

February 9, 2010
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 Ron Monk, Commissioner Jim King, Commissioner Phillip Music and Commissioner Monty Merchant, Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Brandon Young, County Attorney, was present.

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

Chairman Merchant opened the meeting with the prayer and pledge.

Pursuant to Public Notice, the Board held a Public Hearing to discuss the Historic Property Ordinance regarding an ad valorem tax exemption for the Keith Cabin Foundation property. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve Ordinance #10-01. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance #10-01)

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

January 26, 2010 Regular Session Minutes

JAG Grant-Federal Fiscal Year 2009-

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant

Veteran's Office Travel Request-

Spring 2010 VA Training Re-certification

Hazards Analysis Update Letter of Acceptance

Road Closures, Maintenance & Right of Way Agent Agreements for

DOT-JS Jones Road and Hurricane Creek Road

Commissioner Monk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) program agreement with Tri-County Community Council. Attorney Young advised that he had prepared a draft and would be accepting suggestions on this agreement. Commissioner King made a motion to table this item. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(Draft Agreement)

The Board discussed the Teen Court item. Ms. Tammy Bozeman, of the Sheriff's Department Finance Office, advised that the Teen Court was not active in the County but that there was approximately \$30,000.00 in the Teen Court fund as a result of fees that had been collected as part of traffic violations. She explained that this issue had been raised as a result of a

recent audit, and that was her understanding that unutilized fees had to be returned to the State Courts Administrator. She stated that she would like to look into revitalizing this program and asked the Board for direction. Also speaking regarding this topic was the following:

Mr. Brandon Young, Attorney

Mr. Cody Taylor, Clerk of Court, advised that he would look into the membership of the Teen Court Board. No action was taken on this item.

The Board discussed the proposed Employee Manual updates regarding flextime and paid parking. The Board had discussed this item previously, and asked Attorney Young to gather more information regarding this. Chairman Merchant explained that he was not opposed to valet parking during work related travel if there be an issue of employee safety, but that the lowest priced parking should be encouraged. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the parking policy “as written” and the additions and modifications to the flextime section including the amendments to Section 14 of the manual. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed; with Chairman Merchant voting no, and all others voting yes.

(Manual Updates)

The Board discussed the retiree re-hiring item. Mr. Cody Taylor, Clerk of Court, advised that the State law regarding this issue would be changing on July 1st. Also speaking regarding this topic was the following:

Mr. Brandon Young, Attorney

The Board agreed by consensus that Attorney Young would bring more information to an upcoming meeting.

The Board discussed the Paid Time Off (PTO) hours buyback. They discussed the hours for Mr. Jim Brook and Ms. Elaine Mayfield of the Development Commission, and Mrs. Susan Harris of the Library. Commissioner Williams advised that he was agreeable to paying 100% of Ms. Mayfield’s PTO buyback up to October 1st and 50% of her buyback after October 1st as her position was only 50% funded by the Board after October 1st. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the buyouts with 100% buyback for Ms. Mayfield before October 1st and 50% on time accrued after October 1st. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the Mezzaluna Springs preliminary plat item. Previously, the Planning Commission had voted to approve the preliminary plat and it had been forwarded to the Board for review. Ms. Mary Margaret Fowler presented information regarding the plat. She also

advised that the plat was not to be recorded. Also speaking regarding this topic was the following:

Ms. Linda Christy, of the Mezzaluna Springs Development

Commissioner Music made a motion to approve the preliminary plat. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(Recommendation)

The Board discussed the grader rental quotes for District Five Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) related work. The following bids were submitted for consideration:

Vendor	Model	Price
Flint Equipment Company	JD 672D All Wheel Drive	\$4,500.00
Thompson Tractor	Caterpillar 140H	6,500.00
ASC Volvo	Volvo G940	4,000.00
Beard Equipment	JD 772D	4,900.00

