

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 18, 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 – Johnny Evans
- C. Pledge

Present – Commissioners Bush, Pettis, Hawkins, Corbin, and Griffin (via phone). Also, in attendance were Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court, Deputy Clerk Brantley, Attorney Clay Milton, Fuqua & Milton, PA, and County Administrator Jeff Massey.

Attorney Milton requested the public hearing for the notice of intent to adopt a resolution to condemn a structure at 2306 Victory Road by Janet Riedel, Code Enforcement be moved ahead on the agenda along with item 6 on the regular agenda. A court reporter is present for this part of the meeting.

Chairman Hawkins opened the public hearing for the adoption of condemnation of resolution for a property found at 2306 Victory Road.

Attorney Milton swore Janet Riedel in, to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, which she agreed to.

Janet Riedel spoke on record that she is the code enforcement officer for Washington County. The hearing is about a property found at 2306 Victory Road for a trailer that burned down 2.5 years ago. The county must notify the property owner of the violation. A notice of violation was sent to Carl Domer and Tanya Martin, property owners, about the condition of the trailer. It is a safety hazard to the environment and the citizens of Washington County. It is in a state of dilapidation, started by a fire in the center of the home. The rafters are unsafe and in fragile condition. It is believed if someone enters the home, they would be injured. There is no fence around the property/no gate; nothing preventing entrance. There are other small structures on the property and the parcel is overgrown.

The notice of violation that was sent gave the property owners the 90-day obligated period to respond. They did sign the return receipt, but there has been no type of compliance on the property.

Documents shown include the Notice of Violation which was sent certified/return receipt and the signed receipt. Also, pictures of the trailer from the first inspection on January 4. The middle is burned out. Over time, the property has become overgrown and become unstable.

On April 14, after the 90-day deadline, there was still no sign of abatement/no compliance. This is when the procedure began for the public hearing and resolution adoption of condemnation for the

property.

The letter was sent out certified/return receipt, it was posted on the property and published in the newspaper. A signed receipt was received.

On Monday, a call was received from a concerned party about Mr. Domer. The call included questions about what this meant for them.

It is not believed that Mr. Domer had the funds to do this.

It was explained to the caller that it is a matter of fact of abating the property. The property is still his. The county is not taking the property. It is to abate the property to make it safe. If county resources are used for the abatement a lien would be placed on the property for the cost of the abatement.

County Attorney Milton confirmed that Janet Riedel is asking the board to consider the slide and the documents as evidence in support of the request for the condemnation resolution.

Carl Domer came to the podium and at that time he was sworn in by Attorney Milton to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, which Carl Domer responded yes to. 2.5 years ago, he allowed family and friends to live in the mobile home. He has not lived there in 7 – 8 years. There was a wiring issue, however, no one was hurt. The mobile home is a total loss.

The issue has been, if you know that area there are meth labs and all sorts of things that have been busted through there. A couple of years ago materials were taken there to abate or somehow contain it.

There has been no time spent on it in over a year. Materials were left there on multiple occasions to contain it, however, the material was stolen. The no trespassing signs were also stolen.

As noted in the records, he is not the sole owner of the property. The other owner, his ex-wife, was incarcerated and has been released a couple of weeks ago. For 10 years, he paid the taxes, the cost to keep the power on, and mowed it until the fire. At that point, due to discouragement, he let it sit.

What can be done to satisfy everyone, cost-effectively? There is divorce paperwork, and he plans to give the other owner money to have her name removed from the property. This is why no money has been spent on the property. Whatever investments are made in it, at that point, he would be the sole owner. Once the divorce is final, he will put money into it.

Chairman Hawkins asked County Attorney Milton at this time with the cost that has been incurred by the county to prepare for these proceedings, what would Mr. Domer have to do to abate the situation.

County Attorney Milton said code enforcement is asking for the adoption of the resolution condemning the structure. If the resolution is approved, the resolution would be posted on the property and sent to the property owner. There is still added time to abate the nuisance. What is

being requested is to abate the nuisance/abate the condemned structure, which would include removing the structure. It is believed the period is 30 days from the date; it is the latter of 30 days from the adoption and proof of delivery by certified mail or posting on the property.

