

February 5, 2019
Special Session
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioner Phillip Music, Commissioner Earl Stafford, Commissioner Bobby, Sasnett, Commissioner Brandon Newsom and Commissioner Clint Erickson, Chairman of the Board.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, was present.

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

Chairman Erickson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Project Director David Corbin led the prayer and pledge.

The first agenda item was Agenda Additions or Deletions. The following additions were made to the agenda:

- 5-C) Paving Options
- 5-D) Board Secretary Position
- 9-A) FEMA Services RFP
- 9-B) Public Records Request
- 9-C) Animal Control
- 9-D) Writ of Mandamus
- 9-E) RFQ for FEMA PWs

Commissioner Music offered a motion to approve the amended agenda with Commissioner Stafford offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Newsom stated that when he gave up the Road Maintenance Technician (RMT) position in District 2 he intended for the entire amount of the position's salary and benefits to go to EMS to fund a New Hope ambulance crew. He did not plan for it to be divided out to help with the lobbyist services and beaver trapping as was done at the January 31st Special Session. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Entire amount of the position would not be enough to fund a 24 hour ambulance crew
- Money available from County Coordinator and another RMT position that have remained vacant for months
- \$55,000 that will need to be budgeted to fund the New Hope ambulance crew next year
- Using the remainder of money for that position to hire temporary help in District 1 and 2

The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Steve Connell, EMS Director
- Kyle Hudson, Clerk of Court

No action was taken and the Board agreed to continue with the lobbyist services and beaver trapping as agreed in an earlier meeting.

Commissioner Newsom discussed the \$3.2 million of FEMA funds for validated work that has been moved into a County interest bearing account. Kyle Hudson, Clerk of Court, discussed the following matters:

- Difference between validated projects and closed projects
- FEMA money cannot be spent until project is closed
- Need for temporary workers when no FEMA work is being done

- Money earned when County workers do the FEMA work
- Use of FEMA money for DOT Advanced Funding Agreements
- Cost of contracting out remainder of FEMA work
- Community meetings needed on alternative procedures before approving engineering task orders

The following citizens also discussed this matter:

- Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering
- Shawna Lumpkin, Road Department Secretary
- Hannah Benton, FEMA Project Monitor

The Board discussed the number of PWs remaining, the RFQ for dirt hauling and the need for Road Department employees to concentrate on regular road maintenance. Commissioner Sasnett offered a motion to have the County workers finish the remaining FEMA PWs with Commissioner Music offering a second. Commissioners Music, Sasnett and Newsom voted yes with Commissioners Stafford and Erickson voting no. The motion passed.

Commissioner Sasnett offered a motion to hire two more FEMA workers with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stafford advised that he had looked at chip sealed and milled asphalt roads in Jackson County and wanted those methods considered for alternative procedures. Brandon Young, County Attorney, advised that the scope of work for the alternative procedures must be decided by the time the disaster recovery services contract is awarded on March 12th. Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, discussed the costs of paving, engineering and permits needed for each method.

Commissioner Stafford offered a motion to advertise the Board Secretary position in-house for three days with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously. The Board agreed that Mr. Corbin could make the hiring decision for the position without the Board's approval.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, advised that the FEMA disaster recovery services advertisement was coming out tomorrow and that he should be notified if any of the companies wishing to enter a bid tries to contact a commissioner or County staff.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, gave each of the commissioners a copy of the public records request from Disaster Law and Consulting (DLC) and requested that the records be turned into him by the end of next week.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, stated that the Writ of Mandamus filed by Capital Truck was set for a hearing on February 12th. He advised that currently the attorney's fees are approximately \$2300, but that amount will increase if the matter goes to hearing. Commissioner Stafford offered a motion to give the County Attorney authority to negotiate a settlement with the company up to a maximum of \$2300 to be paid out of contingencies. Commissioner Music offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, advised that, at the end of October, Animal Control and the Holmes County Sheriff's Office seized six dogs that were deemed dangerous after attacking a man who later passed away. The animals have been housed with the vet since that time and the current vet bill is approximately \$6,000. Mr. Young advised that there is a criminal case pending against the dogs' owners and a judgment for the money should be entered. He will talk to the Judge in the criminal case tomorrow about disposing of the dogs. The Board discussed creating an Animal Control Board made up of a licensed vet, an animal control officer and a commissioner. David Corbin, Project Director, will bring back information about creating the board.

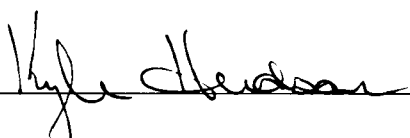
Commissioner Newsom discussed increasing Project Monitor Hannah Benton's pay and have her absorb the workload of current Project Monitor Donna Williams should Ms. Williams get the Board Secretary position. Shawna Lumpkin, Road Department Secretary, advised that another Project Monitor would be needed if Ms. Williams left that position.

Kyle Hudson, Clerk of Court, discussed the Board's use of the contingencies fund and requested that they meet with the Finance office to find available funds before presenting an idea to the Board for approval.

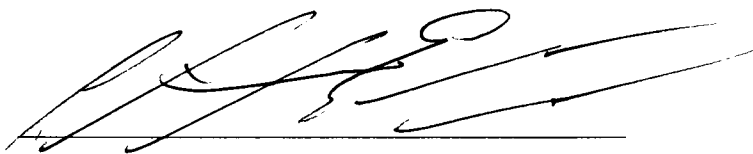
Commissioner Erickson advised that the Building Department was facing a shortfall of funds because Building Inspector Roger Williams was currently being paid while on medical leave as well as paying the Interim Building Inspector. He said the matter would have to be discussed further in the near future.

Commissioner Stafford discussed Eddie Gilbert's property on Hwy 177A. He advised that a water drainage issue is affecting the highway. Mr. Gilbert has agreed to pay for the materials if the County will extend the cement slab on this low water crossing by six feet. The Board agreed by consensus to have the work done if the property owner signed a right of entry form.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Clerk



Chairman