

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN  
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON APRIL 19, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.,  
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS 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**  
                     **Sherrie Taylor, District 5-**  
                     **Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court**  
                     **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. and Commissioner Viegbesie said he would like to call Pastor Shirlean Thomas, Pastor of Greenshade AME Church, forward to give the Invocation. Chair Holt then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was conducted by Deputy Clerk, Marcella Blocker.

Commissioner Hinson asked for a Proclamation for his Grandmother that passed away Sunday.

**AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Presnell requested that they move Item 13 to Item 6a.

**UPON MOTION MY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA.**

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

Mr. Presnell said there was one presentation to be made this evening.

**1. Recognition of The Greenery**

Chair Holt said they wanted to congratulate new businesses for choosing Gadsden County for their place of business and read the Recognition aloud and then presented the Certificate of Recognition to Mr. Ron Green of the Greenery Floral and Tuxedo Place.

**2. Gadsden County Development Council Update**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was an update from the Gadsden County Development Council. He introduced Mr. Lee Garner, who was present for the presentation and Beth Kirkland, who was at a conference and appearing by phone.

Mr. Lee Garner, Chair, appeared before the Board and introduced several people that were working on projects and that were present for the presentation.

**Johanna Money, Williams Group, Tallahassee, FL**, appeared before the Board and spoke briefly regarding Project Breaker. She mentioned she had worked with Ms. Kirkland in the past, a site was secured for her client and they were “close to finishing all the pieces of the puzzle” and it

would enable them to retain 21 jobs and add an additional 10 more with an average wage of \$50,293 and them making a \$2.1 Million capital investment in the community. She thanked the Commission for their continued support to the Economic Development Council. Chair Holt asked what type of business this was and Ms. Money said it was transportation.

**Justin Ford, Dewberry/Preble Rish**, appeared before the Board and said he had been asked to speak and he explained they were calling this "Project Breaker" and said most of the clients had asked for anonymity at this point and all the projects at this point have code names they were referring to them as.

*Commissioner Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.*

**Dr. Sylvia Jackson, Gadsden County Technical Institute**, appeared before the Board, said Beth Kirkland reached out to her knowing they were looking to rebrand the institution and asked how they might support new job growth in Gadsden County through career and technical education and preparing individuals for the workforce. She said several people visited Wallace College in Opp, AL and looked at their diesel engine repair program and the support they had from one of the companies looking to relocate in Gadsden County was tremendous. She added that GTI was committed to providing training opportunities for any industry that wanted to move into the County.

**John Coffman, Armada Ammunition**, appeared before the Board. He thanked the Commissioner for attending their groundbreaking last week. He said the GCDC had gone the extra mile for them and then they started the project, they were looking at multiple counties and the benefits that could be provided and it was apparent Gadsden County was the best fit. He added they currently had a crew of six and would be adding six to 10 more within the next 30 days and hoped to have over 100 jobs within three years. He added without Beth Kirkland and her team, he would have not known about all the benefits and grants that could be provided in Gadsden County.

**Pastor Julius Harris** appeared before the Board and said he and Wife were owners of Kids First Day Care center. He added that they catered to children from 6 weeks to 12 years of age and that he and his wife were both committed to economic development and creating jobs.

Lee Garner reappeared before the Board. He said in addition to the project development they had been talking about, GCDC was collaborating with the County Commission, the Administrator, County Attorney and other officials in the formation of an Economic Development Grant policy, which would come before the Board at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Beth Kirkland** appeared by phone and said she appreciated the opportunity to share this body of work with the Commissioners. She then introduced the website and took the Commissioners through tour of it.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was very elated with what they had done with the website in the short time and said he would like the GCDC to let the commission know any impediments in the economic growth in the County so they could address that.

Chair Holt said they needed to wrap up the presentation.

Commissioner Morgan wanted Ms. Kirkland to know how proud he was of their efforts and accomplishments.

**CLERK OF COURTS**

Mr. Thomas was present and said there was nothing to present.

**CONSENT**

**COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.**

Commissioner Viegbesie asked about the adoption of Resolution 2016-008 to Support Amtrak and if they planned on having a stop in Gadsden County and if not, why the Resolution was needed or was this to support the regional economic effort for Amtrak and Chair Holt indicated yes.