Chairman Hawkins told Carl Domer that he has 30 days to handle it. If not, the county will move forward.

County Attorney Milton informed the board that Carl Domer would need to coordinate with Janet Riedel who oversees making sure it is abated.

Carl Domer asked could a fence be put around the structure or does it have to be moved completely.

Attorney Milton responded, at this point it needs to be removed.

Carl Domer commented that is costly and he is hesitant to do that because he does not want to battle with the other property owner. It is beneficial to negotiate with the other property owner while the property is in disrepair.

Chairman Hawkins said if the county abates the property, it will be the actual cost.

County Attorney Milton responded, if the county handles it, it would be at the county's rates, which are not known at this time. In speaking with public works, they do have rates that they use. If it is contracted through a contractor, the cost would be the bid amount.

Commissioner Bush confirmed the expenses up to this point would be included, such as the certified mail, court reporter, and all that.

County Attorney Milton confirmed that is correct.

Carl Domer informed the board that he has the equipment through a business partnership; he does have the means to do it, but he was waiting to do it, which was mentioned previously. This has caught him ahead of that.

Janet Riedel informed the board the first notice of violation was on January 4.

Chairman Hawkins informed Carl Domer that he cannot tell him what to do, however, he would do what was in his best interest at this time to make sure of a cost-effective way.

Carl Domer addressed the board. If the county would tear it down for \$5,000.00 or something he would pay it. If it is \$10,000.00 - \$15,000.00 that is different, and he could do it.

Attorney Milton addressed the board. At this point, he can coordinate with Janet Riedel after the hearing. His issue with the co-owner is understood, however, that is not something the county can get involved in.

Janet Riedel is asking if there is sufficient basis for the board to approve the adoption of the  
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resolution, to go ahead with adopting it. That does not mean that the county will be tearing the structure down tomorrow.

Chairman Hawkins told Carl Domer to contact Janet Riedel for the best remediation of the issue.

There were no other comments. The public hearing was closed, and the regular meeting was opened for item 6.

## II. ADOPT THE AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Schedule for June and July – Item 8 – Commissioner Hawkins
2. SAFER Grant – County Administrator’s Section
3. Move item 3, Bid EOC Food and Beverage Services from the consent agenda to the regular agenda – Commissioner Bush – Item 9

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following amendments.**

Agenda Item – 6 – Adoption Condemnation Resolution 2306 Victory Road – Jane Riedel, Code Enforcement did not have any added comments.

**Commissioner Pettis offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve agenda item 6 listed as a condemnation resolution for 2306 Victory Road.**

Chairman Hawkins closed the regular meeting and reopened the meeting for the remaining public hearings.

## III. PUBLIC HEARING

- Request for Approval for Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment for One Parcel of 99.90 from Agriculture/Silviculture to General Commercial – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented the above application. The small-scale map amendment is in the central southern part of the county. The request meets the small-scale acreage requirements for the state. The entire parcel is 99.90 acres and 2.5+/- acres in the corner of the property are already classified as general commercial. The request is for the remaining approximately 97.40 acres for future commercial business on the site.

The public noticing requirements were met, and a neighborhood meeting was held. Concerns expressed at the meeting were about the uncertainty of the range of uses that could occur under the commercial land use classification. At this point, there is no plan for the site. A development review application is needed for any development on the site. Other concerns were watershed, water quality, stormwater runoff being an issue in the area, any development in the area that could affect private water wells, drainage, and flooding, and what would the effects of development be for natural gas lines.

A planning commission meeting was held on May 1. Staff and the planning commission recommended approval, but they wanted a signed and sealed survey.

Since then, the survey request has been fulfilled.

Chairman Hawkins asked would the 2 acres that are already zoned commercial be added to the development order at the end if they decide to include it. Would that change it from a small scale to a large scale?

Dawn McDonald said yes.

Attorney Milton addressed Chairman Hawkins. The only change that is being made is for the 97 acres. The large-scale amendment is a change to the future land use map, not the development itself.

Dawn McDonald said that it is cleaner if a separate parcel is created for land use. That area could be included in the future development program.

Commissioner Pettis referenced concerns from the citizens about drainage and flooding issues. Do those things have to be addressed in the development process by the county's development standards before they are approved?

Dawn McDonald responded that the county engineer would review any plans. Any stormwater on the site must be kept there. That is where the plans and design of the stormwater would be reviewed to ensure that it is still on the property.

Benita Crittendon asked if the property was found on the corner of Greenhead and Highway 77.

Chairman Hawkins responded that it is the corner of Highway 77. It is on the southeast corner of Highway 77 and Greenhead Road.

Benita Crittendon said drainage issues were mentioned in the area and any stormwater drainage would have to remain on the property.

Ironically, Greenhead Road is a drainage issue, that currently drains onto private property. One of the small ponds off Greenhead Road is filled with sediment from Greenhead Road, which is a DEP issue. Once again this brings light to the issues on Greenhead Road.

Chairman Hawkins said this public hearing is strictly for the parcel and no other issues throughout the county.

Benita Crittendon requested the board speak into the microphone.

- Request for a Future Land Use Map Amendment for One Parcel of 6.79 Acres from Agriculture/Silviculture to General Commercial – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented the application. The applicant is requesting a general commercial classification on Highway 77 for future commercial uses. It is a small-scale future land use map amendment in the central-southern part of the county. The property is for sale. The area has

some commercial designations.

The public notice requirements were met and the neighborhood information meeting was held on April 20. There were four in attendance with no opposition. Concerns were expressed about the quiet neighborhood being affected as well as the uncertainty of what would be built there. This part would be handled in a required development review. Stormwater runoff and a spring-fed pond were issues that were also brought up.

The planning commission and staff recommended approval.

- Request for Approval for a Wireless Communication Tower and Facility Within the General Commercial Future Land Use Map Category – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented the application. Per code, a special exception is needed for the location of the tower and the land use. A development review is included. The 2-acre +/- property is in the central part of the county, north of Holmes Valley and South of Moss Hill Road. The proposal is to put a tower on the general commercial land use designation, approval of the general commercial land use designation, and the major development application.

The public notice requirement was met. There was no one in attendance at the neighborhood information meeting. For the development part of the project, the development review committee reviewed it, and the stormwater issues must be cleared with the county engineer. The applicant supplied revised plans and stormwater information to the county engineer yesterday.

The planning commission and staff recommended approval. Before the board today is a request for final approval.

Chairman Hawkins said the tower will help the Vernon Middle and High School system. It is a safety issue.

Dawn McDonald confirmed that the tower would be open to multiple providers and there is a reservation included in the application for growth.

Priscilla Brown addressed the board to clarify the location of the proposed tower and questioned the tower at Hunter Park.

Chairman Hawkins responded that it will be north of Holmes Valley Road/at the corner of Moss Hill Road to the west of the gas station put in by Mr. Whittington.

The tower at Hunter Park is for broadband by Wildstar.

County Administrator Massey confirmed with Dawn McDonald that there is a space reserved on the tower for the county.

Simon Sheffield addressed the board. He does not understand why there are so many towers in Washington County and why Washington County was hacked.

Chairman Hawkins commented it is a cell tower site.

- Notice of Intent to Adopt Public Nuisance Ordinance (First Reading) – Janet Riedel, Code Enforcement addressed the board. It has been clarified with Attorney Milton that only one reading is needed. A copy was also posted in the lobby.

Attorney Milton read the ordinance by title. The ordinance number will be issued by the clerk.

There were no comments.

#### IV. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Workshop for April 17, 2023
- Board Meeting for April 20, 2023
- Special Meeting for April 24, 2023

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

- V. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE – Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that members of the public should be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a board or commission. Each individual shall have (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 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 clerk or secretary 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 discretion of the Board Chair. – Attorney Milton

- Benita Crittendon corrected the information that she stated at the podium last month. Last month she said that HMB had received \$15.7 million over the last 18 months per information from the Hurricane Michael general ledger. Capital Engineering's account was renamed HMB when the merger occurred. After some research and clarification by Deputy Clerk Brantley, the statement should have been the total of that account is \$15.7 million. Capital has been paid approximately \$7.2 million in their first 18 months serving the county after Hurricane Michael and HMB has been paid \$8.5 million in the most recent 18 months. That is compared to ½ of a million to Melvin Engineering on the Hurricane Michael general ledger account and about ¾ of a million to Dewberry.

After researching the traffic studies that she questioned at the last meeting. The traffic studies were received through a public records request. Two were dated March 2019, a few months after

Hurricane Michael. The first invoice to Capital Engineering was in June 2020. An invoice for the traffic control studies was not able to be located nor were records of discussion, bid proposals, or bid acceptances for traffic control studies done for March 2019. Meeting and workshop minutes were searched from when Hurricane Michael occurred in October 2018 to the end of December 2019 and nothing was referenced about traffic control studies, rural road studies, and other wording used.

Direction for the above information was requested.

What is the update on live streaming?

Advice from the attorney on requesting public records request for personal phones that may be used for county business. How would that be done?

County Attorney Milton said it is a normal public records request.

Marie Cunningham, a Vernon Fire Department member asked the board when the emergency radios go down (this occurred Monday night) and what is the protocol for the emergency management department. The phones went down or the radio system went down. The Vernon chief sent out a text to the Vernon Fire Department members which said if there is a call to use that text. A call came in for Vernon, which turned out to be nothing, however, that is not the point. The call was in the Vernon city limits. One of the firefighters was contacted and he was told by the chief to call dispatch and to tell them if there were any calls to call his cell phone/to give them his cell phone. When the firefighter called dispatch and communicated that message, he was told that it had to go through Justin. When did the fire service coordinator become the fire chief of Washington County? It was in the Vernon City limits.

Chairman Hawkins suggested Lynne Abel and Marie Cunningham meet and confirm a synopsis for the board.

Lynne Abel responded that they could work with fire services and dispatch.

Marie Cunningham expressed concern about an emergency occurring and the cell phones and radios are down. What is the county's policy?

Commissioner Bush addressed the board. How would that information get to other departments and Justin?

Justin Leach, Fire Services Coordinator informed the board that the sheriff's office and EMS/everybody was down. Another chief texted him and informed him of the radio system being down. In turn, he called the Emergency Operations Center, which was 30 minutes after the system went down. The battery for the generator was dead and had to be jumped off, which brought everything back up.

Wesley Dow – Signed in but did not have a comment.



Simon Sheffield passed out information to the board.

#### VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Renew SHIP Agreement
2. Approval to Renew Small Quality Hazard Waste Generator's Assessment (SQG) with Emerald Coast Planning Council
3. Approval to Bid EOC (**Commissioner Bush asked that this item be removed and put on the regular agenda.**)
4. Approval for Appointment of Chairman Tray Hawkins and Vice-Chairman David Corbin to the Value Adjustment Board
5. Approval to Renew MSBU Committee Member for MSBU Seat 3, Kathy Gesslein, Seat 4, Bettylee Weekley, and Seat 5, Scott Parrish
6. Approval to Release \$25,000.00 Option Money to Jemmstone
7. Approval to Adopt MSBU Preliminary Resolution Increase of 5%
8. Approval to Move Forward with David Melvin submitting the Grant Application for the US Water Projects
9. Approval for Change Order #1 for the Sunny Hills Projects

**Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, to approve the consent agenda items 1 and 2 and 4 through 9. Item 3 was transferred to the regular agenda.**

In response to Commissioner Griffin questioning the reason for the removal of consent agenda item 3, Commissioner Bush responded that he requested that the item be listed on the regular agenda for additional discussion based on information he received.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### VII. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Request for Business Owner to Pave Carlisle Road – Kyle Contini, Citizen, and Business Owner /Medical Lead Physician at a medical practice in Bonifay addressed the board. Due to growth, the need to expand the business has occurred. The location that has been selected is on Carlisle Road, which is south of the storage facility/south of the old Pizza Hut. Board approval is requested to pave the part of the road that would lead to the new location. Public funds are not being asked to do this. The paving would be done at the end of the project.

Chairman Hawkins suggested meeting with Johnny Evans, Public Works Supervisor to ensure that the paving meets the correct standards, such as the asphalt thickness.

Kevan Parker said that the road is on the paving list under Hurricane Michael. It goes to Tharp and then to Falling Waters.

Chairman Hawkins said the scope of work will be changed based on where the citizen/business owner stops at.

