

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 21, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Commission Board Room

1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT
Alan T Bush	David Pettis, Jr.	Tray Hawkins	Wesley Griffin	David Corbin

1. PROCLAMATION

- 1.1 Call to Order – Chairman Pettis
- 1.2 Invocation – Chairman Pettis
- 1.3 Pledge

Present – Commissioners Bush, Pettis, Griffin, and Corbin. Also attending – Deputy Clerk Brantley, Clerk of Court, Lora Bell, County Administrator Massey, and Attorney Fuqua, Fuqua and Milton, P.A. Chairman Hawkins was not present.

2. ADOPT THE AGENDA

Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin, and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda.

3. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - 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.”

- The Washington County Board of County Commissioners has expanded this provision to allow members of the community to speak on a topic which is not currently before the Board/Agenda. To do so the community members should, prior to the start of the meeting, sign the public participation form provided at the door of the commission room, and shall state their name and the topic on which they wish to speak. During the Non-Agenda Audience portion of the meeting, the individual shall be given up to three (3) minutes to speak.
- Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak about a proposition before the Board. Prior to the time a meeting has been called to order, should an individual or group wish to address an item which is on the agenda for consideration, the individual or group shall 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 an individual wishes to speak on an item and has not signed up in advance, those who have signed shall be given priority.
- Any public comment before the board shall be directed to the Chairperson of the Board. It is not a question-and-answer period. Public comments concerning individual employees (other than those hired directly by the Board (County

Administrator/County Attorney) shall not be entertained. Any comment, pros, or cons, regarding a county employee who does not report directly to the Board shall be addressed to the Human Relations Department or the County Administrator.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 Line of Credit Resolution – David Pettis, Jr., Chairman – Attorney Fuqua told the board that each item can be adopted at once if it is their pleasure. The resolution authorizes the issuance of the bonds.

4.2 Approval of Loan Documents – David Pettis, Jr., Chairman

4.3 Approval and Authorization for Chairman to Execute Loan Documents
David Pettis, Jr., Chairman

Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Corbin to adopt agenda items 4.1 – 4.3.

Commissioner Griffin asked if the line of credit would pay all the bills causing them to be at a normal level.

Clerk Bell said yes. \$6,000,000.00 will be paid back from the earlier loan and then there will be \$6,000,000.00 added. The outstanding invoice total is close to the loan amount. An exact amount cannot be supplied because everything has not been received yet, but the office has been provided an outstanding total, which is what this is based on.

Commissioner Griffin asked for an update on funding.

County Administrator Massey said as of this morning there is not anything new to update. There have been some advances for the county from the state for projects that were approved.

Clerk Bell said that is promising. It has been a couple of months +.

Commissioner Griffin asked what projects the funds are tied to.

County Administrator Massey said Williams Road Bridge along with one or two more.

County Attorney Fuqua clarified the funding amount as \$450,000.00.

Clerk Bell confirmed that this was correct and said the advance funds should be deposited within a week.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Pettis supplied an update that Commissioner Bush requested at the previous meeting. Per discussion with Mr. Adkison, the State Public Assistance Officer the issue with the variation from 2.5 to 1.5 inches, DEM has received information from the county and has moved the information to the Federal

Emergency Management Agency Office and is awaiting approval on that.

The other issue relating to ditches, DEM is still waiting for information from the county before the next step. That one is part of the road zone projects that were done under a separate contract for ditch digging a few years ago. He did not give any sign if projects will be held up, however, he did sound promising with the variation of the thickness being moved through the process. He did not say that he was holding or releasing the money yet.

5. ADJOURN – Commissioner Griffin offered a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Bush to adjourn the meeting.