



# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THE KEYSTONE COUNTY-ESTABLISHED 1827

435 W. Walnut St., Monticello, Florida 32344

**Benjamin "Benny"  
Bishop**

District 1, Vice-Chair

**John Nelson, Sr.**

District 2

**Hines F. Boyd**

District 3

**Betsy Barfield**

District 4, Chair

**Stephen Walker**

District 5

**Regular Session Agenda  
February 18, 2014 at the Courthouse Annex  
435 W. Walnut St. Monticello, FL 32344**

- 1. 6:00 P.M. – Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Public Announcements, Presentations, & Awards**
- 3. Consent Agenda**
  - a) Approval of Agenda**
  - b) Minutes of February 4, 2014 General Session**
  - c) Sheriff Surveillance Grant Budget Amendment**
  - d) TDC Blogger Request**
- 4. Citizens Request & Input on Non-Agenda Items (3 Minute Limit)**
- 5. General Business**
- 6. County Coordinator**
- 7. Commissioner Discussion Items**
- 8. Adjourn**

From the manual "Government in the Sunshine", page 40:

Paragraph C. Each board, commission or agency of this state or of any political subdivision thereof shall include in the notice of any meeting or hearing, if notice of meeting or hearing is required, of such board, commission, or agency, conspicuously on such notice, the advice that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

**Kirk Reams**  
Clerk of Courts

**Parrish Barwick**  
County Coordinator

**T. Buckingham Bird**  
County Attorney

## **ITEM 3: CONSENT AGENDA MATERIALS**

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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
February 04, 2014

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairperson Betsy Barfield, Commissioners Benjamin “Benny” Bishop, Hines Boyd, John Nelson 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. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda, and the Minutes of the January 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Session—was approved.**

**ITEM 4: Citizens Request & Input**

2. Citizen Troy Avera congratulated Commissioner Nelson, the Road Department and County Coordinatr Parrish Barwick on a job well done on the paving of West Lake and Fanlew Roads. He said this was a good example of heritage and progress at the same time. Chairperson Barfield stated that she attended the Tourist Development Council and there was a lot of buzz about the heritage roads. She also thanked Mr. Avera for his volunteer work.
3. Julie Conley, with the EDC, stated that the Vision action project was moving along nicely. She also stated that the next webinar would be held at 2 pm on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ITEM 5a: Wacissa River Park Committee Report & Recommendation**

4. Teresa Tinker, with the Wacissa River Park Committee, thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and introduced the other members of the committee. She also thanked County Engineer Alan Wise and Dr. George Cole for all of their help. She gave a brief presentation with a visual aid of the headwaters with proposed recommendations. Ms. Tinker stated that the first phase was restoration of the springs which was not a very divisive issue. The recommendations included removing non-native vegetation, putting a short fence around the spring to direct traffic, stabilizing the bank, dredging and cleaing up the boat slip and creating a separate launch for kayaks and canoes. Ms. Tinker said the committee was also considering a boardwalk for safety as a way to separate boaters and swimmers and also to give a place for boats to tie up instead of going into the bank. She stated also that the rules and regulations would be well posted. Commissioner Walker stated that everyone that uses the river was given consideration in this plan and he was very pleased. Commissioner Board inquired as to whether or not the Boardwalk would be floating, to which Ms. Tinker stated there were several different designs in mind at this point but it would likely be fixed. Commissioner Nelson recommended that a copy of the committee’s recommendations be provided to two local church leaders in the area. Chairperson Barfield stated that hse liked that the spring stabilization went from the spring to the steps and also mentioned a possible buoy line to separate the areas. Ms. Tinker requested that the Board approve recommendations today and that she would submit the revised application to the water management district to review at their next meeting in order to secure funding. **A motion to approve the recommendations of the committee was made by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Walker for discussion.** Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated he was hesitant to join the committee because this issue had been polarizing but he was pleasantly surprised at how productive the process had been and how much great input he had received from the

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citizens, County Engineer Alan Wise and the Suwannee River Water Management District. He also stated that the SSRWMD had stated that there was nearly \$140,000 of funding available through current appropriations but that there were other programs and funding sources that the County may be eligible for/able to utilize in the future since they now had a plan. For the initial expenses, Mr. Reams recommended the professional services line item. County Engineer Alan Wise echoed the sentiments of previous speakers about how well the committee had worked together. He stated that the boardwalk would need additional discussion. Ms. Tinker requested that the Board approve the idea conceptually today with more vetting and specifics to be discussed at a future meeting. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the revised motion of approving the recommendations as well as the concept of the boardwalk and hand launch.** Clerk of Court Reams noted that he visited similar parks in the recent weeks and stated he felt the county would be able to have something that would please everyone. County Engineer Alan Wise stated that more progress had been made in the last 4 weeks than the previous 4 years. Dr. George Cole stated he could not say enough about the help from the committee, Alan Wise and especially Clerk Reams and noted that there was great communication between everyone involved. Merry Ann Frisby, Chairman of the TDC, thanked the committee for everything stated she was looking forward to their next report.

