

**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2017**

PRESENT AND ACTING:

**DANNY RAY WISE, CHAIRMAN
GENE BAILEY, VICE-CHAIRMAN
DARRELL MCDUGALD
JERAL HALL**

**MATT FUQUA, ATTORNEY
JOE WOOD, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
CARLA A. HAND, CLERK OF COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER
SARAH WILLIAMS, CLERK ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Chairman Wise called the meeting held in the Regular Meeting room to order at 6:04 P.M.; CT.
Commissioner Bailey led the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND VOUCHERS

A motion to approve the minutes and vouchers as published on the agenda (The March 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes; vouchers for warrants: accounts payable warrants –1703-2G, 1703-2RD, 1703-2L, 1703-2E, 1703-2S and payroll warrants – PR17-B10, PR032317) was made by Commissioner McDougald and seconded by Commissioner Hall. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

APPROVAL FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT CHIPPER PAYOFF/PERMISSION FOR CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT/DECLARE OLD CHIPPER OBSOLETE AND REMOVE FROM INVENTORY

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to approve the insurance payoff for the old chipper, approve for the Chairman to sign the agreement, and to declare the old chipper obsolete and remove from inventory. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HEALTHY FAMILIES NORTH FLORIDA

Attorney Fuqua stated the letter of support is something the Board of County Commissioners does each year for Healthy Families North Florida in-kind contribution.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the letter of support for Healthy Families North Florida. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

RENEWAL OF AIG TANKGUARD INSURANCE POLICY

Attorney Fuqua stated the Tankguard policy is the pollution control insurance for the generator and fuel tanks.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the renewal of the AIG Tankguard insurance policy. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

E911 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Clerk Hand stated there are three (3) E911 Grant applications for the Chairman to execute. The first is for a maintenance grant for \$26,069, the second is for ECATS for \$9,135.36, and the third is for a chassis and interface card for \$33,297.19.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve for the Chairman to execute the grant applications. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

MARK BOZEMAN – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Bozeman addressed the Board with concerns of non-compliance and violations in flood zones in the area he lives. Mr. Bozeman asked the Board if there was anything they could do to address his concerns as the situation has gotten out of control, and the value of his property has declined. Mr. Bozeman stated he came before the Board nine (9) or ten (10) years ago asking how these violations could have happened. Attorney Fuqua stated the County has struggled to determine when a violation has occurred. Attorney Fuqua stated if these conditions have existed since 2007 and 2008, there is nothing that could be done at this point to rectify the situation. Attorney Fuqua stated if Mr. Bozeman or any other citizen would let the County know when they see something going on they think is wrong, then the issue could be addressed. Mr. Bozeman stated he brought up the issue to the Board years ago, and was told that if he did not like what the neighbors were doing he should get a lawyer and sue them. There was further discussion about permitting and violations. Chairman Wise asked if the Board would be opposed to Mr. Frank Snowden going out to the properties in question and documenting what violations have occurred according to the comprehensive plan. Mr. Snowden stated he has been out to the area, and is well aware of what has happened, but these violations happened before he was employed with the County. Mr. Snowden stated these violations would not be allowed to happen again. Mr. Bozeman stated there has to be something that could be done to remedy the situation and provide some relief to his property. Attorney Fuqua stated if the neighbors are creating a nuisance, he does have the right to bring a private nuisance action against them. There was further discussion about the properties in question. Mr. Bozeman asked the Board if there was anything that could be done to address the violations that have occurred. Attorney Fuqua stated there is nothing that can be done about the violations that have occurred for ten (10) years. Chairman Wise asked Mr. Snowden if he has everything recorded that is in violation on the properties right now. Mr. Snowden stated he relies on the Property Appraiser's map. Chairman Wise stated he would like Mr. Snowden to go out and record everything that is on the properties. Mr. Snowden stated he would take care of it, and stated one thing the County does not have is a land use map that shows the parcels when the comprehensive plan was adopted. Mr. Snowden stated this would be useful in determining what has been developed after that time. There was further discussion about the comprehensive plan. Mr. Snowden stated he would report at the next meeting what he identified on the properties and try to find a resolution to the situation.

BOB FLECK – IDA BOARD

Mr. Fleck presented the Board with a handout outlining the prices obtained for a new tractor and bush hog for the airport. Mr. Fleck stated the IDA Board accepted the second lowest quote (John Deere), and all prices are state contract prices. Mr. Fleck stated a budget amendment is necessary to move the

funds from the reserve for contingency to the IDA Board equipment budget. The Clerk made the Board aware the budget resolution would be presented for approval at a Supplemental Budget Hearing later.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the IDA Board's selection of the John Deere tractor and bush-hog. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Commissioner Bailey asked if Mr. Fleck had confirmed all the prices were state contract prices. Mr. Fleck stated the IDA Board obtained state contract pricing. Commissioner Bailey stated the Board would need documentation the tractor selected to purchase was under state contract pricing. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Fleck stated the annual airport inspection was on March 16, and the airport passed all inspections.

Mr. Fleck stated the North Taxiway Construction would begin sometime in July.

Commissioner Bailey requested a copy of the airport inspection.

CHELSEA SNOWDEN – PROJECTS AND GRANTS COORDINATOR

Ms. Snowden stated Dewberry/Preble-Rish completed the DOT (Department of Transportation) SCRAP (Small County Road Assistance Program), SCOP (Small County Outreach Program), and CIGP (County Incentive Grant Program) applications, delivered them to her last week, and she submitted them to DOT. The applications were due March 24, and are for fiscal year 2019 through 2023. Ms. Snowden stated she is not sure when it will be known if the projects have been approved.

Ms. Snowden stated bids and RFPs (Request for Proposals) for Roy Golden Road and Matthew/Charlie Wood Roads would be opened at the next regular Board meeting.

Ms. Snowden stated she and Mr. Justin Ford are finishing the FWC (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) Boat Ramp application, and the application will be finished by the end of the week. Ms. Snowden stated the application is due by April 4, and will be hand delivered. Commissioner Bailey asked when he would be able to see a copy of the application. Ms. Snowden stated a copy would be ready by the end of the week, and she would be happy to speak with any Commissioner regarding the application.

Ms. Snowden informed the Board copies of the SCRAP, SCOP, and CIGP applications are available in her office if any of the Commissioners would like a copy.

Ms. Snowden stated at the last Board meeting it was decided for the CEI Services companies to report once a month on their progress. Ms. Snowden stated she notified Southeastern Consulting Engineers who are working on McDaniel/Sheard Road, and Panhandle Engineering who are working on Carlos Peavy and CR 69A, and they plan on attending the next regular Board meeting.

Ms. Snowden stated Ms. Angie Smith could not attend tonight's meeting, but requested permission from the Board for approval of Hanna Tower Road West construction pay application number one (1) for BKW, Inc. Some revisions to the pay request were needed before the voucher could be sent to the Clerk's office, so it missed the deadline to be on the agenda. The amount to be paid is \$87,451.13.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the pay request. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

JUSTIN FORD, DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC. /PREBLE-RISH – COUNTY ENGINEER

Mr. Ford stated all projects have been running smoothly and gave the Board updates on upcoming bid openings.

Mr. Ford stated all the FEMA projects are running smoothly; there are a few that are currently under construction and are close to completion. Mr. Ford stated he, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Snowden have been meeting once a week, and have identified three (3) more projects, Gray Road, Amaziah Peacock, and Coy Lindsey Roads, that need to be advertised and will be in the newspaper next week.

Mr. Ford stated he has reviewed the bids for the Countywide-paving project that were opened at the last regular Board meeting, and presented the Board with a handout outlining the Board's options. Mr. Ford stated GAC was the lowest base bidder on the paving portion, but when the sod alternate is included Roberts & Roberts becomes the lowest bidder. Mr. Ford stated he and Mr. Cliff Edenfield discussed ways to get the cost of the project down, and by deleting the thermoplastic striping and opting for painted striping instead on the projects, Roberts & Roberts, Inc. would still be the lowest bidder including sod and would bring the price to \$232,781.75. Mr. Ford stated the County would then contract separately for a painted centerline and stop bars, which would be a fraction of the cost of the thermoplastic striping. Commissioner McDougald asked how much money was in the budget for the project. Mr. Edenfield stated there is an estimated \$234,000 in the budget for the project. There was further discussion about the project. Commissioner Bailey stated he would like to have the opinion of Mr. Edenfield. Mr. Edenfield stated he believes the Board should award the project as bid to Roberts & Roberts, Inc. Commissioner McDougald asked if Mr. Edenfield was comfortable with the painted striping on the roads since paint does not last as long as thermoplastic striping. Mr. Ford stated the roads are low volume traffic, and the paint will not wear as fast as a high volume traffic road would. Mr. Edenfield stated the cost of painting lines on all the roads would be about \$5,000 as opposed to \$30,000 for thermoplastic striping.

- ❖ Chairman Wise made a motion to award the Countywide-paving project to Roberts & Roberts, Inc. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Ford stated he has reviewed the bid from North Florida Rock for the Annual Lime Rock Bid, and their lime rock meets all DOT requirements. Mr. Ford recommended the Board accept the bid and award the contract to North Florida Rock.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to award the contract to North Florida Rock. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Ford opened and read aloud the FEMA bid openings for Jim Godwin Road and Ocheessee Landing Road.

DR 4177 PW #419 Jim Godwin Road	
Contractor	Total Base Bid
North Florida Construction	\$195,702.43
BKW, Inc.	\$86,186.54
Roberts & Roberts, Inc.	\$182,115.00
C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc.	\$245,953.90
GAC Contractors, Inc.	\$184,865.00

DR 4177 PW #408 Ocheessee Landing Road	
Contractor	Total Base Bid
North Florida Construction	\$247,995.47
BKW, Inc.	\$197,886.00
Roberts & Roberts, Inc.	\$394,072.00
C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc.	\$587,980.75

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to table the bids for review and bring back for award at the next regular Board meeting. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Ford presented to the Board for approval a Task Order for \$62,500 for John G. Bryant Road SCRAP project.

- ❖ Commissioner McDougald made a motion to approve the task order. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Ford presented to the Board for approval Resolution 2017-8 for the FWC Boat Ramp Grant Application. This resolution will authorize the Board to apply for the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-8

A RESOLUTION OF CALHOUN COUNTY, FLORIDA TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA, FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR BOATING IMPROVEMENTS AT NEAL LANDING.

WHEREAS, The Calhoun County Board of County Commissioners desire to apply for a grant for boating improvements at Neal Landing, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Neal Landing is a popular residential, commercial and sportsmen’s destination in Calhoun County; and

WHEREAS, this grant will enable the County to provide improved facilities for the boating public and improve the ramp and access to the Apalachicola River; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible for this Grant. The County consents to reimbursing FWC Boating Improvement Program (FBIP) for all improvements made at Neal Landing in the event that Neal Land and Timber Co. terminates the easement that they have provided Calhoun County before the 20 year FBIP stipulation.

SO RESOLVED THIS THE 28th DAY OF MARCH 2017, BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-8. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

JOE WOOD – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Wood stated he has spoken with Ms. Darlene Butler who owns 40 acres of land on Martin Sewell Road. Mr. Wood stated he was working with her when the other property came available that the Board purchased for a dirt pit in the area. Mr. Wood stated at the time Ms. Butler wanted \$35,000 for 10 acres of the land, but has now agreed she will sell the same parcel for \$25,000. Mr. Wood stated this parcel is across the road from the previous parcel that was bought, and is in the back of the 40 acres Ms. Butler owns. Mr. Wood stated the dirt pit would not be viewable from the road. Mr. Wood stated he wanted to check with the Board first and see how they wanted to proceed before he asked the occupants of the neighborhood how they felt about the dirt pit in this location. Mr. Wood stated Ms. Butler has also agreed to give the County an easement to the property. Attorney Fuqua stated he would suggest asking the neighbors how they felt about the dirt pit and then if the neighbors agreed, draft a contract that would be subject to a Comprehensive Plan amendment to change the zoning of the property.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion for Mr. Wood to speak to the neighbors in the area and report to the Board at the next regular Board meeting. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Chairman Wise asked Mr. Edenfield how badly the County needs dirt. Mr. Edenfield stated there is not much dirt needed at this time, but it would still be great for the County to have a dirt pit. Mr. Edenfield stated he has located a possible location more centrally located in the County, but he is not sure what the land value is or if the owner would be willing to split up the parcel. Commissioner McDougald stated both parcels could be reviewed. Commissioner Bailey stated he would like to find a dirt pit location more centrally located in the County if possible. There was further discussion about the property for a dirt pit. Mr. Wood stated both properties could be pursued and reported on at the next Board meeting.
- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made an amendment to the original motion for Mr. Edenfield to look into the other property as a possibility for a dirt pit. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.
- ❖ The original motion for Mr. Wood to speak with the neighbors in the area of the first property for a dirt pit, with the amendment for Mr. Edenfield to look into the other property as a possibility for a dirt pit passed unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Wood informed the Board the County should have a beaver-trapping permit by the end of the week.

CARLA A. HAND, CLERK OF COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER

Nothing to report.

ATTORNEY FUQUA

Mr. Fuqua stated one of the County Commissioners advised him the County had inadvertently cut some trees on a neighboring property while cleaning up brush on the County's property in the Kinard area. Mr. Fuqua presented the Commissioners with pictures of the property. Mr. Fuqua stated the property

owner is at the meeting tonight, and has asked what will be done about the County going on his property. Attorney Fuqua stated he has done some research and looked at an opinion from Jackson County in a similar case, and a real estate appraiser would have to calculate the difference in the value of the property before the bushes were cut and after the bushes were cut. The real estate appraiser would determine if the property value diminished by clearing the brush off the property. Mr. Thomas Graves addressed the Board, and stated his property was destroyed when his trees and bushes were cut down. Mr. Graves stated this is the second time the County has cut bushes on his property. Attorney Fuqua stated if Mr. Graves would like to seek a lawyer he has that right, but he would not advise the Board to pay Mr. Graves unless he presented an appraisal from a licensed real estate appraiser showing there was diminished value to his property with removal of the brush. Mr. Graves stated he would get an appraisal, and told the County not to ever get on his property again.

Mr. Fuqua stated the Volunteer Fire Departments would like to discuss with the Board the need for new equipment. Mr. Gilbert McDonald with Magnolia Volunteer Fire Department stated all the Volunteer Fire Departments have met together and have come to a critical point in the ability to respond to house fires. Mr. McDonald stated the vehicles they have are aged, and parts are no longer available to fix some of the vehicles. Mr. McDonald stated some of the vehicles have broken down in the process of responding to house fires. Mr. McDonald stated these vehicles need to be replaced, and they have come to the County to ask for help replacing them. Mr. McDonald stated they discussed in their meeting the consideration of a sales tax of some sort to be dedicated to help pay for fire needs. Mr. McDonald stated the Volunteer Fire Departments could get a lease for seven (7) years on eight (8) vehicles for \$307,000 per year, which includes maintenance every six (6) months. At the end of the lease, the County would have the option to buy the vehicles for \$561,000, refinance that amount until paid off, or go buy different vehicles. Mr. McDonald stated the Volunteer Fire Departments need help to continue to provide fire services to the County. Attorney Fuqua stated Liberty County enacted the surtax Mr. McDonald spoke of earlier. Attorney Fuqua stated the good thing about the surtax is everyone is required to pay it whether you live in the County or not, but the problem with the surtax is amount of money raised by the surtax must then be reduced on advalorem taxes. Attorney Fuqua stated he has spoken with a colleague and asked if the County could implement a special benefit unit for fire services, which is a fee added to each parcel in the County, which is put on the advalorem tax bill. Attorney Fuqua stated this would cost the County about \$50,000 because a study must be done to decide what fee would be added to the advalorem taxes for each parcel. There was further discussion about the special benefit unit for fire services. Attorney Fuqua stated he is not sure how much money this would raise, but it would increase the amount all property owners must pay on advalorem taxes. Chairman Wise stated he spoke with Liberty County today about their surtax, and they have just gotten their first payment of \$8,800, and Calhoun County may have double that amount per month. There was further discussion about public services and grants for fire trucks. Chairman Wise asked if the money the Volunteer Fire Departments receives from the County each year is sufficient to meet operational costs and training. Mr. McDonald stated the \$7,500 each fire department receives each year is not sufficient to meet operational costs. Mr. McDougald stated a set of bunker gear alone would be \$20,000 for fifteen (15) people. This bunker gear is supposed to be replaced every five (5) to six (6) years, and the bunker gear they are using now is about 12 years old. Chairman Wise asked if one of the volunteer firefighters were injured while wearing out dated bunker gear if the County would be liable. Mr. McDougald stated a fine could be issued for the outdated gear if this situation occurred. Chairman Wise

stated he would like to set up a workshop with all the fire chiefs to find out exactly what are the Volunteer Fire Departments needs. There was further discussion about the Volunteer Fire Departments. Mr. McDonald stated the biggest need right now is a responsive pumper engine. There was further discussion about other gear the Volunteer Fire Departments need. Mr. McDonald stated he believes a workshop with the Commissioners would be beneficial. The Board came to a consensus to conduct the workshop on Monday April 10 at 6:00 p.m., CT.

COMMISSIONER TIME

COMMISSIONER MCDUGALD

Nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER HALL

Commissioner Hall invited everyone to a pancake breakfast this Saturday, April 1, at the Mossy Pond Public Library and Community Center from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., CT.

COMMISSIONER BAILEY

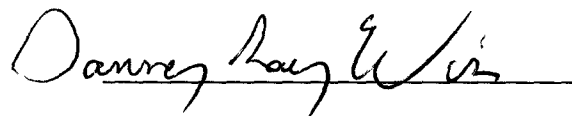
Commissioner Bailey stated Kinard Volunteer Fire Department would like to purchase a Dodge Ram truck to make into a first responder vehicle and brush truck. Kinard Volunteer Fire Department would purchase the truck themselves, title the truck in the Kinard Fire Department and the County's name, and would like to have it added to the County's insurance policy.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to allow the Kinard Volunteer Fire Department to purchase the truck in the County's name and have the truck added to the County's insurance policy. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

CHAIRMAN WISE

Nothing to report.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m., CT.



DANNY RAY WISE, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



CARLA A. HAND, CLERK

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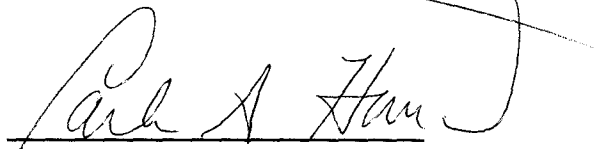
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**CALHOUN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


Danny Ray Wise, Chairman

ATTEST:


Carla Hand, Clerk BOCC