

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 AT 6:00
P.M., THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HELD, VIZ:**

Present: Brenda A. Holt, Chair, District 4
Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1-arrived late
Dr. Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie, District 2
Gene Morgan, District 3
Sherrie Taylor, District 5-arrived late
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. asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to U. S. Flag. A silent roll call was conducted by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Presnell said there were no amendments to the Agenda.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Wealth Watcher

Carrie Davis, President, Wealth Watchers, Jacksonville, FL, appeared before the Board and gave a presentation. She said there would be a Landowner and Producer Workshop that would be held at the IFAS Center on September 12, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Sherrie Taylor appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

She said there would be information available there concerning the Strikeforce Initiative, financial assistance and loan opportunities, rural co-op business development, EQIP and cost share opportunities.

Commissioner Hinson appeared at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Holt asked Ms. Davis if they had done anything with agri-tourism. She said they had information regarding that and also recommended they look at conservation efforts such as long leaf pine.

Commissioner Viegbesie said one reason he was very interested in this program, he hoped Ms. Davis could be connected with GCDC to look at how they could incorporate agricultural development in economic development efforts.

2. Scope of Work for the Four-County DEO TA Grant

Beth Kirkland, CEcd, Gadsden County Development Council, appeared before the Board and was here to speak regarding the Four-County DEO TA Grant and the Gulf to Gadsden project. She said over the course of her monthly updates, she had mentioned to them they had made an application to the Department of Economic Opportunity in conjunction with three other counties for a technical assistance grant to continue their site work as well as to develop a strategic plan for a great logistics zone. She said last year the Development Council convened the Gulf to Gadsden forum held in Gulf County and there were a number of stakeholders from both counties at that meeting to discuss the commonalities with the regional transportation assets that connect the CSX mainline through the Apalachicola Northern Railroad and the interchanges in Gadsden County along the interstate. She said they had completed phase two of their process where they had taken six of the twenty sites through a desktop engineering and environmental analysis to give them an idea of the develop ability of the six sites. Of the six, three of the sites have interstate access and three could have potential rail access. She said they had asked for \$70,000 initially and the award came in at \$65,000 and they had decided to contract with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council to serve as the grant administrator. She said they would be creating a stakeholders group that would consist of stakeholders from the railroad, from the port, from DOT, from economic development in each of the involved counties, including the regional EDO, Opportunity Florida. She added that Gulf County had completed phase one and may take a look at phase two, which had just been completed with the six sites and they would like to move forward with phase three called “Landowner Engagement” and properly position the land.

Chair Holt asked Mr. Chris Holley to come forward and said he was the former Executive Director for the Florida Association of Counties. He had a few words to say.

Chair Holt explained to people in the audience the port they were talking about was in the Gulf and had been closed, and they were talking about getting it back up with deep water dredging so ships could come in.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was not present and there was nothing to report.

CONSENT

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

3. Ratification to Pay County Bills

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. **May 17, 2016-Regular Meeting**
- b. **July 19, 2016-Regular Meeting**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Alfonso Figgers, 215 N. Chalk Street, Quincy, FL, appeared before the board and spoke regarding economic development and CBOR. He said they have given the Gadsden County Development Council \$160,000 and the Chamber of Commerce \$80,000 and when they come back before the Board they need to ask for results. He felt the BOCC should eliminate the Bill of Rights and the super majority and in doing so it would help bring jobs to the community.

He said he brought up at the last commission meeting about the Confederate Flag on Highway 27 affecting the economic growth and felt the Commission should declare it a nuisance because it was a deterrent for businesses to come to the area.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. PUBLIC HEARING-(Legislative) Adoption of Ordinance 2016-014 to Amend Subsection 2012, Definitions, Specifically, and Section 5700, Signs, of the Gadsden County Land Development Code

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for the consideration of Ordinance 2016-014 for an amendment to Subsection 2102, Definitions, Specifically, and Section 5700, Signs, of the Gadsden County Land Development Code.

Chair Holt said this was a public hearing and said they would give them the opportunity to speak for or against this matter.

Jill Jeglie, Interim Planning & Community Development Director, appeared before the Board and said this would allow the electronic message centers in commercial districts and for non-residential uses in agriculture and rural residential and would limit the height of them.