**ITEM 5b: Malloy Landing Attorney Services RFP**

5. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated that three proposals had been received but that he was unsure how to proceed in selecting a firm. He stated that staff could do it if the Board desired but that he felt a committee to select counsel might be a better option. Commissioner Walker stated there was not enough information at this time and stated that just a list of the names willing to represent the county would suffice at this time. Commissioner Boyd stated that the last thing we want to do is spend scarce resources on a legal battle. **Commissioner Boyd made a motion to indefinitely postpone the pursuit of legal action related to this issue. The motion died for lack of a second. On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and carried unanimously, the Board voted to hold item until Commissioner Walker was able to bring more information back before the Board.**

**ITEM 6: County Coordinator's Report**

6. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated he had nothing to discuss and that he was continuing with business as usual. He did not that he had tried to reach out to the citizen that had issues with her house and that Mr. Henry, and Building Official Wallace Bullock were willing to go to the house.

**ITEM 7: Commissioner Discussion Items**

7. County Attorney Buck Bird briefly discussed the jail refinancing.
8. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated he had received many inquiries about Harrell Nut Company and felt inadequate and frustrated he did not know what to tell the citizens. Commissioner Boyd stated that the building had not been completed in time for harvest season, but after this season is complete, equipment would be moved from Camilla. He also noted that some local residents had been hired. He estimated that by next pecan season, roughly the fall of 2014, Harrell Nut Company would be in "full swing."

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9. Commissioner Nelson stated he was confused about the DOT 5-year plan and the draft transportation plan and wanted to make sure everything was in place. Commissioner Barfield stated that there had been joint meetings to0 prioritize all projects (bike, sidewalks, etc.). Clerk Reams explained that the 5 year work plan was a list given to the City and County and would only change in respect to funding from the legislature. He further explained that the CRTPA was separate and was a comprehensive plan from each county to help lobby for funding.
10. Commissioner Boyd requested any questions regarding Harrell Nut Company could always been sent to him or County Coordinator Barwick.
11. Commissioner Bishop stated he had met with the Building Inspector and Planner about lowering some fees and simplifying the process. He stated there may not be much “wiggle room” with regards to the fees because most are state mandated. He also noted that the holding pond at the Industrial Park looked more like a lake. County Engineer Alan Wise said this was necessary not only because of the 40 acres but also because of the geography of the land in relation to other private property owners.
12. Commissioner Nelson stated that Aucilla Area Regional Solid Waste had brought an issue to the table to make a \$1 reduction that would likely be brought to the Board in the future. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams noted that the regional landfill has a sizeable reserve and that it would be prudent to inquire about their future plans. Citizen Phil Calandra stated that about 4 years ago, the reserve was around \$18 million. He said it would be good to see six years of audited financial reports. Chairperson Barfield requested County Coordinator Parrish Bariwck to set up a future agenda item for the Aucilla Area Regional Solid Waste and have the Board prepare questions to have answered and also request financial reports in advance to discuss at a future meeting with a representative from Aucilla Area. County Coordinator Barwick stated he would compile questions from Commissioners to discuss at the next meeting and aim to have the Regional Landfill Director at the first March meeting.
13. Chairperson Barfield stated she would like to move forward with the Jefferson County draft transportation plan and requested everyone send suggestions to County Coordinator Barwick so a date could be set. She also noted that Mr. Calandra had volunteered to “massage” the document with rankings, a narrative and bullet points for easier reading. She also stated there was a citizen interested in purchasing county-owned land on Gamble Road and that item would be brought at a future meeting.

**ITEM 8: Adjournment**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman



# KIRK REAMS

**Jefferson County  
Clerk of Court & CFO**

**1 Courthouse Circle  
Monticello, FL 32344  
(850) 342-0218  
Fax (850) 342-0222**

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Commissioners:

The following items need to be added to the 2013-2014 budget:

1. \$ 1,245.00 – Surveillance Equipment Grant for Sheriff's Office

I am respectfully requesting that this amendment be approved by one motion so I will be able to make the necessary accounting changes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kirk B. Reams



# Memorandum

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**To:** Kirk Reams  
**CC:** BOCC  
**From:** Nancy Wideman, Jefferson County TDC  
**Date:** 2/12/2014  
**Re:** Agreement to hire a blogger for the TDC

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The Jefferson County Tourist Development Council would like to hire Amber Houston to blog about attractions and events in Jefferson County. These blogs would appear on tourism web sites such as the TDC's and Visit Natural North Florida. A Letter of Agreement is included.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR  
LETTER OF AGREEMENT  
JEFFERSON COUNTY TDC AND AMBER HOUSTON

The Jefferson County Tourist Development Council wishes to retain Amber Houston as a contract employee to provide blogs for the attractions of Jefferson County, Florida, as follows:

1. Write two blogs per month describing the attractions of and/or events in Jefferson County, Florida.
2. Amber Houston will be paid \$25.00 per blog for maximum of two blogs per month as her performance of as an independent contractor.
3. Payment will be made at the end of the month through the County Clerk's Office and Amber Houston is solely responsible for payment of any and all taxes, social security and/or other withholdings and for the reporting of such independent contractor payments, if required.
4. There will be no advertising contained in the blogs, although local businesses maybe mentioned from time to time as appropriate.
5. All blogs will be reviewed and approved by the Coordinator of the TDC before they are published and/or posted.
6. Either party may terminate this agreement with a 30 Day Written Notice of intent to terminate and deliver to the other party.

While the TDC may exercise editorial content control over and must approve of the blogs prior to the blogs being published, the reviews and/or approval of editorial content by the TDC is not intended to nor may not be used/construed by any person and/or entity as an exercise of supervisory control over Amber Houston by the TDC. Amber Houston is by express agreement between the parties retained solely as an Independent Contractor.

Dated: February 11, 2014

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jefferson County TDC Chair

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amber Houston