

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
April 21, 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, County Attorney Buck Bird and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Commissioner Nelson presented Dr. Willie Tillman Williams with a plaque of recognition for her years of service in the education field.
2. Chairman Fulford requested that the ordinance regarding aquifer protection be pulled from the agenda in order to work out issues with Suwannee River Water Management District officials. Attorney Shirley stated he would be working with SRWMD Director David Still on this matter and would bring back to the Board at a later date. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved, with the requested item pulled.
3. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the minutes of the April 7, 2011 Regular Session were approved with the amendment of making the CRTPA appointment retroactive to January of 2011.
4. Chamber President Gordon Dean announced that the Taste of Spring event was being held on April 29th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Jefferson Arts Center.
5. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Local Preference Resolution, No. 11-042111-01.
6. Emergency Management Director Carol Ellerbe presented the Local Mitigation Strategy Resolution. Commissioner Barfield asked if Monticello needed to be identified as the city listed in the resolution, to which Attorney Bird stated that Monticello could be inserted for clarification. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Local Mitigation Strategy Resolution, No. 11-042111-02, which "Monticello" added as the city name for clarification.
7. Commissioner Barfield stated that the Board needed to vote on the composition of an investment committee. She stated her desire to keep the policy simple and liquid, being a safe vehicle for investments. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the committee, consisting of citizens Roosevelt Brooks and Allen Reams, County Coordinator Roy Schleicher, Clerk of Court Kirk Reams, Attorney Paula Sparkman and Commissioner Betsy Barfield. Commissioner Boyd commented that this Committee would be primarily advisory, as the Clerk is the responsible party.
8. Attorney Scott Shirley introduced the Code Enforcement Procedures discussion. He explained that the creation of a Code Enforcement Board had not been addressed in Section 9 of the Land Development Code, but was only provisionally dealt with in Section 8 by stating that the Planning Commissioner acted as the Code Enforcement Board. Attorney Shirley further explained that the new revisions established jurisdiction,

finances and appeals provisions as well as the ability for cost-recovery. Commissioner Monroe stated that he felt this was not the right time economically to do this and that some people could not afford to do better. He said that the Board needed to wait until better times and even then he would question whether this was the right thing to do. Commissioner Boyd stated that an undue hardship provision needed to be included in the new draft. Commissioner Nelson voiced concern over how code enforcement would interplay with other officials' jurisdictions, such as building and fire. Attorney Shirley responded that one central person would be needed to coordinate code enforcement activities. Commissioner Nelson stated he desired a good understanding of what the county is asking to be applied. Commissioner Boyd stated that the Planning Official had performed this duty previously, but there has been trouble in certain areas such as enforcement and due process. He stated it was time to do something and that the Board could always go back and change the policy if it created a "monster." Chairman Fulford stated that the Board needed to look at a list of codes to be enforced before any action was taken.

9. Public Hearing: Updating Dangerous Animals Ordinance

10. Attorney Bird introduced the Dangerous Animals Ordinance as amended. He stated that there had been a re-adjustment to fine levels. He also stated that the classification committee was changed to include a second citizen as opposed to including a Sheriff's Deputy. Attorney Bird further stated that the ordinance now included that if an animal was not claimed or if charges were not paid, then the county could declare the animal abandoned and dispose of it. Citizen David Hall voiced concern about unfounded complaint charges and stated that this ordinance seemed to be "guilty until proven innocent." Citizen Helen Gleasman informed the Board that her husband had recently been bitten by a dog and that nothing had been done. Attorney Bird responded that the county had not jurisdiction in this matter because it was located within the city limits. Sheriff David Hobbs stated that his staff would investigate the matter and did not understand why Animal Control was responding to nuisance calls. Commissioner Boyd stated his opinion that the Board should strike the "cost-per-call to investigate" portion of the ordinance. On motion by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, Ordinance No. 2011-04-21-11-01 was approved with the language of Section 8-62 (a)(5) removed.

