

AT A WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 8, 2023 AT 4:00 PM, THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:

PRESENT: Ronterious Green, Chairman, District 5
Alonzetta Simpkins, Vice-Chair, District 2
Eric Hinson, District 1
Kimblin NeSmith, District 3
Brenda Holt, District 4
Edward J. Dixon, County Administrator
Clayton Knowles, County Attorney
Steven Scott, District 2
Cathy Johnson, District 1
Leroy McMillan, District 3
Attorney Minnis
Elijah Key, Superintendent
Karema Dudley, District 5
Adriana Quijada, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Green called the workshop at 4:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He asked Superintendent to provide the Invocation and then led into the Pledge of Allegiance to the US. Flag.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all meetings of the Board. Citizens are free to speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.org until noon on the date of the meeting. Comments submitted after the deadline, but prior to the meeting, will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate via Zoom using the credentials on the County's website.

Commissioner Hinson read aloud the above statement.

Sam Palmer

Mr. Palmer appeared before the Board and talked about redistricting. He recommended they use a committee.

General Business

1. Discussion regarding Gadsden County Redistricting

Mr. Dixon stated they are at the point of redistricting time. They have the County and School Board who hired Kurt Spitzer.

Kurt Spitzer appeared through ZOOM and provided a brief PowerPoint on re-districting.

Commissioner Holt appeared 4:15 pm.

Susan Erdelyi appeared through Zoom and stated they are in a very tight rope. They have to redistrict within a specific timeframe and she would strongly encourage them to stick to the deadline.

Joe Dye stated he was there to advocate for their plan. He stated that a new law kicked in on July 1. He stated race should not be a predominant factor. He presented some maps as options.

Ms. Knight stated they have election coming up March 9. She stated they cannot just go in there and start moving and changing things. They have the city election on April 30, so they have timelines. She stated petition deadline is May 14.

Commissioner Holt asked when they consider these maps, how do they do that? Mr. Dixon stated they were going to send out information and they will have an opportunity to go online and submit information.

Chair Green stated the next meeting will be January 16 at 4 pm.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
January 8, 2024 – Workshop

Adjournment

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR GREEN DECLARED THE WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 5:10 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

RONTERIOUS GREEN, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk