

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
February 3, 2015

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairperson Benjamin øBennyø Bishop, Betsy Barfield, Hines Boyd, Eugene Hall and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Coordinator Parrish Barwick, County Attorney Buck Bird and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

ITEM 1: Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

1. Chairman Benny Bishop led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2: Public Announcements, Presentations & Awards

2. Citizen Amy Rosmina stated she would love the County Commissioners to attend the Relay for Life event on April 17th.
3. Citizen Troy Avera stated the First Floridians First Americans conference would be October 1st ó 3rd and that he would like to see the Commissioners attend if possible. Commissioner Boyd noted that we had archaeological jewel in Jefferson County, to which Dick Bailar concurred and thanked the Board for their support.

ITEM 3: Consent Agenda

4. Commissioner Barfield requested pulling the consent agenda for discussion.

ITEM 5a: Mine Joint Venture Proposal

5. Commissioner Boyd requested postponing this item. Citizen Troy Avera stated he had spoken with Randy Hatch about a proposal and visited both Mr. Hatch's mine as well as our own. He stated his opinion that Mr. Hatch would be an excellent match for a joint venture. Commissioner Barfield wanted the record to reflect that it was not the County Coordinator's decision to sell the equipment at the mine, but rather it was a Board decision.

ITEM 3(a) Consent Agenda: Updated CDBG Policies and Resolution

6. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick introduced this item and stated that over the summer a non-discrimination and ADA compliance policy was implemented. He stated these were more policies the county needed to implement in order to continue with the program. Citizen Paul Henry stated the county could do better than the CDGB blackhole and that the current plan was not sustainable. Citizen Delphin Simpkins-Hill inquired as to where the money from this program was allocated, to which County Coordinator Barwick stated various housing projects in the county. David Fox with Fred Fox Enterprises fielded several questions regarding these policies and stated he was requesting the Board adopt the policies and resolution. **Commissioner Barfield made a motion to adopt the Fair Housing ordinance, to which Commissioner Walker seconded for discussion.** County Attorney Buck Bird stated that there would need to be a public hearing in order to pass an ordinance. **Commissioner Barfield withdrew her motion and Commissioner Walker withdrew his second. On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board accepted items 2-6 of the CDBG policies. On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved moving forward with advertising the Fair Housing ordinance.**

ITEM 5b: RFP-SHIP Program Contracted Consultant

7. County Coordinator Barwick introduced this item and stated that the committee that scored the proposals recommended Government Services Group, who is currently contracted, to continue as the county's consultant. **Commissioner Walker made a motion to accept the recommendation of GSG to which Commissioner Hall seconded for discussion.** Commissioner Barfield asked who our current contact with GSG was, to which County Coordinator responded Jay Moseley. **The motion carried unanimously.**

ITEM 5c: RFP-Construction Services/Industrial Park Project

8. County Coordinator Barwick stated that after the proposals it was the recommendation to hire Nature Bridges as the approved Construction Manager for the project. **A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, to which Commissioner Boyd seconded for discussion.** Commissioner Barfield inquired about the agreement, to which County Coordinator Barwick stated the county would guarantee the loan. Economic Development Director Julie Conley stated they did not know the total cost at this point but it would be amortized over 7 years and paid off by that point. Commissioner Boyd stated he did not see this as a serious risk for the county. **The motion carried 4 to 0 (Bishop abstained).**

ITEM 5d: Budget Amendment Request

9. Property Appraiser Angela Gray stated her request for a budget amendment for an increase of \$40,000 for legal fees associated with the litigation of the Florida Gas Transmission lawsuit. County Coordinator Barwick commended the Property Appraiser on her efforts. Mrs. Gray stated that the issue was settled for 2013 and 2014 and they had negotiated a settlement for 2015. Commissioner Barfield asked Clerk of Court Kirk Reams where this money would come from, to which he responded contingency. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the Property Appraiser's budget amendment request was approved.**

ITEM 5e: Wacissa Springs Restoration Bid Recommendation

10. County Engineer Daryle Gray stated that after the bids were tabulated it was his recommendation to go with Underwater Mechanics out of Jacksonville, FL for a little over \$189,000. He also stated only one other bid was received. He noted this would exceed the budget for the project by about \$15,000 but he was requesting additional funding from the water management district and also in-kind work to offset the shortage. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams noted this was for phase 1, which included debris and vegetation removal, two entry ways for swimming, bank stabilization and a two rail fence. Engineer Gray stated that the contracted had agreed to work with the County to reduce costs. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the bid recommendation was approved.**

ITEM 6: County Coordinator

11. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated the 4th of July festivities were upcoming and that the county did not have a program last year. He stated his intent to have his office assist with the 4th of July program. Last year, the Board put \$5000 towards the fireworks and the funds were not utilized. He stated the same amount was requested this year and he would be coming before the Board at a future meeting to request the \$5000 from last

year that was not expended as well as the \$5000 budgeted for this year. County Coordinator Barwick also inquired about merging the 4th of July festivities with the Watermelon Festival since the 4th is on a Saturday this year. He was advised to get with Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce Katrina Richardson to discuss. Citizen John Nelson stated his support of the 4th of July program and said he was assisting Buddy Westbrook in the planning and implementation this year.

12. County Coordinator Barwick stated his desire to have a team in the Relay for Life walk in April. Commissioner Barfield said she would help with the team and requested that Mr. Barwick come up with a theme.
13. County Coordinator Barwick gave a brief update on the road paving projects and stated that the last few projects should be finished this month.

ITEM 7: Commissioner Discussion Items

14. Commissioner Hall commended County Coordinator Barwick and the Road Department on their assistance on West Lake Road.
15. Commissioner Barfield stated she would be meeting with Pat Cichon and Fire Rescue Chief Mark Matthews in the near future to look at a map and further discuss road reflectors for hydrants.
16. Commissioner Barfield noted that the County Transportation Plan had been forwarded to a company doing the Regional Mobility Plan and that the county's plan was included in the draft. She also stated there was a milling and re-surfacing project about to commence on Highway 90 from Willow Street to the Miccosukee Bridge.
17. Commissioner Barfield reminded the Board of the upcoming workshop on the Land Development Code.
18. Commissioner Barfield advised the Board of an upcoming bike ride in Jefferson County on April 18th and stated her desire to use the Extension Office as a staging/parking area.
19. Commissioner Walker asked County Attorney Buck Bird about the lease for the Wacissa Volunteer Fire Department building. Attorney Bird stated there was temporary approval to extend the lease but that he has not heard anything back from the school board about the long term lease discussed previously.
20. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams stated there would be two bid openings for the road projects on Tecumseh and North Barber Hill on February 17th and that he would like these to be included on the agenda for the meeting that evening.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

21. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
22. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk