

**REGULAR MEETING  
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 3, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on March 3, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. in the Levy County Board of County Commissioners meeting room with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman Matt Brooks  
Comm. John Meeks  
Comm. Rock Meeks  
Comm. Lilly Rooks  
Comm. Mike Joyner

Also present were:

County Attorney – Anne Bast Brown  
County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

Chairman Brooks called the Meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Comm. Rock Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. John Meeks.

**EXPENDITURES**

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the following expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>137158-137298</b>
<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
GENERAL REVENUE	265,926.53
ROAD	36,210.17
SHIP	3,312.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL	237.35
COURT TECH/CRIM PREV	91.60
TRANSPORTATION	10,771.92
COURT FACILITIES	1,227.12
MISC GRANTS	55,644.86
EMS	29,600.90
FIRE	27,919.52
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	737.18
UTILITIES	1,785.46
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	1,929.04
CAPITAL PROJECTS	67,330.84
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	40,000.00
LANDFILL	31,502.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 574,227.41</b>

## **AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS**

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **MINUTES**

The minutes for the Regular Board meeting held on January 21, 2020 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. Joyner made a Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting held January 21, 2020 as presented. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Renate Cannon commended Barbara Edmonds on the UF IFAS Grafting Workshop she and her husband attended recently.

Wesley Carter, President and Chairman of the Board for Loncala extended an invitation to the Commissioners for their upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration.

Russ Randall, candidate for District 22, House of Representatives spoke briefly introducing himself to the Board.

## **BUILDING & ZONING**

Comm. Brooks asked if the Commissioners had any ex-parte communication with any of the petitioners for items A, B and C. Comm. Rooks and Comm. John Meeks stated they had ex-parte communication.

Atty. Brown swore in members of the audience wishing to speak regarding any of the items to be presented.

Robert Boulette, Development Director

- A. PUBLIC HEARING: McMillen Surveying representing Janie Haney, petitioning the Board for a Preliminary Plat of "Alien Acres", (PP 06-19) a residential subdivision located in Section 26, Township 12S, Range 17E, in Levy County. Said parcel contains 20 acres more or less and has a zoning designation of "ARR" Agriculture/Rural Residential.

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item as presented. There were none.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Preliminary Plat (PP 06-19) as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. PUBLIC HEARING: Gordon Banning petitioning the Board for a Preliminary Plat, (PP 05-19) "Happy Oaks", a residential subdivision located in Tract 2 of Hampton Farms, in section 165, Township 12S,

Range 18E, in Levy County. Said parcel contains 20 acres more or less, and is located within an “ARR” Agriculture/Rural Residential zone.

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item as presented. There were none.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Preliminary Plat, (PP 05-19) “Happy Oaks” as presented. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: Eng, Denman and Associates (EDA) representing Rosewood Lands, LLC, petitioning the Board for a Final Plat (FP 03-19) of “Cedar Key Flying Club Sites Replat Portion of Parcel C” a residential subdivision consisting of one (1) 6-acre lot, located in Section 30, Township 14S, Range 14E, in Levy County. Said parcel contains 6 acres more or less and is located in an “RR” Rural Residential zone.

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item as presented. There were none.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the Final Plat (FP 03-19) of “Cedar Key Flying Club Sites Replat Portion of Parcel C” as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

### **LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE – E911**

Mike West, 911 Coordinator requested the Chairman’s signature and approval of the E911 Rural County Grant Application to cover the cost of the E911 System Maintenance 2020-2021.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the E911 Rural County Grant Application with the Chairman’s signature as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

### **MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE**

Alan Paulin, Sr., Vice President of Clinical & Community Services

A. Mr. Paulin provided an update on the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant.

B. Mr. Paulin requested a Letter of Commitment for a designated Levy County Commissioner to be on the Levy County Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Grant (CJMHSAG) Planning Committee and a Letter of Approval from the Board for Meridian to move forward to write the grant.