Commissioner Monk made a motion to table this item so that the bids could be reviewed. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the LKQ land rezoning item. Mr. Carlton Treadwell, Planning Commission Chairman, advised that the Commission had voted to approve this change and asked the Board for their approval. Attorney Young advised that essentially this change would be a small scale amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and that a Public Hearing should be held within 30 days regarding this change. Also speaking regarding this topic was the following:

Mr. Jim Brook, of the Development Commission

Commissioner Music made a motion to adopt the land use change. Commissioner Monk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jerome Szczekot, EMS Director, discussed several department items. He asked the Board if it would be allowable for him to pursue the donation of a van by Tri-County Community Council to be utilized for non-emergency patient transports. He also asked the Board if it would be allowable for him to pursue the donation by the Department of Agriculture of a travel trailer that could be utilized as a portable EMS station or for extended emergency situations. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the van and trailer donations. Commissioner Music seconded the motion. The Board discussed the use of donated funds as it

pertained to the EMS Department. Mr. Szczekot advised that some of the donations that were received from the public were reserved for specific uses. Mr. Cody Taylor, Clerk of Court, advised that once funds are donated, they become Board controlled funds, and that the Board should set a policy regarding this issue. Commissioner Williams explained that citizens were welcome to purchase and donate specific items directly to the EMS Department, in lieu of cash. Attorney Young advised that he would devise a policy for review and discuss it with the Finance Department and Mr. Szczekot. No action was taken on this item.

(Letters)

The Board discussed the EMS Department budget and Medicare collections and billing. No action was taken on this item.

Commissioner Music advised that his District Foreman needed a better backhoe for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) related work and advised that he would like to go out for bids. No action was taken on this item.

Commissioner Music advised that he had received a dirt hauling request for Beaver Dam Road. He advised that a citizen had requested approximately three to four loads of dirt. The Board agreed by consensus to approve the dirt hauling request.

Chairman Merchant advised that he would be meeting with Representative Drake on Friday and that he would be discussing some road related issues.

Mr. Evan McAllister, of Melvin Engineering, advised that a Workshop was needed to discuss the Mezzaluna Springs Development roads and related deeds. The Board agreed by consensus to set a workshop for February 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Merchant advised that a Legislative Day conference would be taking place on March 24th and that he would be attending. No action was taken on this item.

Chairman Merchant advised that he was in need of a Road Maintenance Technician and asked if it would be allowable for him to post this position. The Board agreed by consensus.

Chairman Merchant updated the Board regarding possible budget cuts. He also discussed a memo that he had received regarding possible program cutbacks. No action was taken on this item.

Attorney Young advised that an Executive Session was needed to discuss a road related lawsuit. The Board agreed by consensus to set the meeting for 1:00 p.m. on February 23rd.

Mr. Brian Lemieux, citizen, discussed the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Forum regarding the State Road 79 corridor. He advised that it would be taking place at the High School from 4:00p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on February 24th.

The Board discussed nuisance animal control. Ms. Connie Mason, Owner of the Dogwood Lakes Golf Course, discussed the dog nuisance at her business. Chairman Merchant stated that he would call the dog owner to discuss this issue. Also speaking regarding this topic were the following:

Mr. Bennie Little, citizen
Mr. Brandon Young, Attorney
Mr. Carlton Treadwell, citizen
Mrs. Lori Patterson, citizen
Mr. Brady Wells

No action was taken on this item.

Mr. Brady Wells, citizen, discussed water system testing and licensing fees. No action was taken on this item.

Mrs. Lori Patterson, citizen, discussed a visibility issue near her home on Highway 177A. She asked if it would be allowable to cut down the trees that she believed were causing this issue. Commissioner Monk advised that he would examine this issue and look into posting some signs regarding this issue.

Mr. Stephen Penty, citizen, delivered his public apology as part of his court ordered retribution for a drug related offense.

(Certification)

Mr. Thomas Moss, citizen, revisited the dog nuisance item, a proposed Jail food drive and heat and air conditioning at the Jail.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Clerk

Chairman