

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session
Courthouse Annex
March 21, 2019
6:00 P.M.

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chair Betsy Barfield, Commissioners Stephen Fulford, Eugene Hall, J.T. Surles and Stephen Walker. Also present were County Attorneys Buck Bird and Scott Shirley, County Coordinator Parrish Barwick and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Chair Barfield called the meeting to order. Lt. Colonel Mike Ashworth led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.
2. **On motion Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda consisting of: Approval of Agenda, General Fund/Transportation Vouchers: 3/13/2019 & 3/21/2019; and BOCC Minutes for 3/7/2019 Regular Session.**
3. Citizen Ken Thiele addressed the Board regarding parking signs placed by Department of Transportation (DOT) by the Miccosukee Lake fishing area. He stated this resulted in an inconvenience for citizens that are elderly and/or handicapped. He asked the Board for assistance. Chair Barfield stated she would take this to the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) to see what could be done.
4. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick introduced the Attorney Fee Reimbursement Request item and stated the claim had been submitted to the liability insurance carrier. The carrier's full response was included in the packet, but basically there was no coverage for this claim. Commissioner Walker stated he did not know why this was even before the Board and that after speaking with the insurance carrier, it was his understanding that the insurance company would handle any resulting claim from legal action.
5. Chair Barfield presented an item on the US Highway 90 landscaping and stated that some plants/bushes planted by Fred Mahan would be impacted by DOT resurfacing from the Courthouse to the Madison county line on US-90. Commissioner Surles stated he was comfortable with DOT taking them out if necessary.
6. Chair Barfield introduced the RESTORE ACT Grant Consulting Services Agreement and stated that the County had enlisted Langton & Associates for the Jefferson County pot, but that the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) feels confident they can execute the plan and agreement services for the pot 3 money (which is approximately \$16 million). **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agreement with ARPC.**
7. Commissioner Walker stated that after speaking with the landowner that the Mallloy Landing property is no longer available for acquisition. He requested that the Boland property with river access be moved up in priority. Citizen Phil Calandra expressed concern over losing the Boland property as well due to time delays. Barfield stated that ARPC would need to do the paperwork before the Board could sign a contract. **On motion by Commissioner Fulford, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved putting together an option contract until the grant paperwork is completed by ARPC.**

8. Attorney Scott Shirley presented the amending Code of Ordinances item to the Board. He explained this item was regarding civil citations for violations and that adding subsection F was necessary to cross reference Chapter 21. He requested that the Board bring the Code of Ordinances back for a public hearing. On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved Mr. Shirley's request to have a public hearing on the changes for the Code of Ordinances.
9. County Coordinator Barwick introduced the request to donate the surplus grapple truck. He stated that GFAST had helped the county and that this vehicle had already been declared surplus. **Commissioner Walker made a motion to donate that surplus grapple truck to GFAST. The motion died for lack of a second.** Commissioner Surles stated he would like to hear from Solid Waste Director Beth Letchworth regarding this item. Mrs. Letchworth stated she would support any decision made by the Board, but that the \$10,000 - \$15,000 that could be made from auctioning the vehicle was a lot of money to her department in a budget year that is tight due to two named storm events. Chair Barfield inquired if the county had ever donated to a private/non-profit previously, to which County Coordinator Barwick stated the county had donated to other pseudo-governmental entities like volunteer fire departments. County Attorney Bird stated there was a provision to donate from one governmental entity to another after an item is declared surplus, but it was the Board's decision to include non-profits in gifting. **Commissioner Surles made a motion to table the discussion on this item until more information was gathered, to which Commissioner Fulford seconded for discussion.** Sheriff Mac McNeill stated that in the one storm event he had worked, GFAST had been very helpful and in his opinion more than earned the surplus vehicle with all of the help/services they provided. **The motion as stated failed 2 to 3 (Surles, Fulford and Hall opposed).** **Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the surplus grapple truck being donated to GFAST.** Commissioner Fulford requested that the motion be amended to be contingent on the legality of this with regard to the solid waste assessment. **Commissioner Hall amended his motion to approve the surplus grapple truck being donated to GFAST contingent on the legality with regard to the assessment, to which Commissioner Walker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**
10. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated the Big Bend Continuum of Care was requesting representation by a Board member, to which Commissioner Walker volunteered. It was the consensus of the Board that Commissioner Walker serve as the Board appointee to the Big Bend Continuum of Care board.
11. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick discussed mowing season and stated that generally mowing did not begin until the wildflowers had dropped their seeds. Commissioner Fulford stated it would be best to mow before the clover seeds out. It was the consensus of the Board for the County Coordinator to follow the instructions of each Board member in relation to his/her district for this year.
12. County Coordinator Barwick presented the Housing Consultant Contract for the 2017 CDBG Program and recommended that Fred Fox be utilized as the consultant. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously carried, the contract for the 2017 Housing Consultant Contract for the 2017 CDBG Program was approved.**
13. County Coordinator Barwick presented two items that needed board approval: the Affirmative Action Plan/EEO Policy and the Prohibition of Use of Excessive Force policy. **On motion by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Surles and unanimously approved, the Board approved the Affirmative Action Plan/EEO Policy.**

On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Walker and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Prohibition of Use of Excessive Force policy.

14. Attorney Scott Shirley provided an overview of the Morris propane gas plant litigation and went over the settlement agreement and general release. He noted that Morris Propane would be moving from the north side of town to the Industrial Park with the county paying the cost of relocation. **On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Fulford and unanimously carried, the Board approved the settlement, purchase, sale and relocation agreement as well as the settlement agreement and general release.**
15. Attorney Bird stated the county was in possession of the deed on the Yeager property. Chair Barfield stated that now that we have the deed, we can move forward with renovations to bring up to SHIP standards.
16. Commissioner Walker stated concerns at the intersection of Waukeelah (transition from US-27 to County Road 257) and that the road is not wide enough to make a turn south towards Waukeelah Fertilizer. Chair Barfield stated she would reach out to the citizen on behalf of the Board and the Board appointee to the CRTPA to discuss, as this issue might already been on the transportation plan.
17. Commissioner Hall inquired about the status of the concession stand at the Jefferson County Recreation Park. County Coordinator Barwick stated the county was involved with a FRDP grant application and he will keep the Board informed.
18. Chair Barfield expressed concern with FEMA reimbursements. County Coordinator Barwick stated information had been submitted for both Irma and Michael. Chair Barfield stated she would reach out to FEMA and other contacts to get more information on the status of the reimbursement.
19. Chair Barfield requested that the Yeager property be placed on the agenda with contractors of record providing an estimate to bring the property up to SHIP standards. County Coordinator Barwick stated he would first reach out to Jay Mosley who administers the SHIP program to let us know what needs to happen to make it SHIP-eligible.
20. On motion by Commissioner Surles, seconded by Commissioner Fulford and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

**Board of County Commissioners
Jefferson County, Florida**

Betsy Barfield, Chair

ATTEST:

Kirk Reams, Clerk of Court