

June 6, 2023  
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.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, and David Corbin, Project Director, were present.

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

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

The first agenda item was Agenda Additions and Deletions. The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Commissioner Item B) Leonia Caution Light Letter of Support – added
- Commissioner Item C) D3 Planning Commission Appointment - added
- Agenda Item D) MA Hodges Road – deleted
- County Coordinator Item C) Part-Time Building Official Contract – deleted
- Commissioner Item D) I79 Corridor Update – added

Commissioner Music offered the motion to accept the amended agenda with Commissioner Newsom offering the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Music offered a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 16, 2023 Regular Session and the May 23, 2023 Special Session. Commissioner Newsom offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Becky Marsh, Library Director, advised that the Holmes County Library has been awarded a \$12,000 grant from the Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida. She informed the Board that no matching funds were required, and the funding will be used for the Library's Summer Reading Program for children aged seven and under.

Shan Hatfield, a private citizen, discussed the collaboration between local organizations for the July 2<sup>nd</sup> fireworks display to be held at the Rec Center. Discussion included coordinating with EMS and the Sheriff's Office for support services during the event.

Ronnie Taylor, 2362 Horseshoe Loop, requested a permit to run power to a new mobile home on his property off Highway 179. John Feeny, Contracted Planner, advised that the parcel is not a legal lot of record and that an additional home site on the property violates the County's code. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Mr. Taylor was able to obtain a 911 address, septic and city water for the added home site
- The parcel is currently zoned agricultural

- The homestead property already has four home sites
- The one-time lot split has already been utilized
- Some of the other homes on the property are not properly permitted
- System now in place for 911 to send residents requesting an address to the Building Department
- Planner's recommendation to have a consultant design a subdivision splitting the property into four parcels and giving all the residences road frontage while changing the land use designation to rural residential
- Enforcement of comp plan violations

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to issue the power permit to prevent a hardship contingent on Mr. Taylor subdividing the parcels in compliance with the comp plan within one year. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, presented proposed Ordinance 23-02 which revises two sections of the County's Land Development Code. The first revision will allow a variance of the requirement that an accessory apartment be no more than 25% of the existing structure. The second revision will create exceptions to the lot split restrictions for parcels separated by a public waterways or roadways and parcels divided among immediate family members. He stated that tonight was the second required public hearing before adopting the ordinance. The Chairman opened the public hearing and the Board heard comments from Gary Taylor, Jacob Willenborg from the Association of Realtors, and Mike Alvis related to adopting this ordinance. The Chairman closed the public hearing, and the proposed ordinance was read onto the record. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-02 with Commissioner Good offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance 23-02)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a request from Chris Wells, Crimestoppers Grant Coordinator, for a letter of agreement from the Board authorizing Crime Stoppers of Holmes County, Inc. to act as the agent for Holmes County for the purpose of applying for and receiving funds from the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion for the Chairman to sign the letter of agreement with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Letter)

David Corbin, Project Director, advised that Tom Loucks was not present to discuss the Northdale Speed Limit agenda item. The Board tabled this matter until Mr. Loucks could be present.

David Corbin, Project Director, stated that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is currently inspecting the Road Department's four yards that have tanks supplying fuel to the County's equipment. DEP found violations in the District 1 yard that will require the County to remove

contaminated soil and install corrective materials. Mr. Corbin presented a \$6,500 quote from a company on DEP's vendor list that will handle inspection of the work and disposal of the contaminated soil. Discussion included potential violations DEP will find upon inspection of the other yards and selection of the company tasked with monitoring the work. The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Nate Nolin, County Attorney
- Jason Powell

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to have Mr. Corbin obtain three quotes for the work required to bring the yards into DEP compliance and authorized Mr. Corbin to award the lowest quote. Commissioner Newsom offered a second. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to use Road Department contingencies to fund the work with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(DEP District 1 Report and Quote)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a \$12,500 quote from Melvin Engineering to survey Robin Hood Lane for the purpose of providing road access to the platted lots. County Attorney Nate Nolin advised the Board that the County is not legally required to provide road access to the platted lots on Robin Hood Lane. Discussion included the problems that surveying Little John Lane created, the other platted lots with no road access in the County, the realtors' obligation to inform property owners of road access issues and that the Robin Hood Lane subdivision is not recorded. The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Mike Alvis
- Rod Adams, Melvin Engineering
- Shan Hatfield

Attorney Nolin questioned if the roads in a subdivision that is not recorded could have been properly dedicated to the County and requested time to research the matter. No action was taken by the Board at this time.

(Quote)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a list of 12 potential members for the Rec Center Workgroup which will recommend the best use of the \$3 million appropriations awarded to improve the facility. Discussion included that the City has named the County a subrecipient of the funds so a partnership can be formed to complete the project, the ownership of the Rec Center building and the entities that should have a representative on the committee. The following citizens discussed the matter:

- Jennifer Green, Liberty Partners
- Emily McCann, Mayor of Bonifay
- Nicole Smith, Congressman Dunn's Office
- Sandy Spear

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion for the City to review the proposed list and present the Board a workgroup of five members plus a representative from the City, the BOCC Chairman, the Kiwanis Club, and the School Board for a total of nine. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(List)

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, presented several concept plans showing how the County-owned property on Deacon Road could be divided to yield the highest return if sold. Discussion included the estimated revenue from selling the property, the work needed to increase the value of the property and keeping the property for future use. Mike Alvis, Performance Realty, discussed the County requesting legislative permission to sell the County-owned FEMA property to generate revenue. No action was taken by the Board on this matter.

(Concept Plans available upon request)

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, requested permission to apply for a \$75,000 technical assistance grant that will convert the paper land use maps into digital GIS maps. Discussion included that no matching funds are required, the municipalities will be included and that updates after the conversion will cost extra. Liberty Partners agreed to assist with the grant application. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion for Mr. Feeney to proceed with applying for the grant. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Tim Parson, Liberty Partners, presented a legislative update stating that DEO grants will no longer require matching funds for rural areas of opportunity. He also advised that that the first reimbursement on the Government Efficiency Center has been received and updated the progress on the new Sheriff's offices.

Jon Sims, Dewberry Engineers, advised that the speed limit on Coursey Road made it unsafe for speed bumps. He stated that surrounding counties are adopting ordinances on the placement of speed bumps within the county. County Attorney Nate Nolin will review the proposed ordinance.

Jon Sims, Dewberry Engineers, stated that property releases have been delivered to all the property owners on Bonifay Gritney Road Phase 2 and Bonifay Chipley Road.

Rod Adams, Melvin Engineering, presented an update on the CR 181C SCOP project stating that the project is 75% complete and should be finished by the July 12<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Rod Adams, Melvin Engineering, presented a task order in the amount of \$419,529 to complete the CR 181 Phase 2 design work. Discussion included the DOT schedule for CR 181 Phase 1 and Phase 2 construction. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to have the Chairman sign the Task Order with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Task Order)

Commissioner Erickson discussed implementing a hiring freeze on the County's four vacant positions. Discussion included the potential savings, the job duties of the vacancies and the Road Department districts assisting one another. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to freeze hiring the Bridge Crew, Mechanic and the Recycling Tech positions until the end of the budget year unless a good candidate for the Bridge Crew applies. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously

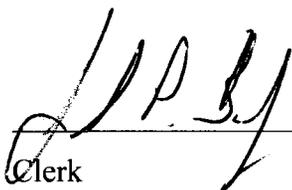
Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to send a letter of support for DOT to install a caution light in the Leonia community. Commissioner Erickson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Music offered a motion to appoint Jason Powell as the District 3 representative on the Planning Commission. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Good offered an update on the I79 Corridor stating that Corridor Authority Board voted to have Attorney Rosenthal write a letter to DEO to ask what must happen to disband the Authority. The update included that the City had submitted a proposal to take over the clerk's duties for the Corridor and that the assets would be turned over to the City if the Authority is dissolved.

Commissioner Erickson requested prayer for his daughter due to her recently diagnosed medical condition.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

  
Clerk

  
Chairman