

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session  
Courthouse Annex  
May 3, 2018  
6:00 P.M.

The Board met this date in Regular Session. Present were Chairman Stephen Fulford, Commissioners Betsy Barfield, Eugene Hall, JT Surles and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Attorneys Buck Bird and Scott Shirley, Clerk of Court Tim Sanders, and Solid Waste Director Beth Letchworth.

1. Commissioner Barfield led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. American Legion Post #49 Commander Ken Faircloth presented a paper that gave an accounting of the 2017 Fireworks Program which is held annually on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The total cost of the program last year was \$15,647.75 with a net rollover for 2018 in the amount of \$6,233.00. Commander Faircloth thanked the Board for its budgeted \$5,000 appropriation for the 2018 program and asked the Board to consider a \$3,000 increase in next year's budget due to increasing costs and decreasing community donations.
3. Mr. William Dunne of Tallahassee presented a tax certificate holder's view of Jefferson County's plan to apply for county held tax certificates after the two-year anniversary of the certificate being struck to the county. Mr. Sanders stated the Clerk's role is ministerial with regards to tax certificate matters and his office intends to follow Florida Statutes 197 as best it can.
4. On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.
5. At the request of Commissioner Barfield, the Clerk gave an overview of the Restore Act Grant Consultant Selection Committee meeting held on Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. He reported the Board appointed committee, made up of Commissioner Barfield, Mr. Phil Calandra, Clerk Sanders, Ms. Teresa Tinker and Mr. Andrew Wellman, elected Mr. Wellman as its Chairperson and Ms. Tinker, Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Sanders reported two experienced grant consultant firms responded to the advertised Request For Qualifications: Government Services Group, Inc. (GSG, Inc.) and Langton Associates, Inc. The committee considered and ranked the applicants to provide services associated with grant writing, administration, technical support, application, monitoring, and post-grant requirements of the Restore Act to Jefferson County and all U. S. Treasury guidelines. The Clerk reported all five committee members ranked Langton Associates, Inc. as their first choice based primarily upon its experience providing Restore Act grant consulting to Gulf, Taylor, and Walton Counties, and GSG, Inc. second. On a motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the rankings of the selection committee.

6. Commissioner Barfield asked the Board to rank the following previously approved grant projects for Jefferson County for Restore Act use and needs: Historic Wacissa River Dam, Jefferson County Mine Restoration, Pinhook River Coastal Access Point, and Goose Pasture Recreation Area. On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following ranking: #1. Goose Pasture Recreation Area; #2. Pinhook River Coastal Access Point; #3. Historic Wacissa River Dam; #4. Jefferson County Mine Restoration.
7. Commissioner Barfield reported a group of Lloyd residents recently held a community workshop to discuss the abandoned and dilapidated convenience store on the southwest corner of Gamble Road and Old Lloyd Road owned by Israel and Janie Lawrence. Commissioner Barfield noted the subject property is on a list of county held tax certificates that the Clerk's Office recently made application on behalf of the Board to the Tax Collector. Mr. Tom Singleton of Lloyd and a member of Team Lloyd presented a proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration that would allow the County to bid on and acquire the Tax Deed for said Lawrence property and support Team Lloyd in developing and implementing a plan for the beneficial use of the property consistent with the protection of the Historic Lloyd District. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker and seconded by Commissioner Barfield to authorize the County to bid on said property at Tax Deed Sale for taxes and costs owed in the amount of \$12,869.85. Other members of Team Lloyd speaking in favor and justification of the purchase included Ms. Linda Schrader, President of Lloyd Community Preservation Trust; Mr. Mike Scibelli, licensed civil engineer; Mr. Arun Kundra, Lloyd community business owner; Mr. Rick Harter, Lloyd resident; and Mr. Paul Nahoom, Lloyd resident. Questioning the awareness of the whole Lloyd Community about the proposed purchase and clean-up of the subject property was Lloyd area resident Ms. Frequita Barrington. County Attorney Bird advised the property be appraised by a qualified appraiser to determine a fair market value for purposes of the Tax Deed Sale and/or negotiations with the property owners. Commissioner Walker retracted his motion and Commissioner Barfield retracted her second to said motion. Then, on a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved obtaining an appraisal of the subject property, followed by negotiations with the property owners for the County to purchase said parcel in Lloyd. Mr. Bird recommended the County Engineer find a true status of the environmental condition of said property.
8. Sheriff Mac McNeill referred to a multi-page document prepared by Summer Systems, Inc. regarding a proposed Jefferson County Sheriff Office (JCSO) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) phone upgrades, JCSO communications requirements, GPS data install, and 911 back-up solutions with a total cost of \$69,941.49. The Sheriff introduced Mr. Sammy Hicks, the owner of Summer Systems, Inc. and technology consultant for the JCSO, who

