

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
December 17, 2013

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairperson Betsy Barfield, Commissioners Benjamin öBennyö 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 2: Public Announcements, Presentations & Awards

1. Legislative Committee member Dick Bailar presented the legislative booklet to the Board.

ITEM 3: Consent Agenda

2. Chairperson Barfield requested to pull item 3(b), FDOT Functional Classification Level Maps. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated he needed to add the minutes of the December 3rd Regular Session for the minutes to be approved and advertised along with the description of the districts per statute. The minutes were added as item 7(c). **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda as amended—was approved.**

ITEM 5(a): PUBLIC HEARING – DEO Small Community Development Grant

3. Consultant Fred Fox presented this item and stated that the maximum amount to be awarded under this program was \$700,000. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams inquired about the Economic Development CDBG grants, to which Mr. Fox stated that both Economic Development and Housing grants could be open at the same time. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick recommended applying for the housing program at this time, as the Board missed out on this grant last year because of the application error made by Guardian.

ITEM 5(b): PUBLIC HEARING – Jefferson County Fair Housing Ordinance Workshop

4. Consultant Fred Fox introduced this item. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams asked about the City of Monticello's participation, to which Mr. Fox responded they could participate independent of the county. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated it would be nice for the city utilize the program so they could use it within the city limits and allow the county to use the money exclusively in the unincorporated areas.

ITEM 6(a): RFP for Legal Services RE: Malloy Landing Road Issue

5. Planning Attorney Scott Shirley presented an RFP for legal services related to this issue. Commissioner Boyd voiced concerns for a potential conflict of interest and stated he would like to see that any firm analyzing the merits of this issue not be allowed to represent the county. Commissioner Boyd further stated he could not support spending taxpayer money on this issue. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and carried 3 to 1 (Boyd opposed, Bishop abstained), the Board approved issuing the RFP.**

ITEM 6(b): TDC Request for Wacissa River Park Committee

6. Nancy Wideman with the Tourist Development Council requested a committee be established to develop a master plan for a park, given the county's large investment in the Wacissa headwaters property. Commissioner Walker stated there were several members he would like to have on this committee and would like to see the committee focus on the entire river, not just the headwaters. Citizen Dick Bailar stated that the Legislative Committee was charged with obtaining the property for everyone to enjoy. Citizen Troy Averra said the property belonged to the people of the county and the state and that the committee needed to come up with a plan that pleasing to all. Commissioner Walker responded that people from that community helped keep the river clean and had more ownership because it was in their backyard.

ITEM 6(c): Fire Assessment Resolution / Interlocal Agreement with City of Monticello

7. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams introduced this item and explained that after working several months on this issue, the City of Monticello was passing their consent to be included in the Fire Assessment program. Further, an interlocal agreement had been agreed to for the County to provide fire protection for the City of Monticello. Commissioner Boyd stated that he had a moral problem dumping the mismanagement of the Fire Department on the City of Monticello and that a plan was needed to utilize the new revenues generated. He also said that volunteers were the answer to solving this issue. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams responded that this issue was patently unfair and that unincorporated taxpayers had been subsidizing city fire protection since 1989. He further stated that the Board had one year to plan what to do with the revenues when deciding next year's budget. Commissioner Nelson stated that he supported this issue wholeheartedly. **On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried 4 to 1 (Boyd opposed), the Board approved accepting the resolution as adopted by the City of Monticello as well as the resolution to begin the Fire Assessment process. On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Nelson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the interlocal agreement with the City of Monticello.**

ITEM 6(d): Discussion of Future Possibilities with the Former Extension Office

8. Commissioner Barfield introduced this item. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated that various groups had expressed interest in the building. Commissioner Boyd suggested surplusizing the building. County Coordinator Barwick stated that after the building was cleaned and inspected he would advertise its availability.

ITEM 7(a): County Coordinator / Construction Phase Services for JCFR Station

9. Engineer Alan Wise presented this item. **On motion by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the request was approved.**

ITEM 7(b): County Coordinator / Bidding & Construction Phase Services for American Hunter Distribution Warehouse

10. Engineer Alan Wise presented this item. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried 4 to 1 (Bishop opposed), the request was approved.**

ITEM 7(c): Approval of the Minutes of the December 3rd Regular Session

11. Commissioner Barfield and County Coordinator Parrish Barwick suggested some minor revisions to the minutes. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the minutes of the December 3rd Regular Session as amended were approved.**

ITEM 9: Adjournment

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

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk