

May 17, 2022
Regular Session
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioners Clint Erickson, Phillip Music, Jeff Good, Brandon Newsom and Commissioner Earl Stafford, Chairman of the Board.

David Corbin, Project Director, and Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, were also present.

Leigh Ann Ennis, Deputy Clerk, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

The first agenda item was Agenda Additions and Deletions. The following items were added:

- Project Director Rec Center
- Project Director CDL Classes
- Project Director Sealed Bids
- Agenda Item Road Closure
- Agenda Item New Hope EMS

Commissioner Good offered the motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Good offered the motion to adopt the minutes from the May 3, 2022, Regular Session. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, introduced Ms. Melanie Spradlin as a new Building Department employee.

Chairman Stafford presented Liberty Partners with a plaque of appreciation on behalf of Sheriff John Tate and the Holmes County Sheriff's Department.

Emma McKee, Long Leaf Alliance, discussed how the Alliance works to restore the Long Leaf Pine Ecosystem by helping to control invasive species that are detrimental to the Long Leaf Pine Ecosystem. Ms. McKee explained that there are grant funds available to assist with removal invasive plant species and encouraged the County to take advantage of services that the Alliance has to offer.

Anne Rogers, Friends of Dogwood Lakes, discussed the workday at the County Park near the Dogwood Lakes community on Sunday, May 15, 2022. Ms. Rogers also presented several items in need of attention at the park including the fence, porta potties, and trash pickup. The porta potties were an issue of discussion as the County has not place portable toilets at the park.

Shawna Lumpkin, Integrity Group, discussed the FEMA DR #4564 (Hurricane Sally) Parks/Well Project. Ms. Lumpkin explained that the County can move forward with the wells after the "kick off meeting" where Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, the archeologic firm and FEMA will discuss a plan to move forward.

John Alford, a private citizen, discussed the need for public access to his property on Little John Lane and other properties for sale in the Dogwood Lakes Community. Discussion included:

- Roadways in Dogwood Lakes are maintained by the County
- Additional roadways in Dogwood Lakes have been platted but not constructed
- Other land owners have cleared “trails” to their properties for potential purchasers to be able to view land
- The County and land owners may be able to work with a logging company to clear land for roadways and properties for sale

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to obtain three quotes, in accordance with County procurement policy, to survey the needed roadways in Dogwood Lakes. Commissioner Good offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Maps)

Trey Barbie, City of Bonifay Public Works, requested assistance from the County in obtaining funds to pave Scenic Hills Circle. Mr. Barbie explained that a single quote for \$251,000.00 for paving services was obtained from a contractor already providing services to the City of Bonifay. Discussion included possibly applying to have the road resurfaced through SCRAP or SCOP programs, as well as Liberty Partners searching for grants or programs through which the County may be able to assist the City of Bonifay with this issue. The Board agreed by consensus that David Corbin, Project Director, should work with the City of Bonifay to determine how the County may be of assistance.

Garett Griffin, Emerald Coast Regional Counsel (ECRC), presented Resolution #22-12 providing a special exception to use HHRP funds to repair a home where SHIP funds were used over 24 years ago, with the SHIP loan being repaid 14 years ago. Mr. Griffin explained that after the SHIP loan was repaid the home was damaged by Hurricane Michael. Mr. Griffin explained that there is approximately \$60,000.00 in HHRP funds remaining, which is not enough to build a new home, but when combined with SHIP funding, will allow for the remaining HHRP funds to be completely used for citizen benefit. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion allowing the Chairman to sign Resolution #22-12, providing a special exception for the house located at 2017 Johnny Forehand Lane, Ponce De Leon. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution # 22-12)

Mary Balint, PPLCS, presented the 2022 interlocal agreement regarding the Multi-Community Cooperative Library Service. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to move forward and allow the Chairman to sign the interlocal agreement with PPLCS. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Robert Kolmetz, a private citizen, discussed the Cogan Grass problem in the County. Mr. Kolmetz explained that private citizens can spray their property but irradiating the Cogan Grass problem will require County action as there is a significant amount of Cogan Grass growing in County right of ways. Mr. Kolmetz explained that the Long Leaf Alliance has grant funding available to pay for spraying of Cogan Grass on County

right of ways. Mr. Kolmetz left an example agreement from Santa Rosa County for Nate Nolan, County Attorney, to look over.

