

July 20, 2021
Special Session
Bonifay, Florida

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

David Corbin, Project Director, was present and Brandon Young, County Attorney, was present via telephone.

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

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

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

- Commissioner Item Additional Requests for ARPA Funds

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

Katie Taff, Liberty Partners, discussed the summary of needs presented at the July 13, 2021 American Rescue Program Act (ARPA) Workshop. Ms. Taff encouraged the Board to focus on project importance rather than cost. Discussion included:

- Project eligibility under ARPA guidelines
- Prioritizing the items summarized from the last session
- Search for grant funding to help stretch ARPA funds
- A deadline of September 30, 2021 to apply for ARPA funds

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to set a deadline of September 30, 2021 allowing time for all interested parties to submit requests and specifications to be eligible for possible ARPA funding. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Summary)

Katie Taff, Liberty Partners, discussed the creation of a workgroup for the Holmes County Ag Center. Ms. Taff presented a resolution creating a five-member workgroup that meets monthly and reports to the Board monthly. Commissioner Erickson suggested appointing the citizens to the workgroup who have been the most involved in the process up to this point. The matter was tabled to allow the County Attorney to look over the resolution.

Ryan Martin, Bonifay Volunteer Fire Department, presented the needs of the fire department and asked that the department be considered for ARPA funding.


David Corbin, Project Director presented a letter from Ponce de Leon Volunteer Fire Rescue requesting consideration for ARPA funding for department equipment needs.


(Letter)

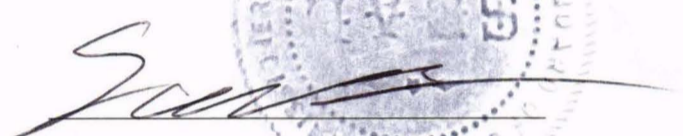
Steve Connell, EMS Director, presented a request for consideration for ARPA funding on behalf of Chance Pitts and the Pine Log Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD). Mr. Connell explained that PLVFD is interested in adding a bunk room to the building. Mr. Connell stated the estimated cost of the addition is \$30,000.00

Joe Rone, Development Commission, explained that the Development Commission will reapply for grant funding to make repairs the Ag Center with the help of Liberty Partners. Discussion also included possible grant funding for the Property Appraiser's and Tax Collector's offices, with further discussion about property ownership in regards to eligibility for grant funding.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was recessed at 8:00 a.m.


Clerk




Chairman

