

August 2, 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.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, was also present.

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

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, led the prayer and pledge.

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

- Commissioner Item Kiwanis Club Stadium
- Commissioner Item Deacon Road Property Hunting Lease

The following item was deleted:

- County Attorney Resolution #22-18

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

Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to adopt the minutes from the July 19, 2022 Regular Session and the July 19, 2022 Workshop. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stafford congratulated the Dixie Youth State Champion baseball teams and explained how proud the Board and the County are of these young athletes.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, read Resolution #22-24 declaring Thursday, August 4, 2022 as Dixie Youth 7-8-Year-Old Boys Coach Pitch Baseball Day. Commissioner Music offered the motion to adopt Resolution #22-24. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #22-24)

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, read Resolution #22-23 declaring Wednesday, August 3, 2022 as Dixie Youth 11-12-Year-Old Boys Baseball Day. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to adopt Resolution #22-23. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #22-23)

The Dixie Youth thanked the County for all their efforts and cooperation in keeping the Rec Center open and operating as well as presented the County with a check for \$2,500.00 to be used to offset the County's expense for Rec Center maintenance. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to receive the \$2,500.00 donation from the Dixie Youth and then return the \$2,500.00 check back to the Dixie Youth to use for their program. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Melanie Rowand-Mills, Emerald Coast Regional Council, presented the updated SHIP Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) for fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025, which had already been approved by Florida Housing Finance with no fundamental changes to the plan. The LHAP must be approved by resolution. Commissioner Music offered a motion to adopt Resolution #22-19 approving the LHAP as presented for fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(LHAP & Resolution #22-19)

Melanie Rowand-Mills, Emerald Coast Regional Council, presented Resolution #22-20, a one-time special exemption to the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program (HHRP) Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) increasing the award amount for one family as well as combining SHIP funds to completely fund the project. Ms. Rowand-Mills explained that this project located at 2017 Johnny Forehand Lane, Ponce De Leon Florida, will be the final HHRP project and will expend the remaining HHRP funds. Discussion included the need to raise the standard project expense limit to \$169,010.00 as necessary septic and well work increased the cost of the project, and without a proper septic and well the home replacement cannot be completed. Ms. Rowand-Mills assured the Board that there is no State ruling that prevents the Board from increasing a project allowance by special exception and that the two bids obtained for the project meet the program requirements. Commissioner Good offered the motion to approved Resolution #22-19. Commissioner Music offered the second and the vote was as follows: Commissioners Erickson, Good, Music and Stafford voted yes and Commissioner Newsom voted no. The motion passed.

(Resolution #22-20)

Tim Parsons, Liberty Partners, recommended that the Board vote on a name for the building currently designated at the Holmes County Government Efficiency Complex and that the Board consider the name suggested by State Representative Brad Drake at the Workshop held on July 19, 2022. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to name the building complex, previously known as the Holmes County Government Efficiency Center, the Senator George Gainer Governmental Complex. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, presented the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (“Agreement”) Governing the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Coalition, establishing the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Coalition is made and entered into by and between Holmes, Okaloosa, Walton, and Washington Counties. Discussion included that this is an agreement between five counties and there is no cost to the County to participate. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to approve the Agreement and Commissioner Music offered the second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Bob Stinebaugh, Integrity Group, advised that the appeals submitted on the County’s behalf for the Hurricane Salley FEMA #4564 disaster are still pending.

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, presented a proposed lot split for two acres on West North Avenue owned by Terry and Deborah Decker, parcel 0925.04-000-000-002.000. Mr. Feeney recommended that the Board approve the split as it meets all the criteria for approval. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to approve the application allowing for the split of parcel 0925.04-000-000-002.000. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Lot Split Application)

Tim Parsons, Liberty Partners, discussed the FDOT Beautification Grant explaining that he had worked with David Corbin, Project Director, and Whitney Milbourn, Administrative Assistant, to provide a letter of interest in participating in the grant application process. Mr. Parsons explained that the proposed project for the grant would be a County welcome sign on Highway 81 at the State line.

Tim Parsons, Liberty Partners, presented a contract renewal for services provided by Liberty Partners for services currently being provided by their firm at no increase in cost of service. Clarification was provided by Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, that this is continuation of services provided by an existing contract. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to move forward and sign the contract renewal between the County and Liberty Partners. Commissioner Good offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Contract)

Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering discussed the following:

- Bids will be received this coming week for the County Road 181C project and will be presented at the next regular session
- Bids for fencing projects on Bonifay Chipecy Road and Bonifay Gritney Road Phase 2 will also be presented at the next regular session
- The archeological study results for the Bonifay Chipley Road project should be back soon
- The Ammons Road project is nearing completion
- Site plans for the George Gainer Governmental Complex will be ready soon and a Workshop could be planned to present site plan options to the Board and the public

The Board agreed by consensus to hold a workshop to discuss plans for the George Gainer Governmental Complex at 8:00 a.m. prior to the next regular session on August 16, 2022. An additional workshop may be planned to coincide with the September 6, 2022 regular session if deemed necessary.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, discussed allowing private individuals to use County digital signs purchased with grant funds. Discussion included allowing non-profit organizations to use the signs but not allowing private citizens to use the signs. Mr. Nolan recommended using the signs for County use only. Further discussion included clarification that use of County signs for road and highway safety during a private event is for public safety and not an advertisement for the event itself. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to use the digital County signs for the health, safety and welfare of the public only, and that County policy be updated to reflect such. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, presented Resolution #22-22 authorizing the Project Director to provide Public Risk management of Florida with notice of the Board's intent to withdraw and providing for an effective date. Discussion included the setting the effective date for the previous regular session, July 19, 2022. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to approve Resolution #22-22 contingent upon the effective date being changed to July 19, 2022. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

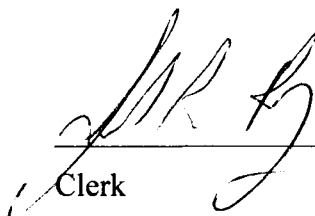
(Resolution #22-22)

Commissioner Erickson discussed assisting the Kiwanis Club with removal of the bleachers at the north end of Memorial Field. Commissioner Erickson explained that the Kiwanis would disassemble the bleachers but can't remove the concrete pilings and remove all debris. Mr. Erickson discussed that the work could be done on a Friday and Saturday when Road Department employees are usually off. It was determined that the Kiwanis Club can be invoiced for the overtime incurred by this project. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to use County employees and equipment to assist the Kiwanis Club with debris removal at Memorial Field and invoice the Kiwanis Club for overtime incurred. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Erickson discussed renewing the hunting lease on the Deacon Road property to the previous lessee. Discussion included the liability of allowing hunting on County property. Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, agreed to review the matter and discuss the issue further at the next Board meeting.

Nathan Nolan, County Attorney, requested the Board approve the Courthouse Generator grant project be rebid. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to put the Courthouse Generator grant project out for RFP and accept bids immediately as the project completion deadline is August of 2023. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Having no further business at this time the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.


Clerk


Chairman