

December 13, 2011  
Regular Session  
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioner Kenneth Williams, Commissioner Monty Merchant, Commissioner Phillip Music, Commissioner Jim King and Commissioner Ron Monk Jr., Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Jeff Goodman, County Attorney, was present.

Ms. Angie Jonas, Deputy Clerk, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Monk opened the meeting with the prayer and pledge.

Commissioner Music made a motion to approve the following consent items:

November 29, 2011 Regular Session Minutes  
CR179A Resurfacing Project Time Extension  
Change order #1: Dykes Road, CR171, CR175, CR177A, CR179  
2011-2012 Budget Amendment # 2

Commissioner Merchant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jerome Szczekot, EMS Director, presented the temporary EMS Secretary recommendation item. He advised that it was the recommendation to hire Mrs. Betty Scott temporarily, for less than three months, and in an "on-call" capacity thereafter. His recommendation was for a rate of pay of \$11.00 per hour. The Board discussed this item. Commissioner King stated that it might be advisable for the new Director to have some input in this process. Commissioner Merchant made a motion to hire Mrs. Scott in the temporary position. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed; with Commissioner King voting no, and all others voting yes.

(Recommendation)

Mr. Jerome Szczekot, EMS Director, thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the County.

Attorney Goodman presented the EMS Director position item. He advised that it was the recommendation of the committee to hire Mr. Greg Barton as the new Director. The Board discussed this item. Commissioner King made a motion to hire Mr. Greg Barton as the new EMS Director. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Wanda Stafford, Emergency Management Director, presented the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) travel request item. The request was for Mrs. Stafford's travel to the 2012 Florida Emergency Preparedness Annual Conference to be held in Daytona Beach, February 6-10th. She advised that this item was included in the scope of work for her grant, and asked for Board approval of the request. The Board reiterated that they would not allow both Emergency Management to travel to the same conference since they required the office to be open to the public during the week. Mrs. Stafford asked for clarification regarding being "on-

call” during the weekend. The Board advised that they did not require this, and clarified that it was acceptable for both employees to be out of town on weekends if they wished. Also speaking regarding this topic was the following:

Attorney Goodman

The Board agreed by consensus that it was allowable for her travel requests to be placed under the consent items section of the agenda, at the Board’s discretion. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the travel request. Commissioner Music seconded the request. The motion passed unanimously.

(Request, Scope of Work)

Mr. Shep Eubanks, Extension Director, presented the Extension Office holiday hours request item. He advised that over the last two years, the State had required that their offices be closed during the week following the Christmas holiday and asked if it would be allowable for Ms. Cindy Owens, Secretary, to utilize her leave time to be off as well. The Board discussed this item. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the Extension Office hours, to be closed for the week following Christmas. Commissioner Merchant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Julia Bullington, representative of the Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Development Council, presented the County logo contest item. She asked if it would be allowable to proceed with plans for a contest to devise a County logo, and gauged the Board’s interest in utilizing the proposed logo after adoption. She advised that a proposed prize to be awarded for the winning logo was \$1,000.00, which was to be sponsored by the Tourist Development Council, Chamber of Commerce and Development Commission. The following topics were discussed: funding sources and partnerships, proposed rules and proposed selection committee composition. She also advised that she would bring additional information to the next meeting. The Board discussed this item. Commissioner Merchant made a motion to proceed with the contest plans. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rick Sallas did not attend the meeting, so his agenda item was not discussed.

Mr. John Ard, of the NaturChem Company discussed a highway turf management proposal in the amount of \$3,000.00. He advised that application could begin in January. The Board discussed this item. Other discussion included the following: turf versus brush management, application schedule and that application area suggestions would be needed from each Commissioner’s district. Also speaking regarding this item was the following:

Mr. Shep Eubanks, Extension Director

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the turf spraying proposal in the amount of \$3,000.00. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(Proposal)

Mr. Greg Barton, of the EMS Department, thanked the Board for being chosen as the new Director.

Mr. Jim Brook, of the Development Commission, updated the Board regarding "Project Q" and the progress of the Rural Broadband Alliance. He also thanked the Board for their support of the County logo contest.

Mrs. Susan Harris, Library Director, asked the Board if it would be allowable for her to submit her request for Mr. Eddie Whitehurst, Special Projects Manager, to inspect a ceiling issue at the Library Annex Building. The Board agreed by consensus for Mr. Whitehurst to look into this issue.

Mrs. Susan Harris, Library Director, asked the Board if it would be allowable for the Library to be closed during the holiday party. The Board agreed by consensus.

Commissioner King advised that the Mr. Roger Powell and Jeff Powell had modified Commissioner Music's backhoe for work on uneven surfaces, and that the modification had been successful. The Board discussed this item. Commissioner King made a motion for Mr. Powell to modify the remaining four backhoes, for the work to be done on the weekend and for the work to be charged to the County. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Merchant advised that the upcoming Legislative Day would take place Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and advised that registration was required for anyone who was interested. The Board discussed this item. No action was taken on this item.

Chairman Monk discussed a proposed road paving project on Northride and Southride Lanes. He advised that the Mr. Cliff Knauer, of Preble-Rish, was working on a proposal. Commissioner Merchant advised that other small projects may be considered as well. No action was taken on this item.

Mr. Ben Bell, of Melvin Engineering, updated that Board regarding 179A road project. He advised that paving had resumed and that December 31<sup>st</sup> was the anticipated project completion date.


Attorney Goodman discussed the Canvassing Board conference that he and Commissioner Merchant had attended. No action was taken on this item.

Attorney Goodman reminded everyone that this was to be the only December meeting.

Attorney Goodman discussed the EMS Director interview process and committee. The Board discussed this item. No action was taken on this item.

Commissioner Merchant made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

  
Clerk

  
Chairman