

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m., Commission Board Room

1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

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

I. PROCLAMATION

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

The following persons were present: Chairman Tray Hawkins, Vice-Chairman Todd Abbott, Commissioners Alan T. Bush, and Charles Kent (via phone). Also present were County Administrator Jeff Massey, County Attorneys Matt Fuqua, and Clay Milton, Fuqua & Milton, P.A., Clerk of Court, Lora C. Bell, and Finance Director, Johnnie Pettis.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

- Sunny Hills MSBU Final Rate Resolution – This was discussed further in the meeting.
Agenda Additions
- Pine Bluff Subdivision – County Engineer Knauer
- Parks and Recreation Discussion – County Administrator

III. ADOPT THE AGENDA – **Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the agenda as amended.**

IV. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Board Meeting for June 16, 2022 – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the above minutes.**

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.” Everyone shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition

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before the Board. Before the time, a meeting has been called to order, should an individual or group wish to address an item that is on the agenda for consideration, the individual or group may obtain, from the Commission Secretary or Clerk, a public comment form and may write on the form their name and the agenda matter which they wish to address. The completed form(s) shall be returned to the Commission Secretary/Clerk who shall provide the form(s) to the Chairperson. Should a particular group wish to address an item, they shall nominate a spokesperson to voice their ideas, comments, and concerns. In the event, that an individual wish to speak on an item and has not signed up in advance, those who have signed shall be given priority and those who have not signed up may be allowed to speak at the sole discretion of the Board Chair. – This item will be addressed further in the meeting.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Recognition of 2022 Dixie Softball 1/8U State Champions – Tray Hawkins, BOCC Chairman, Kevin Crews, Washington County Sheriff, Commissioner Abbott, and Brock Tate, City of Chipley recognized the 2022 Dixie Softball Team individually for their accomplishments. The coaches were also recognized.

Chairman Hawkins recessed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing.

- Sunny Hills MSBU Final Rate Resolution – Clay Milton, County Attorney read the resolution by title. The resolution is for the annual rate adoption for MSBU/Sunny Hills. The resolution is essentially the same as the one adopted last year; however, it does include a small increase, which is based on the ordinance.

There were no comments. The public hearing was closed, and the regular meeting was reopened.

The non-agenda audience was addressed.

- Nancy Harrelson, 5202 Pine Ridge requested an update from the board since
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the news update was given to Channel 7 and 13 News on February 22 regarding the board's plan to bring in a bigger pump for the lake. What is the status of the plan?

The deconstruction of the neighbor's house purchased by FEMA was completed this week. Those that deconstructed the house reported that there were no cracks in the foundation. The house as in perfect condition and there was no need to tear it down. The funds spent would have been likely better spent on a bigger pump to draw the lake down. There was a report of mismanagement of \$70,000.00 to a guy who took notes on the water reading, which the residents were willing to do. The neighborhood feels the funds were mismanaged.

The neighbors have requested to be a part of the solution. There is minimal communication from the government officials, including Washington County regarding the plan.

The first task of lowering the lake 5 feet (down to Mr. West's driveway) was not completed before the pump was removed. What is the new plan and what is being done? The lake is not draining.

The state has been advising the residents that the county needs to address the problem.

County Administrator Massey addressed the public comment. The original plan was not about 5 feet. It was for as long as the grant money lasted. To address the comment regarding the misuse of funds. It is not the county's money. There is an agreement with the State of Florida to buy the property out. If she wishes to use the money and pump the lake down, that is her option. Instead of accusations, facts need to be stated.

County Administrator Massey informed the board that he has been working on funds or a way to get the lake drained enough where a rain event would not put the residents in harm's way.

The Chief Resilient Officer along with DEM was brought out to the neighborhood. A plan to get the water pumped down is being worked on. The plan is through the state. Certain steps must be followed.

Chairman Hawkins provided an update. Water Management will be in Washington County on August 1 at 10:00 a.m. Piney Lake will be part of the discussion.

County Administrator Massey continued his update. The county staff has applied through Florida Resilient for a grant to do a vulnerability study for the water systems in the county. The county is unique in the way flooding is occurring during heavy rains. The study will give grounds for other avenues to be pursued. There is a second infrastructure grant through Florida Resilient County which staff will apply for once it opens.

Chairman Hawkins informed County Administrator Massey that other lakes, such as Leisure Lake and Spring Lake need to be a part of the grant as well. Some of the lakes include Leisure Lake and Spring Lake. There are lakes throughout the county that need to be addressed.

County Administrator Massey commented that there must be a place to pump the water.

It was fortunate with Piney Lake that Water Management had adjacent land with a dry basin where the water could be pumped, which was absorbed quickly. Other places in the county do not have that option.

The county staff is working behind the scenes. Even though that is being done, at times there is nothing to report.

Nancy Harrelson asked what the application date and award date for the first grant is.

County Administrator Massey advised there is no confirmed date. It is based on how quickly the grant is reviewed and they move through their process. The second grant does not open until Fall.

Chairman Hawkins suggested that Nancy Harrelson route her questions/concerns to the grant's administrator.

Nancy Harrelson informed the board that the water is up to the foundation of her personal property, which is alarming. Their whole livelihood is in their homes. A FEMA Buyout was not a great option because they do not pay market value.

County Attorney Milton advised Nancy Harrelson that she should address her concerns toward the grant administrator.

- John West (Mike), 5186 Pine Ridge Drive informed the board that his driveway has been under water for around 4 years. In the area where the driveway was, the water has come up to just a couple of inches of his 5-foot fence. Time is critical. Not receiving feedback/communication as a group has been aggravating. Some of the residents do not have time because of how close the water is to their homes and around structures near their homes. A neighbor has brought in dirt to put around their home and the water continues to come up.

He has purchased the property that he was using for four years to access his
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property. Funds were used from his safety retirement for the purchase. It was cheaper than taking the buyback.

Some of the other folks are running out of time.

- Donna Land addressed the board regarding the use and safety of Culpepper Landing. She requested signs regarding littering, no wake/idle speed only be put up at the landing. Speed for some boaters is an issue.

She has been picking up around 5 pounds of trash per day at the landing.

The orange paint displaying arrows is not appealing to look at.

Chairman Hawkins advised that the sign request will be directed to FWC for the creek portion and the littering signs will be directed to Johnny Evans, Public Works.

- Jason Walters addressed the board regarding land use classification for lots that he owns in Sunny Hills.

Chairman Hawkins directed him to the property appraiser.

2. Request for Update on Piney Lake Flooding Mitigation Plan including Status of Grants and timeline for funding, and update on the BRICK program - Charlie Brown, a citizen informed the board that the flooded area is around 6 inches away from where it was when the pumping began. It has been around 5 months since the pumps stopped. The body of the lake is twice the size that it should be. The drain spacing is half the size of what it needs to be. The lake is not able to overcome the amount of water that is in the lake in addition to the amount of rain the area has been receiving this year. The area is not in the aquifer, the water table, or tied to anything hydraulically to the lakes around them. The way the lake is set up, it is not meant to drain like other lakes. The

water well levels are 3 – 4 feet down on Highway 20, which means the aquifer has dropped 3 – 4 feet down from Piney Lake to that location.

He requested that the board keep fighting for them.

There are no homes in danger of flooding in Leisure Lakes.

3. United Way Presentation – Rebecca Perse, Campaign Director requested the board provides Washington County employees with the opportunity to participate in an employee giving campaign. One check would be cut to United Way and from there the disbursement would be done.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the employee deduction contingent upon the staff's approval.

4. Sunny Hills MSBU Final Rate Resolution - County Attorney Milton confirmed that the public hearing was held this morning on the resolution, which was read by title. – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the annual rate resolution for the Sunny Hills/Oak Hill Municipal Service Benefit Unit Assessments.**
5. Library's Public Service Policy Manual - Renae Rountree, Library Director informed the board the collection development and meeting room policy sections have been updated. The rental fees would be waived for non-profit organizations or government agencies for use of the meeting room. If there is an objection from someone regarding something that the library a form would be completed, which would be reviewed by herself and two other library staff. If there continues to be an objection, then the issue would be decided upon by the board.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the library policy manual amendments.

6. ECRC Agreement for HHRP - Karen Shaw, Grants Coordinator requested approval to continue an agreement with the Emerald Coast Planning Council, which would complete HHRP through June 30.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the agreement with Emerald Coast Planning Council for the completion of HHRP.

7. FDOT Beautification Grant – Karen Shaw, Grants Coordinator requested approval to apply for the FDOT Beautification Grant. The projects include the improvement of the right-of-way along the highway in front of the ag center, along the highway in front of the recycling center, and the walking trail on Falling Waters State Park.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the resolutions for the FDOT Beautification Grant.

8. Gray Robinson Contract Renewal Discussion – Jeff Massey, County Administrator informed the board that he has been pleased with their services.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the renewal of the Gray Robinson contract.

Elijah Hooks, a citizen asked the board how many successful projects were given to the county through the efforts of Gray Robinson.

Chairman Hawkins advised three, however, the third was partial. The firm is also a conduit mechanism.

9. Request for approval to extend the term for seat #9 with Alan Williams on the Tri-County Airport Authority – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the extension of seat #9 with Alan Williams.**

10. Approval for Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Millage Hearing Date of September 13, 2022, at 5:05 p.m. - Tray Hawkins, Chairman addressed the board. The current millage rate is 8.5000. Regarding CARES Funds the board made an agreement that the ad valorem collections would not be lowered for 2-years.

Using the current millage rate of 8.5000 for the upcoming budget year would mean an estimated ad valorem of 9,353,740.00. 8.5000 is above the rolled-back rate of 7.8208, which would mean this would be advertised as a tax increase. *(This is per the rules in the TRIM Guideline)*

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to set the tentative millage rate at 8.5000 and to set the first hearing date on September 13, 2022, at 5:05 p.m.

11. Request for Renewal of Contract with Inspired Technologies - Tray Hawkins, Chairman informed the board there is currently no active contract due to the Inspired Technologies contract being overlooked. This would require the board to set aside the procurement policy to approve the contract. The board currently has their service, but the renewal date was missed.

County Administrator Massey informed the board that he is pleased with their service. The county is protected well.

County Attorney Fuqua advised that the motion should be to set aside the procurement date and enter into the agreement with Inspired Technologies.

The agreement was for one year; however, this agreement will automatically renew unless one party opts out.

Commissioner Bush asked if there is an increase each year based on the consumer price index or anything such as that. It is just the standard agreement/same price until.

Attorney Fuqua commented, correct.

Commissioner Abbott confirmed that there is a 30-day out clause.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the motion as stated above by Attorney Fuqua.

12. PRIA/Benecon Insurance Rate Approval for 2022-2023 - Tray Hawkins, Chairman confirmed with Aaron Dudley that the rate increase is 7.8%. The total increase is \$199,823.76. The board has a reserve of \$719,000.00, with \$214,000.00 of that received in 2022.

It is requested for the board to absorb the Benecon renewal by taking the increase from the insurance balance fund.

The only time there is a risk is at 110%. 20% of the premium, which is 2 years of coverage should always be kept in the fund.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the Benecon rate for 2022-2023 with the increase coming from the insurance surplus funds.

Commissioner Bush confirmed that this has been done each year. The increase this year would be covered by the funds received in 2022.

13. Boat Ramp Ordinance Discussion - Tray Hawkins, Chairman requested the board's input on restricting commercial operations and use at Culpepper Landing on weekends and holidays. If the holiday falls during the week, the ordinance will state that the restriction would be from the weekend to the day after the holiday. The suggestion has come from some of the canoe owners. Anytime a trip is underway by a livery a staff member of that livery should be at the landing to remove the canoers promptly.

Donna Land commented that she is not opposed to commercial use. However, they need to pick up their canoers at the correct time. Litter, speeding, and congestion are issues at the landing.

The vans spend 30 minutes to 1 hour loading. In the event it rains, there is no pavilion for people to use. Signs would be great to direct people.

Culpepper's Road is terrible.

Ronnie Richardson, Florida Spring Adventures addressed the board. There is not a time when he or Coldwater Excursion is not supervising if they have people there. Taylor and his guys are quick. There are a lot of issues between locals and the canoe liveries.

Cotton Landing is also congested.

The board's proposal sounds good.

The banks at Cypress are eroding and the trees are falling.

