners associations with an RFQ for scope of work and set up a liaison with private contractors on behalf of these associations. Commissioner Nelson asked Brent Wood with Valley View HOA if private contractors had been consulted to which Mr. Wood responded that private contractors were too cost prohibitive. Citizen Chuck Sarkisian says that the county does have resources that are available on Friday and Saturday to do the work. Traci Wood with Valley View HOA asked the Board to adopt a program that would not cost the taxpayers anything and that the only decision was whether to help residents or not. Citizen Stephen Monroe stated that the county could not afford to get into the private road business and that the county should not turn its back on private contractors. Chairman Fulford spoke of looking at the possibility of a two-thirds program, where if two-thirds of the people agree to have the road paved, then an assessment could be levied on their property over time to pay for the paving. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and failed 2 to 3 (Fulford, Monroe and Nelson opposed), the Board did not approve to establish a program and did not task County Coordinator Schleicher to work out the details. Citizen Paul Michael suggested having a workshop on the issue. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and carried 4 to 1 (Monroe opposed), the Board agreed to create a program to assist private citizens by either having the county assist in administering with private contractors and/or having the Road Department solely responsible for the program and with the ability to consider other options to implement. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher agreed to set up a future workshop on this matter.
14. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the meeting was extended.
15. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented department head reports to the Board and notified the Board that he would be meeting with Road Superintendent David Harvey and Clerk of Court staff to discuss budget issues. Mr. Schleicher presented an updated calendar, to which Commissioner Barfield requested the county website calendar be updated as well. Mr. Schleicher reported that the county scored a 130/135 on its HUD Rental Program / Section 8 housing. He also stated he would be working with department heads on strategic planning issues and that he would be bringing an updated committee list at a future meeting.
16. Citizen Paul Henry stated that local governments should follow the Governor's example of sending federal monies back to help with the national deficit.

17. Citizen C.P. Miller gave credit to the Jefferson County Fire Rescue for their quick response to a house fire. He stated that the county roads needed attention and that the county got out of the driveway/culvert business because of the interference with private contractors.
18. Commissioner Barfield stated her desire to partner with Leon County for a grant opportunity through CRTPA for a bike lane/shoulder on US-90. Commissioner Barfield asked if the workshop scheduled with Harry Reid with CRTPA could be changed from March 28<sup>th</sup> to another date. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher stated he would reschedule the meeting. Commissioner Barfield also expressed a desire to look at the investment policies of other counties.
19. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
20. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

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Chairman