

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Commission Board Room

1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

DISTRICT 1 Alan T Bush	DISTRICT 2 David Pettis, Jr.	DISTRICT 3 Tray Hawkins Chairman	DISTRICT 4 Wesley Griffin	DISTRICT 5 David Corbin Vice-Chairman
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I. PROCLAMATION

- A. Call to Order – Chairman Hawkins
- B. Invocation – Danny Jackson
- C. Pledge

Johnny Evans introduced Byron Western who has been employed with the county for 30+ years. Byron Western will transition to Danny Jackson’s position upon his retirement. He will begin on Monday.

Byron Western expressed his thanks and his desire to help people.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

- Request for Transmittal of Large-Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment. The applicant is requesting 101.48 acres of a 103.98-acre parcel to change from Agriculture/Silviculture to General Commercial – This item was removed and will be added to the agenda next month due to it changing from a large-scale development order to a small-scale one.
- Request for a Future Land Use Map Amendment for one parcel of 1.03 total acres proposed to change from Residential Low to General Commercial – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner addressed the board. The property is found within central Washington County. The site was already developed and approved several years ago to be built within the residential low category. During the time it was approved full commercial uses were allowed within residential land use categories, however, that was removed in 2019. Those uses were restricted to neighborhood commercial square footage wise and use. This is a housekeeping issue. There is more general commercial in the area, with parcels located to the south being changed to a construction-related business a couple of years ago. The public notice requirements were met. There was no opposition to the land use change request. Staff and the planning commission recommended approval.
- Request for a Future Land Use Map Amendment for one parcel of 3.50 - acres proposed to change from Agricultural/Silviculture to Residential Low – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented the amendment request. The site is already developed and is also found in central Washington County. The applicant would like to add a unit but is not able to due to the density requirements of agriculture/silviculture. The public notice requirements were met. There was no opposition to the land use change request. Staff and the planning commission recommended approval.
- Second Public Hearing: Project Gantry – David Melvin, Engineer addressed the board. The public hearing is required to submit a CDBG grant to the Department of Economic Opportunity

for Project Gantry for infrastructure and improvements associated with that. The grant is due at the beginning of May. The project is to build a 400,000 – 450,000 square foot building in the Washington County Industrial Park that will be served by rail, water and sewer, and natural gas. Approval is requested for a waiver to apply for \$3.5 million instead of \$1.5 million.

III. ADOPT THE AGENDA –

Agenda Additions – Consent Agenda Item 22 – Approval for the attorney to record the notice for Wayside Park – Risha Brantley,
Braydon Brooks – Item 1 of the agenda - Community Service Project Approval for his Eagle Badge

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended.

IV. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Board Meeting for March 14, 2023
- Emergency Meeting for March 29, 2023
- Special Meeting for April 11, 2023

Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes listed above.

V. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE – The board allows (3) minutes to speak on the proposition 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 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 Clerk who shall supply 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 an individual wishes 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. Please be respectful, and not accuse. It is not a question-and-answer session. – Attorney Milton

- Benita Crittendon addressed the board.

The public speaking policy on the website needs to be corrected to include 48-hour notice is required.

It has been confirmed that the chairman's father, John Hawkins, works for Wheeler and Wheeler per inspection invoices obtained through a public records request. For FEMA purposes, over the last six months, the county has been invoiced \$124,750.00 for that position. That is an average of \$20,700.00 per month for Mr. Hawkins's position. Granted he is not being paid that amount; the contractor is. In the 33% rule, one-third labor, one-third overhead, and one-third profit would put that inspector position in the \$30.00 range. The position counts dump trucks as they come in. The total hours in six months are 1,298, which is an average of 216 per month, which averages 50 hours per week. This is concerning because it is a pattern of behavior with the chairperson and family

involved in county projects.

The chairman's sister was previously employed by the county. As a term of her lawsuit against the county she was released. During her position with the county, she helped with procuring the sale of county-owned property primarily in Sunny Hills. Before her separation, she helped with and completed the attainment of Deltona for 220 lots in Sunny Hills that were owned by the county. After her separation, she became the administrator for Homes by Deltona. Since then, in her direction, she has also offered contracts to the chairman's brother-in-law for heavy equipment contracts in Sunny Hills. The same brother-in-law had; currently has FEMA contracts. He may not currently be a FEMA contractor, but he is doing subcontract work for a FEMA contractor in the county. Another brother-in-law during the last couple of years obtained a job with the broadband company that the county is doing business with. Per a Facebook post from the chairman's sister, he obtained this job with the broadband company and has since received his contractor's license. He now has contracts with the broadband company to do the concrete bases for the tower construction. There are other issues, but these are the highlights that lend to a pattern of behavior. In speaking to Commissioner Bush over the last couple of years and newly elected Commissioner Corbin, the response was I did not know that/maybe ethics has approved that. Ethics may have approved one of the items but when there is a list it goes back to a pattern of behavior.

This is being addressed publicly so each commissioner is aware of the things mentioned.

Employees should be aware that it is their duty to report that. Their job would be protected by the Whistle Blower Laws.

Publicly it is now being asked for the resignation of Mr. Hawkins from the Florida Association of Counties Board, Washington County Board of Commissioners Chairman, and as a Washington County Commissioner.

- Candace Blackmon addressed the board about the discussion that was held to take her property from her that she has been paying taxes on and holds a title deed for. It was spoken that a fence would be built that would block her from private property. Nobody should agree with that.

Attorney Milton addressed the situation after confirmation to do so from the chairman. There was a lawsuit in 2012, which is a public record. Her father was the plaintiff in the lawsuit. There is a final judgment against her father in that lawsuit. The final judgment was appealed. The appellate court affirmed the trial court's ruling. The trial court in Washington County granted a quiet title judgment in favor of Washington County. The survey is included in the lawsuit, in which her father was the plaintiff.

County Attorney Milton commented that the court adopted that exhibit as the definition of Wayside Park.

Candace Blackmon commented that she does not believe that is correct. Whenever she bought it; and has been paying taxes on the property and upkeeping the property. The board should look at the property appraiser's website.

She told the board she hired a contractor to cut trees after the last hurricane to prevent them from falling and hurting someone. The county never changed the designation of the property. The board cannot interfere with the tradition of her usage of the property.

Commissioner Bush commented that the survey that has been provided by Candace Blackmon shows the wooden fence that was there.

Commissioner Hawkins clarified the fence is what was set up as the boundary.

Commissioner Bush continued. His intent was if the property is changing ownership the board needs to clean it up. A dedicated easement has not been shown to access the property. The property can be accessed from the state right-of-way, which is shown on the map.

Candace Blackmon responded that when the highway was redone a guardrail was put up.

Commissioner Bush commented, up top, which Candace Blackmon responded yes.

Candace Blackmon asked if the board is telling her that she cannot use the access that she has been using.

Commissioner Bush responded that was not his comment. His comment was if it is changing ownership, it needs to be cleaned up. There are two different sides to the location. One being public.

Candace Blackmon responded that she is a private-public citizen.

Commissioner Bush responded, the ones that try to use the parking there are as well.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that the intent of the survey/final judgement is to supply public access to the park.

Candace Blackmon addressed the board. The park is described as 200 x 200.

County Attorney Milton commented that is not correct. There are two different parcels involved. The 200 x 200 square foot parcel mentioned above was deeded to the City of Vernon from the Department of Transportation. That was one part of the lawsuit. The second part of the lawsuit was Washington County, Florida. Washington County was involved in the lawsuit due to Wayside Park the boat ramp part. There are two different parts on the map. One is the 200 x 200 and then there is the piece that wraps around and includes the boat ramp. There is a Washington County, Florida order and a Vernon order.

The order granting the Motion for Summary Judgment reads as follows: "It is undisputed that this action involves a parcel located in Washington County, Florida, known as "Wayside Park". There are no disputed facts that the parcel which is the subject of this litigation has been used by the public as a park for more than fifty (50) years. It is undisputed that public funds have been used to build structures to maintain and to make improvements to the "Wayside Park". The parcel owners

prior to Plaintiff, by affirmative acts, permissive conduct and acquiescence, and as relied upon by state, county and local governments, establish as a matter of law that “Wayside Park” has been acquired by dedication to the general public for their continued use and enjoyment.

Wayside Park is in parenthesis. Wayside Park is defined in the Motion for Summary Judgement as the map that was provided to Candace Blackmon during the meeting.

Candace Blackmon addressed the board. The Wayside Park that was dedicated by Mr. C.E. Miller was 200 x 200 square with a legal description.

The board was informed by Candace Blackmon that she disagrees with the action being taken now, after she has upkept and paid the property taxes.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that the judge ordered that in 2014. It was brought to the board’s attention when the gentlemen called about the sale of the property.

