

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Washington County, Florida**  
**Board Meeting**  
**1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428**

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

---

I. PROCLAMATION

- A. Call to Order – Chairman Hawkins
- B. Invocation – Johnny Evans
- C. Pledge

The following persons were present: Tray Hawkins, Chairman, Todd Abbott, Vice-Chairman, Commissioners Bush, Kent, and Joyner along with Jeff Massey, County Administrator, Attorney Matthew H. Fuqua, Fuqua & Milton, P.A., County Attorney, Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court and Risha Brantley, Deputy Clerk.

II. BOARD MINUTES

- Board Meeting for December 19, 2019 – **Commissioner Bush, Commissioner Abbott (Motion Carried)**

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. – None

III. ADOPT THE AGENDA – **Commissioner Abbott, Commissioner Kent (Motion Carried)**

Agenda Alterations

- Remove 2009 Dodge and add 2014 Ford F-450 – Rick Kerr
- Travel Expenses – Tray Hawkins

- Tri-County Airport Report will be moved to the first agenda item.

#### IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- Tri-County Airport Report – Ross Statham, Tri-County Airport Authority Secretary provided a briefing regarding activity at the airport. Some of the highpoints included the following:
  - Smaller Board – Allows for easier quorum
  - Qualification (based on size and adding automated weather) to change the airport code
  - Discrete frequency
  - Relationships with rental car providers
  - Offer crew cars in the future
  - Motels and restaurants have been submitted to a major pilot app
  - Submitted automated weather to the FAA
  - New website
  - Increase the terminal size in the future
  - Airport is a feeder airport for Panama City
  - Runway is 5,398'
- Update on Mosquito Control – Lee Duke requested approval of the state contract with FDACS, which identifies responsibilities and documents \$32,000.00 was allotted for Washington County, however since the original allocation an additional \$2,000.00 has been approved by FDACS, which will be covered by an amendment.

Jimmy Finch currently sprays the City of Chipley and the City of Vernon. In the future branching out to the county, with the county contributing money on the local side may be an option. Another part time sprayer can be hired for the additional areas.

Lee Duke informed the board that he would like to get quotes for a new sprayer, truck and spray system.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott and carried to approve of entering into the contract with the FDACS as well as budget amendment #1 for \$2,029.23.**

- Purchase of 2014 F-450 – Rick Kerr requested board approval for Country Oaks to purchase a 2014 F-450 for \$21,000.00 from their budget. A skid unit will be installed on the truck.

Chairman Hawkins advised to ensure the truck is at or below market value.

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to approve of Country Oaks Fire Department purchasing a F-450 for \$21,000.00 from their budget.**

- HVAC Maintenance Contract for Library Systems – Renae Rountree, Library Director informed the board that she obtained three quotes for maintenance for the air conditioner units for a year at all the Washington County library locations. Hometown was the low bidder at \$550.00 per visit twice a year. **Commissioner Bush, Commissioner Kent (Motion Carried)**
- Public Services Policy Manual Update – Renae Rountree, Library Director  
**Commissioner Bush, Commissioner Abbott (Motion Carried)**

- Travel Expenses – Tray Hawkins requested to update the mileage rate to 2020 standards rates of .575.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent and carried to update the mileage to .575.**

Commissioner Abbott informed the board that Sunday Road is in the work program for 2022 for \$1,389,000.00 for 1.647 miles.

- V. FEMA COORDINATOR – Kevan Parker informed the board that he attended a meeting yesterday with the Deputy Infrastructure Branch Chief. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10.

Chairman Hawkins informed the board that a conference call is scheduled for January 30 and a follow up meeting is scheduled two days prior to the workshop.

Kevan Parker informed the board that the current focus is on the road items.

The road projects will likely increase 20% due to the increase in the cost of milled asphalt and rock.

There are 14 legacy projects that are outstanding. 2 are in level 8, 8 are still at FEMA and 4 need a lot of work done internally with DEM.

Commissioner Abbott requested an update on the small debris that remains to be picked up.

Kevan Parker advised that the process is being worked.

Chairman Hawkins informed the board that the state will not approve a blanket pickup. The projects have to be specific. If it is done with in house workforce the timeframe will be around two years, which will not be acceptable to FEMA. A letter is going to be sent to them with hopes of approval to proceed with the contract.

As of yesterday, FEMA and DEM directed to send in specific projects.

Kevan Parker advised that there are 20 – 30 spots in the county that are on a punch list to be completed. The only other items are the ditches and drainage.

Chairman Hawkins updated the board. The \$500,000.00 for the category B should be going out in 30-days.

Kevan Parker informed the board that using the 428 process, money can be grouped together by signing appendix a, which County Administrator Massey has signed. A time extension will be done for all 428 projects. That system of the process is 12-months. It can't be done until they are finished and it is costed. There has already been one extension.