He also picks up the litter at the landing.

Commissioner Bush asked what his feelings were about only being able to use Cotton Landing.

Mr. Richardson advised that he does not have an issue with it. It would help if the restrictions were widened and some of the trees were removed.

He informed the board that he assists other kayakers. It would help if everyone would do the right thing.

Commissioner Abbott suggested incorporating a gate fee and hiring someone to monitor the area.

Taylor Elliott, Coldwater Excursions proposed to tax them. He has purchased property on Highway 79 to move his business to Washington County. A fee can be paid per boat or a percentage of sales. Those funds can be used to employ someone at the boat ramp. Usually, they are off the boat ramp in 5-minutes. Customers do not have a waiting period to be picked up once their trip is complete.

Chairman Hawkins questioned if a commercial use fee is legal.

County Attorney Fuqua advised that he needs to review the restrictions on the FBIP funds, however, he would be hesitant to implement fees for one and not all.

Chairman Hawkins informed that the boat ramp was put in by funds that are collected by boater registration fees. The ramp was installed for recreational use by the public.

The kayaks go in at Cotton Landing and come out at Culpepper. Cotton Landing versus the Spring Creek issue is there is a designation on Spring
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Creek, and you hit different springs throughout the creek. Around 80% of the tours on Holmes Creek are for a specific destination.

The board needs to decide where it is not so restrictive that it isn't justified.

The weekend would be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Commissioner Kent requested to schedule a workshop regarding the boat ramps.

The board agreed to schedule a workshop on August 17.

Donna Land suggested cutting trees down to assist with business use would not be a good decision.

14. Discussion Regarding Tax Deed Certificates – Attorney Milton updated the board on the process. If these are certificates held by the county the statute says that for certificates over \$5,000.00 annually the board is required to proceed with applying for tax deeds on those property certificates that exceed \$5,000.00. Those under \$5,000.00 is optional. If the board applies for those tax deeds the statute says that once the tax deed is issued the county is required to hold that property as lands available for taxes. Anybody can show up and buy a property within the first 3 years. For the first 3 years after the tax deed auction, the county does not own the property. Therefore, the county does not have the right to sell it. It is land available for taxes. The reason is that there may be people who hold certificates on those properties and the county does not have to pay those individuals at that tax deed sale. If someone shows up after the fact to buy the property, they will have to pay the outstanding taxes on the property, which include the other certificates. After 3 years the county becomes the owner of the property.

If the county would like to use the property for county purposes, that can be elected in the first 90 days after the sale. It would not be to turn around and resale. This would cause a delay in what the county is trying to achieve.

This would not be any different than a tax deed sale by a private individual that applies for a tax deed. The starting bid would be the cost and all outstanding taxes owed.

Chairman Hawkins informed the board that he would like to begin with 112 lots.

Attorney Fuqua informed the board that for the 112 lots/Unit 1 it would be an \$85,000.00 investment.

County Attorney Milton informed the board that if the properties are not sold in 3 years, then the policy the board has approved to sell properties would be implemented.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to purchase the tax deed certificates in Unit 1 for \$85,000.00 from the land sale funds.

15. Request for Chairman to sign Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Office of Criminal Justice Grant for State Financial Assistance for the project entitled Law Enforcement Salary Assistance for Fiscally Constrained Counties - Tray Hawkins, Chairman informed the board that the total is around \$445,00.00, which will be used to offset salaries for the sheriff's office employees.

Commissioner Bush asked if it would be a one-time occurrence.

Chairman Hawkins addressed the board. Working with the legislators, small counties, and the Florida Association of Counties the monies are put in the base of the state budget. The funds are not 100% secure.

County Attorney Milton informed the board that it is a legislative mandate.

16. Request for Approval for Amendment #3 to the Interlocal Agreement for the Highway 79 Corridor Authority Relating to the Revenue Sharing Contribution for the Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023.

Commissioner Abbott asked Commissioner Hawkins if it has changed.

Commissioner Hawkins advised that it has not changed.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the Highway 79 Corridor Authority Revenue Sharing Agreement for the Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023.

Note – These funds will come from the funds designated for economic development.

Tray Hawkins, Chairman informed the board there is a workshop scheduled for the week of the 11th to discuss any future contributions. This will fund it for this year current.

17. Discussion Regarding Local State of Emergency - Tray Hawkins, Chairman -
The current LSE was entered into 44/45 weeks ago at the request of different state agencies. It is a concern that the local state of emergency is being minimized by continuing it since the event did not just happen. The letters will be continued, and staff will continue proceeding as they currently are. Any other funds that are being pursued are not affected by the current state of

emergency.

Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director commented that she agrees with Chairman Hawkins.

The consensus of the board is to stop the current LSE.

18. Inmate Medical Provider Contract Renewal – Todd Abbott, Vice-Chairman addressed the board. It is required to have a doctor on call for the county jail.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to extend the contract with Dr. Samuel Ward for another year.

The motion carried 3-0, with Commissioner Hawkins abstaining due to his wife working for Dr. Ward occasionally.

19. Pine Bluff Subdivision – Garrett Martin, Pine Bluff Subdivision Representative addressed the board regarding their road being paved in the subdivision. There is one significant spot that needs to be repaired.

After meeting with Garret Martin, Chairman Hawkins informed the board that he requested Crenshaw with the engineering firm provide a quote for the repair. American Sand is going to look at the area.

If it is the board's pleasure this will be brought before the board at the next meeting.

Commissioner Abbott requested a cost estimate to overlay the entire road.

Chairman Hawkins informed Garrett Martin that they plan to continue with the 428 dollars for the overlay. A timeframe cannot be given but a
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commitment can be made to repair the one spot for immediate concerns.

Chairman Hawkins advised that the other two contractors should be contacted for a quote.

VII. FEMA COORDINATOR – Kevan Parker requested Clerk Bell preserve the recording from this morning regarding the section regarding the mismanagement of funds by one man.

- ITB 2022-14 Worley Road Mitigation Project – Bids were received from Anderson Columbia and North Florida Construction. Anderson Columbia was the low bidder at \$815,065.65. The other bid was \$954,987.50. The low bid is twice the amount obligated with FEMA. An amendment has been sent to the state to send to FEMA to change the obligation to today's dollars. The cost estimate is a year old.

It is recommended to award the project to Anderson Columbia contingent upon approval of the amendment by FEMA.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion for the above request, which was seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried.

Kevan Parker advised that the price should be good for 30 days.

The amendment was sent to the state as being critical.

Simon Sheffield, Monroe Sheffield Road addressed the board. The roads have been done on the west side, east side, and south side. When will the schedule include crossing Highway 77 and roads on the south side? No money has been spent on the south side for the residents that live there.

Chairman Hawkins addressed Mr. Sheffield advising that the subject should be about what the board is currently discussing. The item that has been brought forward should have been addressed during the non-agenda section.

- ITB 2022-15 Hammond Road, Harcus Road, and King Road – Kevan Parker informed the board the lower bidder is RBM Contracting Services for \$2,177,237.50. One caveat is they are working on getting their actual DOT qualifications for hot mix bituminous courses. C.W. Roberts bid \$2.5 million. It is requested to award in order of the low bid to the second one, which is C.W.Roberts.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to award to the low bidder RBM Contracting Services within 30 days contingent upon meeting the DOT qualifications.

Commissioner Kent questioned if that was a prequalification.

Kevan Parker replied that it is in there and they can add to those qualifications. Currently, they go back and ask them that question.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed the project is not awarded to RBM until they become qualified.

The motion carried unanimously.

- ITB 2022-16 Cedar Lane, Mingo Road, St. Mary's Road, and St. Matthew Road – RBM Contracting Services was the low bidder, second American Sand, and Paving, and C.W. Roberts was third. The committee recommended awarding to the low bidder, RBM Contracting Services contingent upon the final approval. If the approval is not met, proceed to the second lowest bidder. The low bid is \$2,140,809.50.

Commissioner Abbott offered the motion as requested by the committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried.

FEMA Projects Update – Kevan Parker updated the board.

- Hard Labor – The change order will eliminate the sub-base excavation, stabilize it, and bring it back up. Instead of 4 inches of base 8 inches will be put down. This will reduce the contract by \$71,000.00. It will increase on the county side an estimated \$110,000.00 for the rock.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed that this change will mean residents will not have to take alternate routes to their homes.