Candace Blackmon responded that she has brought it to attention before this.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that they have discussed it before. This is the time to clear it up.

County Attorney Milton addressed Chairman Hawkins, his request was to supply or forward a copy of the final judgement to the property appraiser so that he could update his map. There is no action being taken by the current board, other than providing the property appraiser with the 2014 final judgement.

- Tori Blackmon informed the board that he had been trying to figure out why the board was trying to shut the canoe rental down. It is his understanding that Commissioner Hawkins tried to buy a piece of property that adjoins Culpepper last year to open a canoe rental business. By the Small Business Act of 1953, the government should help businesses grow instead of targeting them and putting them out of business for personal gain. The businesses are being shut out for everyone on the board’s personal gain. He suggested that certain members of the board are involved in it or will be involved in it.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that is false.

Commissioner Pettis asked for clarification on how he was involved and what he would gain. He is his own person.

Tori Blackmon responded that everyone scratches each other’s back.

Chairman Hawkins commented that it is not the time for personal accusations.

- Priscilla Brown addressed the board and thanked them for what had been done at the park, what is planned, and the efforts put forth.

The total rental fee for the park is \$425.00 and it is asked of the board to lower the deposit to
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\$100.00. The deposit is \$200.00 and is returned once the key is returned. The rental fee has increased by \$65.00. Lowering the deposit would allow the building to be rented more.

Priscilla Brown requested to be on a community center committee.

Regarding personal experience with renting the facility. The key was returned on Monday; however, the deposit was not returned until the next Friday because the building had not been checked. There should be something in place where the deposit is returned when the key is returned.

When the center is rented the renters must clean it before it is used, clean it after it is used and haul the garbage away. There should be a way to dispose of garbage. When the person comes to check the center after it has been rented the garbage could be left for that person to remove. A dumpster could also be considered for garbage disposal. It seems as if the renters are working to pay themselves.

How is the rental fee used for the upkeep of the center? The rental fee should be used to improve the center.

Commissioner Hawkins responded that they understand there has been an issue with the cleaning process and it has been addressed.

The board would be pleased to have her on a committee to help with the updates.

Wendy White, Human Resources informed the board there is an employee in place that will check the facilities on Monday and Friday. The employee was out during the time the situation being discussed occurred.

Commissioner Hawkins requested the rental be updated to include the key should not be returned before noon on Monday.

In response to Commissioner Hawkins, Wendy White responded that she would research onsite containers from Waste Management.

Commissioner Corbin requested a backup employee be in place to check the centers in the event the other employee is not available.

Commissioner Hawkins requested County Administrator Massey schedule a meeting with Priscilla Brown and others about the community center concerns and agreement update.

This item will be on the May agenda.

Commissioner Bush suggested that something be included in the agreement that holds the renter liable for any expenses beyond the deposit. If there is damage, \$200.00 would not cover much.

Priscilla Brown requested clarification on individuals who spoke at the workshop because it was her
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understanding that the public could not speak.

Attorney Milton responded. There is no public participation in the workshop. The individuals speaking were presenting items. There are no decisions made at workshops.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. E-911 Request to Move Awarded Grant Funding for \$62,000
2. Approval to Proceed with Public Hearing to Condemn Property Located at 2306 Victory Road
3. Approval to Publish Fee Schedule for Property Lien Searches
4. Approval of the Final Draft of Citation Document and Citation Policy
5. Approval for the SHIP Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP)
6. Approval for Resilient Florida Grant Consultant Award
7. Resolution of Support for State Waterway Hurricane Debris Cleanup Priorities in Bay County and Southeast Washington County
8. Approval of Appointment of Gary Hartman to Value Adjustment Board
9. Approval of the Letter of Support of TJ Roulhac Enrichment and Activity Center's Application for an EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving Cooperative Agreement
10. Approval to award ITB 2023-02 Anders Road, Bryant Bay Road, Mattox Springs Road, Union Hill Road, Leavins Road and Yates Settlement Road to American Sand
11. Approval to Award 2023-03: Building Demolition, Slab Removal, and Site Improvements for Acquisition & Demolition of Flood Prone Structures to Arrow Construction Co. LLC
12. Approval to Reject and Readvertise 2023-04: Asbestos and Lead Paint Testing for Acquisition & Demolition of Flood Prone Structures
13. Approval to Reject and Readvertise 2023-05: Property Appraisals for Acquisition & Demolition of Flood Prone Structures
14. Approval to Award 2023-06: Surveying Services for Acquisition & Demolition of Flood Prone Structures to Southeastern Surveying & Mapping
15. Approval to Award 2023-07: Title Services for Acquisition & Demolition of Flood Prone Structures to Northwest Florida Title Group
16. Approval to Advertise for Countywide Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation Continuing Services, Option 1
17. Approval to Renew Legendary Lawn Agreement for a One-Year Extension
18. Approval to Go out For Bid on Worley Road
19. Approval to Reject and Readvertise Ag Center Portico Bids
20. Approval to Propose Fire Department Interlocal Agreement with Municipalities
21. Approval to Sign Resolution and Exercise Option for Property Located on Nadia Avenue
22. Authorization to Submit Letter to the Property Appraiser's Office to Update the Map for Wayside Park and record the 2014 Final Judgement

