

August 24, 2022
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, Phillip Music, Jeff Good, Brandon Newsom and Commissioner Earl Stafford, Chairman of the Board.

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

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford called the Special Session to order at 5:00 p.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

The Board congratulated Commissioner Newsom on his re-election.

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

- Commissioner Items: Tractor Quotes
- Planner: DEO Rural Infrastructure Grant Applications

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

David Corbin, Project Director, advised that Bob Jones, CDBG Administrator, passed away. The Board offered their prayers and condolences to Mr. Jones' family.

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, presented Resolution 22-26 for Board approval. He advised that the resolution approves the application for the Florida DEP Resilient Florida Grants which finances a vulnerability assessment to identify any areas of natural occurrences within the County. There are no matching funds required for these grant funds. Commissioner Music offered a motion to adopt Resolution 22-26 allowing the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or the Project Director to sign the grant applications. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion pass unanimously.

(Resolution 22-26)

The Board discussed instituting weight limits on the newly paved County roads following an incident on Flowing Well Road where a loaded logging truck damaged approximately 600 feet of the road. The discussion included the following:

- Current weight limits on State roads
- Logging activities within the County will increase over the next few years
- Establishing and enforcing the weight limits
- Ordinance 20-02 addresses the issue and authorizes the Sheriff's Office to enforce
- Sheriff's Office does not have the equipment to enforce a road weight limit
- Requiring permits and bonds for logging activities
- Adopting weight limits on roads by resolutions and posting limits
- Determining damage, cost to repair and liable party
- Filing an insurance claim for the damage or a civil lawsuit
- Actions taken by surrounding Counties with similar issues
- County Attorney to present options after further research

The following citizens spoke concerning this matter:

- Nate Nolin, County Attorney
- Cliff Knauer, Dewberry Engineering
- John Tate, Holmes County Sheriff

Commissioner Music offered a motion for the County Attorney and Project Director David Corbin to meet with the logging company working on Flowing Well Road to determine an equitable solution for the damage caused by the logging trucks and to prevent further damage. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stafford advised that the 2022-23 Budget Committee proposed eliminating the County's cleaning services contract with Interstate Commercial Services due to budget constraints, however, Interstate is interested in renegotiating a new contract. Discussion of this matter included:

- County buildings included in the contract with Interstate
- Library staff currently cleaning their own facilities
- Sheriff's offer to send a trustee to clean the Board's office at no cost to the County
- Using the current Courthouse maintenance employee to provide the cleaning services
- Liability of handling the cleaning with in-house personnel versus using jail trustees

Commissioner Good offered a motion to send a letter to Interstate Commercial Services terminating the cleaning contract, to use a jail trustee to clean the Board's office and have Project Director David Corbin talk with the Tax Collector and Property Appraiser about having a jail trustee clean their offices after hours. Commissioner Music offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Corbin, Project Director, advised that the County received responses to the Engineering Services RFQ from the following four firms:

- Alday-Howell Engineering, Inc.
- Dewberry
- Melvin Engineering
- Hanson Professional Services, Inc.

The recommendation of the scoring committee was to contract with all four firms. Discussion included whether enough work existed for the four firms. Commissioner Good offered to increase the County's current number of engineering firms from two to three by contracting with Alday-Howell Engineering, Dewberry and Melvin Engineering. Commissioner Music offered a second. Commissioners Erickson, Good, Music and Newsom voted yes with Chairman Stafford voting no. The motion passed.

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, advised that the commissions paid to the Tax Collector's office for the collection of the County's ad valorem taxes have exceeded the budgeted amount by approximately \$7,500. Discussion included that the amount of commissions paid to the Tax Collector has risen due to the increase in the County's ad valorem taxes and that the commission rates are set by statute. Commissioner Music offered a motion to use Board Contingencies funds to cover the deficit in the Tax Collector's commissions line item. Commissioner Good offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

David Melvin, Melvin Engineering, presented two grant applications for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Rural Infrastructure Fund Programs. He advised that the applications are the same, but

each grant uses different funding sources and that both grants will be used for the construction of water and sewer facilities for the Gateway Project. Discussion included the possibility that the grants will advance payment of invoices and that the resolution approving the application was adopted at the last Board meeting. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion for the Chairman to sign both grant applications. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

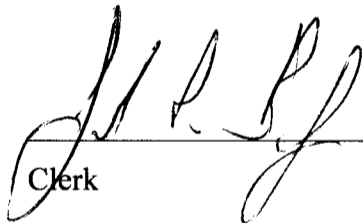
(Grant Description)

Commissioner Erickson presented three quotes for a tractor and bushhog, stating that the current state of the County's tractors has left his district without a tractor. Discussion included that the Shop is currently working to repair the old tractors and that a smaller tractor could bushhog the sides of the roads if the County cuts only two strips off the roads instead of to the wood line. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to purchase a 55HP tractor for \$30,000 and an eight-foot bushhog implement for \$5,000 from Dixie Trailer Works using LOGT funds. Commissioner Newsom offered a second. Commissioners Erickson, Good, Newsom and Stafford voted yes, and Commissioner Music voted no. The motion passed.

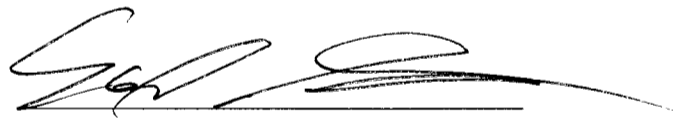
(Quotes)

Commissioner Good advised that the Highway 79 Corridor Board is holding a Workshop on August 29th. The meeting is to discuss the revenue sharing with the entities involved and the future of the Board.

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Clerk



Chairman