

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 5, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on May 5, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building 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
Danny J. Shipp – Clerk of Court

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

EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	137773-137888
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	1,362,989.10
ROAD	53,552.82
COURT TECH/CRIM PREV	91.60
TRANSPORTATION	657.67
911	15,500.92
COURT FACILITIES	2,299.66
MISC GRANTS	5,947.14
EMS	22,556.84
FIRE	54,612.89
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	555.73
UTILITIES	1,293.30
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	563.20
CAPITAL PROJECTS	3,254.08
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	20,000.00
LANDFILL	10,244.46
TOTAL	\$ 1,554,119.41
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$ 283,248.48

MINUTES

Requesting Board approval of minutes for the Regular Meeting held March 17, 2020, Special Meeting held March 31, 2020 and the Regular Meeting held April 7, 2020.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the minutes as presented for the following meeting dates:

March 17, 2020 – Regular Meeting
March 31, 2020 – Special Meeting
April 7, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. Brooks requested the addition of three (3) items to the meeting agenda:

- Ratification of Emergency Order 2020-047 which will allow for the re-opening of certain commercial enterprises at an occupancy of 25% in conjunction with the Governor's Plan to Re-Open Florida.
- Proclamation 2020-049 recognizing the home school graduates in conjunction with the graduating classes in the public and private schools in Levy County.
- Resolution 2020-050 for discussion and decision. This Resolution is to request on behalf of the people and businesses of Levy County the Governor immediately accelerate the re-opening of businesses within Levy County.
- Emergency Order 2020-051.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the additions to the agenda as requested by Comm. Brooks. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONER-MATT BROOKS, CHAIRMAN

- A. Requesting ratification by the Board of Emergency Order 2020-047. Atty. Brown explained this order allows for the re-opening of certain commercial enterprises at an occupancy of 25% in conjunction with the Governor's Plan to Re-Open Florida.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to ratify Emergency Order 2020-047 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Motion to adopt Emergency Order 2020-048 amending Emergency Order 2020-026 as amended by Emergency Order 2020-030 to clarify Levy County School graduation ceremonies will not be considered as prohibited gatherings.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to adopt Emergency Order 2020-048 as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Jeff Edison, Levy County Superintendent of Schools spoke to the Board stating each school has made arrangements to hold graduation ceremonies while complying with safety restrictions.

Julie Alexander, Administrator for Williston Central Christian Academy also spoke to the Board stating they will be holding their graduation ceremony outside to allow for adequate distancing. She stated this should not be a problem with the small number of graduating students they have this year.

Audience member Terry Witt spoke regarding this item.

- C. Requesting a motion by the Board to adopt Proclamations 2020-040, 2020-041, 2020-042, 2020-043, 2020-044 and 2020-045 recognizing the 2020 graduating seniors of the local schools within Levy County.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to adopt Proclamations 2020-040, 2020-041, 2020-042, 2020-043, 2020-044 and 2020-045 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- D. Requesting a motion by the Board to approve Resolution 2020-050 which is requesting the immediate acceleration of the Re-Opening of businesses to allow full and immediate implementation of all the recommendations of the Governors Re-Open Task Force Final Report for Phase 1. The alternate request by Comm. Brooks is for the Board to approve Emergency Order 2020-051 which would allow restaurants and food establishments to adopt and maintain appropriate social distancing measures a minimum of 6 feet separating parties and limit their indoor occupancy to no more than 50% of the building occupancy with additional openings as outlined in the emergency order.

Atty. Brown recommended the Board not adopt Emergency Order 2020-051 and recommended they adopt Resolution 2020-050 instead.

