

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
July 1, 2014

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairperson Betsy Barfield, Commissioners Benjamin oBennyö Bishop, Hines Boyd, John Nelson and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Coordinator Parrish Barwick, County Attorney Buck Bird and Chief Deputy Clerk Tyler McNeill.

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

1. Economic Development Director Julie Conley announced the upcoming Economic Development Workshop on July 24<sup>th</sup> and urged the Board members to try to attend.
2. Citizen Troy Avera thanked everyone for their participation in the Watermelon Festival.

**ITEM 3: Consent Agenda**

3. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the consent agenda, consisting of the Approval of the Agenda and the Minutes of the June 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Session.**

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

4. Citizen Gene Hall presented an email he had submitted to Commissioners requesting that Road Bond money be transferred to address several roads in District 2. He also presented a petition with signatures related to these roads.
5. Dick Bailar, on behalf of the Legislative Committee, stated that he missed the deadline for submitting agenda materials with an update on the Legislative Committee but noted it had been a good year. He stated that economic indicators pointed to another good year next year and he respectfully requested some major actions/items from the Board for the upcoming legislative session. Chairperson Barfield requested an update on JCKC, to which Mr. Bailar stated he had a two part strategy in place and would provide updates.

**ITEM 5a: Florida Pace Funding Program Presentation/Agreement/Resolution**

6. Lisa Miller with the Florida Paced Funding Program introduced the above referenced subscription agreement to the Board. Ms. Miller introduced Mark Pearson who stated this would be an inter-local agreement and that there was presently \$200 million available to be loaned to commercial or residential owners that made wind mitigation or energy efficiency improvements to their property. He noted that owners could borrow up to 20% of their assessed property value. County Attorney Buck Bird stated a workshop or public forum would be helpful to inform the public if the Board elected to participate in this program. Chairperson Barfield inquired about difference language in the agreement, specifically that the Board have the option to renew the agreement annually. **Chairperson Barfield stated she had more questions and would like to place this item on a future agenda for further discussion and possible action.** Citizen Paul Henry expressed his support for this program and stated this is how government should operate.

**ITEM 5d: Code Enforcement Board Appointments**

7. Chairperson Barfield requested the Board move to items 5(d) and 5(e) in order excuse County Coordinator Parrish Barwick who was not feeling well. Chairperson Barfield stated the Board had been advertising for the CEB positions in the local paper and requested to seat this Board at the next meeting. She noted there had been very few applications thus far.

**ITEM 5e: Road Bond Improvement Program/Projects**

8. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick introduced this item and stated that there was approximately \$1.396 million left of the Road Bond money and that after the various projects underway, there would be approximately \$33,000 remaining. He stated that we were in the 20<sup>th</sup> month of a 3 year program and had three projects to be completed, including projects that were added. Commissioner Boyd presented information regarding bond figures as well as soft costs related to operating costs of the Road Department. Commissioner Boyd stated that if everything were stopped right now, his figures indicate the Board would have about \$907,000 of the Road Bond to spend. He suggested some higher priority hard surface roads to re-allocate funds toward (pave Goldberg/Rocky Branch, resurface Texas Hill/N. Noble, Clark St. and Spring Hollow). Commissioner Boyd's proposal was to redo the above roads instead of Oetinger. He implored the Board to stop where we are and assess the priorities of the County before encumbering the remaining funds. Commissioner Bishop stated that he did not have a problem with Commissioner Boyd was presenting but that he did not want to address the reallocation of funds until all projects underway were finished. **Commissioner Boyd made a motion to not pave Oetinger Road; the motion died for lack of a second.** County Coordinator Barwick noted that work on Oetinger had already commenced, to which Commissioner Boyd stated there had been no Board action approving work on Oetinger. Commissioner Boyd stated his concern that if there are discussions taking place about shifting funds but no Board action, there could be possible implications with the Sunshine Law. County Coordinator Barwick stated he was following the road improvement plan approved by the Board. Chairperson Barfield stated that Commissioner Nelson had been working with the County Coordinator for changes in his district but the changes were within the bounds of the money set aside. Citizen Phil Calandra stated there were two sources of funding: the Bond money and also the mine fund which was recurring. He stated there was no reason the additional work proposed by Commissioner Boyd could not be done next year and did not understand the sense of urgency. He also inquired as to the City's involvement on some of the roads that are in the city, to which Commissioner Boyd stated the roads on the list were the County's responsibility. Citizen Mark Kessler stated the Board should be united on the roads and expressed his displeasure that in District 3, where he resides, all of the roads got chip-seal. Citizen Dr. Vivian Royster stated there needed to be a spirit of cooperation and that she was disappointed in the Board's approach. She stated things should not be done on a whim. Citizen Roland Brumbley inquired about the work on Pinhook Road and also expressed concerns about speeding on roads in his district. Commissioner Walker stated there were no plans for asphalt on Pinhook and it was just stabilization at this point. Citizen C.P. Miller stated he lived on a chip-seal road but would rather have asphalt. He stated that previous Commissioners worried about their districts and did not mettle in other districts. Citizen Willie Tyson stated the ditch on Tyson Road needed to be addressed. Citizen Ralph Burnquist stated there were many streets in Monticello that he noticed at the Watermelon Festival that were in need of attention and did not appear to have been re-surfaced in some time. Citizen Tommy Graham expressed displeasure with asphalt being put on one end of the road and chip-seal on the other. Citizen Troy Avera stated he had been involved with the roads for a longtime and expressed his desire that all discussions of funds related to the roads be

discussed in a public arena. Commissioner Boyd stated that he was accountable to people in all districts, not just his. He also noted his concern about off-the-record communication about how funds are spent. Commissioner Boyd requested that Spring Hollow be listed as one of the roads to be re-surfaced.

**ITEM 5b: Proposed Financial Policies**

9. Finance Director Charles Culp, with the Clerk's Office, introduced this item and discussed the four policies and revisions made since last presented to the Board. Commissioner Boyd noted he would like to see the language on the acknowledgment/oath page changed to "may be held personally liable." **On motion by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Policies.** County Attorney Buck Bird recommended that the policies be passed by resolution and stated the Clerk could provide a resolution number. **Commissioner Nelson amended his motion to state via resolution, Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion was unanimously carried to approve the policies via resolution.** County Attorney Buck Bird stated it should be noted that this policy supersedes previous policies and should have an effective date. **Commissioner Nelson amended his motion to accept the new policies via resolution, effective 7/1/2014. Commissioner Walker seconded and the amended motion was unanimously carried to adopt the new policies via resolution effective 7/1/2014.**

**ITEM 5c: Wacissa Dam Recognition as Historical Landmark**

10. Commissioner Walker stated his desire to have the Board recognize the Wacissa Dam as a historical landmark and noted that 60 years ago the dam was built. He stated the recognition as a historical landmark was just at the County level at this time, but it would protect the dam and possibly provide funding if there were future repairs or work needed. Commissioner Boyd expressed his support. Citizen Roland Brumbley stated it was a historical monument for the county but also benefited every person that used the river. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Wacissa Dam as a historical landmark.**

**ITEM 6: County Coordinator's Report / Library & EMS Budget Amendments**

11. Assistant County Coordinator Nick Flynt presented the Library and EMS Grants Budget Amendments. He stated that the County had received additional funds and needed the authority to use the unanticipated revenue. He stated there was a matching component to the EMS grant and that Fire Chief Mark Matthews was working to re-allocate about \$20,000 out of his budget but would likely need \$20,000-\$25,000 from General Revenue. Chairperson Barfield asked Chief Deputy Clerk where the additional funds would come from, to which he responded out of contingency. Commissioner Boyd remarked that, to his knowledge, nothing had yet been taken from the \$200,000 contingency. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved amending the budget for the Library to utilize the \$78,000 grant. On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved amending the budget to utilize the EMS grant with a county match, with up to \$22,000 from contingency.**

**ITEM 7: Commissioner Discussion Items**

12. Commissioner Nelson stated outgoing Road Superintendent David Harvey had asked if he could have the sign that said "Road Superintendent." It was the consensus of the Board that this was not a problem. Commissioner Nelson also noted that he would be bringing a resolution to a future meeting to recognize the Jefferson County High School Class of 1984.
13. Chief Deputy Clerk Tyler McNeill stated that the Departments had received their budget worksheets and the information was due back by July 7<sup>th</sup>. He also provided possible dates for the first budget workshop. The first budget workshop was set for July 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Chairperson Barfield requested that the Clerk's Office provide a schedule at that workshop for the rest of the budget meetings/dates.
14. Commissioner Bishop mentioned a problem with limbs hanging over the road from I-10 to Lamont on Highway 257 and stated this needed to be addressed.
15. Chairperson Barfield briefly discussed the canvassing board for the upcoming election. County Attorney Buck Bird stated this needed to be placed on a future agenda and that we would need to get requirements from the Supervisor of Elections. Chairperson Barfield requested the County Coordinator's Office get with the Supervisor of Elections for these requirements.

**ITEM 9: Adjournment**

16. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
17. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman