

CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
March 5, 2013

PRESENT AND ACTING:

THOMAS G. FLOWERS, CHAIRMAN
LEE LEE BROWN, VICE-CHAIRMAN
WILLIE T. GRANT
DARRELL MCDUGALD
LEE SHELTON

DEPUTY, MORRIS
MATT FUQUA, ATTORNEY
CARLA A. HAND, CLERK
CARLA PEACOCK, DEPUTY CLERK

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Flowers at 6:05 p.m., CT. The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag were led by Commissioner McDougald.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 19, 2013 WORKSHOP MINUTES

A motion to approve the February 19, 2013 Regular Meeting and Workshop minutes was made by Chairman Flowers and seconded by Commissioner Shelton. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

JOE WOOD, GRANTS COORDINATOR, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Mr. Wood addressed the need for transportation for the inmate work crews, noting the Town of Altha has gifted a 2002 Dodge van to Calhoun County. Mr. Wood stated the County is loaning the van to DOC for transporting inmate work crews; the County will obtain insurance and tag the van. (The van is too old for DOC to own.)

Mr. Wood stated that historically Good Friday has been a holiday for County employees and asked if the Board would continue to keep this as a holiday. Commissioner Grant made the motion to keep Good Friday as a holiday for County employees, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Wood informed the Board he contacted Mr. C.R. Cochran on Friday, March 1, 2013 and Mr. Cochran told him he did not desire to come before the Board and would not be at the meeting. Mr. Cochran was placed on the agenda for tonight's meeting for the purpose of explaining to him how he was in violation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Chairman Flowers asked that all Department Heads be present at the first Board Meeting of each month and give a report or answer any questions. Mr. Wood stated they would start this procedure with the first Board meeting in April.

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Commissioner McDougald made a motion to have Joe Wood, Public Works Director, sit next to Clerk Hand at all Board Meetings and give him permission to speak. Commissioner Brown seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

ANGIE SMITH, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Ms. Smith gave a report on the recent flooding and the river levels; the Apalachicola River crested at 22.8 feet on February 28, 2013 and the Chipola River crested at 28.97 on March 2, 2013. Ms. Smith further explained the County had quite a few homes that were inaccessible due to the flood waters and quite a few roads were under water, but there were no shelter requests. Ms. Smith stated roads are being assessed for damages. A Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) will be submitted to the State. The County will meet the County threshold of \$ 50,456.25, but not the state threshold of \$25,757,794.70 which is required for a Presidential Declaration. Emergency Management is in the process of pursuing other funding options such as the Emergency Declaration for Protective Measures. They are waiting to hear from the State on any funding that may become available, but is not looking likely. They are also looking at low water crossing and repairs for possible funding through the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and are waiting to hear if approved.

Ms. Smith stated they are also in the process of requesting reimbursements on the LAP Altha Sidewalk project and the Tropical Storm Faye DR-1831 road projects.

Ms. Smith mentioned the Courthouse window retrofit project is expected to be approved any day now.

DAN CLEMONS – SHIP

Mr. Clemons recommended the Board approve Resolution 2013-06 re-establishing the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee for the SHIP program. Mr. Clemons explained this committee reviews policies and procedures for land development regulations and recommends to the Board specific actions or initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing while protecting the ability of the property to appreciate in value. Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-6, seconded by Commissioner Grant. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

DONALD STANLEY, PREBLE RISH, INC.

Mr. Stanley updated the Board on the current Hazard Mitigation Grant Projects:

Max Nursery Rd – 95% complete. First course of asphalt has been installed and beginning to install sod.

Gray Rd – 100% complete

Whitewater Grade – 100% complete

B.H. Stone Rd – 95% complete. Needs final course of asphalt.

Chairman Flowers inquired about guard rails being installed on Mac Nursery Rd and B.H. Stone Rd.

Mr. Stanley stated guard rails would be installed on B.H. Stone Rd, but would not be installed on Mac Nursery Rd due to lack of funding. Mr. Stanley stated Preble Rish is actively pursuing projects throughout the county in need of guard rails and they would be prioritized based on traffic counts on each road. Commissioner Shelton asked if there would be any liability to the County for roads that do

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not have guard rails. Mr. Stanley stated all of the projects meet clear zone requirements and there would not be any liability to the County and that Preble Rish is actively pursuing funds to have guard rails installed where needed. Chairman Flowers inquired about Iola Rd. Mr. Stanley reported the notice to proceed has been signed and he is expecting to receive it any day now. Chairman Flowers then inquired about the Airport Catalyst Project. Mr. Stanley said he has been in discussion with Joe Wood about the possibility of the County self-performing approximately 30% of the excavation.

BECKY SMITH, TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Smith asked Board to open bids for advertising delinquent taxes. Attorney Fuqua opened the bids.

The County Record bid .35 cents per line per week for 3 weeks.

The Calhoun- Liberty Journal bid .35 cents per line per week.

The Board discussed The County Record was a local business. Commissioner McDougald made motion to accept bid from The County Record, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

BRITTNEY WOOTEN – GIRL SCOUTS

Ms. Wooten came before the Board to ask for an area at Sam Atkins Park to be designated for a dog park. She gave each Commissioner a packet of information. After discussion, Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the dog park being located on the 160 acres behind the Pioneer Settlement in an area designated away from the picnic area. Seconded by Commissioner Shelton. Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

LINDA VAN CLEVE – 4-H CALHOUN COUNTY ANIMAL CHAMPS

Linda Van Cleve, 4-H Leader for the Calhoun County Animal Champs thanked the Board of County Commissioners and the Calhoun County Extension office for their help and support. Ms. Cleve introduced Mr. Hardy Mitchell and Ms. Citlali Gutierrez who represented Calhoun County at the Florida State Fair. This was Ms. Gutierrez's first competition and she placed in the top ten junior dog handlers out of over two hundred competitors. Mr. Mitchell competed in goat showing and won Grand Champion and two Reserve Grand Champion ribbons and placed 6th overall out of 47 competitors. Ms. Van Cleve again thanked the Board of County Commissioners for their support.

PHILLIP HILL – EMS MATCHING GRANT

Mr. Hill, Calhoun-Liberty Hospital Administrator recommended that the Board accept the 90/10 Matching Grant in the amount of \$140,000; this grant will be used to replace an older ambulance. Mr. Hill stated Calhoun-Liberty Hospital will provide the 10% match requirement of \$14,000. Commissioner Grant made the motion to accept the grant, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

TRAVIS HUCKABEE- VISUAL AWARENESS TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Huckabee with Visual Awareness Technology came before the Board to inform them of the large military training exercise his company will be conducting in Calhoun County on April 20 – May 2, 2013. Mr. Huckabee stated these training exercises will take place at the old Rysco Shipyard and on the

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Apalachicola River and will be coordinated with local law enforcement and the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC). Mr. Huckabee asked the Board for a letter of invitation from the Board of County Commissioners for Visual Awareness Technology to conduct this training for the two week period. Commissioner Grant made the motion to grant the letter of invitation, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

ATTORNEY TIME

Attorney Fuqua asked Tony Arrant, County Planner, to give the Board an overview of the Land Development Regulations and how Mr. Cochran is in violation. Mr. Arrant explained the Calhoun County Comprehensive Plan states a citizen is entitled to a single family residential structure in which they live in, as long as it meets all the requirements for having a well and septic tank; anything else must have the Board's approval. Mr. Arrant explained that Mr. Cochran is required to come before the Board in a public hearing that has been advertised to the public and obtain approval from the Board prior to making changes to his property. Attorney Fuqua stated the Board had been very patient with Mr. Cochran by giving him many opportunities to come before the Board to address these issues. Commissioner McDougald made a motion to allow the County Attorney to proceed with a civil action against Mr. Cochran for all violations on any property he owns, seconded by Commissioner Shelton. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Mr. Arrant reminded the Board the new Flood Plain Maps are already in effect for new construction and will take effect in June for anyone who has FEMA insurance. Mr. Arrant suggested a workshop to discuss the new maps and updating the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner McDougald made a motion to hold a workshop in the EOC Room on April 2, 2013 at 3:00 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

COMMISSIONER MCDUGALD

Commissioner McDougald brought up the need for a public information website. Commissioner Flowers stated he is researching the options and will report back to the Board.

COMMISSIONER BROWN

Commissioner Brown stated he had received complaints regarding the activity at Johnny Boy Landing and on the road leading into the landing. He inquired if this was a county maintained road. Commissioner McDougald stated it is a county maintained road, but the Water Management District owns the landing. Commissioner Brown stated that the previous Sheriff had deputies patrol the road. Ray Howell stated Water Management had a contract with the Sheriff's Department to patrol the waterway and landing. Chairman Flowers asked County Administrator Joe Wood to speak to Sheriff Kimbrel about patrolling these areas.

CHAIRMAN FLOWERS

Chairman Flowers recommended the Board form a budget committee consisting of each constitutional officer and department heads for the purpose of developing a true line item budget. Chairman Flowers also requested he represent the Board on this committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Shelton, seconded by Commissioner Grant. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Chairman Flowers informed the Board that the Commissioners have been invited by the Calhoun County Ball League to throw the opening pitch of the season at Sam Atkins Park on March 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

Chairman Flowers thanked the Emergency Management Office, Public Works Director and County workers for all their hard work during the recent flooding.

Chairman Flowers made a motion to hold a Board Meeting at an alternate location every quarter or at least 4 times per year and to hold one Board Meeting at one of the county schools before the end of this school year, seconded by Commissioner Grant. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Chairman Flowers brought before the Board a re-appointment ballot for the 14th Circuit Medical Examiner, Dr. Michael Hunter. After a brief discussion Commissioner Grant made the motion to re-appoint Dr. Hunter as the Medical Examiner for the 14th Circuit, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Chairman Flowers brought before the Board a letter from the Chipola Regional Workforce Development Board asking the Board to name a representative to their Board. Commissioner Grant made a motion for Chairman Flowers to be the Board's representative for the Chipola Regional Workforce Development Board, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Chairman Flowers presented a letter of agreement for the Crime Stoppers Trust Fund as requested by the Sheriff.

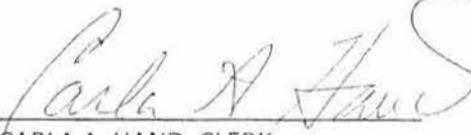
Commissioner McDougald brought up the sewer project line from Altha to Blountstown stating it was a win-win for Altha, the Airport Catalyst Project and the City of Blountstown.

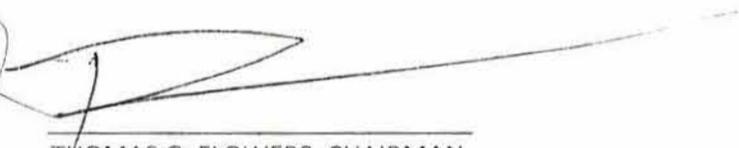
Chairman Flowers stated he spoke to Senator Montford about the sewer line project and the Senator indicated he was in favor of the project and the State would be searching for funding of this project. Commissioner Flowers also suggested calling on the lobbyist hired by the County for these types of issues.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business a motion was made by Commissioner Grant to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed (5-0) to adjourn this meeting at 8:00 p.m. CT

ATTEST:


CARLA A. HAND, CLERK


THOMAS G. FLOWERS, CHAIRMAN

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