Following Comm. Brooks’ request for further explanation of what Meridian was requesting, Atty. Brown expressed concerns of what the agenda listed as their request and what is now being requested. Atty. Brown stated they are now asking for Board approval to be the grant writer and a blank Grant application was provided today as a hand-out. She inquired if there would be a completed application provided for final approval by the Board.

Mr. Paulin answered yes, there would be a completed application provided for the Board's approval and stated the Grant application is due by April 1, 2020.

Atty. Brown stated the next meeting is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup>, but the Chairman could be authorized to sign and the completed Grant application could be ratified at the first meeting in April.

Comm. Mike Joyner was appointed to the Levy County Jail Diversion Planning Committee on January 7, 2020.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve a Letter of Approval to accompany the Grant application and the Chairman's signature on the Letter of Commitment for a designated Levy County Commissioner to be on the Levy County Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Grant Planning Committee as requested. Included in the motion is the re-appointment of Comm. Joyner to the CJMHSAG Planning Committee. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience members who spoke regarding this item were: Dana Sheffield and Terry Witt.

## **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**

Dr. Savanna Barry & Dr. Mark Clark

Requesting Board approval for temporary construction access easements along two county roads which are G Street and Airport Road in Cedar Key. These two roads suffered serious erosion due to Hurricane Hermine in 2016. Dr. Barry reminded the Board the last time she came to the Board with a request, it was for a Letter of Support for a grant funding proposal with the Environmental Protection Agency for federal funds in the amount of \$384,000. This funding had been awarded to them and she believed the Boards support was instrumental in their award of these funds.

Dr. Barry also spoke of the success they have had with living shoreline projects in Cedar Key.

Dr. Clark stated the temporary construction access easements will allow the reconstruction of shoreline which will include addition of break-water reefs, fill-sand and vegetation preventing further erosion. A request was also made for some assistance by the Road Department for flagging traffic and loader use with an employee to operate.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the temporary construction access easements with the condition they will return to the Board with Easement documents from affected landowners as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Members of the audience who spoke regarding this item were: Terry Witt and Alice LaLonde.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **COUNTY COORDINATOR**

Ali Tretheway requested on behalf of Wilbur Dean Board approval to change the May 19, 2020 9:00 A.M. Regular Scheduled Board meeting to May 12, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. due to the scheduled dates for the Governor's Hurricane Conference.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to change the date for the Regular Scheduled Board meeting on May 19, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. to May 12, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **GRANT COORDINATOR**

Tisha Whitehurst

- A. Requesting the re-appointment of RESTORE Act Advisory Committee Members John Meeks, BOCC Representative and Vice Chairman; Chris Cowart, School Board Representative and Chairman; Dr. Holly McGlashan, Higher Education Institution Representative; and Leslie Sturmer, Aquaculture Representative, in accordance with Resolution 2020-001. Term expiration is March 5, 2022.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the re-appointment of RESTORE Act Advisory Committee Members as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting the appointment of Kim Wheeler as the vacant Citizen Representative to the RESTORE Act Advisory Committee in accordance with Resolution 2020-001. Term expiration is March 5, 2021.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to appoint Kim Wheeler to the RESTORE Act Advisory Committee filling the vacant Citizen Representative seat as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT**

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval for Task Assignment to an Agreement for engineering services construction and engineering inspection for resurfacing or reconstruction of CR 335A from SR 121 to CR 343. The total amount stated on the fee proposal is \$68,485.00.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the Task Assignment to the Agreement as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting the Board to accept the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder Custom Truck & Body Works, Inc., for the purchase of 3 new ambulances for LCDPS which would be financed. The three (3) bids received were:

Rev Tech-Hallmark	\$665,685.00
Custom Truck & Body	\$625,485.00
ETR, LLC	\$659,985.00

Chief Harrell spoke to the Board and requested the approval of four (4) ambulances, rather than the original request of three (3). He stated the quote provided from Custom Truck & Body Works, Inc. would be valid for four (4) ambulances.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to accept the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder Custom Truck & Body Works, Inc. for the purchase of three (3) new ambulances for LCDPS contingent upon review of the bid documents by Atty. Brown. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Requesting Board approval to put out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Consulting Services for Levy County's future radio communication needs.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve sending out Request for Qualifications for Consulting Services as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **TRANSIT DEPARTMENT**

Connie Conley, Director requested Board approval to donate a 2014 bus to the Lively Technical College of Tallahassee to be used as a training tool for a FDOT funded training program for paratransit mechanics throughout the State of Florida. This program is free to mechanics and those that complete the program will receive a certification. Mrs. Conley also requested the Board include approval of Wilbur Dean to sign any transfer documents for this vehicle and future donations in the motion.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the donation of a 2014 bus from the Transit Department to the Lively Technical College of Tallahassee as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **LEVY COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Susan Haines, Legal Assistant reported to the Board of the Escheated Land Sale held on Monday, February 24, 2020. There were 70 properties available for purchase and 57 were purchased for a total of \$64,400.00. The 13 properties not sold will be held and placed on the next sale of escheated properties to be scheduled at a later date. Mrs. Haines also thanked Kelly Thompson from the Board Office for her assistance with this sale.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Terry Witt inquired of Mr. Dean's absence. Comm. Brooks replied Mr. Dean is out of town at a conference.

Renate Cannon requested clarification of the change of date for the second Board meeting in May. She also questioned the status of the new meeting room at the Annex. Comm. Brooks stated there will be no meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will take place on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Comm. Brooks stated the Property Appraiser's Office is currently being made ready in order for them to move and does not have a specific date for the new meeting rooms readiness.

Linda Cooper asked if the process had been started to ask for volunteers for the Animal Services Department. Comm. Brooks advised Ms. Cooper to check with Mr. Weatherford of plans for taking on more volunteers. Comm. Rooks added the Animal Services Department would not be seeking an additional volunteers at this time.

Dana Sheffield inquired of the size of ambulances he has noticed for other counties. Information was given by Chief Harrell concerning the size of ambulances used in other counties and of the units approved today, explaining each county has different needs.

Sallie Ann Collins, resident of Steeplechase Farms in Morriston thanked Comm. Rock Meeks for mentioning the passing of longtime Bronson resident, C.W. Gilbert in his opening prayer.

## COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. Joyner reported of the Wounded Warrior Trail Ride held recently in Goethe Forest.

Comm. John Meeks also spoke of Mr. Gilbert's passing. Comm. John Meeks reported he attended the Florida Peanut Federation meeting in Lake City on Saturday. An Executive Committee meeting for the Gulf Consortium will be on Thursday where the two (2) additional members will be added.

Comm. Brooks reported of a recent conference call concerning COVID-19. Chief Harrell gave standard precautions for citizens to take to prevent contracting this virus.

Comm. Rooks stated she was recently at the Supervisor of Elections office for the testing of the voting machines to ensure their accuracy. She then attended a Black History Celebration on the 29<sup>th</sup> in Chiefland.

Comm. Rock Meeks reported of the upcoming MCORES Task Force meetings.

Comm. Brooks also spoke of the COVID-19 conference call. He then gave the web address provided by the Florida Department of Health of [www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19](http://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19) for the public to find up to date information.

Comm. Brooks spoke of a letter being prepared to be given to FDOT detailing the Commissioners concerns of specific intersection and roadways in Levy County most in need of attention. He reminded them to all provide their concerns to the Board office before the next Board meeting. Comm. Brooks then reported of a letter which he received and provided a copy for each Commissioner from FDOT concerning the SR121 and CR326 intersection. The letter indicated they would be implementing a reduced speed zone on SR121, reducing the current speed of 60 MPH to 50 MPH in either direction from CR326 for 1,200 feet.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:51 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEVY COUNTY, FL

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Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

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Chairman, Matt Brooks