

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
May 17, 2012

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

**ITEM 2: Public Announcements, Presentations and Awards**

1. Commissioner Barfield presented a proclamation to Health Department Director Kim Barnhill announcing May 21<sup>st</sup> through May 27<sup>th</sup> as Public Health Administrator's Appreciation Week, in honor of Ms. Barnhill being given an Outstanding Woman in Public Health Award for 2012.

**ITEM 3: Consent Agenda**

2. Commissioner Barfield requested pulling item 3(c), Appointment of Dick Bailar to Original Florida Tourism Taskforce in order to discuss this matter under General Business. **On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Consent Agenda, consisting of the approval of the agenda as amended and the minutes from the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Regular Session, was approved.**

**ITEM 5(a): Re-Districting Challenge**

3. County Attorney Buck Bird presented a letter from an attorney representing Concerned United People requesting the Board to re-adopt the redistricting plan passed in December 2011 but rescinded in January 2012. Attorney Bird asked for feedback from the Board as to whether they wished to reconsider any prior decisions. Chairman Boyd stated that the Board made a decision to go back to the original map because there were issues with assumptions made as to prior data. Attorney Bird informed the Board that the School Board responded to the lawsuit by a vote signaling no intentions of re-adopting the redistricting plan. Commissioner Nelson stated that he voted against rescinding the plan adopted in December and still stands by his vote. Commissioner Monroe responded that the Board needed to address redistricting in 2013. Attorney John Davis, representing CUP, stated that what the Board did in 2012 was a nullity and that he would be seeking a court order to notice the actions taken in December 2011. No motions were made on this issue.

**ITEM 5(b): Appointment of Dick Bailar to Original Florida Tourism Taskforce**

4. Nancy Wideman, representing the Tourist Development Council, requested that the Board replace resigning member Tim Peary with Dick Bailar. Commissioner Barfield stated that she would like for the TDC to allow the Board to "cast a net" for applicant volunteers. She stated that part of the Board's job is to encourage citizens to participate. Nancy Wideman stated she would place an advertisement seeking volunteers that will be required to fill out the county's volunteer application.

**ITEM 5(c): Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

5. Emergency Management Director Carol Ellerbe presented a resolution for adoption acknowledging that the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan had received approval from the State. **On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the resolution.**

**ITEM 5(d): Medicaid FAC Lawsuit**

6. Commissioner Barfield presented this issue and asked for a show of support for the Florida Association of Counties in the matter of fighting House Bill 5301. **On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved supporting the lawsuit with a contribution of \$1,000 from Professional Services line item.**

**ITEM 5(e): Septic Tank Inspection Opt-Out**

7. Attorney Bird stated that the State has passed the responsibility of septic tank inspections to the counties, but counties had the option of opting-out before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Health Department Director Kim Barnhill stated that opting-out could jeopardize the environmental health of the county and that she would like to see this addressed at a future meeting. A workshop on this issue was set for June 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

**ITEM 5(f): Selection of New County Coordinator**

8. Chairman Boyd stated that this was the most important decision since he's been a member of the Board. Commissioner Barfield stated she would like to see some ground rules in place with factual non-personal public comment that is brief and non-repetitive. Citizen Merry Ann Frisby stated the best decision was to hire David Ward. Citizen Paul Henry stated his top three were Barwick, Calandra and Jones and stated he felt the Board should make a second and third choice in the event a contract is not completed with the first choice. Citizen Bud Wheeler stated that David Ward was the best choice. Citizen Gordon Dean stated that local candidates should be chosen if they were at or the near the top of the scoring list. Citizen Anne Holt stated that buying and hiring local was the same thing and that David Ward should be hired. Citizen Sherry Carswell stated that no one knows Jefferson County better than David Ward. Citizen Kate Calvin stated that there were other local candidates and that David Ward had lost the Property Appraiser election. Citizen Jack Carswell stated David Ward should be selected because he is someone that cares about the county. Citizen Alice Sander expressed support for David Ward. Citizen Carolyn Collins stated that David Ward could get the job done. Citizen Dan Shaw stated that the people would be done an injustice by paying someone that would need on the job training or acclimation to the county. Citizen Mack McLeod stated that everyone should keep any open mind a lot of knowledge outside of the county. **Commissioner Monroe made a motion to hire David Ward, to which Chairman Boyd seconded for discussion after relinquishing the gavel to Commissioner Nelson.** Commissioner Monroe stated that David Ward was from here and could do the job. Chairman Boyd stated that David Ward understood the county better than anyone and that past misunderstandings and disagreements did not need to keep the Board from doing the right thing. Commissioner Fulford stated he believed in shopping at home but this position was about experience and requirements. He stated he did not feel that David Ward was the best suited candidate for the job. **The above motion failed 2 to 3 (Barfield, Fulford and Nelson opposed). Commissioner Fulford made a motion to hire Parrish Barwick, to which Commissioner Barfield seconded. The motion failed 3 to 2 (Boyd and Monroe opposed), as this motion required 4 votes to pass.** County

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Coordinator Roy Schleicher stated that if this issue could not be resolved, then it may be beneficial to wait until after the elections in November or having the requirement changed to a simple majority and re-advertise. Commissioner Barfield stated this needed to be resolved. Chairman Boyd suggested tabling the issue for the time being.

Commissioner Nelson stated that his decision is based on fairness and professionalism. Commissioner Barfield stated that there was a local candidate who had world-wide experience and that she was willing to make a compromise for this local candidate.

**Commissioner Barfield made a motion to hire Phil Calandra, to which Commissioner Fulford seconded. The motion failed 3 to 2 (Boyd and Monroe opposed), as this motion required 4 votes to pass.** Candidate Nick Flynt inquired as to why he was cut from the scoring list, to which Chairman Boyd responded apologetically for not contacting him and explained he lacked upper level management experience. Chairman Boyd requested that the County Coordinator selection be placed on the next agenda.

**ITEM 6(a): County Coordinator's Report / Department Head Reports**

9. County Coordinator Roy Schleicher presented the Department Head Reports to the Board.

**ITEM 8: Commissioner Discussion Items**

10. Commissioner Monroe expressed concern about the availability of road base for Road Superintendent David Harvey, to which County Coordinator Roy Schleicher stated there was ample material available for his operations.
11. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams informed the County Commission about the awarding of a \$50,000 historic preservation grant for the Lamont Schoolhouse. Commissioner Barfield stated that she would still like to see a budget of planned future operations. She also stated that the Board needed prioritize its funding for future projects.
12. Commissioner Nelson informed the Board about water intrusion problems in the West Lake Road area.
13. Commissioner Barfield requested Chairman Boyd to ask CRTPA Director Harry Reed about the time table for the SR-59 project. She also gave an update on the Bike/Ped planning meeting.

**ITEM 9: Adjournment**

14. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
15. **On motion by Commissioner Monroe, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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Chairman

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