(Agreement)

Steve Connell, EMS Director, presented Resolution #22-13, authorizing the County to apply for a grant to purchase new CPR instruction equipment. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion for Resolution #22-13 be approved and signed by the Chairman. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #22-13)

Chairman Stafford introduced the Miscellaneous Appropriations Agreement with the Chamber of Commerce and Angie Purvee, Finance Director, clarified that it is an agreement signed annually permitting funds to be dispersed between the parties. Commissioner Newsom offered the motion to approve the Miscellaneous Appropriations Agreement with the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Erickson offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Commissioner Newsom discussed adding the funding request for Pine Log Volunteer Fire Department for a building improvement project to the ARPA Secondary Projects list. This project was previously deemed as ineligible for ARPA funding, however, under the final ruling it may be eligible for funding. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to add Pine Log Volunteer Fire Department's building project to the second round of ARPA funding considerations. Commissioner Good offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stafford discussed a pending request to close Sharpe Road and McDonald Road. Chairman Stafford explained that the parties involved had discussed the road closures and were in agreement, and that McDonald Road has not been a County maintained road for a number of years. He stated that the interested parties would be presenting this request to the Board in the near future.

Steve Connell, EMS Director, discussed New Hope EMS Station. Discussion included:

- The number of hours collectively worked by the on call EMTs
- On-call employees are working enough hours that the County may be required to offer benefits
- Consideration has been given to hiring two full-time EMTs
- Part of the cost of the full-time positions can be met with current budgeted funds by reallocating building improvement funds
- Declaring a remount ambulance as surplus and selling it should make up the additional funds needed for the remaining full-time EMT salary costs

Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to declare the suggested ambulance as surplus and then be sold to offset salary costs for full-time EMT positions. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Newsom offered the motion to hire two full-time EMTs with benefits through September 30, 2022, and the positions will be "re-visited" when planning for the next budget year. Salary deficits will be paid using \$10,000.00 from EMS Building Improvements as well as using the proceeds from the sale of the surplus ambulance. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented the Board with a Road Department equipment location list as was requested at the May 3, 2022 meeting.

(List)

David Corbin, Project Director, recommended to the Board that the citizens of the County would best be served as far as road side brush trimming if the districts were completed one at a time as he has previously suggested.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented one quote for a Mower/Trimmer (Mo-Trim) unit. Mr. Corbin explained that only one quote could be obtained and no used units are known to be available at this time. The quote was for \$151,348.04. No action was taken.

(Quote)

David Corbin, Project Director, explained that he has not been able to obtain a quote for the tractor and bush-hog requested by District 5.

David Corbin, Project Director, discussed purchasing pre-formed speed bumps, explaining that one speed bump is approximately \$1,704.00. Discussion included speeding in the area of New Smyrna Church and the need to install speed bumps to slow speeding cars due to imminent safety concerns. Further discussion included:

- Three Asphalt speed bumps can be constructed using approximately 7.5 tons of asphalt for approximately \$600.00 in asphalt cost
- Jason Pugh, Tri-State Striping LLC, offered his services free of charge to install speed bumps on Adolph Whitaker Road in the area of New Smyrna Church

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to allow Tri-State Striping LLC to install three asphalt speed bumps in the area of New Smyrna Church on Adolph Whitaker Road, using no more than \$1,000.00 from Road Department Contingencies to purchase materials. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Quote)

David Corbin, Project Director, discussed requests to rent and or use the Rec Center. Discussion included the need for a lease agreement for this purpose as well as inquiring about liability insurance specifications with the County's insurance provider. The Board agreed by consensus to have Nate Nolan, County Attorney, draw up a lease agreement for Rec Center and for David Corbin, Project Director, to determine what steps need taken to insure proper liability coverage for special events.

David Corbin, Project Director, discussed the County paying for CDL training for employees. Discussion included:

- The County paying for a 10-week CDL training course for employees
- The need for a contract between employees who participate in the training and the County to ensure employee retention or recapture of funds
- Training for current employees as well as prospective employees
- Putting together a class with other counties to get the 12 people necessary to hold a CDL class

No action was taken at this time.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented the sealed bid results for the surplus equipment offered to the public. Mr. Corbin explained that the vehicles were offered in this manner at the request of local citizens, and no local citizens or entities submitted bids. Commissioner Good offered a motion to reject all bids and to send the vehicles to public auction. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, discussed the need to appoint someone to the Tri-County Airport Authority Board. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to re-appoint Fred Provost for a second term. Commissioner Good offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Green, Liberty Partners, presented a quote for the Doctors Memorial Hospital equipment being purchased with ARPA funds. Ms. Green explained that this was a re-bid and it is for requested equipment purchase. The bid amount is \$404,622.68, which exceeds what was originally proposed. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to approve the bid and move forward. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Quote)

Tim Parsons discussed State Appropriations and the unsigned 2022-23 State Budget. He encouraged the Board to continue to be patient and the budget should be signed soon. Mr. Parsons explained that after the appropriations amount is official then remaining ARPA funds can be examined.

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, reported that he met with Bonifay Gritney Road Phase 2 property owners last week and many are ready to sign. Discussion included:

- Jack Faircloth's fence is being redesigned
- Many changes are being made at land owner request
- There is no quote on the total amount of fence at this time but the fence is being meticulously documented to avoid future misunderstandings
- Fencing should be bid when the project is close to moving forward as a quote is often only good for 30 days

Mr. Knauer advised that he will prepare a bid package for the fencing project.

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, reported that the Bonifay/Chipley Road permits have come through from DEP with archeological stipulations. Mr. Knauer explained that a meeting with All Phases Archeology and SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) is necessary to clarify locations necessary for archeological evaluation.

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, discussed the FEMA DR #4564 (Hurricane Sally) Parks/Well Project and advised that the cost for the archeological studies required will be \$3,216.25 for the Dogwood Lakes park and \$2,816.25 for the Wrights Creek park for a total of \$6,032.50. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to move forward with the archeological studies for both wells using Road Department Contingencies funds. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering, discussed County Road 181C. Mr. Knauer explained that the plans originally submitted to DOT did not include replacing the culvert on the south end of CR 181C. However, the culvert has since deteriorated. Mr. Knauer explained that he trying to get DOT to cover the cost of the culvert.

Jake Mathis, Melvin Engineering, stated that Melvin Engineering is working on the Economic Development Project and the second public hearing needs to be set for July 12, 2022. Commissioner Newsom offered the motion to hold the second public hearing on July 12, 2022 at the Board's regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, presented the FL AG Settlement with Walgreens Opioid Settlement Agreement. Mr. Nolan emphasized this is separate from any previous agreements discussed and signed. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to allow the Chairman to sign the FL AG Settlement Agreement. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Commissioner Newsom reported that he received a proposal from Tri-State Striping LLC, who was heard from earlier in the meeting when discussing speed bump work for the County. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to have Tri-State Striping install three speed bumps on Coursey Road for the sum of \$2,400.00 which will be taken from Road Department Contingencies. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Erickson revisited the "brush cutting" schedule that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Discussion included the need to get brush cut back so that farmers can get equipment down the roads without damaging the GPS systems located on top of the machinery, using inmate labor to run the brush cutters, and moving inmates from district to district to cut brush. No official consensus was reached.

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.


Clerk


Chairman