Following discussion, Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Chairman's signature on Resolution 2020-050 with a copy of Emergency Order 2020-051 attached showing Levy County's proposed Phase 1 Re-Opening plans and adding language requesting definite dates or a timeline for when the State will move into its next Phase for Re-Opening. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience members who spoke regarding this item were: Linda Cooper and Terry Witt.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TRANSIT

Wilbur Dean requested on behalf of Connie Conley Board approval of Resolution 2020-036 authorizing the application for a Trip & Equipment Grant for State FY 2020-2021 with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; authorizing the execution of a Trip & Equipment Grant Agreement. The total project amount is \$459,821, reimbursed at 90%.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-036 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-037, amending the final budget for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$495,000 for the purchase of the mine pit for the Road Department.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-037 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ANIMAL SERVICES

Dr. Darlene Esler, Supervisor

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-038; amending the final budget for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-038 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of the Grant Award Letter from “For our Friends, the Animals” for \$5,000. The funds will be used for the purchase of dog beds. Remaining funds may be used to support similar equipment purchases for the dog kennel.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the Grant Award Letter from “For our Friends, the Animals” as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience member Terry Witt spoke regarding this item.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mitch Harrell, Director

Requesting Board approval for the Director of Public Safety to accept the Terms and Conditions from the Department of Health and Human Services for the CARES Act relief fund payment received in the amount of \$77,327.60.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Director of Public Safety to accept the Terms and Conditions from the Department of Health and Human Services for the CARES Act relief fund payment as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience member Terry Witt spoke regarding this item.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John MacDonald, Director

Requesting Board ratification for Emergency Declarations 2020-035 and 2020-039.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to ratify Emergency Declarations 2020-035 and 2020-039 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

SHIP

Marlon Gayle, Housing Planner

Requesting Board guidance for proposed Technical Revision to the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP).

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to Table this item until after a Workshop could be held to discuss adding manufacturing homes to the types of homes which can be purchased using SHIP funds. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

It was agreed by the Commissioners to address this issue at a Workshop to be set in September, after the budget has been approved.

SUNCOAST CONNECTOR & NORTHERN TURNPIKE UPDATE

Comm. Matt Brooks and Comm. Rock Meeks

Comm. Rock Meeks stated the next two upcoming Northern Turnpike meetings will be done as a webinar and he plans to participate in this way until the in-person meetings resume. Comm. Brooks also reported of the meeting changes for the Suncoast Connector stating their upcoming meetings will also be done by webinar. Comm. Brooks stated due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no FDOT representatives in attendance at each Board meeting, but rather they will send constant communication which Comm. Brooks stated he will share at the Board meetings.

Members of the audience who spoke regarding this item were: Terry Witt and Sallie Ann Collins.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Cooper inquired of the Board's plans for employee Health Insurance for the upcoming year and when budget discussions will begin.

Comm. Brooks stated the Board has been in communication with Jared Blanton for budget meeting scheduling for the upcoming year. Mr. Dean stated notification for Health Insurance premium changes are not usually received until June, so there has been not discussion as this time.

Ms. Cooper also inquired of when all Board department offices would be moved to the school property.

Comm. Brooks responded the Property Appraiser's office is currently being made ready. Mr. Dean stated the next department to move would be Maintenance.

Terry Witt inquired if the Board planned to go out for insurance bids. Mr. Dean stated they would not be seeking bids for insurance this year.

Dana Sheffield spoke regarding the toll road issue. He requested the Board convey a message to FDOT for plans for the route of the toll road requesting if the road is constructed through the Fanning Springs area, please provide an exit for people to stop for gas and food.

Clerk of Court, Danny Shipp spoke regarding changes to the court schedule resulting from COVID-19 restrictions. He stated while the offices in the courthouse are closed but the lobby is open and documents are received by utilizing a drop box. This has enabled his office to continue filing documents and cases for the public.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. John Meeks reported there have been 21 cases of COVID-19 reported in Levy County. Of these, 8 are active and 13 have recovered.

Comm. Rock Meeks spoke of the continuation of the Northern Turnpike taskforce meetings.

Comm. Matt Brooks stated the Board will continue to push the Governor to accelerate the opening of Florida's businesses.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 11:40 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks