

MINUTES WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 9:00 AM, Commission Board Room

1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Ashlynn	David	Joey Brock	Wesley	David Corbin
Marquez	Pettis Jr.		Griffin	Vice-Chairman
	Chairman			

1. PROCLAMATION

- 1.1 Call to Order Chairman Pettis
- 1.2 Invocation Pastor Smelser, Blue Lake Baptist Church
- 1.3 Pledge

2. ADOPT THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin Seconded by: Joey Brock

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

3. PUBLIC HEARING

3.1 Alldredge Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment-Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner Land use change request for property located off of Kennel Road, North of Millers Ferry, and River Road. The request is to change from general commercial to residential-low. The public noticing requirements were met, and the neighborhood information meeting was held, which had no attendees. Staff recommended approval, and the planning commission recommended unanimous approval.

Motion to approve the small-scale future land use map amendment for Alldredge.

Moved by: Joey Brock

Seconded by: Wesley Griffin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

4. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

Adopt the minutes listed from 4.1 - 4.5.

Moved by: David Corbin

Seconded by: Wesley Griffin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

- 4.1 Board Workshop for September 11, 2025
- 4.2 Emergency/Special Board Meeting for September 11, 2025
- 4.3 Board Meeting for September 25, 2025
- 4.4 Tentative Budget Hearing for September 15, 2025
- 4.5 Final Budget Hearing for September 22, 2025

5. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

• Joan Jaindl addressed the board regarding a resolution she brought up at a previous meeting to end all financial support to Israel.

Motion for the resolution related to financial support for Israel not to be put on a future agenda.

Moved by: David Corbin

Seconded by: Ashlynn Marquez

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve consent agenda items from 6.1 - 6.4.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin Seconded by: Joey Brock

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

- 6.1 Approval of Chipley Library Expansion Grant BB201Engineering Contract Addendum
- 6.2 Approval of Recycling Fee Schedule Update
- 6.3 Approval of Contract Renewal Number 26-7212-8103-RA Wildlife Damage Management Agreement with APHIS
- 6.4 Approval of the Advertisement of Public Access Ordinance

7. AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 WC Library Certification of Hours for Housekeeping Purposes-David Pettis, Jr., Chairman Motion to approve the certification of hours for the library. Moved by: David Corbin Seconded by: Wesley Griffin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

7.2 Request for Approval of Landlord Estoppel-Clay Milton, County Attorney

The estoppel is in regard to the nursing home, which has been leased since 1981. Everything appears to be in order. The estoppel agreement says the lease is in good standing and not in default, and no other leases have been entered into by the county other than what's outlined in the agreement.

Motion to approve the Landlord Estoppel contingent upon the rent payment being current.

Moved by: David Corbin Seconded by: Joey Brock

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

7.3 RFP 2025-01 Food and Catering Services-Jeff Massey, County Administrator

County Administrator Massey said that one bid was received.

Chairman Pettis added that FEMA likes to see at least three bids. However, it seems that one bid could be justified based on the history of putting it out for bid multiple times and not being able to receive that.

County Attorney Milton added that the contract does not have to be activated during a disaster. FEMA requires a bid attached to the contract for services to be reimbursed through FEMA.

Motion to accept SLS as the emergency food services contractor.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin

Seconded by: Ashlynn Marquez

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

Danny Exum spoke on FEMA reimbursement, being easier with a contract in place.

7.4 RFP 2025-02 Disaster Debris-Jeff Massey, County Administrator

The contracts do not have to be activated in a specific order, and multiple can be activated at one time.

Commissioner Corbin offered a motion to hire the top two, Crowder Gulf and DRC Emergency Services, for debris hauling. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion to select the top three: Crowder Gulf, DRC, and Ceres Environmental.

Moved by: Ashlynn Marquez Seconded by: David Corbin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., and Ashlynn

Marquez

Nay Wesley Griffin and Joey Brock

Carried 3-2

Commissioner Griffin's top three were Crowder Gulf, TFR, and Roads, Inc.

