

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
August 6, 2013

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman John Nelson, Commissioners Betsy Barfield, Benjamin öBennyö 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 Boyd made a motion to amend the agenda to include the Tax Collector's budget increase as a fee officer as an emergency item. Commissioner Bishop seconded the motion for discussion.** Commissioner Barfield stated she would like a workshop on this issue including Department of Revenue to which Commissioner Walker agreed. **The motion failed 1 to 4 (Barfield, Bishop, Nelson, Walker opposed). On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved calling an emergency meeting on Monday, August 12th at 6 pm. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda and the minutes of the May 21st, June 4th, June 18th and July 2nd Regular Sessions—was approved**

ITEM 5(a): Audit Presentation

2. Chris Johnson, Auditor with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, presented the audit to the Board and stated that the fund balances were healthy for a county this size.

ITEM 5(b): DEO Technical Assistance Grant/Selection Committee & Criteria

3. Economic Development Director Julie Conley stated this grant would be used to implement the FSU Visioning Study and requested a committee consisting of Chairman Nelson, Clerk of Court Kirk Reams and herself. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated his desire for the study to involve getting natural gas lines to the Industrial Park established, to which Commissioner Barfield agreed. Mrs. Conley stated it would be difficult as it was not part of the original scope of work. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the committee and score sheet criteria were approved.**

ITEM 5(c): Main Street Funding Request

4. Dr. Anne Holt, with Main Street, requested \$2500 from the Board for the sponsorship of wildflower exhibits. Commissioner Barfield inquired as to whether the TDC was contributing, to which Dr. Holt responded in the affirmative at the \$1200 level. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and carried 4 to 1 (Nelson opposed), the Board approved the request contingent on the money being spent on marketing by placing BOCC logos on promotional materials and reporting back to the Board on the event's impact.** Chairman Nelson expressed his discomfort in approving this request because the process of applying for funds from the county was still being developed.

ITEM 5(d): Ward's Creek Update

5. Commissioner Barfield stated that DEP had received the county's resolution and that the land swap involving Floyd property would only be performed within the Suwannee River Water Management District and was unrelated to the Ward's Creek issue. Commissioner Boyd reiterated his opposition to the county taking control of the Ward's Creek property because it was not in the best interests of the citizens to accept the burden and responsibility of this land.

ITEM 6(a): Equipment Purchases-Graders/Rollers

6. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick presented bids to the Board. Commissioner Bishop asked for the preference of the Road Superintendent, to which Mr. Harvey responded one John Deere and one Volvo. Commissioner Barfield inquired about the letter from Ring Power that stated they felt they were not allowed an opportunity due to the Road Superintendent not testing their equipment. Road Superintendent David Harvey stated that 4 staff members were given time on the equipment and all stated if purchased they would not be using it. **On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of these two items.** County Coordinator Parrish Barwick requested that he be allowed to convert the Roller rental into a purchase. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.**

ITEM 6(b): Heritage Road Committee Report

7. Citizen Troy Avera stated that the committee was comprised of a diverse group of people and making great progress. Commissioner Bishop stated he would not support restrictions on the use of dirt roads.

ITEM 7: Citizen's Forum

8. Citizen Phil Calandra inquired about paving the parking lot behind the Tax Collector's office. Commissioner Barfield directed County Coordinator Barwick to come back to the Board with a recommendation on this project. Mr. Calandra also questioned the growing reserve at the regional landfill and recommended that a gas tap study be addressed as soon as possible.

ITEM 8: Commissioner Discussion Items

9. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams announced that the tentative and final budget hearings would be held on September 16th and 30th respectively, both at 6:00 pm and that the gas tax renewals would be on the August night meeting agenda.
10. Chairman Nelson asked that elected officials and department heads donate towards the employee picnic. He also presented the questionnaire from the Property Appraiser's office regarding fire assessment issues.

ITEM 9: Adjournment

11. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
12. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

Attest: _____
Clerk

Chairman