prepared the pricing using multiple component quotes. Sheriff McNeill requested funds from the \$12.50 Communications Surcharge Reserves in the amount of \$62,941.49 to pay for the needed improvements. He stated the remaining \$7,000 would be covered by an EOC contribution toward the project expense. County Attorney Bird advised the Board the County's Purchasing Policy allows waiving competitive procurement requirements under certain circumstances. He noted that Mr. Hicks has been a consultant to the JCSO for several years and that Mr. Hicks sought the lowest quotes from vendors for five component parts of the total project. The Clerk reported the \$12.50 Communications Surcharge Fund reserve has ample dollars to cover the proposed cost and is consistent with the use of said funds. On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Sheriff's request for funds for said communications improvements and to waive said procurement requirements based upon the consultant's pricing agreements with multiple vendors.

9. County Engineer Rob Davis referred to the U.S. 19 Landscape Project Phase II information in the Commissioner's packet and asked the Board for direction in moving forward with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) approved project design for roadway from the I-10/U.S. 19 interchange to Martin Road south of Monticello. Suggestions were made to limit the scope of proposed work in the unincorporated area of the landscape plan and for Mr. Davis to meet with the County Coordinator on changes to the plan before proceeding. On a motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved proceeding with the proposed U. S 19 Landscape Project only within the City Limits of Monticello and authorize the Chairman's signature upon letter to FDOT prepared by the County Engineer.
10. Chairman Fulford noted the Howard Academy Community Field Days Small Grant Application in the amount of \$1,500 was approved and recommended for funding by the grants committee. On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved said grant application from the Howard Academy Educational and Recreation Council. Council President Gladys Roann-Watson invited the Board to the activities on Saturday.
11. Discussion followed on a proposed RESOLUTION and MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GREEN CORRIDOR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) DISTRICT AND JEFFERSON COUNTY. Ms. Letchworth reported the County Coordinator recommended approval to adopt the Resolution and Membership Agreement to allow another provider to serve residents in Jefferson County. PACE representative Terrance Freeman explained the PACE Program provides services to help homeowners with energy efficiency improvements paid by levy of Special Assessments on the benefitted properties. On a motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by

Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved said Resolution and Membership Agreement.

12. Under Citizens Request & Input, Arun Kundra thanked the Board for its support of the Lloyd community's interest in acquiring the aforementioned intersection property and for the sidewalk improvements in Lloyd. Vice-Chairperson of the Jefferson County School Board Shirley Washington questioned the diversity and criteria for becoming a member of committees appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and asked that she be considered in the future for any committee. Mr. C.P. Miller suggested the Board have a broader outreach for people to serve on committees and also recommended the Board place signage at the entrance of the Annex regarding not allowing weapons inside. Mr. Ron Matthews recommended the Board again address the purchase of the Goose Pasture property on the Wacissa River.
13. The Clerk presented the Commissioners with a booklet entitled *Statement of Actual and Estimated Revenues & Statement of Expenditures, Encumbrances and Appropriations as of March 31, 2018*, and a copy of a letter to the Jefferson County Tax Collector for the application of county held tax certificates sold in 2015, and a list of names of previous County Commissioners compiled by the Supervisor of Elections Office dating back to 1944.
14. County Attorney Bird asked the Board to authorize the County Coordinator to work with him in drafting a Contract for Sale of the surplus County Extension Office approved at the last Regular Meeting. The Board by consensus approved the finalization and execution of said contract on behalf of the Board.
15. Commissioner Hall referred to a flier produced by the Jefferson County Public Library that advertises a summer line up of activities. He also complimented Mr. Beau Turner and staff at the Youth Conservation Center for a successful program of activities last Saturday.
16. Commissioner Barfield asked the Clerk to contact Mr. Michael Langton to provide a proposed contract for Restore Act Grant Consulting Services.
17. In light of the recent horrific accident, Commissioner Walker asked that a letter be drafted by the County Coordinator with the Chairman's signature and sent to FDOT to address improvements, such as lighting, at the intersection of Gamble Road and U.S. 27.
18. There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:25 P.M.