

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
May 19, 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. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams announced a volunteer celebration at the Jefferson County School Board Office on June 3 at 11 am.
2. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.
3. Citizen Bill Brown announced that the Aucilla Christian Academy baseball team finished their season at the state final four.
4. Chamber President Gordon Dean announced that Watermelon Festival festivities would be starting soon, with a revival of the Watermelon Pageant and a scholarship essay contest open to juniors and seniors residing in Jefferson County.
5. Attorney Scott Shirley presented Code Enforcement revisions to the Board. He explained that a code enforcement officer could be one person or several, depending on jurisdictional area. Commissioner Barfield asked if there was any oversight on the code enforcement officer, to which Attorney Shirley responded that there was oversight through being an employee of the Board of County Commissioners. Attorney Shirley explained that the Code Enforcement Board would make final decisions in code enforcement cases and that any appeal would be directly to the Circuit Court. He also explained that voting of the Code Enforcement Board required a simple majority, with four members of the Board having to vote. Attorney Shirley pointed out that the hardship provision was re-inserted into this draft, along with a cost-recovery section whereby the county could recover the costs of prosecution. Attorney Shirley recommended leaving the standards of undue hardship up to the Code Enforcement Board. Commissioner Boyd stated that the county was already performing code enforcement, but through this method due process would now be ensured. Attorney Shirley stated that the Board of County Commissioners' only involvement in the process would be the ability to vote on having the County Attorney foreclose on any liens attached due to code enforcement violations. Attorney Shirley also suggested striking contractors and contracting codes from the code enforcement language. Citizen David Hall stated that the county was losing revenue due to the non-enforcement of business licenses. Attorney Shirley recommended proceeding with advertising the updated language for adoption via public hearing. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the revisions were accepted and Attorney Shirley's request to proceed was approved.
6. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher introduced the Private Dirt Road Maintenance Program discussion. His report to the Board stated that the Road Department was unable to provide employees and equipment and that consultation services could lead to liability for both the county and the engineering firm. His two recommendations were to either have residents contract with private contractors on their own or have residents of private subdivisions form a Municipal Services Taxing Unit. Commissioner Boyd responded that he did not "buy" the liability issue and that situations similar to Road Superintendent

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Harvey's facilitation with Ridge Road residents were what he envisioned the program to be. Commissioner Barfield agreed that liability should not be an issue and questioned why, if residents had the money, the county would have to set up an MSTU. She also voiced disappointment that the RFQ process was not listed as an alternative recommendation. County Coordinator Schleicher responded that taxing districts were a fair alternative because these people did not live on public roads and that the county could not perform the work any cheaper than private contractors. He further stated that this was a policy decision with staff recommendations that the Board could either accept or reject. Commissioner Monroe stated concern about liability and his opinion that people would "come out of the woodwork." Commissioner Nelson stated he could not see the county taking on liability and that there were contractors that could do the work at a reasonable price. Chairman Fulford said he did not see the county having the resources to do the work. Mr. Wood, with the Valley View Homeowners Association, stated that their HOA was willing to pay for all costs to the county and that they could not get the same rate for work from private contractors that the county could. He also said that the liability issue was not a problem and that the Board kept speaking in hypotheticals. Commissioner Boyd asked that his proposed resolution on the Private Dirt Road Maintenance Program be placed on the next agenda. Chamber President Gordon Dean said that it sounded like the county was being asked to do what a private contractor does. Citizen David Hall asked why the county could not "take" the road, to which Attorney Bird responded that presently if developers constructed roads to county standards and paved them the county would take over the maintenance. Citizen Phil Calandra stated that this was a "can of good intentions filled with worms" and that this was a private problem, not a public problem. Attorney Bird added that an MSTU did not apply unless the subdivision owners were willing to dedicate the roads as public streets. Commissioner Monroe made a motion that at this point the county did not have the manpower and resources to do maintenance on private roads with reimbursement, to which Commissioner Nelson seconded for discussion. Commissioner Barfield asked about a recent equipment report related to work done on Still Road. County Coordinator Schleicher stated that a grader was used ten hours that week but for five hours it sat idle awaiting material. Commissioner Barfield stated her belief that the county had the resources but personnel just did not have the desire to do this program. Commissioner Monroe's motion passed 3 to 2 (Barfield and Boyd opposed).

7. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, Commissioner Barfield was appointed to the Ad Hoc Regional Transit Committee of the CRTPA.
8. Fire/EMS Chief Mark Matthews informed the Board that Property Appraiser Angela Gray had estimated close to 182 businesses that would need inspections. He stated that the actual number would probably be closer to 150. Commissioner Nelson responded by stating that the reason he requested this information was to first determine the workload for fire inspections. Chief Matthews said that he would attempt to inspect businesses with greater hazards annually and others as his office would be able. He further explained that fees charged would pay for the cost of inspections. Commissioner Nelson said that both Leon and Gadsden did not charge existing facilities for inspections. He also stated that time given to correct deficiencies should be based on professional judgment of the person with the expertise and that internal procedures were needed before getting to the code enforcement process. Commissioner Boyd asked if this process could be handled with current staff, to which Chief Matthews responded in the affirmative. On motion by

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- Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the institution of fire inspections as Chief Matthews proposed.
9. County Engineer Alan Wise, with Preble-Rish, proposed a survey of land owned and leased by the county at the headwaters of the Wacissa River. He explained that a survey was needed to assist in the planning of a park and obtaining grants. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to expend fiscally constrained revenue for the survey, to which Commissioner Monroe seconded. Commissioner Boyd made a motion to amend the previous motion to allow the survey to have a site evaluation to determine landscape significant trees. The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.
 10. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams presented the budget schedule for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
 11. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the meeting was extended to 9:30 pm.
 12. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented Department Head reports to the Board.
 13. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented a resolution opposing the pumping of water in the vicinity of Wacissa Springs from the FSU Student Government Association.
 14. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented CDBG issues for the Board to vote on. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved Meridian Community Services to continue as the county's grants liaison for this program. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, change orders were limited to \$1000 threshold before they were brought before the Board. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the applicant ranking list of homeowners was approved. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, the contractor list of those pre-qualified to bid was approved. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, PBO3 Inc. was approved to perform lead-based paint testing. On motion by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, U.S. Title was approved to perform title search services at \$75 per search.
 15. Engineer Alan Wise, with Preble-Rish, presented the Board with a DOT Roadway Beautification Grant. He recommended median improvements from I-10 to the JCKC Dog Track along US-19. He explained that the grant monies would only be used for planting and that design and permitting was the responsibility of the county. He estimated the cost to be \$25,000 for planning. He further stated that he would come back before the Board with an exact amount before the Board was responsible for paying any money. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Mr. Wise to pursue this grant opportunity.
 16. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the meeting was extended to 10 pm.
 17. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher stated that he was still discussing costs of Mr. Hatch's proposal in regards to the scope of services for the county mine. Commissioner Barfield expressed her desire to look at options such as leasing or selling the mine. She

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stated she felt there was a strong possibility the county could buy the product cheaper. Commissioner Boyd recommended looking at the scope of services and draft agreement and allowing the Board to debate the issues at that time. He stated a desire to negotiate a draft contract with Mr. Hatch through a committee consisting of Mr. Schleicher, Mr. McHugh, Mr. Harvey and himself. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher recommended including county engineer Alan Wise. Commissioner Barfield stated she felt the county was making a mistake by not advertising this service and that she was not convinced that the mine needed to be kept open during this period of time. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams voiced concern that other options needed to be presented if the scope of services showed that initial start-up costs were too high for the county to afford. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Monroe and carried 4 to 1 (Barfield opposed), the Board approved Commissioner Boyd's recommendation.

18. Commissioner Barfield informed the Board that the Transportation Enhancement Grant for Lloyd Depot had been submitted. She gave an update on the Investment Policy and stated her desire to re-assemble the Community Traffic Safety Team for the shoulder project along US-90.
19. Chairman Fulford informed the Board that he recently met with School Board Chair Shirley Washington and expressed to her the Board's desire to coordinator efforts for re-districting if it is necessary.
20. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
21. On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest: _____
Clerk

Chairman