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.**

- 3. Consideration of adoption of Resolution 2016-008 to Support the Amtrak Sunset Limited**
- 4. Ratification to Pay County Bills**
- 5. Approval of Minutes**
  - a. November 5, 2015-Workshop**

**ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

**CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Holt announced there was a number of people that had filled out a Speaker Request Form but they were all for Item 6a concerning the Fire Station. She asked if there were anyone else that wished to speak and there was no-one.

Rev, Shirlean Thomas, 482 Frank Jackson Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Sonya Campbell, 332 David Clemons Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Bobby Parker, Jr., 324 David Clemons Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Sara Gordon, 332 David Clemons Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Betty Atkins, 8440 Salem Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Sarah Figgers, 930 W. Crawford Street, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Pastor Morris, 23201 Blue Start Highway, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Stephanie Harris, 1288 Dogtown Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Station

Linda Douglas, 1226 Dodger Ball Park Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Kirk Douglas, 1226 Dodger Ball Park Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Gloria Bost, 215 Williams Lane, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Pamela Gordon, 215 Williams Lane, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Linda Smith, 52 Dogtown Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Sharon Haughton, 1062 Dogtown Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Herb Haughton, 1062 Dogtown Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

Mytasha Baker, 627 David Clemons Road, Quincy, FL-Volunteer Fire Dept.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **6. SECOND PUBLIC HEARING for Gadsden County to Apply for Florida Department of Economic Opportunity 2016 Community Development Block Grant**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was a second required public hearing by Mr. Charlie Harris before the submittal of the grant application to the Florida Department of Community Affairs under the CDBG program for Gussie's Garden Inn. He said Mr. Harris had his finances in place and would like to move forward with the extension of the sewer line and Mr. Auburn Ford was present representing Mr. Harris.

Chair Holt asked if there were any comments from public.

Mr. Presnell said this was a public hearing and asked that the Attorney make sure it was handled properly.

Janice Harris appeared before the Board, thanked them for what they had done and said they were overwhelmed with support from the County.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

#### **6a Consideration of potential purchase of property located on Salem Road, Gadsden County, FL (+-2 acres of Parcel ID No. 2-12-3N-3W-0000-00242-0000) FOR USE AS A Fire Station, and Authorization for the County Administrator and County Attorney to draft a Contract for the Board's Consideration and Order a Survey of the Property**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was formerly item 13 but was moved to 6A and was for board consideration of potential purchase of property located on Salem Road for the purpose of a fire station.

Chair Holt said she had a request from approximately 20 people that wished to speak on behalf of this item and did not think they would have to and said since it was Commissioner Viegbesie's district, asked if he had any comments.

Commissioner Viegbesie said this item was up for discussion at the last meeting and was agendaed because it involved expenditures. He said this was a dead zone for fire service and was needed in this area and asked people in the audience that was present to support this item to raise their hand.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.**

**Pastor Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Star Highway, Quincy, FL**, appeared before the Board and said he was appreciative of what the BOCC was doing and United Gadsden was in the process of forming a volunteer fire departments all over the County and said when they come back to the County, hoped they could support the effort in terms of publicity to help them get the word out that volunteers were needed.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**7. Approval of Resolution 2016-009 for the Transportation Alternatives Program Application Process Through the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval for Resolution 2016-009 in support of seeking funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program for new sidewalks along Scotland Road, Atlanta Street, Spooner Road and Post Plant Road.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE OPTION ONE.**

**8. Approval of Agreement with Topview Sports, LLC to Conduct Bicycle Event on behalf of Host Gadsden County Tourist Development Council**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of an agreement with Topview Sports, LLC to conduct a bicycle event on behalf of the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**9. Approval of Agreement with Crappie Masters, Inc. to Conduct Crappie Tournament on behalf of Host Gadsden County Tourist Development Council**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of an Agreement with Crappie Masters, Inc. to conduct a Crappie tournament on behalf of Gadsden County Tourist Development Council.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**10. 2016 Paving Project Phase II-Change Order #1**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of Change Order #1 to the paving contract in the amount of \$152,793.00.

**COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE. CHAIR HOLT HAD QUESTIONS.**

Chair Holt asked if Jack Scott Road could be added on since they would be at Harris Loop. Commissioner Viegbesie said Charlie Harris Loop was on the original list of roads and they would not have to set up again.

Justin Ford, Dewberry/Preble Rish, appeared before the Board and said there would be time to do another Change Order and it come back before the Board before they started work on the road. Chair Holt asked that it be added to the next meeting.

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**11. Approval of Value Adjustment Board Members**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was before the Board for the selection of the Value Adjustment Board members. Mr. Presnell explained Mrs. Peeler no longer wished to serve and Mrs. Emily Rowan had served on the Board in the past and had expressed interest in serving again.

Chair Holt asked if it had been advertised and Mr. Presnell said yes.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND TO RETAIN THE CURRENT COMMISSIONERS AND SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.**

Commissioner Morgan asked if the two Board members would remain and they would.

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**12. Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAGD16) Subgrant**

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for attorney for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Subgrant and additional funds (\$3,657.00) became available.

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION ONE AND SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTION.**

Commissioner Morgan said he saw a deadline of April 11<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Presnell said they had spoken with FDLE and it was not received in time for the last agenda but they would still receive the money.

**CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.**

**13. ~~Consideration of potential purchase of property located on Salem Road, Gadsden County, FL (+ 2 acres of Parcel ID No. 2-12-3N-3W-0000-00242-0000) FOR USE AS A Fire Station, and Authorization for the County Administrator and County Attorney to draft a Contract for the Board's Consideration and Order a Survey of the Property~~**

Moved to Item 6a

**14. Discussion of Jail Re-entry Program**

Mr. Presnell said this item was added to the Agenda this past Friday.

Commissioner Viegbesie said this was listed as an action item and asked if it was for discussion only.

Sheriff Morris Young appeared before the Board and said this had been before them before regarding the Faith Based re-entry program they currently had at the jail. He said with the 14,000 people they actually have returning to the communities from the jail and over the last 25 years, 30,000 people have been through the criminal justice system. He added the program was featured in the New York Times, was featured in a Law Enforcement magazine in the April issue and he had been contacted by the Governor's Office to give a presentation to his staff. He added the program was slated to receive \$400,000 from the Legislature and passed but when it reached the Governor's desk was vetoed and felt one reason why was there was a Gadsden Re-entry Center here and felt the Governor's Office mixed the program up with that Center. He further stated they were scheduled to have a meeting the Secretary of Department of Corrections in hopes the Secretary will support this program through the jail. He then said he was in hopes the Board would help fund this program.

Chair Holt said this was to be placed on the Agenda as an action item not a discussion item and if approved, the vote should be contingent upon the budget.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was very much in support of whatever the Sheriff's Office did in Gadsden County, but it was stipulated as a discussion item and felt that was what the Board should do, discuss it today and place it back on agenda. He then asked the attorney what legal ramifications it would have if action was taken at the meeting. Mr. Weiss said having it on the agenda as a discussion item would not prohibit them from taking an action and any vote that might be taken would be subject to approval in the budget and it was a matter of the urgency of it.

Commissioner Taylor said from her understanding, the action tonight was that it be considered for placement on the budget and given that, felt they should follow Commissioner Viegbesie's suggestion and have this item properly agendaed for action.

Chair Holt said as far as this item being an emergency, the match money could not be received if they did not say they would give the money and it was time-sensitive. She also added if they did not receive the money from Tallahassee, the \$100,000 would be used.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was going to support it, but he did not want the citizens to think if it was listed as a discussion item and then switch it to an action item at the meeting. and things needed to be done in the proper process.

Commissioner Taylor asked for clarity and said she did not understand when this went before the Legislature and now has been denied or vetoed and was missing where it went back to the Governor and Chair Holt asked the Sheriff to clarify.

Sheriff Young explained they were going back to the Governor and they were reviewing this again and they were looking for local dollars to support the State dollars.

Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to support this but needed to make sure they were above board and she asked if he could guarantee the Board if he was given the money, it would go to this program and not for someone's salary.

Ms. Annie Berry responded that in order to help it work better, they would have to have two part-time people and it would cover two part-time salaries as a specialist and a certified officer that would be in the classes and help transport inmates to various sites where classes would be offered.

Commissioner Taylor said of the \$100,000 the Sheriff was asking for, there was just a tad under \$80,000 that would go for someone's salary and was trying to understand him, but she had concerns.

Chair Holt said these were people that had legal issues and would need officers and instructors to help them back on the right track and those people had to be hired and paid.

Ms. Berry said if the inmates had certificates, they were able to get jobs upon their release because of having a valid certificate.

Commissioner Morgan said the Sheriff had one of the toughest jobs in the County trying to keep it safe and he went a long way back with Ms. Berry's program. He said there was a program already in place that they fund through Redeemed and Ms. Berry said it was a totally different program. Commissioner Viegbesie clarified it was a diversion program and not a re-entry program and Ms. Berry said yes. Commissioner Morgan said there were several programs currently funded through the BOCC budget and said he was looking at two different budget documents and was looking at personnel costs and the operating costs and it was 63% of what they were looking at getting grant fund dollars, whether they looked at the \$500,000 or the \$100,000 and 63% of the dollars would not be used on the folks they were trying to help, but was funding positions and going for operative costs. Sheriff Young said right now there was almost zero funding as far as re-entry and he was trying to use volunteers. Ms. Berry thanked the Commissioner for the funding she received and said they made it sound like she was receiving thousands of dollars for her program and that was not true. Commissioner Morgan said they were coming up on budget season and he was in the building the other day and happened to overhear some budget discussion with Department heads and there was a lot of talk of where the dollars would come from this year and he had no problem with prioritizing needs over wants, but they were going back to a trend of spending and the money was not there to do it and was in a position where they had to be cautious of what they did and did not know how they could fund \$100,000 but understood the need.

Chair Holt said the BOCC owned the jail and they were their citizens, they could put them back on the street, crimes would be re-committed, they would go back to jail. The BOCC could help train them, get them jobs and let them go to work. She added if the Secretary of Corrections was willing to put up \$400,000, it was a no-brainer and the budget was not that tight.

**CHAIR HOLT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE \$100,000 AND ASKED FOR A SECOND.  
COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE HAD COMMENTS.**

Commissioner Viegbesie asked where the money would come from and Chair Holt said it could come from General Revenue or wherever the Board wanted and it was subject to budget approval. Commissioner Taylor said she agreed that something needed to be done and would like to see the \$400,000 approval from the Secretary, but they needed to be careful in presenting to the public. She added she supported the initiative, but everything must be done in order and that was her only concern and felt this item should be agendaed so there could be true discussions. Sheriff Young said he hoped they looked at the information and if they did not fund this, he would continue to control the numbers and bring them down. Commissioner Taylor agreed with the Sheriff and wanted to move forward in the right way and agreed with Commissioner Viegbesie that it needed to be agendaed as an action item and would not go for it at this meeting. Chair Holt said she worked in a men's' prison teaching math and people had to be paid and they were putting their life on the line when they did go into those facilities.

Commissioner Hinson thanked the Sheriff for his services and said he had yet to talk with Ms. Berry and said the question was if this was an emergency, if it was not, for them to come back in two weeks and they could move forward.

Chair Holt asked when the meeting was set up for and the Sheriff said May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mr. Presnell said the board would meet the next day.

Commissioner Viegbesie said there was no second to Chair Holt's motion and suggested an alternative motion.

**COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD CONSIDER THE SHERIFF'S REQUEST AS A BUDGET DISCUSSION ITEM AS PART OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2016-2017 BUDGET REQUEST PROPOSAL AND DISCUSS THE VISIBILITY OF UT DURING THE BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. THERE WAS MORE DISCUSSION BEFORE A SECOND.**

Commissioner Viegbesie said they needed to remember the Board was the custodian of public money and how they needed to look at how it was used very seriously. He said he would support it but not for it to come from the General Revenue funds immediately with this current fiscal year but would consider it for the 2016-2017 budget. Mr. Weiss said since it was agendaed for a discussion item, unless the Board determined it to be an emergency, it was best to not take any action tonight.

Commissioner Hinson asked Mr. Presnell for the record, if this item passed and gave the Sheriff funding, would it affect the Concord or Midway fire station and Mr. Presnell said no because their request was for the next fiscal year funding.

Commissioner Taylor said this was for consideration during the budget process and not automatically approved and if the money went to where if operating budget showed, it would not have her support because it did not clearly explained where fifty percent or better of the money would go.

Commissioner Morgan asked why vote tonight and not let it come through the normal budget process and give to consideration at that point. Chair Holt said from looking at the item, the meeting with the Secretary was scheduled for May on 2<sup>nd</sup> and wanted to be able to show he had support from the BOCC for \$100,000.

Commissioner Hinson said spoke with a guy from Arkansas, and his job was to find resources for guys released from jail to find work and they need to find way to solve this problem.

Chair Holt said if the Sheriff did not get their support, why the Secretary would give \$400,000 if the Board was not willing to give the money.

Sheriff Young said he understood what they were saying about the investment. He added the jail was less full from last year and they were saving money, the cost savings were there. Commissioner Morgan asked with the money being saved; why not use that money to fund this program. Sheriff Young said they had not given any increases.