11. Public Hearing: Low Income Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption

12. Property Appraiser Angela Gray stated that any citizen applying for the \$15,000 exemption would have to sign a sworn affidavit attesting to their status. Citizen Betty Russell asked the Board to consider adopting this ordinance and stated that she would appreciate the Board helping out senior citizens. Commissioner Boyd voiced concern because of uncertainty regarding the cost of implementing this measure. He stated his desire to see what the next budget would look like before making a decision on this. Citizen Betty Russell responded that it was not fair for senior citizens and that they needed help from the Board now. Commissioner Boyd stated that after the budget process and the impact was known would be a much better time to address this issue or there could be either reduction in services or the cost of this exemption could be passed to other taxpayers. Property Appraiser Angela Gray said that the estimated impact would be \$25,000 on the budget based on data from the Senior Citizens' Center and other similarly sized counties. Commissioner Nelson stated he did not believe there would be very many property owners in this category in the county. On motion by Commissioner Nelson,

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seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, the Board approved Ordinance No. 2011-04-21-11-02.

13. Citizen C.P. Miller stated that a Code Enforcement program affected a lot of people in the county and that there would be no way to implement it without a cost to taxpayers.
14. Attorney Shirley stated that a quorum for the Code Enforcement Board would be set at five members with requiring a majority of members present. Citizen David Hall asked if alternates would be appointed when other members were not there, to which Attorney Shirley responded in the affirmative.
15. Commissioner Boyd stated that the county had personnel in the Planning Office that could serve in the capacity of Code Enforcement Officer. Planning Official Bill Tellefsen responded that he was not qualified and that no one in his office desired to perform this function. Commissioner Barfield stated that the county did not need a full-time officer and that maybe the position could be combined with Fire Inspection, Animal Control and/or shared with the city. She also stated that the county could partner with Leon County and use their official. Commissioner Boyd again stated that he was convinced the county could do this with the resources it currently had. Attorney Shirley stated he would bring this issue back before the Board at the May 19th meeting.
16. Commissioner Barfield inquired into the debt collections for EMS. Chief Mark Matthews responded that problems with billing issues had to be addressed first.
17. Commissioner Barfield inquired about the county's driveway process. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher commented that the county did not install driveways anymore, but that there needed to be a better way of preventing residents from installing driveway culverts without the necessary permits.
18. Assistant County Coordinator John McHugh presented the Board with the Real Property Inventory of the Board of Commissioners and requested that Clerk of Court Kirk Reams participate in the process of analyzing the list for any recommendations.
19. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher informed the Board that he would be presenting a progress update on the private dirt road program within the next month.
20. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher urged Board members to contact legislative delegation in an effort to encourage keeping FDOT in charge of dispersing SCRAP/SCOP funds instead of the Governor's Office.
21. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher informed the Board that he, Deputy Clerk Nick Flynt, Commissioner Boyd and Road Superintendent David Harvey had recently met to analyze the Road Department's budget performance. Commissioner Boyd commented that he was concerned about possibly being over budget on fuel due to rising fuel costs.
22. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher announced that the Vision Plan workshop was scheduled from 9-10 am on May 10th with a Mine Operations discussion from 10 am - 12 pm. He requested that Commissioners arrange individual visits to both the county's mine as well as Randy Hatch's mine.

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23. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, the meeting was extended to 9:30 pm.
24. Commissioner Barfield asked about the situation with Teaks Landing. Attorney Bird responded that he wrote the requested letter to the Boland family, putting them on notice that they were given 90 days to move off the temporary easement and re-locate to the proposed thirty foot easement around the north and east perimeter that the Boland family would be responsible for constructing. Attorney Bird also stated that the letter requested no further maintenance or logs pulled over the temporary access road. Commissioner Monroe responded that the Boland's had only been cutting dead trees out of the temporary road in order to make use of it. Citizen Jeff Granger stated that he did not understand why the Bolands were given an easement when they already had one and that he felt it was wrong for the county to have given them what they received for the property they gave the county.
25. Citizen Bud Wheeler stated that there have been Planning Commissioner Meetings where there were not enough members present to have a quorum. He requested action by the Board at the next meeting. Chairman Fulford responded that present members and their appointing Commissioner needed to be identified and absentee records reviewed. He also stated that appointment terms needed to be established for confirming/re-affirming.
26. Commissioner Barfield commended Clerk of Court Kirk Reams for the Clerk's new website. She urged County Coordinator Schleicher to make progress on the personnel policy and stated her desire to be consistent in requiring motions for all committees.
27. County Attorney Buck Bird informed the Board that the Turner Group may be interested in trading property for property owned by the county at the landfill.
28. Commissioner Boyd requested that his presentation on modular housing be on the next agenda.
29. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
30. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk