

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
October 15, 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 2: Public Announcements, Presentations and Awards

1. Citizen Troy Avera asked that the heritage road committee presentation be moved to the first item of General Business. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, this request was approved.**
2. Citizen Mike Long gave an update on the volunteer firefighter training class.

ITEM 3: Consent Agenda

3. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda and the Meridian SHIP Program Contract Addendum—was approved.**

ITEM 5(a): Heritage Road Committee Presentation

4. Citizen Troy Avera presented this item and asked the Board to adopt the Heritage Road concept. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated he would like to see many of the county's original historic road names restored. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and carried 4 to 1 (Bishop opposed), the Board adopted the concept and map presented by Mr. Avera.**

ITEM 5(b): Jefferson County Health Department – Contract/Fee Schedule

5. Health Department Director Kim Albritton presented this item. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the contract was approved. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the fee schedule was approved by resolution.**

ITEM 5(c): Granny Flat Tax Ordinance

6. Attorney Buck Bird presented a draft of this ordinance and stated that this was ready for public hearing. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, a public hearing was set for the night meeting in November.**

ITEM 5(d): Small Business Development Consulting Contract

7. Economic Development Director Julie Conley presented this item. She stated that the contract provided for a high level of accountability while protecting proprietary information. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the contract was approved.**

ITEM 5(e): Re-districting Map Selection

8. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated that a special meeting scheduled by the School Board was set for October 22nd with a joint workshop scheduled for November 4th at 6 pm. Commissioner Boyd stated he was concerned with the running out of time to make a map selection. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried 4 to 1 (Nelson opposed), the Board approved accepting the joint workshop date of November 4th with including the map on the agenda for Board approval for November 5th.**

ITEM 5(f): County Coordinator Contract Extension

9. Commissioner Bishop stated he had gone over some changes with the County Coordinator and agreed with a 5% increase instead of 10%. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated that the Board could face back pay issues by turning the position into a Senior Management Class position. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the Board approved the contract with the recommended changes.**

ITEM 6(a): County Coordinator's Report / Fire Assessment Rate Selection

10. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick presented his recommendation to leave the fire assessment as is, with adding a vacant land portion. Commissioner Bishop expressed concern with assessing vacant farm land. Fire Rescue Chief Mark Matthews stated that the issue with the City of Monticello still needed to be addressed as well as tying the assessment to some sort of consumer price index. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated that there was a fairness and equity issue involved in addressing the City's lack of fire assessment and that the County was being exposed to potential lawsuits. **Commissioner Barfield made a motion to approve the fire assessment rate at 101.16 per structure with a \$.07/acre charge on vacant land, with a minimum of \$10.47 and a maximum of \$101.16, to which Commissioner Walker seconded for discussion.** Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated that the legal ramifications of imposing a maximum on vacant land because of fairness issues needed to be addressed. **The motion passed 4 to 1 (Boyd opposed).**

ITEM 6(b): County Coordinator's Report / Clarification on Ag Center

11. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick asked for some clarification on this issue. Commissioner Bishop stated that an agricultural center would not be a great benefit at this time. Commissioner Barfield stated she would like to keep it on a list of "wants" but did not desire hiring a lobbyist for the issue. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the agricultural center was to remain on the list of legislative priorities without hiring a lobbyist.**

ITEM 8: Commissioner Discussion Items

12. Commissioner Walker agreed to serve as the Board's representative on the LAP committee.

ITEM 9: Adjournment

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

Attest: _____
Clerk

Chairman