

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 19, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD, VIZ:**

Present: **Brenda A. Holt, Chair, District 4**
 Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1
 Dr. Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2
 Gene Morgan, District 3-absent
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5-arrived late
 Robert Presnell, County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. asked Commissioner Hinson to give the prayer and then led in Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell said he had some time sensitive items to add:

1a-Letter of Support for the Port of Port St. Joe in Gulf County, FL and

3a-Resolution 2016-004 in Support of a Complete Program, Including Flows and Channel Maintenance, for Commercial Navigation on the Apalachicola River

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Commissioner Viegbesie asked to recognize citizens here from St. Hebron, Pt. Milligen, Post Plant, Ball Farm and surrounding area.

CLERK OF COURTS

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Ratification to Pay County Bills

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. PUBLIC HEARING(Legislative): Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2016-002 for the Amendment of Chapter 3-Cpnstruction Standards, of the Land Development Code

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to adopt Ordinance 2016-002 for the amendment of the Land Development Code Chapter 3 – Construction Standards. He said they had been working on the Land Development Code for quite some time to condense it and bring up to current standards and streamline and update the chapters to make them more user-friendly.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Chair Holt asked the Attorney to look into attendance of the Commissioners under Ethics and said they must attend unless it was an emergency and said it stated under the Code of Ethics they must attend unless it was an emergency and they could attend by phone but nothing stated they did not have to attend. She asked that he look into it to make sure they were doing what they were supposed to do and that they had a quorum.

Commissioner Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING (Quasi-Judicial) Quincy Senior Living Facility Site Plan (SP-2016-01)

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was a request for a site plan approval of a sixty-five unit senior living facility with amenities as Phase I of a two phased development on 13.912 acres located along the south side of Strong Road.

Allara Gutcher, Planning and Community Development Director, appeared before the Board, was sworn in by the Deputy Clerk and told the Commissioner where the facility was to be located and then had **Jill Jeglie, Principal Planner II**, step forward who was also sworn in by the Deputy Clerk. Ms. Jeglie explained it was to be 65 senior residential apartments.

Commissioner Hinson asked what the affordability was for the living facility.

Nevin Zimmerman, Esquire, Panama City, FL, appeared before the Board and was sworn in and said the affordability issue was that 50 out of the 65 units would be set aside for individuals that made no more than 60% of the average medium income and would be priced in a manner that individuals could afford them that made 60% of the average medium income.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if this was local, state or national medium income and Mr. Zimmerman said it would be the local income.

Commissioner Hinson sked how it would affect the tax base and Mr. Zimmerman responded positively.

Chair Holt announced it was a public hearing and asked if there were any comments and there was none.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

3a Resolution 2016-004 in Support of a Complete Program, Including Flows and Channel Maintenance, for Commercial

Mr. Presnell said this item was for Board approval of for Resolution 2016-004 in support of a

request to amend the Corps plan for a maintenance plan for the next twenty years for the Apalachicola River to include navigation continuation of channel maintenance for navigation of the river from the dam to Apalachicola AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE Chair to sign.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD APPROVED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 4. Purchase of Property on Fantana Trail, Quincy, Gadsden County, FL (the eastern 25.52 acres of Parcel ID No. 2-27-3N-3W-0000-00431-0100) for use as a County (St. Hebron) Park, and authorization for the Chairperson to execute the Contract, Closing Statement, and all other documents and instruments related to the purchase of the Property**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to purchase property on Fantana Trail for use as a County park and for authorization for the Chair to execute the Contract, Closing Statement and all other documents and instruments related to the purchase of the property.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

- 5. Approval of Award Bid (15-13) to Gulf Atlantic Culvert Co., Inc.**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to award the County contract for the supply of asphalt coated culvert pipe to Gulf Atlantic Culvert, Inc.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

- 6. Approval and Signature(s) for Satisfaction of Special Assessment Lien SHIP Program**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval and signatures to satisfy a special assessment lien that was agreed upon by the Homeowner and Community Development SHIP Program.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

- 7. Approval of Extending the Agreement with Gollahon Financial Services, Inc. for Financial Advisor Services**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of extending the contract with Gollahon Financial Services, Inc. for between one to three years and for authorization for the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Hinson said to give the company another year. Chair Holt asked if there were any investment issues they were looking at presently and Mr. Presnell said his services were only used when there was a bond refinancing. Chair Holt asked if not busy now, why address the contract and she would like to see a workshop on economic development to see if something was there they could go after.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR ONE YEAR.

