

January 2, 2024
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, Earl Stafford, Brandon Newsom, Phillip Music and Commissioner Jeff Good, 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 Good 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:

- Agenda Item F) Coursey Road – added
- County Coordinator Item A) Tax Deed – deleted
- County Coordinator Item B) Quote for Highway 2 Boat Ramp Repair – added
- Agenda Item D) Project Gateway Excavator Use – deleted
- County Attorney Item B) Development Commission Letter – added

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

Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to adopt the minutes from the December 19, 2023 Regular Session. Commissioner Stafford offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Kellen Ludwig, Holmes County Middle School Softball Coach, requested the Board give the disassembled 4H Barn to the high school and middle school for use by the softball teams. Discussion included that the barn is currently stored in two separate places and that the school will handle transporting and installing the barn. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to declare the 4H barn surplus property with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to donate the barn to the middle school softball program as well as committing to help the 4H program procure a new barn when it is needed for their program. Commissioner Newsom offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Richard Willsey, a private citizen, discussed the need for Fire Marshall services in Holmes County to conduct business and residential fire code inspections. The Board directed Mr. Willsey to discuss the matter with Building Official Keith Bennett as he is a certified fire inspector.

Isaac Becker, Senior Food Box Program, discussed issues with disbursing food boxes to the low-income seniors in Holmes County and requested a new site location for the drive thru pick-up program. Discussion included that the location would need to have someone store the undistributed boxes for seniors

to pick up on a second alternate date and that funding for the federal program could be pulled if no site is made available. Kalyn Waters, Extension Service Director, volunteered to work with Mr. Becker to find a suitable location.

Chairman Good opened the first public hearing for a proposed conditional use ordinance which will amend Chapter 2 of the Holmes County Land Development Regulations. John Feeney, Contracted Planner, stated that the language closely mimics Bay County's ordinance, and that the proposed ordinance includes language to require approval of a conditional use designation by both the Board and the Planning Commission. Chairman Good closed the public hearing with no comments from the public. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to approve going forward with the second public hearing required to pass the ordinance. Commissioner Erickson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

(Conditional Use Language)

Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to award the Holmes County Agricultural Center-Government Efficiency Complex building contract to Contracting Unlimited for the base bid and Alternative Bid Item #3. Commissioner Stafford offered a second and the motion passed unanimously. Discussion included that the County may direct purchase the metal building.

Commissioner Newsom discussed obtaining bids to clear the timber off the Project Gateway property. Discussion included that the Development Commission has not approved deeding the Project Gateway property to the County and the County's inability to go onto private property for the timber. Sam Bailey, Holmes County Clerk, advised that the Joint Venture Agreement may require any money received for removing the timber to go towards the \$4 million loan on the property. The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Stephanie Cloud, Development Commission
- Jim King, private citizen

The Board agreed by consensus for Chairman Good and Project Director David Corbin to convene a Joint Venture committee meeting to discuss the matter.

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, presented the Miscellaneous Appropriations Agreement executed by the Chamber of Commerce. The agreement reflects the terms and conditions for use of the County funds disbursed to the Chamber. Commissioner Stafford offered a motion approving the Chairman signing the agreement with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Agreement)

Chance Pitts, Coursey Road resident, requested that the Board reinstall the speed bumps on Coursey Road due to safety concerns and the recent automobile accident that resulted in a death. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Board's decision to remove the speed bump based on engineer's recommendation

- Board's main purpose for installing the original speed bumps was to maintain the integrity of the road
- Excessive spending on the road
- Grown up vegetation on the side of the road
- Need to properly post signs on the road
- Proper width, spacing and location of speed bumps
- Sister counties passing ordinances to not place speed bumps on county roads
- Enforcing or reducing the current speed limit

The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Robert Stammler
- Marie Bowman
- Nate Nolin, County Attorney
- Richard Willsey
- Steve Bowman
- Jaden Broadway
- Marilyn Robinette
- Wylie Robinette

The Board agreed by consensus for Project Director David Corbin to take care of the signage, roadside vegetation, and a pothole on Coursey Road and a County Engineer will be asked to revisit placing speed bumps on the road. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

David Corbin, Project Director, presented a quote from C.W. Roberts Contracting to repair the paving at the Highway 2 Boat Ramp. The quoted cost for patching the pavement was \$31,470 and the cost for placing an asphalt overlay would be an additional \$59,200. Discussion included the County conducting the repairs, that the County is ineligible to apply for a FRDAP grant for this project and two park grills have been purchased for the boat ramp. The following citizen discussed this matter:

- Jim King, private citizen

The Board directed Mr. Corbin to oversee the County's repairs to the boat ramp.

(Quote)

Commissioner Stafford presented a task order for Hanson Professional Services to complete the design work to replace the bridge on Turberville Road in the amount of \$225,000. Bob Stinebaugh, Integrity Group, advised that, upon completion of the bridge replacement, the County can receive reimbursement for the project through the FEMA #4564 small project netting process. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- \$400,000 currently budgeted for the project
- FEMA has approved \$67,000 for the project
- Plan to replace the bridge with a single-lane steel bridge
- Installation of bridge pillions will have to be contracted

The following citizen discussed this matter:

- Jim King, private citizen

Commissioner Stafford offered a motion approving Hanson's task order with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Quote)

Bob Stinebaugh, Integrity Group, advised that the small project netting reimbursement cannot be requested until all the FEMA #4564 approved projects are completed. FEMA has approved replacement of the Turberville Road bridge, parks repairs and the Ammons Road culvert project.

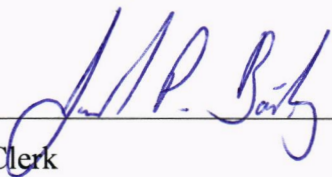
Nate Nolin, County Attorney, advised that he has not seen the official report on the cause of the deadly automobile accident on Coursey Road and extended his condolences to the family.


Nate Nolin, County Attorney, advised that he has not received the official opinion from the Ethics Commission on requiring the Planning Commission and the Tourist Development Commission (TDC) to file Form 1. Discussion included the new requirements for Form C. The Board agreed by consensus to table the Form 1 matter until the next meeting.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, read a letter from State Attorney Larry Basford to the Development Commission regarding compliance with Florida Public Records laws. He cited concerns and encouraged training for the Development Commission on the matter.

(Letter)

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.


Clerk


Chairman