

April 29, 2020
Special Session
Bonifay, Florida

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

Brandon Young, County Attorney, and David Corbin, Project Director, were present.

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

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Albert Jordan, Special Road Projects Manager, led the prayer and pledge.

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

- County Attorney Item A) Special Meeting for FEMA Bids

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

The Board discussed the timeline for returning meetings to the Board's office. County Attorney Brandon Young will research and advise about the placement of future meetings.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented an \$82,300 quote submitted by DRC Emergency Services for removing the debris from the April 23rd tornado damage. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- State has not declared storm an emergency
- County will not qualify for financial assistance with the clean-up cost
- Quotes can be accepted if the Board declares the debris removal an emergency service
- Bidding out the service versus having the Road Department handle the clean-up
- Source of funds for the service or the overtime
- Revenues are projected to sharply decline due to COVID-19
- How the debris must be assessed in order for companies to prepare quotes
- Using validated FEMA funds to pay the costs of the debris removal

The following citizens discussed this matter

- Alice Vickers, Clerk of Court
- Brandon Young, County Attorney
- Albert Jordan, Special Road Projects Manager

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to declare the debris removal an emergency service due to the debris being on the County right of way, to advertise for quotes to clear debris and to open the quotes at a Special Session on May 5th at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Music offered a second and the motion passed unanimously. The Board directed Mr. Jordan to assist companies interested in placing a quote with assessing the debris.

(Quote)

Brandon Young, County Attorney, presented a letter addressed to Governor DeSantis requesting direction on re-opening the County following the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussion included the effect of the shut down on the local businesses. Commissioner Music offered a motion for the Chairman to sign the proposed letter with Commissioner Sasnett offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Letter)

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineers, advised that the contractors on the Bonifay/Gritney Road are requesting to close a portion of the road for three to four days. He stated that the road closure will be necessary in approximately three weeks for replacing culverts. The Board tabled this matter until the May 5th Regular Session to see the contractor's plans for the detour route.

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineers, discussed the contractor's progress on the FEMA alternative procedures roads advising that GAC, Inc. has located more recycled asphalt which is currently being tested. GAC, Inc. has reduced to using two crews to place the lime rock on the roads and the company will maintain the roads that only have the lime rock base in place.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, discussed the response to Lime Rock Bid 20-01 and RAP Bid 20-02 for the next round of alternative procedures roads stating that the proposals are due Monday, May 4th. Discussion included adjusting the length of the roads to account for the inspection costs and getting more definite costs of inspection for the next round of roads. Bob Stinebaugh, The Integrity Group, stated that he will present the adjusted amount of funding available at the next meeting. Commissioner Music offered a motion to open and score the bids at a Special Session scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on May 5th. Commissioner Erickson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Erickson discussed using the validated FEMA funds to increase the County's reserves. Alice Vickers, Clerk of Court, advised that the funds are currently in a separate interest-bearing account and cannot be placed in the reserves until the money is no longer subject to an audit. Discussion included the amount of interest earned to date and finding a better rate of interest. The Board requested that the Finance office produce information on the dollar amount of interest earned on the validated fund and the current interest rate.


The Board discussed the possibility of receiving assistance from the State for the cost to clear the storm debris. Discussion also included assistance for COVID-19 expenses, building a new Ag Center and a new EMS building. Alice Vickers, Clerk of Court, advised that the State is projecting a sharp decline in revenue due to the pandemic with the possibility of cutting funding to previously approved appropriations. She stated that projections should be available at the end of May or beginning of June.

Chairman Stafford expressed his appreciation for the local response by the Fire Department, Sheriff's Office and the County workers on the day of the storm.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



Clerk



Chairman