8. Approval of Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement for South Atlanta Street Sidewalk Project

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval and execution of the attached Local Agency Program Agreement for acceptance of State of Florida funding for the design of the South Atlanta Street sidewalk project.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

9. Approval of Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement for the City of Chattahoochee-McDonald Avenue

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval and execution of the attached Local Agency Program Agreement for acceptance of State of Florida funding for the City of Chattahoochee-McDonald Avenue.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

10. Traffic Calming Devices Policy

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and staff was instructed by the Board to bring this item back seeking Board direction regarding traffic calming devices policy. He said at the September 1, 2015 BOCC meeting, staff was directed to bring a policy to the Board for review and the County Attorney drafted a policy and presented it to the Board on September 15, 2015 and at that meeting the Board approved the policy with a 5-0 vote. He further explained at the request of the County attorney, the policy was revisited at the December 1, 2015 meeting and it was Attorney Weiss' recommendation that the existing traffic calming policy be adopted as an ordinance instead, but at the meeting the Board decided to not approve the policy and advised staff to bring back this policy for discussion at a later meeting.

Commissioner Hinson said if he was not mistaken they "went against the Ordinance and we said we want to go against the policy too as well, we want to get rid of the policy and go back to how we used to do things. We don't want to put a burden on the taxpayers. That was the, we don't want to charge the taxpayers something that when they don't have any kind of control over it. Because three-fourths of the people in the community agree with it but the 25 percent that doesn't agree with it, they still be charged, that still go on the tax roll, so we don't want, I don't think that fair to the 25 percent."

Chair Holt said it did not bother her that the 25 percent would not agree because she could see traffic calming devices in certain instances but the costs and how it was to be done was what she was interested in.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

There was further discussion around the board.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he saw nothing wrong with having an established policy that would determine how things were done and “if we keep on going back to what we used to do in the past and how we used to do this in the past, that means we actually don’t have the vision for progress and moving forward so this is a policy that would only be used as a guideline, the uniform guideline for every community that would desire a speedbump and when we elect officials to represent us, 100% do not vote for the person, it is 50% plus one and the person elected is not representing everybody. So it’s 75% of the property owners that are in desire of it, that is majority and I think we have a (inaudible) where majority rules even though minority has rights. So I don’t really see the reason why we should not have this kind of a policy in place to determine how and what was done and when it should be done to govern this community in regards to calming the speed issues in the community.”

Commissioner Hinson said he thought there was a policy before this and Mr. Presnell said it had been proposed and the Board never adopted the policy and to date the County had never installed a speed bump. Commissioner Hinson said he was going by what he had been told by Mr. Presnell, “Robert Presnell told Eric Hinson, probably told everybody else on this board too as well, ‘cause we talking to the people, we want to make sure we’re transparent, we’re not trying to showboat or whatever. But Robert Presnell told me, probably told all the other commissioners, ah, when we talking to our constituents that they had to get at least ¾ of the people on that street, and I told these folks this years ago, that ¾ of the people on the street got to vote, ah, got to sign a petition in order for it to work. If ¾ of the folks didn’t sign, then we can’t do it.” He said the problem he had with the Ordinance, they were talking about adding a special tax to the citizens on that street and did not want to tax when the County should be paying for it.

Chair Holt said normally when DOT comes in, they look at what problems there had been on the road and if they wanted to get a traffic light, they would look at the number of accidents, traffic, complaints, etc.

Commissioner Taylor said she agreed with the fact there should not be a cost associated with this but agreed with the other points.

There was discussion regarding language and what the Board wished to have taken out and the revisions.

Mr. Weiss asked if Board wished for this to be brought back with revisions first.

Commissioner Viegbesie made a motion to table the item for revision and consideration to be brought back for future decision.

Commissioner Hinson interrupted to say he was not finished. Chair Holt said once he’s made a motion and it did not receive a second, it would die if a second not received. Commissioner Hinson then asked, according to Roberts’ Rules of Order, how could a motion be made when he was in the middle of making a motion.

Commissioner Viegbesie withdrew his motion and yielded to Commissioner Hinson.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE POLICY WITH STRIKEOUTS AND

BRING BACK REVISIONS, SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR. THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

11. Approval to Award Video Recording Services of the County Commission Meetings

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for board approval to award video recording services for the County Commission Meeting to Southerland Enterprises, Inc. of Quincy.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND. THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

12. Appointment to the Big Bend Continuum of Care (CoC) Board

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for appointment or re-appointment to the Continuum of Care Board.

Commissioner Hinson volunteered to serve.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 3-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE ITEM.

13. Appointment of Members to the Gadsden County (CATF) Citizens Advisory Task Force Committee for the CDBG Housing Grant Application

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of appointments to the Gadsden County Citizens Advisory Task Force for the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation grant application. Mr. Presnell further stated that two of the members due to illnesses, Mr. Figgers and Mr. Gause, were no longer able to attend and participate. He asked that they appoint two from the attached list of interested citizens who had expressed an interest in serving.

Commissioner Hinson asked to appoint Mary Brock, who was overlooked from serving on a prior committee.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Dee Jackson, Grants Coordinator, appeared before the Board.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Mrs. Jackson said there were restrictions and requirements for this Board and asked that Richard Lockwood be appointed along with Joe Munroe.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPOINT RICHARD LOCKWOOD, DOROTHY THOMAS, CORA LEE SPENCER AND JOE MUNROE ON THE BOARD.

14. Leveraging of SHIP Funding for CDBG Application

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for board approval to dedicate \$50,000 of SHIP funds received from the State to be used as leverage in the Gadsden County Small Cities CDBG grant application. In doing this, it would add leverage to the grant application and increase the score to make the application more competitive.

Commissioner Taylor asked if this was in-kind or cash and Mr. Presnell said it was cash. Commissioner Taylor asked if other grant dollars could be used as a match and Mr. Presnell said yes, because it being for rehab.

Ms. Jackson appeared before the Board and stated they were told that SHIP dollars could be used and it was something other counties were doing as well. She added that the monies would still be used on housing rehab and this money would extend the funds.

Anita DeSilva, SHIP Administrator, came forward and explained the \$50,000 would be used to boost the points up and they funds could be leveraged because they would essentially be used for the same thing.

Commissioner Hinson moved that they dedicate \$50,000 from the General Fund and asked Mr. Weiss if he had looked into this and he said no, it was not brought to his attention and said he would rely on county staff.

UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

15. Approval to Award RFQ 2015-21 for Site Selection Services to Leotta-Evers Consulting, LLC (LEO) for the Expenditure of the Competitive Florida Partnership Program Grant Funds, and Authorize the Chairperson to Execute the Agreement with LEO

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said was for Board approval to award an RFQ 2015-021 for site selection services to Leotta-Evers Consulting, LLC for the expenditure of the Competitive Florida Partnership Program and for authorization for the Chair to sign.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

16. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell told the Commissioners he appreciated them approving the Letter of Support for the Port project and was very important to the County.

He reported the re-dedication of the fire department in Midway was yesterday and everything was approved and EMS moved back in yesterday after the event.

He said Congresswoman Gwen Graham was in town today to announce the designation that was received from USDA and would help with things the County was doing in conjunction with USDA.

He said the Rosedale park was near completion and would let them know when the re-dedication of the park would be held and would then move onto Scottown.

He said there was a culvert out on Kemp Road and was being replaced and the road was closed and would take a few days to replace.

He also said the reason they were doing the comp plan updates was the board instructed him to streamline it and make the necessary changes and wanted to make sure Board still approved them moving forward with the changes.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

17. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report and said was available for questions and there were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

18. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, Ph.D., District 2

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR THE LATE JOYCE BRADWELL.

He also suggested the website be improved for marketing strategies to make it more enticing and user friendly.

He expressed gratitude to the commission for purchasing the property in the St. Hebron area for use as a park and recreation facility and asked that they for grants to make it a great park.

Succession Planning

He expressed the need to have a workshop or retreat for the Board to come up with a mission.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE TI HOLD A RETREAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor said she was glad the Board entertained purchasing property for parks and said obesity had become an epidemic. She asked the Administrator to look into the areas where there was no park.

She said she asked at the last meeting for a traffic light to be placed at the corner of Crawford and Pat Thomas Highway and Mr. Presnell stated he had not received an answer from FDOT.

Justin Ford, Preble-Rish, appeared before the Board and said the CTSD had their meeting last

week and it was brought up to DOT representatives at that meeting, they indicated their concern with the intersection and was told DOT would look at it and give them an answer and they had not heard back from them as of yet.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Commissioner Hinson said at the last board meeting, they discussed the I-10 exit at Midway and the lack of Midway appearing on the exit sign. Mr. Presnell stated that had been passed along and he had not had any feed-back from the last meeting.

Commissioner Taylor left the meeting at this juncture.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at this juncture of the meeting. Chair Holt asked Mr. Presnell to have him return because there was no quorum.

(Meeting temporarily stopped-lack of quorum)

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson asked if anyone had had the opportunity to drive on I-10 and notice what he had mentioned regarding the signage.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director, appeared before the Board and said he looked at the sign when people would exit at Midway and it does not have Midway, it had Quincy and he had talked to someone at DOT and was told because of when you exit there, you are in Midway and that was why there was nothing stating the mileage to Midway.

Chair Holt reiterated because of the fact when someone exited there, they were already located in Midway and DOT felt no reason to put something on the mileage sign telling how far it was to Midway and if the city of Midway felt compelled, maybe they could also address this with FDOT to have two governments working together.

He said the Midway Fire Department had a problem with the fire trucks leaking water out.

He asked the status of the Concord traffic light and Mr. Presnell asked for an update on the grant.

Justin Ford reappeared before the Board and said they had been working with DOT the past two weeks and was told today that a copy of the application could not be found and asked that it be sent over again. He said it was something they could consider in-house with the funding that they had right now.

Mr. Presnell said if they were not able to get FDOT to fund this, their option was to budget it themselves.

Commissioner Hinson asked that it be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Ethics Chair Holt said attendance at the meetings was very important and they did not need to walk out during a vote or before a vote was taken. Also, if a commissioner was not attending a meeting, it should be for an emergency. She asked that Mr. Weiss to address the attendance issue. Mr. Weiss said what she said was accurate, they should be in attendance and remain in the Chambers when in attendance, not add to your self-worth for any particular reason, should vote on everything unless there was a conflict and if there was a conflict, it should be publicly declared. He added it was not only statutory rules, but was also their Rules of Procedure.

She said that the water main that broke was on a State road and the community was out of water.

She then mentioned she wanted to look at solar lighting for Atlanta Street.

Summer Youth Program-Chair Holt said she would like to see hospitality training added.

CDBG Grants She said if the County was able to get CDBG grants, they needed a grants coordinator because if they had a good grants writer, they did not want to stop the grant writer to coordinate everything and wanted to see the next CDBG grant go for economic development.

Receipt and File

19.

a. **Mediacom**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

20. **February 2, 2016-Regular Meeting**

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
January 19, 2016-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:54 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk