

December 9, 2024
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, Wilmer Stafford, Mitch Johnson, 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 5:00 p.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

The first agenda item was Agenda Additions and Deletions. The following item was added to the posted agenda:

- Commissioner Item A) Employee Stipend

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

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, discussed the County's continuing negotiations to close on the Lake Cassidy property. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Property owners, Fountain of Youth Ranch, have posted survey flags not matching the agreement with the County
- Confusion created by having several surveys of the property involved
- Metes and bounds legal description needed for the deed
- Southeastern surveyors will re-flag the property
- County to be awarded the boat ramp and the swimming area in the closing
- Demands from the Fountain of Youth Ranch include:
 - Regular clean-up of the property and Line Road
 - County to provide dirt for eroded banks (approximately 10-15 loads)
 - No widening of the road from Line Road to the boat ramp
 - County to grade pile of dirt at the entrance to the boat landing (may affect water drainage)
- Property closing to be held before December 27th at Panhandle Land and Title
- Efforts to ensure that the County's access to the water is not restricted

The following citizens discussed this matter:

- Jim King, a private citizen

Attorney Nolin, Project Director David Corbin, and Commissioner Newsom will walk and approve the re-flagged property lines upon completion by the surveyor.

Commissioner Newsom presented proposed concept plans to improve the Lake Cassidy park area and requested permission to present the project to the Walton County Board of Commissioners as a joint venture opportunity. Discussion of this matter included the following:

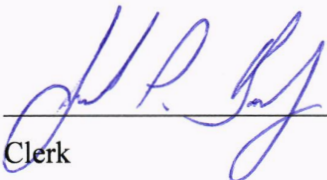
- Seeking appropriations for the project
- Entering into a revenue sharing agreement with Walton County
- Proposed project will require the acquisition of more land from the Fountain of Youth Ranch
- Creating a board to oversee the project

The Board agreed by consensus to close on the property before Commissioner Newsom presents the project to the Walton County Board of Commissioners.

(Concept Plan)

Commissioner Erickson discussed giving the County employees a \$250 stipend before Christmas. Discussion included that the Property Appraiser voluntarily removed his office from the stipend funding. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to use \$42,118.06 of FEMA Validated Funds to give County employees a \$250 stipend before Christmas. Commissioner Johnson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.


Clerk


Chairman