

August 15, 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.

Melissa Kabaci, Deputy Clerk, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.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:

- County Coordinator Item F) Bulldozer Lease – added
- Commissioner Item B) Letter from State Attorney Larry Basford - 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 August 1, 2023 Regular Session. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Emily McCann, City of Bonifay Mayor, advised that the Bonifay City Council voted unanimously to not record the deed transferring ownership of the Rec Center to the County contingent on the Board allocating annual funding towards the Rec Center and the continuation of the County's grounds maintenance. The Council requested that the Board not activate the reverter clause so that the City can retain sole ownership of the Rec Center in order to execute the grant documents for Rec Center improvements. Discussion included that this would nullify the County being a subrecipient of the DEO grant, the City's future plans for the Rec Center and scheduling a public hearing regarding this matter. Sam Bailey, Clerk of Court, advised that the proposed \$30,000 annual allotment to the City for the Rec Center will halve the County's current budget for the Rec Center. Sheriff John Tate stated that there will be no interruption in the grounds maintenance performed by the inmate crews. Nate Nolin, County Attorney, advised that the reverter clause was not activated therefore the Rec Center is currently owned by the City. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion, based on the County not owning the Rec Center, to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Bonifay to allocate \$30,000 for Rec Center use for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and going forward. Commissioner Good offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Keith Pegues, Wild Star, discussed how his company provides broadband to rural areas in Washington County. He requested a letter in support of Wild Star applying for a grant to provide broadband in portions of rural Holmes County. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to provide a

letter of support for the broadband grant with Commissioner Music offering a second. Commissioners Erickson, Good, Music and Newsom voted yes with Chairman Stafford voting no. The motion passed.

Kalyn Waters, Extension Service Director, discussed her *Leagues for America* fellowship which will fund Sydney Grantham's work with Holmes County agritourism for one year. Ms. Waters discussed that the Tourist Development Council provided additional funds for Ms. Grantham's work and that additional fellowships may be available next year.

David Corbin, Project Director, introduced and welcomed Mike Gordon as Holmes County's new Building Official.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented the Florida Department of Transportation Grant Agreement for the CR 181 Phase 1 SCOP project. He advised that the grant is in the amount of \$4,326,551 to widen and resurface CR 181 from CR 179A to Minger Road. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion for the Chairman to sign the grant agreement with Commissioner Good offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

David Corbin, Project Director, advised that the Road Department's sign machine is obsolete and presented a quote from Osburn Associates in the amount of \$8,229 for a new machine, installation, and training. Commissioner Good offered a motion to purchase the new equipment using Road Department Contingencies with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Quote)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a lot split application for a 320-acre parcel than runs along both sides of Happy Hollow Road. The existing parcel number is 0913.00-000-000-005.000 and the application is to split a 35.83-acre parcel from the 110 acres on the west side of Happy Hollow Road. John Feeney, Contracted Planner, verified that the split meets all the requirements and requested that a legal description for the remaining property on the west side of Happy Hollow Road be a condition of the Board's approval. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion approving the lot split application contingent on the owner providing a legal description of the remaining property on the west side of Happy Hollow Road. Commissioner Good offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Application)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a lot split application for a 37.21-acre parcel on the corner of Highway 160 and State Road 79. The existing parcel number is 0416.00-000-000-031.000 and the application is to split 3 acres from the existing parcel with the newly created lot being located at the intersection. John Feeney, Contracted Planner, verified that the split meets all the requirements and

requested Board approval. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion approving the lot split application with Commissioner Good offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Application)

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a lot split application for a 31.7-acre parcel with access from County Road 162. The existing parcel number is 0510.00-000-000-019.000 and the application is to split the parcel into a 10.50-acre lot and an approximately 21.20-acre lot. The 10.50-acre lot will have road access through the parent parcel's existing road frontage and utility easement. John Feeney, Contracted Planner, verified that the split meets all the requirements and requested that a legal description for the 21.20-acre parcel be a condition of the Board's approval. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion approving the lot split application with the legal description a condition of the approval as requested by Mr. Feeney. Commissioner Music offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Application)

David Corbin, Project Director announced that he and Clerk Sam Bailey are now certified with FEMA's Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation (FROC) program. The new Emergency Management Director Clint Smith is now working to become certified. The certifications will help the County's rate of immediate reimbursement with FEMA disasters going forward.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented three quotes for leasing a bulldozer for one week for District 2 dirt pit work. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to accept the quote from Beard Equipment in the amount of \$3,250 using Road Department Contingencies. Commissioner Music offered a second. Discussion included the need for bulldozer work in other districts and requesting local assistance with the dozer work needed. The Board agreed by consensus to table this matter so that Mr. Corbin can obtain quotes for leasing a bulldozer for one month so that four districts can each use the dozer for one week.

(Quotes)

Tim Parson, Liberty Partners, discussed applying for Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grants for two County parks and requested direction from the Board as to which parks to name on the applications. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to apply for FRDAP grants for the Hurricane Creek Park and Wayside Park at Dogwood Lakes. Commissioner Good offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Tim Parson, Liberty Partners, advised that the County's legislative appropriations requests will be required within the next couple of weeks.

Commissioner Erickson discussed hiring a District 5 grader operator and a Shop mechanic without requiring a CDL. Discussion of this matter included the following:

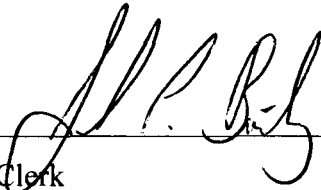
- Board's policy allows one employee per district two years to obtain a CDL
- Relaxing the County's CDL requirement for grader positions
- Adjusting the pay for employees without a CDL
- Initiating a program to assist employees with obtaining a CDL
- Implementing a one-time exception for the CDL requirement


Nate Nolin, County Attorney, advised keeping with the County's current policy. The Board agreed by consensus to not amend the County's policy regarding the CDL requirement.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, read a letter from State Attorney Larry Basford concerning the consolidation of Florida's judicial circuits that has been proposed by the Florida Speaker of the House. Discussion included the effects such a consolidation would have on the County and actions to oppose the consolidation. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion for the County Attorney to draft a resolution or letter opposing the consolidation for the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Good offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Letter from State Attorney Basford)

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.


Clerk


Chairman