Attorney Milton advised if his contractor moves forward, the contractor would need to coordinate with the road department about an MOT and other things.

**Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to allow Mr. Contini to pave the part of Carlisle Road from his office to the current pavement at Dr. Sloan's office.**

**Chairman Hawkins confirmed the paving would be past Mr. Contini's driveway where there is a turning radius that would not go off the payment.**

**The board agreed to add the above as part of the motion, which carried unanimously.**

2. Introduction of Conexon – Leslye Kramps, Business Development Manager summarized what Conexon does and requested a letter of support from the board. Conexon usually works with rural electric cooperatives to supply fiber to homes. They have begun a 14-county fiber-to-the-home buildout, which includes around 50,000 homes and businesses. They are building over 50,000 annually and are targeting 70,000 this year.

The background for Conexon was provided.

Some of the Florida electric cooperatives the company is working with are Escambia River, Tri-County Electric, Suwannee, Central Florida, and Glades Electric. They do a feasibility study, funding support, network design, construction management, etc. They are the internet service provider if the cooperative does not want to do the heavy lifting.

The packages offered are 100 MBPS for \$49.95, 1 GB for \$79.95, and 2 GB for \$99.95 monthly. The company takes part in the Affordable Connectivity Program which is a \$30.00 monthly subsidy for qualified participants. The subsidy is through the government.

Conexon participated in a Rural Digital Opportunity Auction through FCC in 2020 and won \$5,138,318.00 for Washington County. They are bound to FCC to supply fiber to homes in Washington County to the areas displayed highlighted blue. The money will be distributed monthly over 10 years.

The second round of money through the Broadband Utility Program will be applied for. Funds from the Broadband Equity Access Deployment Fund Program will also be applied for.

The electric system is normally followed but if they do not have an agreement with them, they will choose another cost-effective option. They are currently in discussions with both electric cooperatives.

Chairman Hawkins asked Attorney Milton if he needed to abstain since he is an underground utility contractor. He informed him that he is not a direct prime contractor for AT&T.

County Attorney Milton responded there is no conflict by being a contractor unless he was contracting with Conexon.

Chairman Hawkins asked if the county already has an internet provider with Wildstar and if they are moving forward with the same funding source.

County Attorney Milton responded that this is something that the board would want to take into consideration.

Derek Chadwell, Florida Power, and Light addressed the board. The Florida Power and Light Board met and decided they would help anybody get into the broadband business, however, due to cost they will not be getting into the broadband business.

Leslye Kramps informed the board if they opt to do a letter of support, she will send form letters for residential and businesses.

Recess 10:21 – 10:31

**3. Request for Approval for Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment for one Parcel of 99.90 from Agriculture/Silviculture to General Commercial – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the above-listed FLUM amendment.**

**4. Request for Approval for Future Land Use Map (FLUM) for One Parcel of 6.79 acres from Agriculture/Silviculture to General Commercial – Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to approve the above-listed FLUM amendment.**

**5. Request for Approval for a Wireless Communications Tower and Facility within the General Commercial Future Land Use Map Category – Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to approve the above-listed FLUM amendment.**

6. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

7. Request for Approval to Renew Wheeler EMC Contract for a 1-Year Extension – Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director requested the contract be extended with Wheeler Emergency Management LLC for 12 months.

Wendy White informed the board the extension request for this item should be for a couple of months or what the board should decide.

Chairman Hawkins said that Commissioner Griffin wanted to speak to Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director, and Lora Bell, Clerk of Court about the service.

Chairman Hawkins said they would do something short-term to continue to work with the county.

Chairman Hawkins clarified that it is the board's understanding that Commissioner Griffin will have the meetings mentioned above once he is back in town.

Attorney Milton addressed the board. Mrs. Abel originally requested a 1-year extension under the contract. Mr. Griffin had questions/comments/concerns at the workshop. He is not able to be here so they suggested making a short-term extension, which would give Mr. Griffin time to have the meetings mentioned above. If the decision is to bid out the services, that will be a 30 – 60-day process. Staff wants to ensure Wheeler’s contract is active while Mr. Griffin has the discussions mentioned above.

Commissioner Bush clarified what the period is to end the contract. (The period was clarified as 30 days.) Why give a 120-day extension? Why not renew the contract and if it is decided to cancel the contract, use the out that is in the contract?

If it is the board’s pleasure to bid, bid during that time but at the same time, there will be a contract with Wheeler and continuity within the operations.

County Attorney Milton told the board the cancelation provision is in the contract under section 3.13 – Termination for Convenience – Washington County reserves the right in its best interest as determined by the county to cancel any contract by giving written notice 30 days before cancelation. Board action would be required for any decision the board makes.

**Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin to extend Wheeler EMC’s contract for 90 days to allow them to carry on the FEMA work. This can be discussed at the next workshop, depending on what is found out from the discussion mentioned earlier. The motion carried 4 to 1, with Commissioner Bush being opposed.**

Chairman Hawkins requested Commissioner Griffin provide dates that he would be available to meet with Mrs. Abel and Clerk Bell.

Commissioner Bush commented that the contractor may not want to extend the contract for 90 days.

He suggested something is being started that the extent is not realized. It is not as simple as handing off a contract and saying go ahead. The emergency coordinator and clerk’s staff are satisfied with the work that is being performed. The ramification has been heard if the contract is not renewed and another party must take the project up if you find one that is willing to accept a project that is midstream. Whatever personal vendettas or what it may be. He cautioned the board not to expect all this to be very easy. Deputy Clerk Pettis has said the \$6 million line of credit will be used within a month if there are delays. There is a lot of money out there.

Everyone should be aware of the potential future ramifications.

Commissioner Griffin commented that he would like to do checks and balances himself, as a new commissioner, since he was not involved at the beginning of Hurricane Michael.

Chairman Hawkins said that they could not do what they do without them.

Commissioner Bush commented there have been 6-7 months to investigate it. He is not sure what can be discovered in that period that had not been able to discover. This has been going on for years.

Chairman Hawkins asked Kevan Parker to pass along to his staff that this is not in any way derogatory. It is a mission that Commissioner Griffin and the other commissioners want to make themselves aware of.

As a whole Washington County is very satisfied with the service through Wheeler Emergency.

8. Board Schedule – Chairman Hawkins requested the board schedule be adjusted due to conflicting events he has with the meetings in June and July.

The board discussed the meeting schedule.

Commissioner Griffin commented that he is not the only commissioner that has questions about the Wheeler contract. Commissioner Corbin does as well.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to cancel the workshop on June 19, cancel the June 22 board meeting, cancel the board meeting on July 20, reschedule the meeting in June to the 15, and have the board meeting on July 13 following the workshop.**

**Note - July 13 Meeting – The workshop will remain on the schedule to be followed by the board meeting. If the workshop is not needed, a board meeting will be held directly, and cancel the workshop.**

Attorney Milton informed the board the preliminary rate resolution for MSBU was approved on the consent agenda and it included specific dates for the June meeting when the notice had to be published. The preliminary rate resolution will need to be amended to reflect the date of the new meeting. The public hearing was listed for June 22 and the notice publication no later than June 2, 20 days before the hearing.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to amend the rate resolution by changing the publication date to May 24 and the public hearing date to June 15.**

9. Approval to Bid EOC Food and Beverage Services – Commissioner Bush addressed the board. After the board approved listing this item on the consent agenda, he found out that Wendy White contacted all the local restaurants and only two bids were received. The board had previously agreed on bidding the service again to give local vendors a chance to bid.

The staff was satisfied with the contract and the prices will not get better. The vendor had  
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agreed to stand by their price.

Commissioner Corbin responded that many of the local businesses were shut down during COVID and not staffed as they normally would have been. This would give the opportunity back to them since everyone is fully staffed.

Commissioner Bush commented that is good logic.

**Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to put the services for EOC food and beverage services out for bid as it was listed on the consent agenda.**

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

Eight roads have been listed as a high priority for marketing. The cost estimate for solid is \$1,200.00, \$850.00 for skip line, and \$4.50 for RPM. For a mile with double yellow lines, there would be 250 pieces, which would be around \$1,125.00 for double RPM. The estimates supplied for paint are inflated.

About the stripes on Pate Pond Road, there is a section that is 1.3 miles from Douglas Ferry toward Caryville that needs stripes. The full length was added to the list.

Clayton, Orange Hill, and Corbin would be good selections that the state may help with due to the traffic on those.

Chairman Hawkins commented Moss Hill Road meets all the criteria, therefore, would be a great selection for a SCRAP project.

Creek Road would also be a great submission for a SCRAP project.

Commissioner Bush suggested that Pioneer would also be a good selection.

Commissioner Bush told Johnny Evans that he would be fine with doing all of Creek Road. It is not illuminated at all. There are enough district funds to do all of them.

**Commissioner Corbin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously carried to have Johnny Evans put a list of roads together in each district that he sees a need to stripe with concessions from each commissioner. Attorney approval is requested for the bid, advertise it, and it will be brought back before the board. District money will be used for the projects.**

VI. PARKS UPDATE – George Swauger addressed the board. All the brick-and-mortar restrooms are functional at the parks and half of them are on a routine maintenance schedule. Improvements are still being made. Cameras are up at all the parks. There are two at St. Joseph Park and two at Blue Lake. A camera was also installed at Culpepper and Wilder Park. As the updates continue, floor paint, wall replacement, screen doors (prompted by the bugs at Gap Lake), pressure washing equipment, weed removal within the

playground borders, paint refreshing on the equipment and replacing some.

The eagle scout project at Daniels Lake was done well. They did fence repair and removal to create a corral area. Recognition of their work is requested.

Would it be okay to give the sheriff's department access to view the cameras at the parks?

Engineering is needed for the removal of some grass and replacing trees has caused a delay.

The rotted fence at Blue Lake needs to be replaced. There is still progress on the pavilion at Hicks Lake and the floating dock at Gap. Some issues must be worked out through planning and engineering.

Per a letter from Simon Sheffield, they would like to offer a Veterans Memorial. Who would make the plaque?

George Swauger informed the board he will work with Simon Sheffield.

Simon Sheffield suggested the retention wall be addressed.

George Swauger commented that it is currently barricaded, and they are currently working with engineering on that.

- VII. ENGINEERING PROJECTS UPDATE – Donald Stanley addressed the board about the final acceptance beyond the Ebenezer Road extension. He and Johnny Evans are working on reviewing those roads and composing a punch list before the final acceptance and maintenance transfer. Once the list has been provided to them, they will have a specific time to correct the items. When things are acceptable, he will send an email out.

Chairman Hawkins commented as long as it is acceptable by Johnny Evans, he is fine with it.

- VIII. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Jeff Massey requested Wendy White supply an update on live streaming.

Wendy White updated the board. Training has been set up, with the most recent being for this week, but had to be rescheduled to the week after next. Equipment is being ordered. The estimated time to have things going is around 60 days, however, this depends on staff training to run the new system.

Karen Shaw addressed the board about the SAFER Grant. Washington County was approved for \$1,096,000.00 for SAFER Funds and board approval is requested to accept the grant award. The grant echoes the earlier one.

Chairman Hawkins suggested when this starts, see how it can be long-term.

Karen Shaw said that with direction from County Administrator Massey, and Justin Leach's foresight she feels they will have a plan in place to continue this after the funds end in 4 years.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, to accept the SAFER Grant.**

Benita Crittendon asked what the funds are paying for.

Karen Shaw responded with \$240,000.00 for PPE, \$12,000.00 for scheduling software, \$193,320.00 for retention and recruitment officer salary as well as fringe benefits for him for \$106,680.00, \$160,000.00 for stand-by volunteer stipend for 4 years, \$40,000.00 for per cost stipend for 4 years (\$10,000.00 per year for the firefighters that come out), \$30,000.00 for training at basic to get Fire Fighter I, \$240,000.00 to train 10 existing Fire Fighter I classification to Fire Fighter II, \$10,000.00 annually for newspaper advertisements, \$1,000.00 for brochures, \$60,000.00 for billboard rentals (this is subject to change because a permanent billboard will be looked at). The last three items are for recruitment.

**The motion to accept the grant was carried unanimously.**

- IX. CLERK
  - April Vouchers Totaling \$6,352,103.13
- X. COUNTY ATTORNEY – None
- XI. ADJOURN – 11:25 a.m.