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pettis to approve the consent agenda.

Commissioner Pettis clarified that item 20 is only giving the attorney authorization to move forward with the proposal to work with the city departments.

County Administrator Massey confirmed that this is correct.

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Commissioner Bush commented that they agreed that any changes to the agreement would be uniform.

Benita Crittendon addressed the board. When bids are rejected and readvertised, where are the bid openings advertised, and held? Is the public allowed to attend?

Kimberly Birge-Gorman responded. The advertisements are in the local paper and on the county website. They are opened publicly in the board room, which is included in the advertisement along with the date and time. Anybody that attends the bid openings can see the bids.

Benita Crittendon confirmed that the commissioners and Wheeler and Wheeler see the bids at the bid opening.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that the public does as well.

The motion on the floor to approve the consent agenda was carried unanimously.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Brayden Brooks, Assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts Troop 39 of Chipley – Brayden Brooks requested approval to replace the dilapidated wood fencing at the Daniels Lake Park for his Eagle Scout Service project. Through his mother, he has coordinated the presented plans for the project through Mr. Swauger. Mr. Swauger has arranged for the posts to be replaced. An apology is given for not sending the project in advance for the agenda. Any added guidance is requested in going ahead with the project.

Commissioner Hawkins expressed the board's joy in his request to enhance a county park.

He requested Brayden Brooks come back before the board once he receives his Eagle Scout pin.

Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve Brayden Brooks to work with Mr. Swauger to replace the fence at Daniels Lakes.

Chairman Hawkins called a recess from 9:52 – 10:05.

Pamela Andrews addressed the board. There will be a Sundown Fest held at the Ebro City Hall on April 29, from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The entrance fee is \$10.00.

2. Request for a Future Land Use Map Amendment for one parcel of 1.03 total acres proposed to change from Residential Low to General Commercial – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the FLUME amendment listed as item 2.
 3. Request for a Future Land Use Map Amendment for one parcel of 3.50 total acres proposed to
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change from Agricultural/Silviculture to Residential Low – Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve the FLUM amendment listed as item 3.

4. Request for Approval of CDBG Resolution – Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the CDBG Resolution.
5. Request for Approval for Florida Arts License Plate Revenue Policy - Renae Rountree, Library Director informed the board several years ago the Washington County Arts Council dissolved. The revenue from the Florida Arts License Plate reverted to the county. The statute says that the county will appoint someone to receive that revenue. The public library was selected because it supports the arts. The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles perform an audit every (3) three years. They suggested adding a written policy showing how the money is spent. Attorney Fuqua has reviewed the policy.

Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the Florida Arts License Plate Revenue Policy.

6. Request for Approval of Proclamation of National Library Week - Renae Rountree, Library Director informed the board that National Library Week is April 23 – 29. They have partnered with New Worlds Reading, which is a state legislature project. New Worlds Reading Initiative is designed to help get kids in K – 5 ahead of the reading curve. The board has funded Dolly Pardon Library which supplies kids from birth to five to receive free books by mail. This is available for Washington County residents. The Department of Education will mail books to kids that are signed up for 9 months/school year.

Attorney Milton read the proclamation.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and unanimously carried to approve the National Library Week Proclamation.

7. Discussion Regarding the Final Draft of the Public Nuisance Ordinance - Janet Riedel, Code Enforcement Officer informed the board she confirmed with Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner that the ordinance does not conflict with the land use codes.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve to move forward with publishing the notice before the next meeting to adopt the ordinance.

8. Request for Approval for Updated Rental Policy - Wendy White, Human Resources informed the board that event insurance will have to be bought by the renter if outside entertainment is brought to a rental facility. One example is a bouncy house.

