October 20, 2026
Regular Session
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioner Wade Ellenburg, Commissioner Mitch Johnson, Commissioner Wilmer Stafford, Commissioner Clint Erickson, 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 9:00 a.m. Project Director David Corbin led the prayer and pledge.

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

- Agenda Item) Sheriff's Overtime Payroll for Hurricane Isaias

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

David Corbin, Project Director, presented proposed Resolution 26-19 approving the Florida Recreation Development Assistant Program (FRDAP) grant application for an amount up to $200,000 to develop Dogwood Lakes Park on Highway 177A. He advised that approval of the resolution will commit the County to the rules and regulations of FRDAP grant assistance. Nate Nolin, County Attorney, read the resolution on to the record. Discussion included that the park is also called Wayside Park. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion to adopt Resolution 26-19 with Commissioner Ellenburg offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution 26-19)

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, advised that the Sheriff presented a Hurricane Isaias overtime payroll for law enforcement, EMS and fire departments in the amount of $79,896.72. She stated that Metric Consulting has recommended the Board reimburse the Sheriff for the payroll which should be reimbursable once a FEMA declaration is announced. Commissioner Wilmer Stafford offered a motion to reimburse the Sheriff for the Hurricane Isaias overtime payroll using the Capital Outlay Funds. Commissioner Ellenburg offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

John Feeney, Contracted Planner, presented a proposed Affidavit of Acknowledgement for Exemption of Second Residential Structure at 1463 Underwood Road, Graceville for Judy Taylor, the property owner, and Samuel and Amber Taylor, the affiants, to execute. Mr. Feeney stated that the affidavit acknowledges that the Board is granting the exemption for a second residential structure to be placed on Parcel ID Number 0218.00-000-000-004.000 for an immediate family member. He advised the updated Land Development Regulations (LDR) will make provisions for immediate family members. Mr. Feeney recommended approval of the exemption. Commissioner Erickson offered a motion approving the exemption with Commissioner Johnson offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Affidavit)

Jon Sims, Dewberry Engineers, advised that the issue with the rumble striping on the County Road 185 road improvement project has been resolved. The project can be closed out once the striping has been installed and inspected.

Jon Sims, Dewberry Engineers, advised that Contracting Unlimited will have a roofing company inspect the leak at the new Ag Center building today. He stated that a freon pressure test will be conducted on the Ag Center's air conditioning system to ensure it is functioning properly.

Jake Mathis, Melvin Engineering, presented an update on the Old Mill Road improvement project. He stated that the contractor is currently working on widening the road and driveways.

Commissioner Ellenburg requested an update on amending the County's travel policy to require department heads to coordinate travel with Project Director David Corbin and addressing non-employees riding in County vehicles. Nate Nolin, County Attorney, advised that he is working with the County's insurance company to create a Release and Waiver for non-employees to execute before traveling in a county vehicle. Discussion included that the County employee will be responsible for seeing that the waiver and release is executed before the travel commences. Attorney Nolin will present the waiver and release for Board approval at the next meeting.

Commissioner Ellenburg requested that Holmes County Building Inspector Keith Bennett present an overview of his visit to a data center. Inspector Bennett stated that the visit was at the recommendation of the Planning Commission to clear up any misinformation on data centers. He discussed the layout of the Tallahassee data center owned by Florida State University. John Feeney, Contracted Planner, verified that there has been no interest in constructing a data center in Holmes County since the moratorium has been enacted. Mr. Feeney stated that the Planning Commission is having a meeting on Tuesday, October 27th where they will hear from data center experts and he invited the public to attend. Edward Wacasey, a private citizen and retired public utility engineer, discussed the risks of allowing a data center into Holmes County. Richard Willsey, a private citizen, cautioned against comparing the visited data center with any that might be proposed for Holmes County.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Clerk

Chairman