Kevan Parker addressed the board. The cost of the change order is a \$71,728.45 reduction from the contract. What is not seen is the rock on the other side. It can be put in contingency or moved from the contract.

Commissioner Bush asked if more work would be required from the public works department or just the county funding the rock.

Kevan Parker advised that it is only funding the rock.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the change order for Hard Labor.

- Roads out for Bid – The current roads out for bid are Sylvania Road, Owens Community, Lovett, Rogers, and Cody Vision.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried for their approval of the advertisement of Sylvania Road, Owens Community, Lovett, Rogers, and Cody Vision.

The bids next month will include Lincoln, Posey Acres, Ferguson, and Firetower.

Chairman Hawkins advised advertising the meeting on August 17 as a workshop/meeting per the recommendation from the county attorney.

- Hurricane Michael – The Hurricane Michael amendments are in step 5. The culvert items have been received.
- Advances – The state requested the road plan be reduced from 90 days to 30 days. The plan has been revised, which lowers the cost.
- Permanent Work Projects/Road Projects – The time expires on October 11, 2022. It is at FEMA with a request of October 11, 2024.
- Hurricane Sally – There is no status update on this.
- HMGP – These are being worked on. Currently working with DEO on cost-share for the annex building and the Town of Wausau generators.
- Pine Ridge Drive – The home there is complete. Final pictures are being taken today.
- Reports – All quarterly reports were submitted before July 15.
- COVID – RFI information has begun on those. The second round of buy-out includes 18-20 houses. Most items are environmental.
The COVID-19 projects have been submitted and RFI's have been done.
- ARPA Funds – The second round was submitted on the 13th.

Charlie Brown addressed the board regarding the bridge that the county built up for access to their community. Is FEMA funding still available for that road?

Chairman Hawkins advised that it has been bid out and awarded.

- VIII. MSBU ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – Steve Healis, MSBU Coordinator updated the board. The committee is looking at putting up two new entrance signs at Shenandoah and Elkam Boulevard.

The work on the fountain is ongoing. The northside fountain must be painted and the lettering must be done.

Calls have been received regarding the condition of the Country Club Road, near Velvet.

There is a 100-foot section on the east and west at Elkam Boulevard, right after Deltona.

- IX. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR - Johnny Evans addressed the board. The mentioned above regarding Elkam has been taken care of this week.

1. Mower Max Price Adjustment – The cost is \$203,810.00, which is \$8,810.00 more. The delivery date is December. – **Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the amended price for the Mower Max.**

Johnny Evans requested approval to purchase a second Mower Max. The same machine on the updated Sheriff's Bid is \$210,325.00. It will not have the fatigue on it that the boom mowers have on them. The first one the board approved will come out of the current budget. If approved, the second one will come from next year's budget.

Finance Director Pettis advised the board that it will have to be charged to the

year that it is received.

Chairman Hawkins advised that cash carried forward will be used to cover it.

Johnny Evans informed the board that applying what was received from selling equipment would cover most of it.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the purchase of the Mower Max for \$210,325.00.

Simon Sheffield commended public works for the work that has been done around the area he lives.

Simon Sheffield informed the board that he is experiencing itching. In the past, the public works would use equipment to cut the bushes back from the road. Now they are using a spray to kill the bushes. How do the chemicals affect people's health in the community that he lives in?

Chairman Hawkins addressed the comment. The county uses the same spray countywide.

Johnny Evans commented on the issue brought forth. The chemicals are the same as the ones sprayed in the cotton fields all around the community. The employee that sprays is certified to do it.

Simon Sheffield continued in the background regarding the subject.

Chairman Hawkins advised Mr. Sheffield that if he has anything to address it should be per the topic that is being discussed. If there is anything outside of that, it should be addressed by signing in on the next public agenda.

- X. Repairs to Bridge on Carr Road – A quote was requested from Ferrovia for the repair. The quote is for labor, machines, MOT, etc.; everything except the materials is \$26,200.00. It is the longer of the bridges that the state inspects. They are contracted with the state.

The expense can be covered within the public works budget, and the material is on hand.

The bridge inspection noted the following:

- Three pilings that need to be replaced
- Two caps need to be replaced
- Eight beams need to be replaced
- One beam in 1.6 needs to be replaced

When the deck boards are removed that will cause breakage, which will cause them to have to be replaced.

Commissioner Bush questioned if a new weight limit was required.

Johnny Evans advised that it was not.

Does a bid have to be issued for this?

Chairman Hawkins questioned if it is an emergency.

County Administrator Massey informed the board that the bridge needs to be addressed quickly.

County Attorney Fuqua advised the board to set aside any conflicting purchasing policy.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve setting aside any conflicting purchasing policy and approve the quote from Ferroviaal for \$26,200.00.

- XI. Guardrail Replacement on Griffin Road – Ferroviaal also provided a quote on the guardrail replacement for \$36,200.00.

Commissioner Abbott confirmed that it is located near Townsend's.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed with Johnny Evans that Commissioner Kent agreed for the expense to be charged to his maintenance funds.

Johnny Evans informed the board that Commissioner Kent requested Ferroviaal provide a quote for the guard rail at the following location: The second curve when you come onto the old bypass bridge. The guard rail is the same way on one side.

Johnny Evans advised that he hasn't been able to contact them for the price. The cost should be around \$20,000.00.

Commissioner Kent confirmed that he approves of the expense from District 2 Maintenance Funds.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve Ferroviaal doing the guard rail work referenced above, with the expense coming from District 2 Maintenance Funds.

- XII. Surplus of Dump Truck #1852 and #2898 – JM Wood has a sale scheduled in September. – **Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to surplus trucks #1852 and #2898.**

XIII. ENGINEERING PROJECTS UPDATE –

- Brickyard – Travis Howell - The DOT portion of the project and the addition the board approved has been completed. A section at the end of the project that needed to be replaced has been approved. The work should be complete within a couple of weeks, pending the weather conditions. The grant does not expire until the end of the year.
- Buckhorn Boulevard - Brent Melvin updated the board. Around eleven driveways remain to be completed, grassing, and the final cap. The project will likely be completed in the first couple of weeks in August.

County Administrator Massey addressed Jake Melvin. At the beginning of the project, certain items were agreed upon with landowners. Why hasn't the electric gate issue been addressed?

Chairman Hawkins suggested County Administrator Massey contact the engineer that should address that issue.

County Engineer Knauer addressed the board.

- Cypress Spring Restoration – DEP has hired Dewberry for the design, which is around 90% complete. There will be public restrooms, a beach area, and a boardwalk going around the spring.

The project is currently in permitting with DEP.

Chairman Hawkins questioned if a certain pipe in the area would be covered.

County Engineer Knauer responded that the pipe would be moved. A new pipe will be installed at a new location which will bypass the spring going up the hill some.

- Chipley Landfill – An email was received from DEP advising that they were going to close the project. An official letter will confirm this; however, one has

not been received.

A meeting will be held next week with Kathryn Hijack and Alex Webster. Jeff Brown will attend the meeting.

County Administrator Massey confirmed the meeting is regarding Mud Hill instead of Chipley Landfill.

County Engineer Knauer informed the board after the final letter for Chipley Landfill is received the wells can be abandoned.

A new estimate will have to be obtained since the other one is a couple of years old. The previous estimate was \$22,000.00. The board can expect that the cost will be more than the previous estimate.

The letter will need to be obtained for Chipley Landfill before finance can release the escrow funds.

- Davidson Road – Design is progressing well. The biologist is flagging wetlands with a completion timeframe of this week. Geotech will be doing borings next week. 80-foot of right-of-way will be requested. Steep banks in some areas are an issue. They will need to be laid back to prevent maintenance issues.
- Culpepper Landing Flooding Dock – Chairman Hawkins requested a quote for a canoe and kayak launch and an attached gangway. A verbal quote of \$46,000.00 has been given from Gator Dock. The delivery timeframe is 16 weeks. They indicated that the price may go down in future months.

Chairman Hawkins commented that he would like it done by February 2023.

It was requested that County Engineer Knauer bring an official quote and drawing to the workshop on August 17.

Commissioner Bush asked when would advertising need to be done. The contract should be in place when the supplies arrive.

County Engineer Knauer informed the board the advertisement could be done once the dock is ordered.

Chairman Hawkins advised the order will be placed next month and advertised.

County Engineer Knauer informed the board the one that he has a quote on does not have a ladder. It has a cutout area in the middle. When you pull into the kayak area there is a launch with a floating platform on each side.

The addition of a ladder will be checked.

- King Kutter Road – The storm last week undermined the headwall. The bridge has been put back in decent shape. Currently, there is a crisis with the road. There should be bigger pipes there.

Chairman Hawkins updated the board. He has a meeting on August 1 with Lyle Seger. The watershed goes directly into Holmes Creek. Hopefully, a joint effort will be agreed upon for the repair.

County Engineer Knauer informed the board that there is funding in the Springs Protection Program that has not been applied for.

- South Boulevard – Approval has been received from Craig Gavin on the plans and the specs. The official approval to advertise must come from someone else within the company.

The board previously approved advertising.

- Bush Road – DEP requested an archeological study, which is included in the board's pavement plan. All Phases Archeology provided a proposal for \$5,156.18.

County Administrator Massey informed the board that he would like to check into this because he thought this had been addressed. He will follow up on this.

- Haley Drive – Lock Lane, Joseph, Joshua, and Jamie tie into Haley Drive. Roberts and Roberts provided a quote of \$210,061.00. The company is no longer able to hold the price of \$128.00 per ton due to the dramatic price increase for liquid asphalt over the last month.

It is optional to wait until South Boulevard is awarded and piggyback off that contract.

- Crystal Lake Drive – The project began as a drainage project. The drainage issue brought forward by Commissioner Joyner will be fixed by adding an inlet and pipes directing it to the boat ramp.

The funds totaling \$1,200,000.00 received from the legislature will have to be routed through DOT. DOT requires plans before approving the road construction. There is additional work that must be done to make it to the finish line.

The proposal for the geo-tech is \$5,000.00 (double rings and borings). The proposal for the environmental assessment and the wetland delineation is \$3,200.00. Dewberry will request an additional \$35,000.00 above the \$19,000.00 that was approved two/three years ago.

Commissioner Hawkins requested a motion dependent upon the grant paying for the cost.

If the grant does not cover the cost the board will have to budget the funds.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the proposals presented by County Engineer Knauer totaling \$43,200.00.

XIV. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Jeff Massey addressed the board.

- Suspension of Animal Control After Hours and Weekends – This is out of control. The statute does not require this to be done after hours and on

weekends. The county staff will work with the sheriff's department on the transition.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed with County Attorney Fuqua that a motion is not required.

The staff position at animal control can be rolled into a park and recreation position.

A plan has been worked on over the past 6 months, which will be presented at the August 17 workshop.

Elijah Hooks requested an update on Sheffield Park.

County Administrator Massey responded. The bathrooms are closed because they have been destroyed.

Chairman Hawkins advised Elijah Hooks that an update on the park is scheduled to be presented at the meeting on August 17. The community will need to be a part of the plan for it to work.

Priscilla Brown addressed the board. Maintenance is needed at Campbell Park (4112 Jackson Community).

Chairman Hawkins addressed the comment. He attended a meeting a few months ago with residents from the community. The meeting resulted in the residents compiling a list of things they would like done and upon completion, it would be submitted. The list has never been received. However, they agreed that the work would not be done during the summer, therefore that is probably the reason it has been submitted.

There is a plan for security and lighting at the parks. An assessment will be done of the parks to figure out how to secure and monitor the parks to prevent vandalism. Funds through the health department are being looked at.

Along with the board the health department, schools, sheriff's office, and tourist development will be addressing the county parks issue.

XV. CLERK

June Vouchers Totaling \$3,787,414.80 – This item is for informational purposes. A vote is not required.

XVI. COUNTY ATTORNEY

Canvassing Board Chair – County Attorney Fuqua advised the board the canvassing board chair needs to be changed.

Commissioner Bush will be the Canvassing Board representative.

Commissioner Hawkins will be the alternate.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to remove Commissioner Abbott as the Canvassing Board representative and replace him with Commissioner Bush, with Commissioner Hawkins being the alternate.

XVII. ADJOURN