

**REGULAR MEETING  
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on October 17, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. in the Levy County Board of County Commissioners meeting room with the following Commissioners present:

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

Also present were:

County Attorney – Anne Bast Brown  
County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

Chairman John Meeks called the Meeting to order at 9:04 A.M. Comm. Rock Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**EXPENDITURES**

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the following expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>128802-128941</b>
<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
GENERAL REVENUE	350,951.18
ROAD	150,483.25
SHIP	4,900.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL	155.18
TRANSPORTATION	14,554.04
COURT FACILITIES	47.00
EMS	38,919.77
FIRE	6,870.84
CDBG	5,968.13
UTILITIES	63.58
IMPACT FEES - RD DIST II	95.00
RESTORE ACT	4,173.90
LANDFILL	68,850.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 646,032.69</b>
 <b>EFT/ACH PAYMENT</b>	 <b>\$ 537,746.99</b>

**MINUTES**

The minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on September 5, 2017 were presented for approval.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular Board meeting held on September 5, 2017, with changes. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **ROAD DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC HEARING**

Alice LaLonde requested Board approval of Resolution 2017-054 approving or denying the Petition to vacate, abandon, and close portions of roadways located in Midway Heights Subdivision as requested by petitioners Jeffery E. and Melody A. Blittersdorf, and Edward C. Barbo and Candace K. Barbo.

Comm. John Meeks asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak for or against the item presented. A question regarding the subdivision was asked by Terry Witt and answered by Alice LaLonde.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-054 approving the Petition to vacate, abandon, and close portions of roadways located in Midway Heights Subdivision as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **HOLIDAY FARMS – MARY ELLEN &/OR ALAN PAULK**

Speaking to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the take-over process of private roads to county roads and the legal steps required along the timelines. – TABLED –

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to Table the item regarding Holiday Farms as requested by Mr. and Mrs. Alan Paulk. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **COUNTY COORDINATOR**

- A. Wilbur Dean requested Animal Services donation funds in the amount of \$681 be transferred to the Medical Supplies/Donation Funds line item to use them according to the donor's intent.

Linda Cooper questioned the source of these funds. Mr. Dean answered this was money collected throughout the past year and is the result of many small donations compiled to make one transfer.

Ms. Cooper questioned the process of a Commissioners working with a specific department. Is the purpose of this for helping with budgets or for all aspects of the functioning of the department? Comm. John Meeks answered the Commissioner works with the Department as a "point person". The Commissioner will also work with the department for yearly budgeting.

Ms. Cooper requested a more detailed quarterly report from the Animal Services Department be made available utilizing their recently purchased software. Comm. John Meeks suggested Ms. Cooper submit a detailed request to the Animal Services office and if the software can provide the information, it will be made available.

Ms. Cooper suggested someone from the Animal Services Department attend the 2017 North Central Florida Animal Summit coming up on October 27<sup>th</sup> in Gainesville. Mr. Dean stated he had spoken to Mr. Weatherford and he is planning to attend.

Ms. Cooper if the Animal Services department is still not utilizing volunteers. Comm. John Meeks stated they are still unable to have them at the facility due to the inmates working nearby at the Solid Waste facility.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the transfer of donated funds as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Mr. Dean requested Board approval and the Chairman's signature for the termination of the Interlocal Agreements dated April 6, 2010 and June 17, 2008, for County Enforcement and Administration of the Florida Building Code in the Town of Inglis and the Town of Yankeetown.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the termination of the Interlocal Agreements for County Enforcement and Administration of the Florida Building Code in the Town of Inglis and Yankeetown as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **TOURIST DEVELOPMENT**

Carol McQueen requested Board approval of the 2017-2018 Annual Agreement between Tarsus Connect, LLC d/b/a Connect Complete and the Board of County Commissioners for an annual fee of \$24,000. Mrs. McQueen explained this program includes analysis and SEO insights, digital newsletters, custom creation articles, social media planning across multiple social platforms and reporting.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Annual Agreement with Tarsus Connect, LLC d/b/a Connect Complete as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **NON-AGENDA ITEM/TRANSIT DEPT**

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to hear a non-agenda item as requested by Comm. John Meeks regarding the Transit Department. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Connie Conley stated the Transit Department has a 2006 bus formerly used as a stretcher bus, which had been converted for stretchers and is no longer being used. Mrs. Conley stated she had been contacted by Larry Sessions, Director of Suwannee Valley Transit, expressing an interest in purchasing this bus from Levy County. An offer of \$6,000 was made for the purchase of the bus and Mrs. Conley requested Board approval to move forward with the sale. This bus was purchased by utilizing the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip and Equipment 90/10 Grant in 2006.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to move forward with the sale of the 2006 stretcher bus to Suwannee Valley Transit as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **TRANSIT**

Conley Conley requested Board approval of Resolution 2017-063 authorizing the filing of a Shirley Conroy Rural Area Capital Assistance Program Grant Application and the approval of the Grant Application for the purchase of two (2) Ford mini busses in the amount of \$136,728 at 100%.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-063 and approval of the Grant Application for the purchase of two (2) Ford busses as requested.

Mrs. Conley reported of an accident in which one of the Transit busses was involved on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The driver of the bus was treated at the emergency room and released with minor injuries. The driver of the other vehicle was not injured. Mrs. Conley stated the bus, however, will likely be a total loss.

## **GRANTS DEPARTMENT**

Tisha Whitehurst requested Board approval of the MYIP Draft and Narrative for submission to Treasury for review. Upon completion of the Treasury review, Tetra Tech will finalize the MYIP Draft and Narrative, and Levy County will put the MYIP out for a 45 day public comment period. The eight (8) "Pot 1" projects included in this submission are listed below:

1. Project ACE (Ambassadors for Conservation Education)
2. Inner Marina dredging, Dock Street access, and dock addition
3. Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve Research equipment and materials
4. Lower Withlacoochee River Environmental Study
5. Clam Trail in Cedar Key and surrounding area
6. Cedar Key wastewater improvements
7. Cedar Key Aquarium at Nature Coast Biological Station
8. Promoting Eco-Tourism in Levy County via Outdoor Electronic Touchscreen 24/7 Kiosk

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve the MYIP Draft and Narrative as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mandy Willis requested the Board ratify acceptance of ten (10) pet oxygen mask sets as a donation from Invisible Fence. These masks will allow First Responders to assist animals in distress with rescue breathing on fire calls.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to ratify acceptance of ten (10) pet oxygen mask sets donated to the Department of Public Safety by Invisible Fence. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

A. Atty. Brown requested Board approval to conduct Public Hearings for an Ordinance extending a temporary moratorium on medical cannabis activities at a time of day other than 5:00 P.M.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to conduct a Public Hearing for an Ordinance extending the temporary moratorium on medical cannabis activities during a regular Board meeting. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION FAILS. Atty. Brown explained a vote of at least 4 to 1 would be required in order to pass this motion and Comm. Joyner was not present. The votes were as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Brooks	Comm. Rooks
Comm. Rock Meeks	
Comm. John Meeks	

The Commissioners agreed to schedule a Public Hearing on November 7<sup>th</sup> after 5:00 P.M. on November 7<sup>th</sup>. A second Public Hearing was then scheduled for 9:00 A.M. during the regular Board meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

B. Discussion and direction regarding Ordinance(s) governing medical marijuana treatment centers (medical cannabis activities) and their operations in unincorporated areas of Levy County.

Atty. Brown asked if this item could be Tabled in order for Comm. Joyner to be a part of the discussion.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to Table this item until a later date when all Commissioners could be present. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

It was agreed by the Commissioners to have this item placed on the November 21<sup>st</sup> regular Board meeting agenda.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Renate Cannon questioned the Board of the Levy County Disadvantaged Board. Mrs. Cannon also questioned if the Transit Department would be transporting patients to doctor appointments in the area in Gainesville where a controversial individual will be speaking. She expressed concerns of safety as there have been reports of protesting and road closures in the area.

Comm. John Meeks addressed her concerns and stated if it would be necessary to cancel, this can be done up to the day before the scheduled transport.

Linda Cooper questioned the status of the lawsuit regarding the Ten Commandments monument. Atty. Brown responded with an update of the case.

Dana Sheffield announced there will be a Car Show this weekend near the Flea Market in Chiefland. The Trunk-of-Treats event in Fanning Springs will begin Saturday at 5:30 P.M. at Fort Fanning.

Brett Beauchamp spoke on behalf of Sheriff McCallum and informed everyone the "Food for Florida" Hurricane Irma relief is scheduled to be at the Suwannee River Livestock Pavillion beginning on Thursday and will continue until Sunday.

Mayor Merritt reminded everyone of the festivities coming up in Inglis and Yankeetown: South Levy Marketplace on October 28<sup>th</sup> followed by the Chili Cook-off and the Trunk-of-Treats later in the evening. The Yankeetown Seafood Festival will be on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> combined with a quilt show.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Comm. Rooks reported of a meeting she attended on October 7<sup>th</sup> with the Fowlers Bluff Concerned Citizens group.

Comm. Brooks stated the U-Pick Lane is open each weekend and they are receiving a great amount of visitors. Comm. Brooks stated he will be attending a North Florida Economic Development Board meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> in Starke. The date for Trick-or-Treating in Williston is on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The WYAA is holding a family friendly Trunk-of-Treats event at 6:00 P.M. at the recreation complex. The FAC Legislative Conference is coming up November 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> and he will be attending a course. The Florida Rural Economic Summit, which had been rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma will be December 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> and he will be attending this.

Comm. Rock Meeks stated the area youth football championships will be held within the next two weeks in Bell.

Comm. John Meeks stated he will have the clams at the Beast Feast ready to cook this Saturday. The grand opening for the Shellfish Trail will be at 1:00 P.M. in Cedar Key this Saturday. This is done in conjunction with the Seafood Festival, which will be on Saturday and Sunday. The 4-H annual Halloween party is this Friday at the Ag. Center. The Bronson Trunk-of-Treats is this Saturday at 6:00 P.M. for anyone interested. The LARC Ride to Provide will also be this Saturday.

Comm. John Meeks requested Atty. Brown look into the county's Ordinances regarding illegal dumping and the possibility of stricter enforcement and penalties.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:25 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, John Meeks