Alfonso Figgers, 215 N. Chalk Street, Quincy, FL appeared before the Board again to speak in favor of this Ordinance.

Pastor Randy Ross, 2660 Frank Smith Road Tallavana Christian School and Church, thanked the Commission for taking this under consideration, and said he was grateful for the contact and them listening to them.

Idus Spooner, Route 4, Box 402, Havana, FL, appeared before the Board and said sign at Tallavana good thing

Betty Dotson, Post Office Box 1252, Havana, FL, member of Tallavana Church, can see benefit of sign and are backing it.

Pastor Charles Morris, 23201 Blue Star Highway, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and said next year their church would be celebrating 125 years in the Gadsden County area. He commended the Commission for their yeoman's effort regarding the aftermath of the storm.

Commissioner Viegbesie said since they were talking about the unincorporated area of the County where the speed limit was approximately 55 miles an hour, to ensure visibility, ability as well as comprehension of the displayed message, he suggested that dimensions of the sign should not exceed 8.3 feet long and 3.5 feet wide in the messaging area and clarified he was not talking about the entire sign.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Presnell if she could address Ms. Jeglie and she returned to the podium. She asked what the proposed sign measurement was as it stood today. Ms. Jeglie said the sign measurements changed depending on the type of use and there was a calculation that that allowed a certain amount of feet of sign per the area of the building frontage with a maximum of 200 square feet and there were also limitations depending on the type of commercial center. Commissioner Taylor asked how the ordinance compared to the cities because they could only regulate in unincorporated areas of the county. Commissioner Taylor said she was in favor of what they needed to do to encourage economic development and asked if they were erring in the side of safety. Ms. Jeglie said she did not look at studies regarding safety but did look at aesthetics.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he was recommending it not exceed 8.3 feet long and 3.5 feet wide and anything bigger would obstruct vision, motorcyclists and pedestrians.

Chair Holt said they did not know what standard size signs were. Ms. Jeglie said she had dimensions of some signs and listed them.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Jill for bringing the info to them. He said they were updating an Ordinance that needed attention and was important for the county because they want to maintain the integrity of the county. He said language on electronic boards made sense and suggested they have up to a certain percentage instead of a flat percentage. He asked if there was any limitation on how close the signs could be together and if the ordinance was enforceable, if it was not, he was not in favor of it.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Weiss explained the calculation and said it would vary based on the size of the building.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Holt asked them to consider that there were developments coming to the I-10 exchanges and they were making decisions now that might limit them coming if they could not put up signs.

The attorney pointed out couple of scriveners errors.

Commissioner Hinson said he thought this was a great thing and would benefit pastors and schools.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HINSON TO ADOPT OPTION 3 AND FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIR TO SIGN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

6. Public Hearing-(Legislative) Consideration of Adoption of Ordinance 2016-019 to address Solar Power Generating Facilities and Solar Energy Systems in the Gadsden County Land Development Code (LDC-2015-04)

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for adoption of Ordinance 2016-019 to amend the Land Development Code to reflect the additions of Solar Power Generating Facilities as allowable uses in the Agriculture 1 & 2 Future Land Use Districts.

Chair Holt announced this was a public hearing and asked if anyone had any public input.

Jill Jeglie, Interim Director, appeared before the board to explain the amendments to the LDC.

Chair Holt said if solar companies came, they would need to go next to the power lines.

She then announced it was a public hearing and asked if there were any comments and there were none.

Commissioner Taylor said she was not an authority on solar panels and how was it they would get power lines in Ag 1 and 2; and secondly, there was an amendment on the last ballot and felt it had to do more with incentive than anything.

Chair Holt said power lines already cross a lot of the areas and solar companies normally locate where they would feed into the lines. Commissioner Taylor said wanted to see designated areas they could build on.

Mr. Presnell said they would not buy property or sites, and explained they were typically located more in Ag areas. Commissioner Taylor wanted to make sure it did not become an eyesore and would be isolated. Mr. Presnell said they were ahead of the curve by adopting these regulations.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the County had been looked at and Mr. Presnell said yes, on numerous occasions. Commissioner Taylor asked if what they adopted tonight was comparative to other counties of our magnitude and same demographics were doing and Mr. Presnell nothing in approving this would put the County at a disadvantage from a regulatory standpoint.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION 1 AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Taylor approval option 1/V 5-0

7. Public Hearing-USDA Letter of Conditions for Gadsden County Community Facilities Loan for New Multi-Purpose Ag Facility

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval of the USDA Forms relative to the project at the Ag Center and said they had \$1.2 Million and have been told the costs may come in a little higher and was anticipating being short on funds. He said Mary Gavin was present from the USDA and they had rural loan funds. He explained they were not obligating themselves tonight; they were getting the Board to approve this for \$700,000. He further explained this was more than they would need, but once they bid the project and ran short of funds this option would be there if needed. He also said they were not borrowing money tonight, it would come back before them.

Mary J. Gavin, Area Director, USDA, appeared before the Board and said the County was eligible for the project and as soon as the funds became available, then the letters of conditions could be adopted. She said they were required to conduct a public meeting tonight to make the public aware of the project.

Joel Sampson, Architect, 212 North Adams Street, Quincy, FL, appeared before the Board and said the general idea of the building was less than 10,000 square feet and 2400 square feet or so was

for the Farmers Market on the end of the building; the office space would move into the new building in front and existing office space in the old building would be used for overflow, storage, etc.

Commissioner Hinson said this was a good idea but he was curious if this was the only place this site could go, and added he hated to take business away from another business nearby like Piggly Wiggly and Midway or Havana could benefit from having this.

Ms. Gavin said County needed new Ag complex; her suggestion was to apply for a business development grant and to utilize part as a farmers' market to get grant for that amount of money and then had \$1 Million from the State to go towards the construction. She said if the City of Midway wanted a farmers' market, she would love to get an application for Midway or a Farmers' Market. Commissioner Hinson said he would talk with her about that. She said she had fought to get the \$200,000 for the farmers' market for the ag complex and was successful in getting the grant to match with the state grant. She said the shortfall was \$707,000 based on the preliminary architectural report and until the bids came in, they did not know if they would be in under or over or right at where they would need to be.

Commissioner Morgan asked what the costs to the taxpayers would be. Ms. Gavin said it was at 2.75% for 30 years currently but she received an email last week, and passed it on to the County that if they wait until next quarter, October 1st, the interest rate could drop to 2.375% for 30 years. Commissioner Morgan asked the cost of the application and Ms. Gavin said nothing.

Chair Holt said they had to say they had set aside the money to go to the Legislature to request the funding from them.

Ms. Gavin said every two years they would look at the financials and if it looks like there was a lot of money to set aside of unrestricted cash, (Commissioner Morgan said they don't), the County may be asked to refinance or pay it off but there was no prepayment penalty.

Commissioner Taylor said based on the architect drawings, she heard what they said about the fresh market, she said wanted to keep people working and make sure commerce was disbursed equally over the County.

Shep Eubanks, County Extension Director, appeared before the Board to explain and said they would start out with one day a week and as the business flow would grow, it would grow. Commissioner Taylor asked about the grant.

Ms. Gavin said the Letter of Conditions had been presented already and they were asking tonight specifically for the multi-purpose facility in conjunction with the farmers market.

Chair Holt asked if there were any more comments from the audience and there were none.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners conducted a Public Meeting on September 6, 2016 to give the citizenry an opportunity to become acquainted with the proposed new Multi-Purpose Facility for the Gadsden County Cooperative Extension Service and to comment on such economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternative to the project and other matters of concern. The meeting included discussion of the application process and the Gadsden County

Board of County Commissioners action relative to approving, executing and submitting a formal application to USDA Rural Development for funding. A Loan Resolution was passed with a 5-0 vote in favor of obligating a Community Facilities Loan in the amount of \$707,000.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if the motion tonight was just to approve project and forms and authorizing the Chair to sign and Chair Holt said yes.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OPTION 1.

Ms. Gavin explained there were some forms she wanted to remove tonight to wait until October 1st in case they were able to get a cheaper interest rate.

COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the motion was to exclude those forms because the motion was for the related forms and asked if the motion was to exclude the forms. Mr. Presnell said they would not send those forms in and Ms. Gavin said that would be OK.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. Request Space for a Diabetes Specialty Clinic in the Gadsden Memorial Hospital Building

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board guidance regarding a request by North Florida Regional Thyroid Center (NFRTC) to locate a diabetes specialty clinic in the area previously referred to as the urgent care center of the Gadsden Memorial Hospital Building.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND.

Mr. Weiss said this was not on the Agenda for approval; they needed input from the Board and explained.

Commissioner Holt asked why CRMC was negotiating with Dr. Hart without the attorney. She said the County still owned the building and said someone representing the County needed to be involved in the conversation and Mr. Glazer was being paid to be the attorney for the County and he needed to give a report.

Commissioner Morgan asked how this was placed on the Agenda for tonight's meeting and Chair Holt said she approved it and Mr. Presnell had met with Dr. Hart. Commissioner Morgan felt they needed to have an initial conversation and this was prematurely placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Viegbesie said in looking at the item, Dr. Hart was requesting space and the conditions surrounding provisions of service that she was looking at providing was not a part of what was before the Board tonight; it was a request for space. He said if they agreed on the recommendation of the Advisory Board that the space should be granted, that was where they would start discussing all the other ramifications related to the use of the space. He then said if

they were paying an attorney to represent the county in regards to hospital and health revisions, it was a conversation that the attorney should be present for to begin to tell how it would fit into the contract between the County and CRMC. He added that he was not pleased that the attorney that represented the County regarding hospital matters was not present tonight.

Chair Holt said she agreed with him.

CHAIR HOLT MADE A MOTION THEY PROVIDE SPACE FOR DR. HART AND HAVE THE MANAGER START THE NEGOTIATION. COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE THE SECOND. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Taylor said based on what the attorney mentioned with regard to the request for the space and the dialogue that CRMC had with Dr. Hart and the reason for the Administrator putting it on the Agenda tonight and the Attorney on record for the hospital not being present with some of the dialogue felt it was not enough to move forward with to vote tonight. She felt they needed to make sure CRMC, both attorneys, or at least the one with the Hospital Board, and wanted to make sure there was no conflict because there was a contract in place and were not in violation of the contract approving space whereas CRMC had that authority to approve space per the contract.

Mr. Presnell said this was placed on the Agenda prior to CRMC making contact with Dr. Hart and Staff was simply trying to see if the Board was interested in providing space for a doctor and then CRMC made the contact. Things happened after the Agenda Item was done.

Chair Holt said she had no problem in providing space and then let the Manager get started with the conversation.

Commissioner Morgan said based on what Mr. Presnell said; he asked if he would recommend this be tabled for a future date. Mr. Presnell said if the Board wished for the services to be offered, at some point CRMC, GHI and the County would need to hold a conversation and discuss this. Commissioner Morgan asked if it was his opinion this was on the Agenda at the proper time and based on his remarks, that was not what he heard.

Commissioner Morgan said he would advise to bring this back after all the parties has had that conversation. He added he did not think there was anyone on the Board that did not want to consider providing space to Dr. Hart, but there was a right way and a wrong way to do this. He felt Mr. Glazer would want to handle this the right way and the parties need to come together and then bring this before the Board.

Chair Holt said there was no right way in politics, only a win or loss. She said the doctor was willing to bring the service here, they vote for them to have a conversation, which still would not give her a place here; all they were saying was to give them an opportunity to talk with her about it.

Chair Holt then called for the vote.

Commissioner Taylor asked what the motion was for. Chair Holt said for the Manager to let her look at and offer her space. She then clarified that the motion was to allow the Manager to talk with Dr. Hart and CRMC about space at the hospital. Commissioner Viegbesie said his second

stands. He added said there was leased space and non-leased space at the hospital and CRMC had no control over the non-leased space, only the right of first refusal.

Craig McMillan, Chair of GHI, appeared before the Board and said to accommodate the agenda item, they held a meeting last week and supported them giving space to Dr. Hart in the facility, but their recommendation was they try to utilize the facility that CRMC has built out as a cost saving measure for Dr. Hart and the County. He added that a fully built out area with wi-fi, utilities, etc. would run around \$80.00 a month and the costs of the utilities only in the Urgent Care facility would be high and was why they suggested utilizing that space first. He added if that did not work out, they were still behind the item.

Commissioner Hinson said the only thing he had heartburn on was because why worry about a place that was not ready versus a place that was ready.

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

9. Request Approval to Renew the Lease Agreement with Neighborhood Medical Center to Lease the Havana Health Clinic

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval to renew the lease agreement with Neighborhood Medical Center to lease the Havana Health Clinic.

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

10. Approval and Execution of State Aid Agreement

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval and execution of the State Aid Grant Agreement for the Library.

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

11. Approval of Medical Director Contract

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the renewal of the Medical Director Service Agreement.

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

12. Purchase of Adult Defibrillators for use in the Patrol Cars

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval to purchase twenty adult defibrillators for use in some patrol vehicles within the Gadsden County Sheriff's Fleet and to authorize staff to process this item according to State and Federal guidelines.

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

13. Request Board Approval to Accept Bid from the Carpet Studio, Inc. to Install Carpet and Vinyl in the State’s Attorney Office, Edward J. Butler Governmental Complex

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was to accept the bid from The Carpet Studio, Inc. to replace and install carpet and vinyl in the State’s Attorney Office.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON WITH A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson said he needed to get into the carpet business, he thought it was a little much.

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

14. Approval of Volunteer Fire Department Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreements

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for Board approval for the Interlocal Fire and Rescue Service Agreements between Gadsden County and Concord, Chattahoochee, Greensboro, Gretna, Havana, Mt. Pleasant, Robertsville/St. Johns, Sycamore, Midway and Wetumpka Fire Departments.

Mr. Weiss said there was a recent statutory amendment that required insertion of specific language regarding record retention and it was not in these agreements because it happened recently on July 1st and he did not know about it at time. Chair Holt said if they were sent out to be signed, they needed to be corrected before they were sent. He said they had been sent out, signed and the way he proposed to correct this was having an addendum with specific language added to go to the different entities.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN FOR APPROVAL WITH THE ADDENDUM AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

15. Approval of the Inter-Local Agreement with the City of Gretna for Animal Control Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Gretna and Gadsden County, FL for the provision of animal control services within the city limits of Gretna, FL.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HINSON.

Mr. Weiss they had the same issue with this contract and in their packets were the original agreement but the one in the signature folder was the correct one.

COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE SAID HIS MOTION WOULD INCLUDE THE REVISED AGREEMENT AND SECOND WAS AMENDED BY COMMISSIONER HINSON. THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

16. Approval of the Inter-Local Agreement with Town of Greensboro for Animal Control Services

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said this was another Animal Agreement and would

need to include the same wording.

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

17. Interlocal Agreement with Gadsden Soil and Water Conservation District for BMP Technician for Gadsden County

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said Florida Department of Agriculture through the Office of Agricultural Water Policy has funds available to assist with water quality, quantity and best management practices and technical assistance was needed to help producers implement these statutorily required BMP's.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS ITEM AND COMMISSIONER MORGAN MADE THE SECOND. BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, CHAIR HOLT ASKED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FDACS TO SOME FORWARD.

Daniel Stanley, Department of Agriculture, appeared before the Board and explained the program.

Shep Eubanks, County Extension Director, appeared before the Board and said this was a great opportunity to help the local producers and the cost share program was a tremendous opportunity to help them purchase equipment to comply with state mandates on water quality and conservation issues.

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

18. Approval of Interlocal Agreements with Local Municipalities and the Gadsden County School Board

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval for an Interlocal Agreement with six municipalities and the Gadsden County School Board for road maintenance and special project activities.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL WITH THE ADDENDUM PARAGRAPH ADDED AND SECOND MADE BY COMMISSIONER HINSON. COMMISSIONER MORGAN HAD QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Presnell if the local rates for the municipalities were the same as last year and Mr. Presnell said they were.

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

19. Approval of Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement Amendment with the State of Florida Department of Transportation

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement Amendment with the State of Florida Department of Transportation.

**COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION FOR APPROVAL WITH A COMMENT.
COMMISSIONER HINSON MADE THE SECOND.**

Commissioner Taylor asked how the amount of money was calculated and Mr. Presnell said it was a formula that DFOT had and the County had no input on it whatsoever.

Commissioner Hinson asked how long before the traffic signal would go up in the Concord area and Mr. Presnell said it would be under his comments if they could wait.

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

20. Approval for the Extension of the Contract for Marketing Consulting services with 78 Madison Marketing Group for TDC

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said it was for approval of the extension of the 78 Madison Marketing Group contract for marketing services with the Tourist Development Council. Mr. Presnell added that the TDC met and recommended that the contract be extended for a three year period.

Mr. Weiss said this was the same firm and was not an extension of the contract, an RFP was solicited it was a new contract with a proposed three year term with two potential one year extensions.

Commissioner Morgan asked if there was a particular reason they chose a five year agreement.

Chair Holt, who sits on the Board, said it was the agreement of the Board and said they felt if this was short term, they would not get as much impact.

Commissioner Morgan said they were paying them \$30,000 a year for six hours of service per week.

Joe Bouch, 78 Madison Marketing Group appeared before the Board. He said he get paid \$2,500 a month at \$90.00 an hour; over the last two years they built a new website and it has been up for less than a year; there have been over 30,000 people that had visited it and they believe it has had an impact with the people that were learning about the county; they have taken all the photography; they maintain it; they have created and built a new app “Discover Gadsden” that will show places to eat and visit and history regarding the County; they created a new logo “Do Something Original”; they have been doing on-line advertising touching Georgia, Alabama and most of the State of Florida; they have had 4-5 million impressions and on Facebook alone have had conversations with people; and the Facebook posts were shared by people in the three state area.

Commissioner Morgan said he was interested in from a fiscal standpoint to go back two years since his company has been involved and asked what they had been paid over the two years. Mr. Bouch said they had been paid \$2500 a month and 15% commission on the media. Commissioner Morgan asked what that meant and how much money in the last two years had the County spent. Mr. Bouch said the first year they built a foundational program for the County and there was no

media and the second year the County spent \$89,000 in media and he had a 15% commission on that.

Commissioner Morgan said Mr. Bouch and his company had done a really good job for the County, but they were talking about a five year agreement and his opinion was it was too long and they were committing a lot of dollars to it without reviewing the agreement. He said he had no problem with the company but would keep the contract the same and just shorten the term.

Mr. Bouch said he was the one who pushed the County to make it a longer term, even if they were not the agency. He explained it was almost like a political campaign, you get to know and learn the foundation of the County. He further stated he had been all over the county the last two years. He added if they hired someone new, they would essentially start over and if they approved this, the contract had a thirty to sixty day out and if approved, did not mean they were locked in.

Commissioner Taylor said when Commissioner Morgan asked about costs, over the 5 year period of the contract, would the amount fluctuate like it did from the first year of \$30,000 to the second year of \$89,000 and if so, had the TDC board considered that it might be something that they could not afford one year because of the 15% and it could fluctuate. He said it was based on the budget, the County tells him what to spend and they do a marketing plan. He said if approved, he would have to present again to the TDC next year's plan. Commissioner Taylor asked if this was within the procurement policy corridors to extend a contract such as this and it not be bid annually because of the amount that was being requested. Mr. Presnell said yes, technically it went back out for an RFP so it was a new contract with new terms.

Commissioner Morgan said there was 30 day opt out to end the contract and the contract was with the BOCC and his company, not the TDC Board.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

21. Update on Various Board Requests

Mr. Presnell said he had a few items tonight:

He said there was a request for them to consider doing a Proclamation finding September 17-23 as Constitution Week and said they had a group wanting to use the Proclamation on a display at their September 10th meeting.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. SECOND WAS INAUDIBLE. COMMISSIONER HINSON HAD A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson asked what group asked for the Proclamation.

Mr. Presnell said it was the Ft. San Luis Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and they will have a display and asked for a Proclamation from each of the counties.

Commissioner Morgan said this was not an agendaed item and they were not voting to approve this and Mr. Presnell said being a Proclamation he would need Board approval or he could not do it. Commissioner Morgan said he thought it should be an agendaed item if they were going to vote. Mr. Weiss said typically they should only take action on agendaed items but they have taken the opportunity for emergency type items in the past that would not impact revenue.

CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR THE VOTE. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

Mr. Presnell said they need direction from the Board regarding the lobbying contracts and said one of the lobbyist was just elected to congress and the contract ends on September 30th and committee meetings would be starting in November. Commissioner Morgan pointed out they still have a lobbyist in place and Mr. Presnell explained both contracts expire on September 30th and asked if they wanted him to bring one or both. Commissioner Morgan said don't need both, Chair Holt asked if it could go on the October Agenda and Commissioner Morgan said he would not be able to provide the services. Chair Holt asked to put it on the next agenda and give them an opportunity to look at it and talk with Mr. Lawson and Mr. Doolin. Commissioner Hinson said in all fairness, it was not the Senator that is the business, it is the business and Senator Lawson works for the business, he may not have ownership, might be his wife or someone else.

Mr. Presnell said he would bring the contracts to Board.

He reminded them of the Budget meeting scheduled for Thursday and the final budget packet was in the mailbox upstairs.

He said they were ready to move with the Parks and Recreation Improvement Authority and each commissioner will select a person of their choice and one of them needs to serve as chairman.

He said regarding the red light in Concord, they have received the bid package on Thursday from the engineering firm and the bid is going out and the bids will be opened and they will bring it to Board for instruction. Commissioner Hinson asked why it took more than 5-6 months to come to this point-almost a year for one light. Mr. Presnell said they could set up a meeting with engineering firm and it could be discussed because it was an assignment for them and he could not answer that. Commissioner Hinson said he was just curious about that.

Mr. Presnell said tomorrow at 3:00 will be senior officials from Elder Affairs and Children & Families at the Emergency Management Office to continue the discussion about providing more long-term assistance to older citizens in county.

The Deputy Clerk said there had been a Value Adjustment Board meeting scheduled last week for tomorrow at 3:00 and an e-mail sent out last week & Chair Holt and Commissioner Hinson serves on the VAB.

He then said as the storm Hermine approached, Public Works was out manning fallen trees and as a result there were no road closures; EMS people were awesome and came through; Emergency Management was activated and shut down Friday around 9:00; the power outages became an issue; those that participated in the distribution of items to be commended from Churches that participated to the inmates that assisted in loading vehicles.

Chair Holt said it worked out really well and they need to do table-top meetings to see if there were any improvements, etc.

Commissioner Morgan asked if all utility outages had been taken care of and Mr. Presnell said currently there were 167 accounts out/ Commissioner Morgan asked what the projection was and Mr. Presnell said he assumed by the next day.

Commissioner Taylor said the public might want to know more information, there was a loss of lots of food; families that rely on subsidized food; Chair Holt said she met with Senator Montford this morning and was working on it from that level and food stamp was a federal program and they would meet again. Commissioner Taylor asked if there was a timeline she could inform the public of.

Mr. Presnell said they could keep meals coming indefinitely if it was a need and was helping.

Commissioner Taylor said Commissioner Holt mentioned organizing a meeting regarding emergency management and had areas of concerns that needed to be addressed because there were storms brewing now that was headed this way and hoped they could get something going in the near future.

Commissioner Taylor wanted to address the Senior Citizen Board and said they needed to replace those that were termed out. Mr. Presnell said to email names to him and it did not need to be a formal action from the Board and needed suggestions and said their By-laws required there be one from each district on the Board.

She asked if they had started the turn-around at Crossroads.

Curtis Young, Public Works Director appeared before the Board and said the engineers were scheduling a meeting with him and Crossroads to discuss that.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

22. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss mentioned that Mr. Glazer apologized for not being at the meeting tonight, that he was preparing for a trial and he has been participating in hospital discussions and actions.

Chair Holt said she received a call on how the airport was funded was asked how the airport could be used for emergencies. Mr. Presnell said the County did not fund the airport, they were fully self-sufficient and the County did fund them in the past.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

23. Report and Discussion of Public Issues

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he was proud of the employees and how they responded the past few days with the storm, weather and working around the clock and expressed his thanks. He also said

there were a lot of folks helping out other people and lot to be proud of. He called out Major Wood with Emergency Management , said he knew he worked long and hard and appreciated his efforts

He said he had a Planning and Zoning member that he needed to appoint to the Board and asked for it to be agendaed as soon as possible. He said Mr. Frank Rowan has asked to step down and asked that they approve the potential replacement.

He said he would also like to recognize him for his service at the earliest possible time.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN THAT THEY PUT AN ITEM AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME ON NEXT AGENDA AND TO RECOGNIZE MR. FRANK ROWAN AND SECOND MADE BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM.

Commissioner Morgan said the last item he had, they were in a spot with the County Administrator and they were coming up on his contract ending and hoped to avoid being in that situation without it being worked out. He asked where they were with it and if it would be agendaed. He added he wanted to avoid an opening in that position and the Assistant Administrator’s last day was the end of this month.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor echoed the sentiments with regard to Emergency Management.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Chair Holt said she mentioned to the Manager for them to get shelter signs up.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

He said in response to that request, they requested and hopefully would have before the next storm blinking signs with an arrow that says “Shelter” so if a person was not familiar with the area, they would know where to go.

Commissioner Taylor left the meeting.

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2

Commissioner Viegbesie said he would be remiss if he did not echo the sentiments of Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Taylor of the efforts of staff, citizens as well as EMS’s help during the storm. He said he was out of the area during the storm and was very impressed with the continuous updates of the progress.

He said he had two parents ask him about Juvenile Justice Referral and Diversion Program such as Teen Court and asked if there was one in the County. Mr. Presnell said money was used for Teen court through the Sheriff’s Office. Commissioner Viegbesie asked if they could appear before the Board because he had questions and would like a better understanding to be able to provide answers and directions to the citizens that had questions.

He then suggested they, as a body, consider some form of a litter control initiative campaign for

the unincorporated areas of the County since that was what their jurisdiction covered so people would become more aware of what litter did; i.e., dumping trash on the side of the road, furniture, etc. and felt maybe a campaign would make people more aware.

He then asked for a Proclamation John Conyers, Sr., the Pastor of Celebration Church.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBSIE AND SECOND BY CHAIR HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0 BY VOICE VOTE FOR A PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND JOHN CONYERS, SR., PASTOR OF SECOND ELIZABETH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

He also expressed his thanks to the BOCC, the Administration team, and Emergency Management Department, Shawn Wood and Old Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. He said they took initiative and they went after the problem on Saturday and invited the entire community to come eat and served full-course meals and Sunday around 12-1 they cooked another full-course meal, as well as the Concord Fire Department that fed over 400 citizens and Emergency Management donated water. He added that citizens took initiative and he was humbled by it.

Commissioner Viegbesie stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Hinson then mentioned a few areas that were still without power and he mentioned a tree off Highway 27 headed toward Tallahassee that had fallen and was still there. He added that everybody had put in a lot of hours and had worked very hard.

Commissioner Viegbesie returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Presnell said they had two EMS trucks the night of the storm and the closer the storm got the called increased and no-one had to wait. He said when folks woke up Friday morning, thanks the Public Works; no roads were closed because they worked through the night keeping the roads cleared.

He said a lot of folks lost medicine because of loss of power and they needed to look at assistance in helping to replace that. Mr. Presnell said they had not considered that.

Mr. Presnell said EMS and Emergency Management was beneficial in providing assistance in Leon County to ones that were cut-off.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Chair Holt said they needed to look at other areas for retrofit with buildings for emergencies.

Call System

Mr. Presnell said the new Ag Center would be built to shelter strength.

Chair Holt said there were no comfort zones for us. She said people with respiratory problems have to have air conditioning. She said she heard complaints about not being on the radio with reports and she said they could not confuse hundreds of people in Tallahassee without electricity by putting ours on a radio station in Tallahassee; it would be giving out contradictory information.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 6, 2016 – Regular Meeting

She thanked Arrie Battle and Sherri Vanlandingham for delivering food and they got around \$5,000 in donations. She said there was a Resolution she signed as Chairman when the storm was coming and there are times the Board cannot come together and the Chair has to sign it. She said the purpose of having the Emergency Proclamation early was to get relief early and they were able to get the request in the portal on Saturday and Leon County did not have a request. She said Gadsden County beat everybody in.

She also said she would like to publically thank everybody and wanted to put it out on Facebook, public announcements, and put it on the radio, Good Morning Show or something to let everyone know their appreciation.

She then asked about the nursery in Friendship that closed (Imperial) and said there was still a lot of metal, cloth, etc. that was still there. Mr. Presnell said the parent company filed for bankruptcy.

Receipt and File

24. Mediacom

UPCOMING MEETINGS

25. August 23, 2016-Special Budget Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners
September 6, 2016 – Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:16 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT, Chair
Board of County Commission

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk