

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Washington County, Florida**  
**Board Meeting**  
**1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428**

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

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The following persons were present:

Chairman Tray Hawkins

Vice-Chairman Todd Abbott

Commissioner Charles Kent

Commissioner Alan T. Bush

Commissioner Steve Joyner

Also present were County Administrator Jeff Massey, County Attorney Clay Milton, Fuqua & Milton, P.A., Clerk of Court Lora C. Bell, and Deputy Clerk Risha Brantley.

I. PROCLAMATION

- Call to Order - Chairman Hawkins
- Invocation – Jeff Massey
- Pledge

II. PUBLIC HEARING

- CDBG-DR/Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - Karen Shaw, Grants/Special Projects Coordinator presented the initial public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Hazard Mitigation Grant

Program. All the advertising and public noticing requirements were met. Washington County, Florida is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Funding to match up to 25% of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects that Washington County has applied for and received grant awards or is in the process of being awarded grant funding through Florida Division of Emergency Management. Florida has been allocated approximately \$109,000,000.00 that will be made available to cities, towns, and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible community development activities as a match program to the Florida Division of Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. These funds must be used to meet one of HUD's National objectives, which are to benefit low and moderate-income persons or to meet an urgent need.

The projects which the Washington County Board of County Commissioners plan to use the 25% CDBG-DR funds are listed below:

- 4399-(104) Washington County, 5 Critical Facilities, Generators - \$599,898.00
- 4399-028-R (105) Washington County, 19 Residential Properties, Acquisition - \$3,649,338.00
- 4399-030-R (387) Washington County, 4 Residential Properties, Acquisition \$344,630.00
- 4399-(106) Washington County, Williams Road, Drainage \$1,652,993.00
- 4399-(107) Washington County, 3 Critical Facilities, Safe Rooms located at the Sheriff's Office, EMS, and EOC - \$889,457.00
- 4399-(108) Washington County, Countywide Roads, Drainage \$14,045,179.00

- 4399-036-R-(110) Washington County, EMS Station, Wind Retrofit \$44,433.00

More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements, and the rating system are available per request. The purpose of this hearing is to obtain citizen input into the development of the applications.

There were no comments from the public.

- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on the +/- 5-acre parcel – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented an application before the board submitted by John and Mary German for 2144 Ferguson Road. A dwelling is currently located on the property. This application will address the land use and any building permits. The public noticing requirements were met and there was no opposition to the land-use request.
- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on two parcels totaling +/- 6.50-acres – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented an application for 2271 River Road before the board. The request is for two parcels, which will be combined into one. The public noticing requirements were met and there was no opposition to the request.

- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on a +/- 4.87-acre parcel – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented an application before the board that was submitted by William Richards for 4072 Tiger Trail. The site is vacant and is located north of Crystal Lake. The public noticing requirements were met. There was no opposition to the request.

The planning commission and county staff recommend approval.

- Request for a Type XV Special Exception for a +/- 32.20-acre of property located on SR 79 between Bonifay and Vernon to allow for the intended development of a recreational vehicle (RV) park with 20 spaces within the Agriculture/Silviculture Future Land Use Category – Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner presented an application before the board that was submitted by Gale Tucker at 1906 Highway 79. The application is not for the development of the entire site. The proposal is designed to avoid wetlands and floodplains. The public noticing requirements were met. Concerns expressed were that the RV park would have permanent occupants. There is a 6-month limitation included in Washington County's code.

A separate opposition was expressed based on natural resource protection. There was also concern expressed about an easement, which is a civil matter. The planning commission and county staff recommended approval.

Chairman Hawkins informed the board that the code enforcement staff has expressed concern about how to determine the length of time a person has been staying at an RV park. This will be revisited before the end of the year to guide the county staff.

David Sours, one of the applicants advised that they intend to preserve natural resources that are on the property.

- III. ADOPT THE AGENDA – Additions – Deputy Clerk Brantley requested that the auditor engagement letter be added to the agenda.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the agenda as amended.**

- IV. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Board Meeting for July 15, 2021
- Special Meeting for August 13, 2021

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried to approve the above referenced 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 minutes to speak on the proposition before the

board. The county-approved public participation policy is recorded on book 1216, page 70. – None

VI. AGENDA ITEMS

- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on the +/- 5-acre parcel –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the above FLUM request at 2144 Ferguson Road.**

- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on two parcels totaling +/- 6.50-acres –

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the above FLUM request at 2271 River Road.**

- Request to amend the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designation of the property from Agriculture/Silviculture to Low-Density Residential to allow one single-family residential dwelling unit to be located on a +/- 4.87-acre parcel –

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the FLUM request at 4072 Tiger Trail.**

- Request for a Type XV Special Exception for a +/- 32.20-acre of property located on State Road 79 between Bonifay and Vernon to allow for the intended development of a recreational vehicle (RV) park with 20 spaces within the Agriculture/Silviculture Future Land use category –

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried to approve of the request for a Type XV Special Exception at 1906 Highway 79, Bonifay, Florida.**

- Audit Presentation – Sara Applewhite Hughes, CPA, CFE for Carr, Riggs noted items in the audit budget year ending September 30, 2020.
  - Page 8 – Profit loss of \$4.8 million – This is driven by the Hurricane Michael Fund. After the year-end \$5.2 million was received to reimburse those expenditures. There will be a receipt of the funds in the next audit.
  - Page 83 – Summary of Grants – The total of the state and federal grants for last year was \$2.7 million. This year it was \$9.9 million.
  - There were no new comments this year.
  - Prior findings remaining are regarding the records for capital expenditures/infrastructure, segregation of duties (in the smaller constitutional the staff isn't large enough to separate the duties) (this is not an issue with the board and the clerk), and Supervisor of Elections bookkeeping.
- Audit Extension Agreement Carr, Riggs, and Ingram –

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the extension audit agreement for three years with Carr, Riggs, and Ingram.**

- Recognition for the Washington County Public Library’s 2021 Achievement Award for its “Feeding Kids” Program for NACo – The board presented the award received from the National Association of Counties to the Washington County Library regarding feeding the kid’s program as the achievement award winner for the nation.

Renae Rountree recognized Zedra Hawkins and Joy Whitaker.

Over 8,000 meals have been served since March 2020 through the USDA Summer Feeding Program.

- State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement and Certification of Hours – Renae Rountree, Library Director encouraged the board to request the amount be raised. The current amount is \$17 million across the state, which is the lowest that it has been in 20 years. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve the library agreement and certification of hours.**

Commissioner Abbott commented on Renae Rountree being recognized at a conference in Orlando, which was for the County Government Educational

Program.

An open house is scheduled for the library on September 16.

- Request for Resolution to Clarify family property-ownership in the County's Local Housing Assistance Plan – Karen Shaw, Grants/Special Projects Coordinator informed the board there have been many situations of applicants being eligible, however, they have not owned the land for three years that the home will be placed on, or the home requested for repair. The update to the plan includes those family members that have resided on the family property for a minimum of three years and legally own the family property effective the day of the application. A quitclaim deed can be done to make this change. –

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the amendment to the LHAP.**

- Request for Proposed change to County's Local Housing Assistance Plan – Karen Shaw, Grants/Special Projects Coordinator requested approval to increase the rehab from \$35,000.00 to \$50,000.00, emergency rehab from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00, and increase the replacement home from \$100,000.00 to \$150,000.00. These updates are requested to be effective for projects that are about to begin. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the Local Housing Assistance Plan which will**

**apply to projects that are not yet released, and so forth.**

- Request for Permission to Apply for a Grant through FDACS to Fund the Construction of the Newly Designed Ag Entrance – Karen Shaw, Grants/Special Projects Coordinator requested approval to apply for the grant to pay for the entranceway and the parking lot at the ag center. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to apply for the grant through FDACS for the ag center.**

