

DISTRICT 1 Alan T Bush	DISTRICT 2 Charles Kent	DISTRICT 3 Tray Hawkins  Chairman	DISTRICT 4 Todd Abbott  Vice-Chairman	DISTRICT 5 Steve Joyner
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Regular BCC Meeting

June 20, 2019

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hawkins called to order the regular meeting of the Washington County Board of County Commissioners at 9:00 a.m. on 6/20/2019 at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, Florida. The invocation was given by Jeremy Craft, Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, which was followed by the pledge.

The following persons were present: Chairman Hawkins, Vice-Chairman Abbott, Commissioners Kent, and Joyner along with County Administrator Massey, County Attorney Milton, Fuqua & Milton, P.A., Clerk Bell, and Deputy Clerk Brantley.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

- Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment for 1760 A Owens Pond Road – Steve Cramer, Planner addressed the board regarding an application received from Kimberly Powell requesting a land use change from agriculture/silviculture to residential for the purpose of a second dwelling on the property for her mother. The property size is 11.8 acres. The required advertisements and notifications were done. A neighborhood meeting was also held, which did not have any public attendance.

The staff and planning commission recommend approval.

**III. ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Agenda Additions

1. Additional Nurse Position at the Jail - Commissioner Hawkins
2. AMVETS - Commissioner Hawkins
3. Wheeler Agreement Extension - Commissioner Hawkins

**Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Joyner (Motion Carried to adopt the agenda)**

#### IV. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

- May 15, 2019 Board Meeting
- May 31, 2019 Special Emergency Board Meeting

**Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Kent (Motion Carried to adopt the minutes dated 5/15/19 and 5/31/19)**

- V. NON – AGENDA AUDIENCE - Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the board.

- Chris Jernigan, Arnold Lumber Company/Jernigan Forest Products, 3185 Thomas Drive, Bonifay (business location) addressed the board regarding safety concerns and business productions due to a bridge being taken out of service for semi traffic on a road between the Holmes Correctional Main Unit and those located on the south of Thomas Drive, which joins Davidson Road at the county line. The bridge is scheduled to be replaced.

The business currently runs 10 – 20 semi-trucks daily that currently have to use Davidson Road, which is paved to the Washington County line, after that it is a narrow sand bed.

The closure of the bridge will cause traffic from the sheriff’s department and the prison to utilize the same road as the log trucks.

Commissioner Kent expressed concern about Washington County not having right-of-way.

Clint Erickson, Holmes County Commissioner advised the board the commission will assist in rectifying the problem.

Chairman Hawkins requested that contact be made with the Department of Correction to see if there is any funding to assist.

County Administrator Massey advised the board that he would have County Engineer Knauer to assess the road.

Clint Erickson informed the board that they closed the bridge yesterday.

#### VI. AGENDA ITEMS

- Audit Report – Sara Applewhite, Carr, Riggs, & Ingram addressed the board regarding the audit report ending 9/30/2018. The county is stable and the financial

results are consistent with the prior year. A couple of changes in the financial statement include the inclusion of inventory, and there was a change in how liability for post-employment health insurance benefits is recorded, which is an actuarial calculation; it's an adjustment to the beginning balances.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried to adopt the audit ending 9/30/2018.**

- Benecon Rate Renewal Presentations – James Hechler, Vice-President, Actuarial Services addressed the board regarding how the cooperative functions and the October 1, 2019 renewal summary, which reflects a 2.5% increase.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to approve the October 1, 2019 insurance rate renewal.**

- Opportunity Florida – Richard Williams, Executive Director addressed the board in reference to a trip that he and County Administrator Massey made to Mississippi to view an area similar the areas here that were affected by Hurricane Michael.

The number of people in this area that are employed has grown at a faster rate than the labor force has grown since 2010.

As part of the workforce system, if you are an able bodied adult with dependents and receiving cash assistance it is required that the recipient go to school or work or sanction will occur. There are fewer people on this program than ever.

The need to provide education about trades within the school districts is an item that will be looked at in the fall.

Career Source is focused on employment as well as the operation of the National Disaster Worker Emergency Grant, which has been utilized in Washington County. The program will remain in force as long as there are disaster projects.

After the visit to Mississippi one of the main things noted was, move now, and that documenting everything is essential.

It is key that Washington County reaches out to Reggie Dixon, DEO who works with the Fed's, who are in the process of writing the regulations that will be issued for review.

DEO will be handling a large portion of the CDBG recovery funds.

Ted Everett informed the board that it is beneficial to work with other counties toward the goal of one project.

Chairman Hawkins called a recess at 10:20 a.m.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting back to order.

- Future Land Use Map Amendment for 1760 A Owens Pond Road – Steve Cramer, Planner informed the board that the staff and planning commissioner support the FLUM amendment. **Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Kent (Motion carried to approve the amendment located at 1760 A Owens Pond Road)**
- Requirement to Pave Streets in Recreational Vehicle Parks – Tray Hawkins addressed the board in reference to the requirement to have paved roads in RV Parks.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to amend the land development code to allow for gravel roads in RV Parks.**

- AMVETS – James Vosh, Commander/Post 7 AMVETS addressed the board in regards to property that they recently purchased located at 1073 Highway 277. Issues have been encountered with the property being zoned as residential.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott and carried to waive the application fee of \$250.00 for a land use change for the AMVETS, Post 7.**

- US Post Office/Addressing – Clint Erickson, E911 informed the board that they were notified by the post office that for the past three years the AIMS person has not submitted the information, regarding new road names, address', etc. to the district post office in Jacksonville. Due to this everything will need to be resubmitted.

Chairman Hawkins suggested that the post office issue a notification of the upcoming changes that will affect some.

- MOU Tri-County Community Council Inc. – Lynne Abel, Emergency Management addressed the board regarding approval of a MOU for Tri-County Community Council to provide transportation to and from shelters during a disaster.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried to approve the MOU with Tri-County Community for transportation services to and from a shelter during a disaster.**

- Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant – Rick Kerr, Fire Services Coordinator requested approval from the board to file a grant with Florida Forestry, which is 100% reimbursable. The association would like to purchase a class A B phone that would

be used to assist with structure and woodland fires. Approval is also needed to expend \$6,600.00 out of public safety funds.

**Commissioner Abbott offered the above motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried.**

- Update Rick Kerr, Fire Services Coordinator, to high-risk under Florida Retirement System – Tray Hawkins (This change would allow Rick Kerr to respond to fires) –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to change Rick Kerr’s classification in the Florida Retirement System to high-risk.**

- Appointment of Jim Town to Seat 11 for the Tri-County Airport Authority – Tray Hawkins – **Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott and carried to reappoint Jim Town to seat 11 on the Tri-County Airport Authority.**

*The term would begin July 1, 2019 and end June 30, 2024.*

- Order to Rescind Burn Ban – Tray Hawkins requested that the burn ban be lifted due to the recent rain.

For informational purposes, the Division of Forestry is currently issuing permits, after an inspection of the site.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to rescind the burn ban. Resolution 19-8**

- Additional Nurse at the County Jail – Tray Hawkins informed the board that there is currently one nurse at the jail for approximately 174 inmates. The sheriff and jail staff have expressed concern about this.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to approve of the board covering the expense of \$9,378.89 for an additional nurse position at the jail for the remainder of the current budget year. This expense will be taken from the franchise fees.**

Chairman Hawkins advised that the expense would be addressed during the next budget.

- Wheeler Contract Extension – Tray Hawkins informed the board that the current contract ends 2020, however it included two one-year extensions, with this being the second.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried to approve of a one-year extension of the Wheeler Emergency contract.**

## **VII. FEMA COORDINATOR**

Kevan Parker asked the board how would they like to address the debris remaining in the county. There is a tremendous amount of debris in drainage areas, and the creeks. There is 25,000 – 30,000 cubic yards in the Wages Pond/Deadening area. The existing debris emergency procedure/eligibility ends July 11th. An extension to October 10th has been requested. If things are not complete by then, an extension will have to be requested from FEMA, instead of the state.

County Engineer Knauer updated the board. The county still remains under an emergency order from DEP. The DEP permit will not be an issue. The issue will be anything that the county would like to do in Holmes Creek because a permit has to be obtained through the Army Core. There are three endangered muscles in Holmes Creek that have been previously identified. DEP will not issue a permit in Holmes Creek to remove debris/logs without an Army Core permit.

Kevan Parker updated the board. The roads were grouped by zones, which began as work zones. The money can be combined and the scope of work can be changed to do something additional on a certain road.

## **VIII. PUBLIC WORKS – None**

### **IX. COUNTY ENGINEER – Cliff Knauer addressed the board.**

- Davidson Road – The Department of Transportation has advanced the bridge that was discussed during the public comment portion of the meeting to 2020.
- County Road 278/Bonnet Pond Road – The bids were opened yesterday, which included the following: Roberts and Roberts, Inc. \$1,333,071.37, Anderson Columbia \$1,384,743.27, and C.W. Roberts Contracting \$1,628,735.20.

There is \$1,070,000.00 for construction.

The difference between the three was the cost of earthwork. Roberts and Roberts, \$90,000.00, Anderson Columbia, \$150,000.00, and C.W. Roberts was higher than both.

The recommendation is to award to Roberts and Roberts contingent on additional funding being approved from DOT in order to get the project within budget.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott and carried to award the CR 278 A/Bonnet Pond project to Roberts and Roberts contingent on additional funding being approved from DOT and getting the project within budget.**

- Kent Road – Mott McDonald is putting in a force main transmission line down Kent Road to Pike Pond Road.

The design to pave Kent Road has been provided to Mott McDonald, to allow them to ensure that their lines are deep enough in the areas that will be cut down in the plans.

There are a couple of property owners on the first mile that have not signed right-of-way. The maintained right-of-way in that area has been measured and is between 24' and 27'. There is a possibility that the section could be designed with curb and gutter, however it would be an estimated additional \$100,000.00. Currently there is \$1,000,000.00 for construction. In order to do the first mile with the curb and gutter that would be required all the way on the south end and the curb and gutter on the north end would be between \$850,000.00 and \$900,000.00 for that mile, which would have to be approved by DOT.

County Administrator Massey directed to set up a meeting with DOT, which will be piggy backed on a previous meeting schedule for June 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:30.

Wendy White advised that she would confirm that date is correct.

- Buckhorn Boulevard – County Engineer Knauer informed the board that there are at least 15 jogs in the plat. In order to build a road that is posted at 35 mph, it would need to be designed for 45 mph.

The board approved to have a community meeting per County Engineer Knauer's request.

- Crystal Lake Drive – Southeastern Surveyors has completed the survey. It is essentially a mile from boat ramp to boat ramp. The board previously directed to fix the drainage. The only way to prevent the clay from draining into the lake is to pave it.

County Engineer Knauer provided a proposal for design and permitting for \$18,000.00.

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to accept the proposal from Dewberry for \$18,000.00 for the design and permitting at Crystal Lake.**

County Administrator Massey advised the board that a letter was sent to the land owner who has responded and is willing to meet.

- Piercy Property – County Engineer Knauer addressed the board in reference to the process of getting a development order through the county and a mining permit through DEP on the Piercy Property. A special exception for the development order is required. For the special exception and the mining permit the following are required: wetland delineation, proposed grading plan, erosion control plan, and a closure plan.

Instead of a topographic survey (\$50,000.00/\$60,000.00) County Engineer Knauer advised that he intends to request that DEP allow lidar be used, which is the survey data that Water Management District did around 2017/2018. The environmental will have to be done.

The wetland delineation would be done through Dewberry. The cost for providing everything to permit it, except the topographic survey would be an estimated \$40,000.00. The wetland lines would be done by using GPS.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried for Dewberry to proceed with the permitting process for the Piercy Property for an estimated \$40,000.00.**

- Old Bonifay Highway – County Engineer Knauer informed the board that Old Bonifay Highway is currently in permitting with the Army Core and DEP.
- Cope Road – The plans are complete and the project will be continued once funding is received, possibly in July.
- Strickland Road - \$500,000.00 for paving is included in the plan. The project is sponsored by the Water Management District on behalf of Washington County. This will cover the section that is in the sharp turn.

The Water Management District is seeking letters of support from Washington County as well as other entities in the county.

County Administrator Massey advised that he would follow up with exactly what is needed.

- Mud Hill Landfill – DEP sent a letter requesting that the remediation program that is in place be reviewed. They did a biological assessment of the creek to the west of Mud Hill and found that iron levels and surface water were higher than the allowable standards. Some of the wells have not been functioning properly, however recently Culligan has fixed the wells. Documentation will be sent to DEP



advising them that an alternate plan isn't needed, the system is working fine, and safe guards have been put in place to ensure that it is operating properly.

- Foxworth Drive – County Engineer Knauer requested board direction.

Commissioner Abbott advised that the previous board direction was to set up another community meeting.

- Twin Pond Road – County Engineer Knauer informed the board that the road does not have funding approved from the legislature. The county does have right-of-way on the road.
- Elkam Boulevard – A preliminary feasibility study was previously submitted, which included a tremendous amount of property as a part of it. After reviewing the original alignment, there are some changes that can be made that would drastically reduce the amount of property required. The original estimates were done based on a future four lane road, which required a 135' of right-of-way. Dropping it back 100' of right-of-way means the county would have enough right-of-way on Elkam.

Quail Hollow is already paved, Buckhorn is near paving, which would leave a small section from the intersection from Orange Hill and Quail Hollow out to the end of the pavement of Elkam. This would leave from the end of Buckhorn, down county line road to 231. The overall cost of the project would drop and there would be paved road from Highway 77 to Highway 231.

This would be a viable project to look at.

- Chipley Industrial Park – A meeting has been scheduled with the Army Core of Engineers in reference to renewing the permit. If that occurred for the access road to the 70 acres that was Project Pipe, that would advance things.
- NRCS Projects – The two projects that NRCS liked was clearing the ditch off of Kirkland all the back up to Highway 90 and the relief bridge on Old Bonifay Highway. The projects are 75/25. If the project costs go over what has been estimated the county is liable for the overage.

County Engineer Knauer suggested to the board not to pursue it.

Kevan Parker advised the board that they have to request funding through NRCS, because FEMA will ask if that was an option the county pursued.

Wendy White, Human Resource advised the board the upcoming meeting with DOT is scheduled for July 25.

County Administrator Massey advised the board they would move that up.

**X. County Administrator** – Jeff Massey addressed the board.

- Lobbyist – The RFP for the lobbyist was issued and four responses were received, which were Timmins Consulting, LLC, Liberty Partners, LLC, Pinpoint Results, LLC, and Gray Robinson.

Wendy White advised the board the proposals for each of the firms would be provided to the board along with bid sheets to grade by Wednesday. The top three will be interviewed.

The interview committee will consist of Sheriff Crews, Karen Shaw, Tray Hawkins, Jeff Massey, and the Human Resource Department.

- Fill Dirt Agreement – County Administrator Massey informed the board that Fuqua and Milton have drafted an agreement with Adams Earth for the boards review per correspondence that he has with the company. The company is interested in purchasing all the woodchips from the Moonseed location for \$50.00 per load. The agreement includes a 30 day out.

Attorney Milton advised the board that his understanding was that it was dump truck loads, which is what is included in the agreement. If it is a walking floor trailer that is around 50 yards, instead of a truck load of 18 yards.

The end of the agreement term is December 31, 2019.

Chairman Hawkins directed that the board would review the agreement and address it on the July agenda.

- MSBU District Appointees – County Administrator Massey addressed the board. District 1 and 2 appointees for the MSBU Board were for a one-year period, which expires April 30, 2020.

**County Administrator Massey requested approval of the reappointments for MSBU Appointees, Kathy Gesslein, District 3, Gary Harman, District 4, and Bob Farley, District 5. Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Kent (Motion Carried)**

**XI. CLERK**

- May Vouchers – Deputy Clerk Brantley requested approval of May vouchers totaling \$1,840,269.65 **Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Joyner (Motion Carried)**

**XII. COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- Livestock Amendment – Attorney Milton advised the board that it was advertised to amend the code for the livestock portion of animal control. The amendment is to allow for higher fees to be charged in the event third party assistance is required.

Attorney Milton read the ordinance by title.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to approve the ordinance amending the code regarding livestock.**

*Ordinance 2019-9*

- Animal Control Inter-Local Agreement – Attorney Milton brought before the board an inter-local agreement between the board and Wausau, which specifies the fees for stray animals to be picked up after they have caught. There is a 30-day out provision included. **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to approve the animal control inter-local agreement with Wausau.**

**XIII. ADJOURN**

Minutes submitted by: Deputy Clerk Brantley

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_