Commissioner Hawkins clarified that other events such as baby showers would not require insurance.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pettis, and unanimously carried out to update the rental policy.

9. Discussion Regarding Impact Fees and Applicable Usages - Tray Hawkins, Chairman addressed the board. Wendy White emailed what the fees are, their uses, and the established rates. The usage categories are road impact fees, emergency medical fees, and fire impact fees.

For the last few years, the board has voted not to implement the impact fees.

During a financial downturn, when building was slow, the board was looking for any way to enhance the building in Washington County. It was to try to cut any extra cost. There is no charge for replacement structures within (7) seven years.

Commissioner Pettis asked when this would begin.

County Attorney Milton responded it is not retroactive. It has been an annual waiver for years for the residential impact fees. The commercial impact fees have remained in place.

Commissioner Pettis offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush to remove the impact fee waiver.

Benita Crittendon addressed the board. In June 2012, the impact fees were reinstated when Hulan Carter was chairperson and Steve Joyner was the county administrator. The impact fees at that time were specifically set forth for the new road construction of Lucas Road, Roche Road (both have now been paved through SCOP), Houston Road (being paved through FEMA), and Greenhead Road. One out of four of those projects has not been completed.

The motion was carried unanimously to remove the impact fee waiver.

10. Striping Contract Discussion – Alan Bush, Commissioner informed the board that he would like to implement a striping contract for some of the roads in District 1.

He requested the commissioners compile a list of roads by the next meeting that they would like to stripe in their area.

Commissioner Hawkins requested Danny Jackson and Johnny Evans supply a list of roads in the county that need striping to the board.

Johnny Evans addressed the board. To get an idea of the cost of paint striping, a local striping company supplied the following figures for paint:

- \$1,200.00 for solid per mile.
- \$850.00 for skip per mile.

Danny Jackson is currently working on a list.

- VII. FEMA COORDINATOR – None
- VIII. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR – Johnny Evans addressed the board. Approval is requested to move \$473,501.40 back into the public works equipment line item. The funds are from the surplus sale at JM Wood.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to amend the public works budget by \$473,501.40.

Johnny Evans addressed the board. George Swauger, Parks and Recreation Director has himself and one inmate for the work at the parks.

All the fixtures are back in both bathrooms at St. Joseph Park and have been opened. Before anything could be done there yesterday, George Swauger had to clean it due to the condition it was in. There are new bullet holes in the building, drug paraphernalia, and other items that must be cleaned up.

Hopefully, the money will not be wasted due to vandalism. Help is needed from the public.

He has (5) five crews under him, which are out on the roads picking up trash: going behind the mowers. They are not able to help him right now.

- IX. PARKS UPDATE – None

- X. ENGINEERING PROJECTS UPDATE – Donald Stanley, Engineer HMB

- Change Order 5 for American Sand and Asphalt ITB 2022-06 – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the above change order to add 30 days to the contract as presented by Donald Stanley.
- Change Order 4 for ITB 2021-05 for the Pine Ridge Job – Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve the change order to add 30 days to the contract as presented by Donald Stanley.
- Change Order 2 for C. W. Roberts Contractors for ITB 2022 – 07 – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and carried to approve the change to add 60 days as presented by Donald Stanley.

ITB 2022 – 07 includes Bess Nook Road, Lee Road, Brackin Road, and Cutoff Road.

Benita Crittendon informed the board that per her reading of the Florida Green Book/The Manual of Uniform Standards for Design Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways – Throughout the years different engineers have requested variances in thickness of asphalt/rock. These changes are substandard to the minimum requirements outlined in the Florida Green Book. How does the county justify that?

Donald Stanley responded there is a reference in the Florida Green Book that refers to ASHTO Low Volume Design Guide under certain circumstances, such as monetary funds, right-of-way, and issues such as that, which allows you to refer to the design guide. When the project began, the board was presented with that information. The board adopted those low-volume design guides for the project.

Commissioner Griffin clarified that was before the new board.

Benita Crittendon asked if traffic studies have been done on all the roads in the road packages.

Donald Stanley responded, yes.

The motion on the floor to add 60 days to ITB 2022 – 07 was carried unanimously.

- Change Order 2 C.W. Roberts Contracting 2021 – 12 – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the change order to add 30 days as presented by Donald Stanley.
Alton Lane, Roland Road, Suggs Road South, and Harmon Road
- Change Order 4 C.W. Roberts Contracting 2021 – 11 for Clark Lane East and West, Lisa Lane, Suggs Road North, Walnut Circle, Pine Forest Road, and Mayhall Lane – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin to approve the change order to add 30 days as presented by Donald Stanley.

Pamela Andrews asked how the roads are decided. New Hope has been skipped over. What happened to Jackson Community Road?

Jason Crenshaw responded. The road is currently in survey and is expected to be completed next month. Design, permit, and bidding will take about two months. It will be later in the year.

The motion on the floor for ITB 2021 – 11 was carried unanimously.

- Change Order 4 C.W. Roberts Contracting 2021 – 09 – Commissioner Griffin commented that he does not want to continue adding days. He is ready to finish FEMA and go on to county business.

Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush to approve the change order to add 30 days as presented by Donald Stanley.

Benita Crittendon informed the board that she is in favor of paving roads.

Commissioner Griffin asked County Administrator Massey what they have spent in engineering for Greenhead Road.

County Administrator Massey responded \$331,000.00+/-.

Benita Crittendon commented that she is not in favor of paving roads to get free money and enriching the same pockets. That is what seems to be going on repeatedly with the FEMA paving project. Capital Engineering Group sold to HMB, in February 2022. In the last 18 months, HMB has been paid \$15.7 Million.

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Ben Maddox is an officer on the board for Wheeler and Wheeler Emergency Management. Ben Maddox was also an officer on the board of Capital Engineering. Wheeler and Wheeler refer work or did to Capital Engineering. Now they refer to HMB, which is listed as a foreign entity in Florida because the headquarters is in Kentucky. Capital Engineering is still an entity. As of 2023, they have an annual report.

The motion on the floor for ITB 2021 – 09 was carried unanimously.

- Change Order 2 for Anderson Columbia for ITB – 2022 – 12 for Bobcat Lane, Jackson Pitt, River Road, Brock Road, and Feral Lane.

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve change order two for ITB 2022 – 12 to add 30 days as presented by Donald Stanley.

Commissioner Griffin asked how many engineering firms the county works with and if the work is dispersed equally.

Commissioner Hawkins responded Melvin Engineering was initially approached, however, at their current pace they were unavailable. Dewberry was asked the same question, and with their workload, they were unable to take it on.

Commissioner Hawkins updated the board on Culpepper per Cliff Knauer. Permit drawings for Culpepper have been completed and are now working on a permit application for DEP. An under water survey will likely be required but will check to see if it can be done without.

Jake Mathis, Melvin Engineering requested board approval for the final close-out documents for CR 273 and Kirkland Road Sidewalk contingent upon the Department of Transportation's approval.

Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to continue with the closeout documents on CR 273 and Kirkland Road Sidewalk contingency upon the Department of Transportation's approval.

XI. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Jeff Massey addressed the board.

- Legendary Lawn – The funding source for the rest of the budget year for Legendary Lawn/Circle P will be cash carried forward.

For record purposes, the earlier funding source was not revenue generated from property sales. It was cash carried forward.

Approval to fund Legendary Lawn/Circle P by cash carried forward – Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve the Circle P agreement and funding source as presented by County Administrator

- Tax Certificate – List of properties for which the county holds certificates that have not been redeemed by the property owners.

County Attorney Milton addressed the board. The statute says anything valued at \$5,000.00 or more the board shall move forward with. Anything below that value is at the board's discretion. It is recommended that the board go ahead with approving those \$5,000.00 or more.

It is a tax deed. It is not any different from an individual who bought certificates. These are certificates that were not bought at the sale of the certificates. Annually on June 1, the tax collector holds an auction for unsold or to auction certificates for unpaid property taxes. The list the board has been supplied is what the list represents.

The second step of the process is to apply for a tax deed for anything valued at \$5,000.00 or more. The county is required to move forward with this. It is optional to go ahead with anything valued at less than \$5,000.00. Once the tax deed is issued to the county there is a specific process for a period that the county must hold it where it is offered for available taxes for the public. The Washington County Clerk's Office oversees this process.

There is a step in between when the tax deed is issued and when it is put on the lands available for taxes, where the county has the choice to elect to use it for county purposes. At a certain point it will be put on the lands available for purchase.

Wendy White, Human Resources addressed the board. Per the tax collector a decision must be made on all of them in April.

The board decided to call a special meeting to decide on which ones they would accept.

XII. CLERK

- March Vouchers Totaling \$3,875,375.96 (This is for informational purposes only.) A vote is not required.

XIII. COUNTY ATTORNEY – None

XIV. ADJOURN