7.5 America 250 Grant Agreement-Heather Lopez, TDC Director Motion to approve the America 250 Grant Agreement.

Moved by: David Corbin Seconded by: Joey Brock

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

Motion to authorize the issuance of an RFP.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin

Seconded by: Ashlynn Marquez

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

7.6 Singer Road Discussion-David Corbin, Vice-Chairman
The conditions on Singer Road have worsened with the dry
weather. It is heavily traveled. A traffic study was done, and it
showed 800 - 1000 cars daily traveling the road. The top speed
was 89 mph. The road is about 4 miles long. Something has
to be done to the road. The board discussed multiple ideas,
but nothing concrete was decided.

Commissioner Brock added that he doesn't mind helping Commissioner Corbin, but 17 roads have been neglected for nearly a year. Greenhead Grade needs a lot of work, and there has already been \$300,000.00 - \$400,000.00 spent on it. Commissioner Griffin spoke on when arbitration is done, they will find out if they will get the money back to pave those roads. If not, then they can move forward and maintain them.

Trey Barbee added that they have put material sparingly.

County Administrator Massey added that they haven't stripped anything because they didn't know if it was okay with FEMA to do so.

7.7 County Administrator Ranking and Scheduling of Interviews-David Pettis, Jr., Chairman

Motion to amend the county administrator's hiring policy based on prior discussion at the workshop.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin

Seconded by: Ashlynn Marquez

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

Benita Crittendon asked for clarification of the changes.

Chairman Pettis listed the changes as follows:

- HR would not eliminate any applicants. They would be brought before the board.
- The applicants are scored in a public meeting.
- After scoring, the top applicants would be contacted to schedule an interview, which would be held in a public meeting, instead of one-on-one interviews with commissioners.

Chairman Pettis documented that Mr. Nolan withdrew his application for county administrator yesterday. All

commissioners confirmed that they were aware of the applicant rescinding.

County Administrator Application Scoring per District

District 1 - Williams, Fleener, Hyatt, Thorton, and Cook

District 2 - Fleener, Thorton, Williams, English, and Hyatt

District 3 - Hyatt, Thorton, Cook, Fleener, and Williams

District 4 - Cook, Hyatt, Thorton, Fleener, and Williams

District 5 - Fleener, Williams, Thorton, Hyatt, and Cook

HR will reach out to the applicants to coordinate dates using the board calendar.

Top Five - Fleener, Thorton, Hyatt, Williams, and Cook.

8. FEMA COORDINATOR

- 9. BUILDING OFFICIAL
- 10. MSBU ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE
- 11. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
- 12. PARKS UPDATE

13. ENGINEERING PROJECTS UPDATE

Jonathan Sims - The MSBU job is complete, and everything is in the process of closing out.

Per Commissioner Griffin's request, Jonathan Sims and Brent Melvin provided input regarding Singer Road.

14. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

14.1 Organizational Chart Discussion

Approval is requested to move code enforcement under the building department on the organizational chart. Code enforcement isn't staying busy. The building official has experience managing this, and they work closely together.

Chairman Pettis mentioned that the EOC and Emergency Management amendment should be part of this.

Finance Director Pettis questioned whether the funding source would change from general to the building department.

County Administrator Massey responded that there would not be any change at this point.

Commissioner Corbin added that a call-in to code can't remain anonymous per statute. It is not a county rule.

Motion to approve the organizational chart update.

Moved by: Ashlynn Marquez Seconded by: David Corbin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

14.2 Sale of County-Owned Property

00-5395-0026 and 00-5395-0034 - The assessed value of both individually is \$3,300.00, which was the offer price. The administration fee is \$660.00. Letters were sent to adjacent property owners, and there were no counteroffers submitted.

00-3374-0126 and 00-3374-0133 - The assessed value of both individually is \$5,125.00, which was the offer price. The administration fee is \$1,025.00.

Motion to approve the sale of parcels 00-5395-0026 and 00-5395-0034.

Moved by: Joey Brock

Seconded by: David Corbin

Aye David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,

Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

Motion to approve the sale of parcels 00-3374-0126 and 00-3374-0133.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin Seconded by: Joey Brock

Carried 5-0

15. CLERK

15.1 September Vouchers Totaling \$2,695,116.10

16. COUNTY ATTORNEY

17. OTHER BUSINESS

A date has not been set for the houseboat workshop. There has been discussion of not scheduling it following a planning meeting.

18. ADJOURN

Summary of Minutes Prepared by Risha Brantley