Chair Holt said this was a discussion item on the Agenda and it was asked to be made an action item and Staff did not make it an action item. She added if the Secretary said they did not get the money because of not having a commitment of \$100,000 from the County, the Sheriff would come back without anything. She asked them to remember that the jail belonged to the County and every lawsuit from there sued the County Commission. She stated she had made a motion for approval and there was no second so it died for lack of the second.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he did not think it was appropriate for the Board to address this but also did not think anyone on the Board would not want to give the Sheriff more resources to do what he did wonderfully well, but the question was why this money couldn't be part of the budget process. He asked that they consider this a part of the next budget cycle and in which case he could inform the Secretary that the County Commission has given a commitment they will consider it in the next budget process for the next fiscal year. He suggested they table this item and bring it back and the Sheriff could give a more "robust" presentation.

*Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.*

**Sean Pittman, Pittman Law Group**, appeared before the Board and said this program was not only endorsed by the NY Times but 160 members of the Legislature across the state supported the program and allocated upwards of \$400,000 to come to this County to support the program.

*Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.*

He added there were re-entry programs that the Legislature had shown that it was important to them to see these programs in areas where they were needed the most and in Gadsden County, this program was needed, but they have not been able to get past the Governor's entity. He also added that this program has received national attention and put Gadsden County on the map and wanted to give them idea of what was going on across the state.

Commissioner Viegbesie said Mr. Pittman had mentioned a program in a Church in Tallahassee and with that program, what Tallahassee and Leon County decided to do with regards to the \$125,000 that the program was requesting and what they agreed to do was put the request on the budget discussion item for the program 2016-2017 budget request proposal. He then recommended that this item be considered in 2016-2017 budget request proposal.

Mr. Pittman explained this had been moved to the reoccurring portion of the State budget and

meant it was almost automatic that they would receive \$500,000 for their program every year.

Commissioner Taylor said Mr. Pittman said this had made it through both the House and Senate and was in the Governor's budget at one time and he said it was never in the Governor's budget. She asked why it was vetoed and if it had been fixed. Mr. Pittman said the reason had not been stated, but understood from conversations: 1) It was a new program and never had been funded by the Legislature before; and 2) There was a program close to Gadsden County that he just spoke about that they have had to fight their way around and had been able to fight as it relates to the Florida Legislature but not to the Governor's office.

Commissioner Viegbesie said with Mr. Pittman's statements, He had also had conversation with why this program was vetoed with people that were close to the Capitol and had heard certain explanations and would be happy to meet with the Sheriff and explain what he had heard and see how they could make the program such that it could be competitive enough to make it able to compete with the other programs.

The Sheriff agreed with Commissioner Viegbesie and said why they were trying to get more professionalized and wanted to be able to have the program evaluated by anybody and there were only 21 counties safer than Gadsden County now.

Chair Holt said a motion had been hinted at and asked what they would like the Sheriff to present to the Secretary at the meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was still stuck on this because it was listed as a discussion item and not an action item.

Chair Holt asked if the Commissioners were willing to consider this an emergency so they could take action tonight.

**UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT TO MAKE THIS MATTER AN EMERGENCY AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 2-3 BY VOICE VOTE TO OPPOSE THIS MOTION. COMMISSIONERS HINSON, MORGAN AND TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION FAILED.**

Commissioner Morgan asked would be inappropriate with the Sheriff telling the Secretary that the BOCC was willing to consider this on the normal budget process.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE THE SHERIFF CAN ASSURE THE SECRETARY THE BOCC WOULD CONSIDER THIS REQUEST AS A PART OF THE SHERIFF'S ANNUAL BUDGET DURING THE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2016-2017 BUDGET.**

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

### **15. Update on Various Board Requests**

Mr. Presnell said the lobbyists would be at the next meeting to give an update on how the County did at the legislative session. He also said he had talked with the Sheriff after this was vetoed and offered the lobbyists to work with them on this item.

He informed them there was a meeting next Tuesday with the Health Department director to talk about the County's ranking and will get back with the Board concerning that.

He said they were trying to set up the joint workshops with the cities and listed some that were tentatively set and Commissioner Morgan asked that an email be sent out with all the dates.

