September 28, 2020 Final Budget Hearing/Special Session Bonifay, Florida

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

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

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

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. Albert Jordan, Special Road Projects Manager, led the prayer and pledge.

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

• Commissioner Item GAC Contract

• Commissioner Item Road Department Consolidation

• Agenda Item Temporary Employee

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

Pursuant to public notice, the Board held a public hearing to adopt the 2020-2021 millage and budget. Chairman Stafford stated that the tentative millage was set at 9.4916 which is 0.78% greater than the rolled-back rate of 9.4183. He also advised that the current millage is 9.4916 and by adopting the same millage for 2020-21 this generates a small increase in revenue which is needed to balance the General and Transportation Trust Funds. The public was given the opportunity to speak with no one responding.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, read Resolution #20-58. Commissioner Music offered the motion to adopt Resolution #20-58 establishing the final millage at 9.4916. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #20-58)

Chairman Stafford explained that he is in need of a grader operator and would like to hire a temporary employee for District 4 as the regular operating employee is out on medical leave. Commissioner Erickson stated that he is also in need of a temporary employee in District 5 and discussion included:

- How to pay for temporary employees
- Need to accept 2020-21 budget and then determine where funds can be appropriated
- District 4 position will be for 12 weeks
- District 5 position will be until November 1, 2020 when a permanent employee can take over
- Rate of pay

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to hire two temporary employees, one for District 4 and one for District 5 using Road Department Contingencies. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

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Brandon Young, County Attorney, read Resolution #20-59. Commissioner Music offered a motion to adopt Resolution #20-59 adopting the Final Budget for 2020-21. Commissioner Erickson offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #20-59) (2020-21 Final Budget)

David Corbin, Project Director, explained that the Value Adjustment Board is in need of a replacement member for the current homestead property owner, Jeff Good, who is unable to serve. Chairman Stafford recommended Brian Lemieux. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to appoint Brain Lemieux as the homestead property owner to the Value Adjustment Board. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, explained that Holley Development, the contractor for the Thomas Drive Bridge project, is not prequalified for DOT projects, however, the Board can vote to waive the pre-qualifier requirement. Commissioner Sasnett offered a motion to waive the pre-qualifier requirement with Commissioner Newsom offering the second. The motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, reported that Gulf Power needs to move a power line and CenturyLink needs to move a box on the Thomas Drive bridge before the contractor can proceed. There was concern about Gulf Power and CenturyLink's ability to complete this work in a timely manner, allowing the contractor to begin and finish in the estimated amount of time from the issuance of the Notice to Proceed. Mr. Corbin explained that it could take three to four months for the utility companies to complete their work. Discussion included:

- Brandon Holley, Holley Development, stated that he had spoken to CenturyLink and they could start as soon as the power line is moved
- Mr. Corbin explained that perhaps it will be a case of speaking to the right people at the utility companies to get the work prioritized and completed
- Commissioner Erickson expressed concern over the length of time it may take to complete the utility work, then spending the money to build a temporary bridge when DOT plans to build a new bridge next year.

 The matter was tabled until the October 6, 2020 Regular Session.

David Corbin, Project Director, reported there will be some changes at Environmental Health in Holmes County. Ms. Karen Johnson, Holmes County Department of Health, has retired and interviews for her position will begin soon. Mr. Jace Allberry, Holmes County Environmental Officer, has resigned, and his position will be combined with the Washington County Environmental Health position. The combining of positions will leave a need for the Board and the Sheriff's Department to assume some responsibilities previously fulfilled by Environmental Health including possible rabid animal bites and other animal to human transferred diseases.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented two quotes for monthly grader rental. Discussion included the following:

- Flint Equipment Quote: \$7,300 for 28 day term, maximum hours of use 176, overage hours billed at \$41.50 per hour, freight each way is \$400 unless rental carries beyond 3 consecutive terms
- Thompson Cat Quote: \$8,500 for 28 day term, maximum hours of use 176, no freight fees

- Possible FEMA reimbursement according to disaster declaration and category issued
- Need for graders to complete road repairs quickly with Districts 5 and 3 already in need of an additional grader and District 1 with a grader in need of repairs
- The benefit to the County of a Category C declaration over Category B including wages for laborer to operate rented grader

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to rent two John Deere 672G graders from Flint Equipment under FEMA Category B status. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Quotes)

Bob Stinebaugh, Integrity Group, discussed CARES Act business including the following:

- Commissioner Erickson questioned the availability of CARES Act information to the public
- Feeding citizens of Holmes County via Feeding Florida and local volunteer organizations
- Possible County assistance to non-profit organizations who have missed fund raising opportunities due to COVID restrictions via County funded COVID grants
- Need for Chairman to sign appropriate forms for CARES Act spending documentation

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion giving permission to Chairman Stafford to sign the CARES Act documentation needed by Integrity Group, as presented by Bob Stinebaugh. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Proposed CARES Act Expenditure List)

Commissioner Stafford asked for an update on the Bonifay-Chipley Road project as private citizens were complaining about lack of action on the project. Dewberry Engineering was not represented but David Corbin, Project Director, offered an update as provided by Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering via an earlier phone conversation. Mr. Corbin reported that another easement for the project had been signed and approval of the permit from the Army Corps of Engineers is still pending.

Brandon Young, County Attorney, discussed future DOT work on Ten Mile Creek Bridge on Robbins Bridge Road. Mr. Young explained that an agreement and resolution needed to be signed by Chairman Stafford. Some discussion followed stating the bridge is currently closed and does need repairs due to recent rains and flooding. Mr. Young explained that does not change the need to sign at this time. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to sign the agreement with DOT to replace Ten Mile Creek Bridge, Bridge # 524138, on Robbins Bridge Road. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Brandon Young, County Attorney, presented Resolution 20-60 allowing the State to acquire easement for the County as needed for the completion of the Robbins Bridge Road project over Ten Mile Creek Bridge. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion approving Resolution 20-60 with Commissioner Music offering the second. The motion passed unanimously.

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Brandon Young, County Attorney, presented Resolution 20-61 allowing for the temporary closure of Robbins Bridge Road at the time of bridge replacement. Commissioner Erickson offered the motion to approve Resolution

20-61 with Commissioner Newsom offering the second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution 20-61)

Brandon Young, County Attorney, explained that the PRM property and casualty insurance renewal needs to be signed by the Chairman and mailed to PRM prior to October 1, 2020. Commissioner Music offered the motion to allow Chairman Stafford to sign the PRM renewal with Commissioner Erickson offering the second. The motion

passed unanimously.

(PRM Renewal)

Brandon Young, County Attorney, explained that there is an issue with the Bear Hewett Landing Road property that was recently sold to Joseph Gause. Mr. Young explained that the size of the property is less acreage than described on the deed and on the property appraiser's website. Mr. Gause has asked for a refund and will return the property to the County. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to refund Mr. Gause's money and allow him to transfer the property back to the County. Commissioner Music offered the second and the motion passed

unanimously.

(Property Information)

Commissioner Erickson discussed the fact that GAC, the contractor for Phase 1 of the FEMA Alternative Project roads, is approximately 58 days behind the completion date. The contract with GAC states that there is a penalty of \$1000 per day that the project is extended or not completed. Commissioner Erickson recommended

enforcing the fine. No action was taken at this time.

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Commissioner Erickson discussed the idea of consolidating the Road Department's five districts into one unit. Commissioner Erickson explained there is a need to bring work crews together and work more efficiently rather than continue to promote division of responsibilities. Commissioner Music explained that he believed the citizens would not be served as well through a consolidation. Commissioner Newsom stated that he would be

interested in hearing more about a consolidation plan at a later time. No action was taken at this time.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was recessed at 6:35 p.m.

Clerk

Chairman