

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON MARCH 17, 2015 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
 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 AND ROLL CALL

Chair Holt welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 6:00, called for a moment of silence and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. A silent roll call was taken by Marcella Blocker, Deputy Clerk.

AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Holt asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda.

Mr. Presnell stated he would like to add Item 13A-Authorization to draft and file a motion for leave to file a brief on behalf of Gretna Racing, LLC in the First District Court of Appeal case of Gretna Racing, LLC v. Department of Business and Professional Racing, Division of Pari-Mutual Wagering; and if the motion to file the brief is granted, to draft and file the brief.

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

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

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Proclamation Honoring Mersey Mae Bell

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and Commissioner Viegbesie read the Proclamation aloud and then presented it to her granddaughter, Michele Hawkins.

Mrs. Hawkins thanked the BOCC and said it meant a lot to her, as Mr. Edward Butler, whom the building was named after and was her father, was Ms. Bell's son.

CLERK OF COURTS

Mr. Thomas was present and had 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.

- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. February 3, 2015 Minutes**

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

CITIZENS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

3. Discussion of Roles and Responsibilities of the Gadsden County Industrial Development

Authority

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and stated it was presented to the Board for discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the Gadsden County Industrial Development Authority. He added that the Commissioners had asked that this be placed on the Agenda so they could discuss how it related to the Gadsden County Economic Council.

Commissioner Morgan recognized Calvin Dawkins, the District 3 Member and Chair Holt recognized Gene Marshall, the District 4 Member, who was present in the audience.

Chair Holt said when the Economic Development Board had met the Industrial Board had not been involved and felt it would be good for the two Boards to meet together.

Calvin Dawkins, District 3, appeared before the Board and said he had been on the Board for the past four to five years. He added that Mr. Gardner would call the meetings and they would discuss development and businesses that were interested in coming into the County and establishing their businesses here.

Gene Marshall, District 4, appeared before the Board and said she represented the Gretna area and the Board would meet every June with the exception of the past year and they met in July and they would discuss items and business that were interested in coming to the area.

Chair Holt asked if they only meet once a year.

Ms. Marshall said that was correct.

Chair Holt said she was interested in how could get the boards to meet together to help improve economic development and asked if they were interested in meeting more than the once a year. She stated maybe they should look into holding joint workshops with the Boards (Industrial Development Authority, Tourist Development Council and Economic Development Council). She said they had just hired a marketing company to help market the County and She also pointed out that the Industrial Board was the only other Board that the Commission appointed that could borrow money.

Mrs. Marshal said they would share it with the rest of the board members.

4. Discussion Regarding the Composition of the Gadsden County Planning Commission

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said Commissioner Morgan had requested this item be brought back to give history on the make-up of the Board and how the appointments were made as far as representation and background information was supplied. He added that currently each Commission Member appointed two Planning Commission Members and one was at-large and one School Board member appointed by the School Board.

Commissioner Morgan recognized Mr. Frank Rowan and said he was at all the meetings as well as most of the board meetings. Commissioner Morgan said he not familiar with the creation of the board, he assumed that 2 members they were to appoint were required to come from their own district to have fair representation throughout the county. He said he knew this was not for action tonight, but he just wanted feed-back from everyone and would like to hear from Allara Gutcher, the Planning Director, on what she had to say regarding the make-up of the Planning Commission. He also thought it imperative that they appoint people from their own district to serve and asked if it was in the Ordinance to do the same.

Mr. Presnell said the existing Ordinance gave each member two selections, but it did not designate where they were to come from.

Commissioner Morgan asked if they thought that was the intention when this Ordinance was originally created. He added there were some things he felt could be cleaned up and this be made a better Ordinance.

Mr. Weiss said he felt as the Ordinance was written, there was no legal requirement stating they had to appoint from their own district.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if any BOCC members had appointees that were not from the commissioner's district.

Chair Holt said there was one, in her District and she was happy with the appointee.

Commissioner Viegbesie said the reason he asked and what Commissioner Morgan said made a lot of sense, if the Commission was going to appoint the members and if the appointment was to be representing that district, if this was done prior to single member districts, maybe that was something the Board needed to address to see how that requirement could be changed. He said he felt the membership of the Commission should be representative of the Commissioners that appointed them in order to have proper representation in the democratic system.

Chair Holt said she was "more interested in intelligence than I am your address so that way it works out well. Ah, if the person knows the law and pretty much abreast of it and they study it, I'm more interested in that. I do have a Commissioner that is not in my District, but they have been a Commissioner before and they know the law backwards and forward and I like it that way. Ah, and they represent the County well, so, but that's the reason I chose them, was because of that. It is up to the Board, you can say if you want to bring it back later. I like the way it is already."

Commissioner Morgan asked for it to be brought back before Board to vote up or down changes they felt might be necessary to have representatives from the Commissioners' district and to have an odd number on the Board.

Commissioner Hinson stated the School Board member was not able to vote.

Allara Gutchner, Planning & Community Development Director, appeared before the Board and stated the local Land Development Regulations allowed the School Board member to be able to be a voting member.

David Weiss pointed out "the statutory requirement is that a School Board member be able to sit on the Planning Commission and attend meetings where there may be an increase, where you are considering an item where it may result in an increase in residential density. The statute is silent in terms of...the statute says 'non-voting' but it does not mean that the Board can't make a decision to have them as a voting member. So that's basically..."

Commissioner Morgan pointed out that Mr. Ed Allen, another Commission member, was also present.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSION MORGAN AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO BRING THIS ITEM BACK. CHAIR HOLT OPPOSED.

5. Approval of Appointments to the Gadsden County Planning Commission

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said there were two appointments to the Gadsden County Planning Commission and both were in Commission Taylor's district. He said she had recommended Marion Lasley and Malcom Carter.

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

Commissioner Taylor asked that she be able to recognize Mr. Ed Allen and asked his to come forward to give accolades for his heart and soul he has put into his efforts with the Commission and she appreciated all that he had done and the timeless hours that he had devoted to the County with regards to development. She added that he had been a "man of his word, you've been difficult, but in a positive way. You just want to see what is good and what is best." She said she admired his strength and what he had done for the County.

Mr. Allen said he would like to second Commissioner Morgan's thoughts that he had been on the board for several years and it made sense to have commissioners appoint from their own district.

Commissioner Hinson said he had the opportunity to work with him when he served on the school board and also thanked him for his service to the County also.

Commissioner Viegbesie said his commendations were not just to Mr. Allen for the years of his service, but to anyone who worked in an advisory capacity as a citizen in the County and it was a lot of responsibility that a lot of people do not realize how much it involved.

Chair Holt thanked Mr. Allen for his service and said he had worked hard and was passionate.

6. Johnson William; Parcel ID No. 3212N3W0000042102200 Code Enforcement

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said the item was for board direction regarding a code violation on the above referenced property that was located at 139 Byrd Road, Quincy, FL. He added that they had taken bids and the low bid was at \$3,389 and if the Board approved, they would accomplish this and a lien would be placed on the property.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN.
CHAIR HOLT CALLED FOR A QUESTION BEFORE THE VOTE.**

Chair Holt stated this was the company from Sneads and no-one in the county was low bid?

Mr. Presnell stated there were other bids, but they were not the low bid.

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

7. Disposal of Ashford Medical, Computer and Business Records

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and asked that Attorney Michael Glazer address this item and it was concerning disposing of old medical and business records along with computers that were abandoned when the former operator of the Hospital abandoned it in 2005.

Michael Glazer, Assistant County Attorney, appeared before the Board and said when Ashford left the hospital there was a massive amount of things left behind, thousands and thousands of medical records, e-rays and business records along with computers. He said the County took possession of the items because the building belonged to the County and have stored and locked them away all of these years. He said they were maintained because of the ongoing threat from Ashford and then Ashford's successor in the bankruptcy of potential litigation and after many years, the bankruptcy ended, there was a successor, they did sue the County and the Attorney was very successful in getting the lawsuit dismissed. He said they did file an appeal and the attorney was successful in getting that dismissed and was able to get attorneys' fees from them. He said if the County was ready to do so; it was time to get rid of all the items there. He said even though things were boxed up real neat, no-one would be able to locate any records without spending hundreds of man-hours of work. He said County Staff had looked into disposing and because there were medical records and patient information in them, they could not be taken to the dump and the estimate was there were approximately 2,000 boxes in addition to the old computers. After being looked into by county staff, he said the estimate was approximately \$14,000 to destroy.

Chair Holt asked if a patient decided did they have any rights to the records.

Mr. Glazer stated there was no specific timetable in Florida law for disposal and while there were some rules, the outside appeared to be seven years and that had long since passed.

Chair Holt said everyone had been told they were in litigation and records could not be given out and wanted to make sure if records were destroyed, they at least gave people an opportunity and was not sure if they ever had done so.

Mr. Glazer said he was not aware of the County providing any notice when they first took over the hospital. There were occasions where there was a request from an attorney when there was a lawsuit and his memory was when they were told of the time and expense necessary to find them, suddenly the requests were not as important.

Chair Holt stated she did not want to destroy things that people had not had an opportunity, but was interested in what the Board had to say.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if there was a specific statute of limitations with regard to the length of time the records should be kept.

Mr. Glazer stated there was no specific State or Federal law, but there were guidelines under Medicare for seven years. He said there were certain records that had shorter time periods, but they all allow for disposal within those timeframes. He said he wanted to mention, while there was always a risk that someone might want their records, there was also a liability to the County for continuing to hold the records should there be a breach and someone broke in and started stealing records.

Chair Holt stated that was always a problem with medical records and any hospital, but her point was if they should give the public a chance to look at the records if they wanted.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if they had considered converting the records into electronic records.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the County was required legally to approach any of the patients to give them the availability to their records

Mr. Glazer stated no.

Commissioner Morgan then asked if there were any other liability that the County was taking on for keeping or destroying the records.

There was further discussion regarding the medical records. Please see www.gadsdenclerk.com and view the video for information.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HOLT, THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE SHREDDING OF THE RECORDS AFTER THIRTY DAYS NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND PUBLIC BE MADE AWARE OF THE COSTS ASSOCIATED AND FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO FIND THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET DONE AND THE FUNDING SOURCE BE IDENTIFIED. COMMISSIONER HINSON OPPOSED.

8. Discussion of the History, Lease and the Current Use of Space with Capital Regional Medical Center-Gadsden Memorial Campus

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and stated it was for discussion of the history, lease and current use of space with Capital Regional Medical Center-Gadsden Memorial Campus.

Mr. Glazer made a brief statement regarding the history of the lease.

Commissioner Taylor stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Glazer gave a little history of the hospital. He said the hospital was closed by the State under the ownership of Ashford in November, 2005 and between then and 2009, bids were put out. Tallahassee Memorial was chosen to re-open it and in 2009 they notified the County they were no longer interested. At that time the license for the hospital was in an inactive status and was set to expire and be permanently lost in the Summer of 2009. Discussions began with Capital Regional Medical Center and the County had to go to the Florida Legislature to get an additional year in order to find a way to reopen the hospital. The County passed a ½ cent sales tax to be used in the refurbishing the exterior and interior of the hospital. Ultimately negotiations were reached with CRMC and its parent company, HCA and resulted in a lease for them to operate what the County currently has. He said it has been operating as a full-time emergency department staffed the same way with emergency room physicians, but the hospital did not operate with in-patient beds although that opportunity was available if Capital Regional chose to do so at a later date.

Commissioner Taylor returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Mr. Glazer further explained the lease was amended a couple of years ago and a different portion of the space was renovated as a potential office area and CRMC was now bringing over specialists a couple days a week. He further explained that the hospital did not occupy the entire structure and there was the area that was commonly referred to as the old Urgent Care Center that was vacant space and a couple of old patient wings that were gutted. He also stated that CRMC leased the hospital for \$1.00 per year and in addition provided some funding because of the level of indigent care the funds did come from the Hospital Trust Fund and the half cent sales tax because of amendments and negotiations done with the hospital, now all of the funds come from the half cent sales tax and the money was previously going to CRMC from the trust fund is now being saved for additional repairs and maintenance that will ultimately be necessary to the building. He added that they do pay an additional \$1,000 a month for the physician office space.

Commissioner Viegbesie said this was one item he had looked at hard and he toured the building on January 26, 2015 and there was a lot of space, 77,000 square feet and only approximately 15,000 square feet were presently being occupied.

Mr. Glazer said the occupied space was around 44,000 or 45,000 square feet.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if there was anything in the lease that would prohibit the County from allowing other doctors from using the space for a satellite office to prevent citizens from having to drive to Tallahassee. He added that there were physicians interested in coming and paying for retrofit of space if the lease agreement provided for same.

Mr. Glazer said the space was available to lease with conditions: 1) If someone came with a proposal for space, it had to be offered to CRMC first and if they turned it down their consent would still be needed, but then it could be offered to other entities.

Commissioner Viegbesie asked if a doctor used the space that did not have referral capability or did not practice with CRMC and was associated with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and needed to admit a patient, the patient would be sent to TMH and asked if Mr. Glazer thought CRMC

would give their blessing for that doctor.

Chair Holt said Mr. Glazer was the County Attorney, why did he not argue against that part of the lease.

Mr. Glazer said a lot of points were argued and the BOCC agreed to terms and conditions of the lease.

Commissioner Morgan said if someone approached them with interests of renting space, he was under the impression it could be done, they would go to CRMC, tell them the offer and ask if they wanted to do and if not, BOCC would like to do so. He said they were worrying and discussing something that had not happened yet. He added that he had never been given the impression if they wanted to expand services the hospital would hold the County back.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he had in his possession two packages from different doctors willing to come but the hospital had to give their blessing for them to use it.

Commissioner Morgan said he was asking if it made sense for CRMC to agree for patients to be sent to TMH.

Commissioner Viegbesie said right now all that was at the hospital was an upscale emergency room.

Commissioner Hinson asked if a workshop could be held at the hospital to be able to go through it first then hold a workshop and discuss everything.

Commissioner Morgan responded to the information Commissioner Viegbesie shared and said it was unfair to assume CRMC would not entertain the request without first asking them. He said Mr. Glazer used term “unique” and asked what made him to use that word.

Mr. Glazer said hospitals were now opening off-site emergency departments and they are not allowed to have beds without going through a very extensive process and this was the only facility of its type and added when the lease was negotiated, it was the only facility that in the event the lease ever ended, could be split off and become its own independent hospital and revert back to the County.

Commissioner Morgan said he knew that everyone around the Board wanted the best of medical care and services that could be provided to the citizens.

Commissioner Taylor said in listening to the discussion around the Board, her position is the need for great healthcare and added that CRMC was now under new leadership and thought it was a conversation they needed to have with the CEO.

Commissioner Morgan stepped out at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Taylor added that she would like to see it go in the direction it was going, they were doing a great job, have saved lives, and had been a place to go in an emergency, there was a need for expansion, but did not want them to get in the quagmire they were in when it closed. It

needed to grow, but to grow smart was important.

Commissioner Morgan returned at this juncture of the meeting.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he hoped no-one felt he meant CRMC was not doing great job but felt what the County had was in-between. He added that the physicians he was in contact with were interested in paying rent and were even looking at space in Havana and they were willing to retrofit and pay rent.

Chair Holt asked the earliest they could hold a workshop.

Commissioner Taylor said she concurred with the workshop and would like to have CRMC there.

Commissioner Hinson said he did not want to rush and they were at the informational stage.

Commissioner Holt said to schedule workshop and invite CRMC to come.

Commissioner Morgan felt better plan to workshop, discuss everything and have Mr. Glazer present to CRMC at a later date.

Craig McMillan appeared before the Board and said whether the hospital board was a part of the process or not, they were there to try to support and lease out and use all space available. He added that it was the hospital board's position to lease out space and asked if BOCC wanted them to continue to be a part of this. He added that he did not see a reason for them to be in existence and he made a recommendation that maybe they should disband GHI because the commissioners were holding discussions with physicians without them. He asked if they wanted GHI involved in the process or not.

Commissioner Taylor said yes.

Mr. McMillan asked Commissioner Viegbesie when he received the proposals; why not submit to GHI or Mike so they could be presented to CRMC.

Commissioner Viegbesie said one was his personal doctor and before he was commissioner, he asked if he was interested in coming to Gadsden County and took him to the Gadsden County Health Department to meet with the director. He said he went back to his doctor and asked if they were interested in coming to the hospital, said they said yes and was interested in retrofitting space there. He added if he had known the County had a hospital board to work through, he would have come to them and he had no problem in bringing them to the hospital board.

Mr. McMillan said if Commissioner Viegbesie was holding two proposals right now, why not forward them on to him or Mr. Glazer.

Commissioner Viegbesie said now that he had a better understanding and knew there was an advisory board; he would refer them to GHI.

Mr. McMillan said he was here to support the BOCC in every manner and was here to support the

people in this County.

A Workshop was scheduled for March 31st at 6:00 at the hospital.

9. FDOT Grant Application Cycles

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said they needed to choose five roads to submit grant applications.

Commissioner Taylor said staff had done due diligence and selected roads from each district.

Commissioner Morgan agreed five from the five districts and assumed Preble-Rish had ranked them.

Mr. Presnell said they had gotten information regarding Pt. Milliken Road and the estimate was in excess of \$2 Million and SCOP was most appropriate and if the board desired to move forward, then do that instead of Hardaway Highway. He added they could apply for two SCOP projects.

Justin Ford, with Preble Rish, appeared before the board and explained everything to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Viegbesie said he attends the CRPTA meeting and half of Hardaway Highway was done with LAP and he had no problem replacing Neals Temple Road with Hardaway Highway.

Mr. Ford said the LAP process had changed dramatically in the past year and half with what information they now had to document.

Commissioner Taylor asked about Highbridge Road and Mr. Ford said it was already approved for the DOT program along with Old Federal Road.

Mr. Ford pointed out the list was not a list of every road in the County that needed attention.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion then yielded to Commissioner Viegbesie.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER VIEGBESIE AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MORGAN, THE BOARD VOTED 5-0 BY VOICE VOTE TO ADOPT THE ROADS PRESENTED WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF HARDAWAY HIGHWAY WITH PT. MILLIKIN AND NEALS TEMPLE ROAD WITH A ROAD THAT FITS THE FUNDING.

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

10. Approval to Confirm Appointment of Emergency Medical Services Director

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said it was for confirmation of the employment of Roy C. Phippen as the new Emergency Medical Services Director.

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

Commissioner Viegbesie said one thing talked about in Personnel development, some staff was close to retirement and they were fortunate to have a person with his qualifications to step in.

11. Approval and Signature on the Spring 2015-E911 Rural County Grant Application for MapFLEX 9-1-1 Primary & Backup PSAP Upgrade, Vendor Support and Centurion Maintenance

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item and said was for approval and signature of the Spring 2015 E911 Rural County Grant application for the MapFLEX 9-1-1 Primary and Backup PSAP Upgrade, Vendor Support and Centurion Maintenance.

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

12. Approval and Signature on the Spring E911 Rural County Grant Application for Intrado MapSAG Maintenance

Mr. Presnell introduced the above item.

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

13. Request for Monetary Support for the Relay for Life of Gadsden-American Cancer Society

Mr. Presnell introduced above item and said was a request for a contribution.

UPON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HINSON, BEFORE THE VOTE WAS TAKEN COMMISSIONER HINSON ASKED A QUESTION.

Commissioner Hinson asked if a dollar figure should be included.

Commissioner Morgan said he felt this should be made by personal donations and not use county money for this.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AMENDED HER MOTION TO INCLUDE THAT \$1,000 BE DONATED AND THE SECOND WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HINSON. THE BOARD VOTED 4-1 BY VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE THIS ITEM. COMMISSIONER MORGAN OPPOSED.

13A Authorization to draft and file a motion for leave to file a brief on behalf of Gretna Racing, LLC in the First District Court of Appeal case of Gretna Racing, LLC v. Department of Business and Professional Racing, Division of Pari-Mutual Wagering

Mr. Weiss informed the Board this was a request for approval to file a motion and if successful, a brief in support of Gretna Racing, LLC position in the First District Court of Appeal case.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

14. Update on Various County Issues

Mr. Presnell said he had a couple of items:

Courthouse security order

There was a meeting scheduled tomorrow with the Sheriff's department. Chief Judge Francis has ordered that anyone who enters the old courthouse be screened for weapons, explosive devices, etc., and would entail closing some of the exits.

Commissioner Morgan said he felt this needed to be discussed, he had read the email and knew the Judge had sent an email, and said they had to follow the Order and asked if they had to follow the Order for security of the whole building or to provide funding for adequate security.

Mr. Weiss said he had not seen the communication.

Commissioner Morgan said his issue was limiting the access to a public building and they had four doors available for access and now would be down to one and they had security screening to go into the courtroom, just not the Courthouse as a whole and would like to study more before action was taken.

Commissioner Viegbesie said when he goes to the Courthouse he had wondered since 9/11 and with every Courthouse he had been to, there was screening no matter how many times a person would exit and enter.

Commissioner Hinson felt they should move quickly and his recommendation was to move as fast as they possibly could.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out the handicapped entrance and that had to be considered as well.

Commissioner Hinson said that had to be created as well and probably tear the whole building down for that.

Mr. Presnell reminded them of the Workshop scheduled for March 31st at the Hospital and the Retreat scheduled for April 9th at Creek Entertainment, Gretna @ 4:00 p.m.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

15. Update on Various Legal Issues

Mr. Weiss said he had nothing to report but was available if there were questions.

Commissioner Hinson asked if there had been anything on Havana Heights and said now there was a concrete barrier and posts placed to prevent EMS or anyone else from having access to area.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out that Commissioner Hinson had been talking about this for over a year, they now had a great grant writer and they needed to seek funding and build new complex and give them competition.

DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

16. Report and Discussion of Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County

Commissioner Gene Morgan, District 3

Commissioner Morgan said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, PhD, District 2

Dr. V said he had a number of things:

- 1) Saturday early, another house burned in the Greenshade area and did not know what they needed to do to provide closer fire service and has encouraged them to hold community meetings and have a volunteer service in the Dogtown area.
- 2) Asked if there were any programs in the County to provide the reflective numbers for houses to make easier to locate.
- 3) A citizen asked if a road became so dilapidated to citizens who live on a private road what could be done and was asked to present that to the board.

Chair Holt felt it needed to be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor, District 5

Commissioner Taylor wanted to recognize the new appointee to the Planning and Zoning and said he was interested in getting into the political atmosphere and his name was Malcolm Carter.

Commissioner Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1

Hinson asked if there could a workshop with the Director of parks and recreation to see visioning and goals, that he had travelled all around the county and Scottown had nice area and wanted to see what they were doing and how many grants they were applying for.

He also commended staff, very super as well as the Public Works Department.

Customer service

He said he did not like to hear negative things and one person applied for a job and staff was negative to him and he was so distracted he walked off and that particular department should be teaching customer service and maybe the County needed to invest in an outside person to train customer service.

Youth employment

He asked that whoever deals with the kids needed to be positive and nice. He said to Mr. Presnell it was “indicative to you, if you keep them around, that’s on you and we’re coming after you.”

Job description

He wanted to include the directors’ job description so they could see it.

Commissioner Brenda Holt, Chair, District 4

Chair Holt stated she thought directors should be invited to attend FAC in June.

RECEIPT AND FILE

17. a. Gadsden County 2014 Annexation Report

Holt asked about the annexation report for Quincy at Pat Thomas

b. Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce-Small Business Services Report-January 2015

UPCOMING MEETINGS

18. April 7, 2015-Regular Meeting
April 21, 2015-Regular Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, CHAIR HOLT DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:41 P.M.

GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

BRENDA A. HOLT
Chairperson

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS
Clerk