- Request for Approval for Proposed Changes to County’s HHRP Local Housing Assistance Plan – Karen Shaw, Grants/Special Projects Coordinator requested to amend the Hurricane Relief Fund rehab from \$50,000.00 to \$80,000.00. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the above amendment.**

- Request for Chairman to Sign Letter of Support for Department of Economic Opportunity -

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve of Chairman Hawkins signing the Department of Economic Opportunity letter.**

- Request for Approval for FDOT 2021 – 22 State Highway Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation Agreement Work Order Totaling \$9,180.37 –

Tray Hawkins, Chairman informed the board the agreement is for streetlights.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the 2021 – 2022 FDOT Lighting Maintenance agreement.**

- Request for Pay Plan Approval for 2021 – 2022 Fiscal Year – Tray Hawkins, Chairman informed the board the pay plan is a work in progress regarding the \$15.00 minimum wage requirement. The plan is currently a year ahead of schedule. The plan is reflected in the 2021 – 2022 budget. The plan is to meet the goal within three years. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the 2021 – 2022 pay plan.**

Commissioner Bush suggested designating a portion of the increase in ad valorem funds to employee salaries.

- Request for a Dispatch Console for the Washington County Sheriff's Office – Tray Hawkins, Chairman addressed the board. The additional console would assist with offsetting the COVID-19 response. All dispatchers are currently located in one room. The expense will be covered by E911 funds other than around \$26,000.00, which will be covered by the CARES Act funds. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried to approve the additional dispatch console purchase.**

- Public Participation Policy Update – Tray Hawkins, Chairman addressed the board regarding the update. Once a motion is made, seconded, and moved the public can come forward and discuss the item with the board before action is taken.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the update to the public participation policy.**

Benita Crittendon suggested that the board clarify the non-agenda items. It seems as if notification must be given to staff 48-hours before to have permission to speak.

Attorney Milton advised that for non-agenda items the staff should be contacted and informed that you want to be put on the agenda to discuss an item. The item requested for discussion should be given to the staff to become part of the agenda.

Chairman Hawkins advised that if the item is presented 48-hours prior a citizen will be able to speak on it during the non-agenda audience.

Benita Crittendon expressed concern about the timeframe that the agenda is sent out. For the last 2-months, it has been e-mailed 48-hours before the meeting.

Washington County citizens need to become more active to know what is going to be on the agenda.

Chairman Hawkins advised that they intend to not add things to the agenda. There was one item added today.

Benita Crittendon expressed concern about the description portion of the public speaking policy, which addresses agenda items. It doesn't address the non-agenda items.

Chairman Hawkins advised that the section refers to the policy.

Commissioner Kent advised that the state statute is included.

Benita Crittendon suggested to the board that the policy should be available in the boardroom.

Chairman Hawkins advised that it is the citizen's responsibility to read the policies. The policy is being updated to make it more accommodating for the people here.

Commissioner Bush asked how the speaker of a group would be determined.

A discussion was held with the determination to leave the text as is.

The motion carried 4 to 1 for the update to the public participation policy with Commissioner Bush opposed.

Chairman Hawkins called a recess from 10:11 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

VII. FEMA COORDINATOR – Kevan Parker addressed the board.

- Legacy Funds - \$1.2 million has been approved and encumbered with \$237,000.00 of that being moved through the process.
- Hurricane Michael Funds – Around \$22.5 million has been submitted. 10% is in the validation process and the other 90% has been paid or is in the process of coming back to the county. They have approved and mainly paid the 12.5% cost share. Funds are verified weekly with the clerk's office and County Administrator Massey. There is a request for advancement for around \$2.5 million for debris work. There is \$8 million in road zone 2.5 that has been requested, which will be drawn down as the work is done. The cycle is intended as the contractor does the work, 30-days provide an invoice, and the funds should be sent within 60-days.

Confirmation was made that the loan is still available and has not been accessed. Clerk Bell advised that there is a commitment for renewal for another year, which would need to be done in November.

- Hurricane Sally – Around \$3,500.00 has been received.
- Category B – It is around \$800,000.00 and is about 2-weeks away from being encumbered. Once it is encumbered and approved, it can be requested.

- CARES and COVID – The projects are still active. The food agreement was activated 2-weeks ago.

Chairman Hawkins advised that Sheriff Crews requested a third week of the food agreement to be active.

Kevan Parker informed the board the expense is being tracked and will be included on the COVID PW request. The CARES Act funding or the American Rescue Act funding can be fell back on.

- American Rescue Act – It is a \$5 million grant program over 2-years. \$2.4 million has been received. A preliminary plan is due at the end of August.
- Washington County Jail - \$300,000.00 for a tentative plan to make separation more of an option.
- EMS – 3<sup>rd</sup> crew that is working 12-hours; put that for 24-hours with a 3<sup>rd</sup> full-time crew. \$200,000.00 has been included.
- Premium Pay - \$250,000.00
- Broadband - \$1.5 million
- Lost Revenue Replacement - \$1.5 million due to COVID-19
- 10% Administrative Expense

Public meetings need to be held for input on the process.

- Roads – The first road group has started. They began on the north end of Tiller, Alabama to Old Mill. There was some damage from Tropical Storm Fred that they addressed. A change order is needed for culverts that were not settled. The dirt will be moved away from the culverts, leaving them in place, eventually making it where they meet the base. The change order is \$2,800.00. A contingency of \$15,000.00 was identified on the roads. The task is being assigned out of the contingency. The change order will essentially be \$0.00. –

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the change order.**

A discussion was held about change orders. County Attorney Milton advised that the change orders should come before the board.

Commissioner Bush requested an update on the discussion about the two contractors doing seeding and grassing around the extensions out to the headwalls.

Kevan Parker addressed the board. They didn't want to move forward until they started. They will look at the contractor to see what he is planning to put around the headwall, what his plans are, and what is out of his scope of work. If the contractor is putting a specific amount and more needs to be added it

will be done as an overrun on the sod and pay that. It won't be a change order but something that will be addressed with the contractor. It will be addressed with cost overruns in that line item.

Bids were received yesterday on Buddy Road, Duncan Community Road, Hard Labor Road, Houston Road, Andara Road, Hicks Lake Lane, Hicks Lake Road, and Territory Road. Those roads are coming out of 2.4 and going into 2.3 now. CW Roberts, Inc. was the low bidder at \$7,159,373.69, which is the award recommendation.

The group to be advertised on September 11 include East and West Clark Lane, Alton Lane, Arizona Lane, Horne Place, Lisa Lane, Ovid Lane, Roland Road, North and South Suggs Road, Walnut Circle, Harmon Circle, Julie Lane, Mayhaw Lane, and McMillion Lane.

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve to award the bid to CW Roberts, Inc. for \$7,159,373.69 for the invitation to bid 2021-08.**

Commissioner Kent requested that Donald Stanley ensure that the work done by CW Roberts is done properly due to unfavorable prior experience.

Kevan Parker advised that either Donald Stanley or Jason Crenshaw will be in the field every day.

Benita Crittendon expressed concern about the quality of work done by contractors on county projects, mainly Roberts and Roberts and GAC. It is requested by all to ensure that the work is done correctly.

Commissioner Bush confirmed that the work being done is covered by funds tied to Hurricane Michael. Understandably the work would start where most Hurricane Michael damage occurred.

Kevan Parker informed the board that Hurricane Sally Road projects have not been approved. The determination memo sent out this past week on all road zones that are not eligible will be responded to.

Chairman Hawkins informed the board that he is working with other counties that were affected by Hurricane Sally. All the information requested has been provided to prove the legitimacy of the road and the pre-storm condition of the road. The Florida Association of Counties, Small Counties Coalition, and NACO have taken this up as a major concern.

- Flooding Behind the Annex – Approval to issue the bid next week is requested of the board to put concrete in front of the barn that will function as a valley gutter. –

**Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to put the concrete pad in front of EMS out for bid.**

Kevan Parker advised the board that this is stage one.

- Tropical Storm Fred – There is reportable damage in Bay and Washington County. There is a statewide threshold of \$31 million that must be met and there is a local threshold of right under \$100,000.00. In-house labor and contractual work will be figured.

Approval is requested of the board to do an emergency contract to reduce some of the time to get out and get some quotes to do square yard price from contractors to repair the roads based on the road and quantity that is put out there. The county will provide the dirt and the rock.

County Administrator Massey commented that it is key that Washington County has in place proper documentation before and after the storm to identify the damage.

Chairman Hawkins advised the board that approving the contract doesn't mean that it will be let. It will be used for pricing and brought back before the board for digestion and approval.

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to get an emergency contract for Tropical Storm Fred for pricing, that will not be let without further board approval.**

Kevan Parker advised the board that it will not be brought before them unless

it has been funded.

VIII. MSBU ADVISOR COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – None

IX. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR – None

Chairman Hawkins apologized to Johnny Evans if things were not explained correctly at the previous meeting regarding the headwalls and who stopped the contractors from working. The public works department does an outstanding job. It was himself that gave the direction which would be done at any time funding is a concern.

The commissioners decided to proceed to the tentative budget hearing without having a budget workshop.

X. COUNTY ENGINEER – Cliff Knauer addressed the board.

- Hartford Boulevard – The construction plans are complete, permitting has been submitted through Water Management District for an exemption, and to the Department of Environmental Protection for the 404 permits. There is 4/10 of an acre of wetland impacts that are necessary to build a road.

A proposal has been received from Larry Coffman with Spring Ridge on a proposed exchange of lots. He has proposed to exchange twelve lots for the property and the lots that were impacted by the new alignment. Assistance from Commissioner Joyner and County Manager Massey is requested.

There is one other landowner that will be contacted.

- Sunny Hills Bid – The low bidder was CW Roberts for \$510,838.18, which is \$10,000.00 over the road paving budget that was allocated. It is requested to award the project contingent upon getting the project within the budget that has been set by Steve Healis. Commissioner Abbott confirmed that public works employees will not be assisting in any of the work. –

**Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried to approve the bid from CW Roberts contingent upon getting the project \$10,000.00 lower.**

- Joiner Road Culvert Replacement – The bids are over budget. North Florida Constructions bid was \$295,770.00 and RBM Contracting’s bid was \$500,489.00. The estimate was right below \$150,000.00.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to reject the bids for Joiner Road and readvertise.**

County Engineer Knauer informed the board that the low bidder was at 400 per ton for asphalt.

Having to dewater the ditch on both sides is likely affecting some of the cost of the project.

County Engineer Knauer suggested to the board to have Roberts and Roberts

who is working on Buckhorn Boulevard now overlay that particular stretch 150' with asphalt.

Commissioner Abbott suggested that he would like to have it fixed right and would like to rebid it including a dewatering line item.

County Engineer Knauer suggested including the contractors holding the bid for 90-days instead of 60-days.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried to rebid the Joiner Road culverts.**

- Greenhead Road – The plans are almost complete, and a pre-application has been set up for next Wednesday with Water Management District for the exemption.

A few easements are remaining.

- Guardrail Continuing Services Contract – The advertisement goes out Saturday and the bids will be taken on September 9.
- Brickyard Road – The cost estimate for the project was \$1.2 million. DOT has \$788,000.00 allocated for the construction and CEI. Changes have been made to the plans to get it within budget. The areas that had a base failure on the road in 2019 when the project was submitted for have grown. The turn

lane for Kirkland Road was not in the original cost estimate. In 2019 a small area of the intersection at Kirkland Road and Brickyard was identified to be removed and replaced with a new base. That area has grown now.

Chairman Hawkins advised Karen Shaw to set up a meeting with Dustin Castells, DOT next week.

- Culpepper Landing – Chairman Hawkins informed the board that he confirmed with County Engineer Knauer that the parking lot is complete. Is it the board's pleasure to shut the landing down until October 1 and reopen in January or February?

The board didn't have any opposition. If the contractor approves the board will advertise in the September meeting to inform the public.

- FRDAP – This is a Department of Environmental Protection Grant for \$50,000.00 for parks that do not have a match. Submittal date is September.

XI. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Jeff Massey addressed the board.

- Sale of County Owned Property –
  - 3244 Fanning Branch Road – 00-4273-0001 - Assessed Value \$80,352.00 – Cash offer of \$81,000.00 with 10% deposit paid – 9 acres with a home that needs extensive repairs – No opposition to sale – **Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried to approve the above county-owned property sale.**

- Cypress Avenue – 00-5395-0022 – Assessed Value \$3,000.00 – Offer \$3,300.00 – No opposition to sale – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the above county-owned property sale.**
- Sunny Hills – 11-0743-0021, 0022, and 0023 – Assessed Value \$1,800.00 each – No opposition to sale – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the sale of the above listed county-owned parcels.**
- Grant Request for Fire Services for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Sunny Hills – The current equipment is expired. The total of the grant is \$66,725.51. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to approve to apply for the grant for the self-contained breathing apparatus for Sunny Hills.**

County Attorney Milton suggested to the board if there is a time limitation on a grant the county administrator or chairman should proceed with applying for it and bring it before the board at the next meeting for ratification.

- Grant Request for Ag Center for Smith-Trust Grant to Provide Landscaping – The grant is for \$22,165.00. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner**

**Joyner, and carried to apply for the grant for the ag center landscape.**

XII. CLERK – Lora C. Bell

- July Vouchers Totaling \$4,120,373.07 (Informational Purposes)

XIII. COUNTY ATTORNEY – Clay Milton addressed the board.

- Request for Shade Meeting – The meeting has been scheduled for September 9 at 8:30 –

**Commissioner Bush offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve the date for the shade meeting on 9/9/2021.**

- Back up Engagement Agreement with Jeff Carter, PA as Special Master for Code Enforcement – Jeff Carter, PA would serve as an alternate. –

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried to approve of the agreement with Jeff Carter, PA for code enforcement magistrate services in the event of a conflict with the prime agreement.**

- Broadband Update – County Administrator Massey updated the board. Wildstar signed an agreement with a tower owner for a tower east of Sunny Hills. The day after the agreement was signed the tower company sold to another tower company, which caused things to be done differently. The process is going well. Another location has been identified at Daniels Lake,

and there is the Mud Hill Tower. The tower in east Sunny Hills should be able to be tested in a couple of weeks.

The broadband began in Sunny Hills with the thought process of it being a hot spot for growth.

Chairman Hawkins commented that Vernon, Chipley, and Wausau have high-speed internet. Sunny Hills is the next largest demographic that doesn't have high-speed internet.

Commissioner Abbott confirmed that the board didn't make the selection on where to begin.

County Attorney Milton informed the board that one bid has been received on some of the SHIP projects. Normally the policy is at least two or three are needed. Approval is needed to proceed.

The policy will possibly be amended next month.

**Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to proceed with the one contractor for the five SHIP projects.**

Chairman Hawkins updated the board. The state has a piece of property for the repeater tower for the sheriff's office, however, it is not large enough for the tower. A meeting will be held with the neighbor that has property next to the

state-owned property to see if there is interest in assisting in the process.

For a point of clarity, Commissioner Bush confirmed that no commissioner has ever purchased any property from the county-owned property list.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed that is correct.

Commissioner Abbott requested adequate time to review the comprehensive plan.

- XIV. ADJOURN – Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and carried to adjourn.