

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
March 7, 2013

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman John Nelson, Commissioners Betsy Barfield, Benjamin “Benny” Bishop, Hines Boyd and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Coordinator Parrish Barwick, County Attorney Buck Bird and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

**ITEM 3: Consent Agenda**

1. Commissioner Barfield requested that the minutes for the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Regular Session be pulled in order to make a modification of placing US-19 Sidewalk Project in Tier 2 of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes as amended. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.**

**ITEM 4: Citizens Request and Input on Non-Agenda Items**

2. Citizen Troy Avera stated he was asked by Jefferson Arts to request the Commission to alleviate drainage issues at their building. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated that plans to address the drainage via the construction of parking facilities behind that building were being evaluated.
3. Consultant Bill Williams requested to be on a future agenda to address some time sensitive RESTORE ACT issues.
4. Citizen Bobby Grantham informed the Board of drainage issues in the Curtis Mill/Thompson Valley Road area.

**ITEM 5(a): Road Width Alternatives and Specifications**

5. Commissioner Boyd gave a Powerpoint presentation on road width alternatives and spoke of advantages of 18 feet versus 20 feet widths. He expressed his desire to have 18 feet as the standard width. He also stated his desire to hold a workshop on moving forward with the road bond. Citizen Phil Calandra stated this was not a “one size fits all” issue and gave a presentation on road width and total life cycle on chip seal versus asphalt. Citizen Paul Henry stated that roadway departures on connector roads was a big safety issue and recommended moving forward with the work that Phil Calandra’s committee had established.

**ITEM 5(b): Heritage Road Preservation**

6. Andy McLeod, with the Department of State, gave a presentation on Viva 500 Florida and preserving Florida’s heritage roads.

**ITEM 5(c): NRCS Bid Award Recommendations**

7. County Engineer Alan Wise informed the Board that 6 of the 8 projects came in well over-budget and that he recommended tabling discussion on these projects to a future meeting. **On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the Thompson Valley #1 and Cody Church projects to low bidder Peavy & Son.**

**ITEM 5(d): US-19 Beautification Grant Update**

8. County Engineer Alan Wise informed the Board of the \$250,000 grant to only be used for installation of landscaping plants along US-19 south of the city. He stated that the cost of designing and permitting (\$6800) along with low maintenance landscaping would be incurred by the county. Commissioner Bishop spoke of concern for potential larger costs in the future. Commissioner Boyd stated that if the right plants were selected, there would be minimal future costs of maintenance. Citizen Paul Henry stated this was a waste of taxpayer dollars. Chairman Nelson requested that this item be placed on the next agenda.

**ITEM 6(a): RACEC Support Resolution**

9. Economic Development Director Julie Conley introduced this support resolution. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the resolution was approved.**

**ITEM 6(b): Refund of Variance Application Fee**

10. Planning Attorney Scott Shirley stated that a citizen had applied for a variance, but after review the variance was not categorically possible. He requested that the Board refund the \$400 for the variance application fee. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the refund.**

**ITEM 6(c): Briefing on Proposed Firing Range Ordinance**

11. Planning Attorney Scott Shirley stated that he recommended removing the special exception requirement related to gun ranges, as county laws could not be more restrictive than state law. Chairman Nelson recommended Mr. Shirley bring back this item to a future agenda.

**ITEM 6(d): Briefing on Proposed FLUM Changes**

12. Planning Official Bill Tellefsen informed the Board of some recommended future land use map changes to correct some zoning omissions from parcels near the city limits and involving agricultural lands in the Limestone Road area. Commissioner Barfield requested that this information be brought back to a future meeting.
13. County Attorney Buck Bird informed the Board that citizen Fred Williams had requested a re-hearing on the cell tower issue. Attorneys Shirley and Bird advised that the Board deny this request based on the establishment of proper actual notice. The consensus of the Board was to have a letter drafted and sent to Mr. Williams stating that this request was denied and he could take the matter to Circuit Court if he so desired.

**ITEM 7: Citizen's Forum**

14. Superintendent of Schools Al Cooksey stated that many roads that school buses used were in poor condition and that he would come back in the future with a list of roads that were causing the most trouble.
15. Citizen Phil Calandra suggested that the Board consider taking public hearings out of regular sessions and that Commissioners should adhere to their own rules by making sure

presentation materials for Commissioners' agenda items are included in the agenda packet.

**ITEM 8: Commissioner Discussion Items**

16. Commissioner Walker requested a written opinion from Attorney Bird on whether or not he should recuse himself from the Sunday alcohol sales decision. Attorney Bird stated he would speak with the Ethics Commission before the next meeting and forward an opinion to Commissioner Walker.
17. Commissioner Barfield stated that crepe myrtle maintenance would begin on March 12<sup>th</sup> and that RESTORE ACT information would be placed on the next agenda.
18. Commissioner Boyd voiced concern with not having a budget for the Road Bond improvement program. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated that all work was being performed at the direction of the Board.
19. Chairman Nelson stated that the school board was going to have a discussion on re-districting and requested that the Board not move forward until the school board has a chance to weigh in. Commissioner Barfield stated she was not in favor of slowing down the process. Commissioner Boyd stated that consulting with the attorney was needed to decide if re-districting was necessary.

**ITEM 11: Adjournment**

20. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
21. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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

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Chairman