Jeff Massey advised a recovery transition meeting will be held in order to obtain access to the remaining funds once the projects are closed out.

VI. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR – Johnny Evans addressed the board.

- Equipment Update – The three graders previously purchased have been delivered and the ones they replaced have been brought in and cleaned. One grader will be kept as a spare and the intent for the other two is to surplus them. The dump trucks should be delivered mid-February and the vans should be delivered mid-April.

Surplus items will be brought before the board at the February meeting.

- Houston Road – Johnny Evans addressed the board. A larger pipe is needed on Houston Road. Currently work is being done by county staff that was suggested to fix the problem per DOT staff. The driveway on the opposite side is being removed and that side is being cleaned up. de. At the mouth of the pipe it will be dug out and rip rap rock will be put there and armor it.
- Jeff Massey informed the board that FDOT has encouraged the board to select three bridges for repairs.

Johnny Evans suggested Cowford Bridge.

Commissioner Bush suggested to use the bridge inspection report, which includes ratings.

Chairman Hawkins advised the board that there is a conflict with the April meeting. The board agreed that there will be one meeting in April, which will be April 15, 2020.

VII. COUNTY ENGINEER – Cliff Knauer addressed the board.

- Bonnet Pond Road – The cap on the road was completed over a week ago. The road rides well and it has a tremendous amount of guardrails. The bidding and contract documents didn't include miscellaneous asphalt under the guard rails. County Engineer Knauer informed the board that he made the decision to put miscellaneous asphalt under the guardrails and a change order for \$8,495.00 will be brought before the board at the

- next board meeting. \$10,638.00 in revenue was made from selling dirt to the contractors for this project.
- Cope, Old Bonifay, Ag Center Roof – The bid opening is next Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

Would the county agree to the contractors using the county pits for dirt for Old Bonifay and Cope Road?

Chairman Hawkins advised for there to be an alternate bid item to include the option with and without the county dirt.

- County Engineer Knauer informed the board the bid package for Sunny Hills has been provided to Steve Healis.
- Church Street and Court Street – The survey is complete and the plans are at 80%.
- Ag Center Roof – The bid was set up with a base bid and an alternate. The base bid is 24 gauge standing seam, which is what is currently there. The dome vents are being removed and being replaced with continuous ridge vents. An alternate bid item for rigid insulation on top of the existing standing seam was approved and is being used. Rigid insulation with a fabric covering with a 25-year warranty will be the alternate item.

County Administrator Massey advised that the total amount allowed for the ag center is \$206,516.00 pending final review.

County Engineer Knauer advised County Administrator Massey that the

pw information on the ag center includes other items besides the roof, such as insulation, acoustical ceiling tiles, electrical, etc.

Kevan Parker informed the board that this project will not be included in the 428 process.

- SCRAP AND SCOP – County Engineer Knauer informed the board that 4 bridge projects are open to be submitted. The sufficient index is the best guide for prioritizing.
- SCOP, SCRAP AND CIGP – It is currently open to submit 3 SCRAP, 2 SCOP and 1 CIGP, which are due March 20.

County Engineer Knauer suggested Hutchinson Road. Chairman Hawkins suggested Strickland Road in Ebro.

Commissioner Bush suggested comments on roads that have previously been submitted would be beneficial.

Benita Crittenden addressed the board and spoke on some history of Greenhead Road.

There is a drain off of the Greenhead Road that goes on to Water Management, which has a huge wash out. It has eroded the hillside, almost filling up one of their small ponds.

County Engineer Knauer requested copies of the pictures.

Commissioner Bush suggested to send the pictures to local legislative bodies, and the Water Management District.



Commissioner Bush advised that the missing link on River Road needs to be pushed for.

- Sunday Road - County Engineer Knauer updated the board. The design for Sunday Road is 2022 and the construction funds of \$1,300,000.00 is scheduled for 2023.
- Brickyard Road – County Engineer Knauer advised the board that a meeting needs to be scheduled with Mr. Taylor at this point. The board agreed that Commissioner Bush would attend the meeting with County Engineer Knauer and Mr. Taylor, Washington County School Board.
- Right-of-Way on Buckhorn – County Administrator Massey informed the board that they are working on scheduling a meeting with the cattle land owner.

The land owner would like a fence as well as to cut the right-of-way from 80' to 60'.

- Highway 79 Corridor – County Engineer Knauer updated the board. One land owner has signed right-of-way and the other land owner has verbally committed to signing.

Chairman Hawkins called a recess from 10:35 a.m. – 10:49 a.m.

VIII. MSBU COORDINATOR – Steve Healis addressed the board.

- Sunny Hills Road Projects – Steven Healis informed the board that MSBU is willing to contribute \$658,731.11 for the road project.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed that if the cost comes in less, that the

remaining balance would be applied to the CEI expenses. If not the CEI expense will be covered by the board.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to give approval to issue a bid, approve of MSBU spending \$658,731.11 toward the road paving, but if the project comes in less the remaining funds will be applied to the CEI cost, if not the board will cover the CEI cost.**

County Engineer Knauer advised the board that Dewberry's cost would be around \$30,000.00.

- Boulevard Tree Cutting Project – Steve Healis informed the board that out of the bids for the tree cutting Easy Care Tree provided the lowest price for \$2,950.00, which includes 12 trees, stump grinding, and trimming some additional limbs. The MSBU board approved this prior it coming before the board.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to proceed with the bid from Easy Care Tree for \$2,950.00 for tree cutting in Sunny Hills.**

- Gulf Power – Steve Healis informed the board that they are contemplating installing a light at Shenandoah and the Challenger intersection. A mini transformer and light is \$2,800.00 upfront, for a 270 light, however that will be reduced because a lesser light will be selected.

The monthly cost is around \$16.00.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried to approve of Steve Healis spending up to \$2,800.00 for the light installation and transformer at Shenandoah and Challenger intersection.**

- Wilder Park – County Administrator Massey informed the board that he is in the process of installing cameras and after that is done the other items will be added.

Steve Healis informed the board that he and Mr. Parrish intend to meet with the community and discuss suggestions and a plan to do things in their community.

- Solar Lights – Steve Healis informed the board that the repair of the 8 solar lights will be done this weekend. They will be rebuilt.

Steve Healis informed the board that also during this time he will be putting lanyards up in order to put flags up, which should be complete next month.

IX. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Jeff Massey addressed the board.

- Update on AHAC Committee – County Administrator Massey advised the board that since the storm the awareness of affordable housing has increased. He requested to add Jan Page, Kenny Ray Mitchell, Ted Everett, Terry Ellis, Tracy Andrews, Carman Smith, and Dan Miner to the committee.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to approve of adding the above referenced appointees to the AHAC Committee.**

- Donation of Property – Anderson Columbia owns the property that adjoins the county landfill which the county owns and it has monitoring wells and the landfill on the property. The county is currently in the process to get restrictive covenants, which will enable all the wells to be closed and the monitoring can be stopped. The property owned by Anderson Columbia has one of those wells and the county is paying for it. Anderson Columbia is not willing to accept restrictive covenants and would like to donate the property to the county. Anderson Columbia requested that a survey be done at the county's expense.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner and carried to accept the donated property from Anderson Columbia at the old landfill and pay for the survey to be done on it.**

- Infrastructure/Comp Plan Update – The county applied for a grant, which was awarded for \$300,000.00. A large part of the funds will be used toward updating the comp plan.

Chairman Hawkins requested that a committee be set, which would include citizens that are often affected by the comp plan, which should at least include someone from title searching, real estate, building officials, planners, commissioners, Emerald Coast, etc.

County Administrator Massey advised that he and Mr. Town are scheduled to meet to discuss a plan of action.

- Granite Stone, Lime Rock and Hauling RFP's – Jeff Massey addressed the board. The RFP was put out because they had concerns about the

numbers that they had for FEMA on the rock and the availability of the rock. Johnston Trucking bid \$17.00 per ton to haul in granite stone on semi-trailers, which would be coming from his mine.

Limestone can be obtained as well.

Commissioner Joyner commented that the availability of local rock isn't consistent. A local hauler, Mr. Grimes turned in a lower bid.

The commissioners, Kevan Parker and Johnny Evans held discussion on the rock options.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and carried to approve RFP 2019 – 7, low bid for Johnston Trucking for \$17.00 per ton and .225 per mile to haul rock needed for the Hurricane Michael disaster/FEMA.**

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to approve RFP – 2019 - 8 for Henry Grimes Trucking, a local hauler and the low bidder at .22 per mile for hauling. This will provide the price for FEMA for dirt, limestone, or additional hauling that the contractor may need. (The cost is per mile, per ton)**

- X. CLERK – Clerk Bell addressed the board.
- December Vouchers - \$2,406,810.47 – **Commissioner Kent, Commissioner Joyner (Motion Carried)**
- XI. COUNTY ATTORNEY – Attorney Fuqua addressed the board.

Attorney Fuqua advised the board that he has been working on the Hurricane Michael Recovery Grant. The money will be funded upfront.

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to approve of Chairman Hawkins signing the Hurricane Michael Recovery Grant.**

XII. ADJOURN – Commissioner Kent offered a motion to adjourn.

---

Deputy Clerk Brantley

---

Date Board Approved