He also said since the retreat, number five of their priorities that had to do with infant mortality in the County, and they have had some success in a recruitment of a doctor from the Orlando area and he would be showing her some facilities in the County and he had high hopes.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell when he put together a team of people for the health council ranking, someone from the community called her and suggested the Department of Transportation because they had to do with sidewalks and bicycle trails and may want to invite them also. She also complimented Chair Holt on her being present on lot of the meetings happening in the County. She also asked the deadline for them to submit student names and asked if they would consider increasing students from 5 to around 10 and Chair Holt said no, Commissioner Hinson said he had no problem. Commissioner Hinson felt if a commissioner did not want to pick, another commissioner could choose more. Commissioner Taylor said she wanted to put that out and that was all she had.

#### **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

##### **16. Update on Various Legal Issues**

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS**

##### **17. Report and Discussion of Public Issues**

###### **Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2**

Chair Holt asked on the issue of Preble Rish, the application for her area, she said Gretna was applying for a grant and there were two county roads that the City was willing to pick up and take into the City of Gretna and \$150,000 of her paving money would go towards that so they could get matching dollars.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 TO APPROVE THAT.**

*Commissioner Taylor left the meeting at this juncture.*

Commissioner Viegbesie said he wanted to ask the Administrator if they had a fire service assessment and Mr. Presnell said the County did at one time for a couple of years and Commissioner Viegbesie asked if it could be looked at to vamp up the service in unincorporated areas. Mr. Presnell said the county to the east and west had one and Commissioner Viegbesie said the questions came from a training he was at the weekend.

He said the Administrator had sent a copy of the current job evaluation for the position of the Administrator and a sample evaluation for the County Attorney and said they should also

develop a similar instrument for evaluating both the attorney and Administrator and said they had not put into place the suggestions made for their succession planning during the succession workshop they had and suggested holding a retreat and asking FAC for assistance in developing a suitable job performance evaluation instrument for the two positions they were responsible for hiring (the County Administrator and County Attorney). He added he was not saying that he wanted the present attorney or Administrator replaced but wanted an instrument of this nature for future times so they would have something to work with. Mr. Presnell said what he was hearing was this was to work on the evaluation forms.

**UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO WORK WITH FAC AND THE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY MANAGERS, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE.**

Commissioner Viegbesie said he would be remised if he did not compliment the effort of GCDC for the development made to the website.

**Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3**

Commissioner Morgan wanted to expand on what Commissioner Viegbesie mentioned concerning the GCDC and said they had really done so many good things and worked in conjunction with the County Administrator and staff and commended them on the great job they were doing.

He then commended staff and the Administrator on the ribbon cutting that was held at the Rosedale Park and wanted to mention that Mr. Jenkins put a lot of effort into the event.

He said someone mentioned last week about the Mt. Pleasant fire department, thinking it was in his district, and said there was a need to address some asphalt paving so they could get in and out with the trucks.

**Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5**

**Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1**

Commissioner Hinson asked the Board for a Resolution for his Grandmother, Josephine Hinson that passed away.

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

He also said he had been asked if students were able to work more than one year for the Summer Youth program last year and Mr. Presnell said it had been discussed but the Board said if a student had been in the program before, they were not eligible again.

Commissioner Morgan also wanted to thank Preble Rish for their efforts at the Rosedale Park ribbon cutting.

Commissioner Viegbesie expressed regrets for not being there because he was in class.

**Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4**

Chair Holt said she had had a couple of requests and asked the Administrator if it were possible for new members on the hospital board and Planning and Zoning to attend a workshop and told them she would put it before the Board. Mr. Presnell asked that they call him. Commissioner Viegbesie said that was something they needed to consider the next budget to have them attend conferences so they could see how things were done.

Chair Holt also asked when new board members come on board to give them acronyms so they know what's what.

**UPON MOTION BY CHAIR HOLT AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE A PROCLAMATION FOR FORMER DEPUTY HERBERT McCLOUD THAT PASSED AWAY.**

Chair Holt said the Gadsden Veterans Association was having a Veterans' festival on May 21<sup>st</sup> at Oak Grove from 2:00-8:00 p.m. and Commissioner Viegbesie asked that the Administrator send a reminder. Chair Holt also said Congresswoman Graham asked that information be sent to her also.

**Receipt and File**

18. a. Letter from DEO
- b. Voluntary Annexation Letter
- c. SBSC Quarterly Report

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

16. May 3, 2016-Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- May 17, 2016-Regular Meeting
- May 26, 2016-First Budget Workshop-4:00 p.m.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:55 P.M.**

**GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

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**NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk**