

**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2018**

PRESENT AND ACTING:

**DANNY RAY WISE, CHAIRMAN
GENE BAILEY, VICE-CHAIRMAN
DENNIS JONES**

**CARLA A. HAND, CLERK OF COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER
SARAH WILLIAMS, CLERK ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Chairman Wise called the Special Board meeting held in the Clerk of Court Office to order at 5:00 p.m., CT.

Attorney Fuqua contacted the Board via cell phone to discuss with them monitoring and debris removal company procurement. Attorney Fuqua stated the State has not procured anyone yet for the monitoring or debris removal. Attorney Fuqua stated the State would accept piggyback contracts from other counties. Attorney Fuqua stated Jackson County has procured three (3) contractors, and if the County wanted to, they could piggyback off Jackson County's contract with DRC, a debris removal contractor. Attorney Fuqua stated the County could procure more contractors later. Attorney Fuqua stated the problem is that Georgia has now began procuring contractors as well and are paying three (3) times what the State of Florida is paying, so there is a concern that many contractors will be leaving to go to Georgia. Attorney Fuqua stated the County would also need a debris-monitoring contract, and he is going to receive a contract from Thompson for review. Attorney Fuqua stated the State would still monitor, administer, and pay the contracts; the County would just go ahead and select the contractors they would like to use and send them to the State. Commissioner Bailey asked if the County has this in writing. Attorney Fuqua stated he received a memo from the State in his email stating the County could select their own contractors and the State would pay them. There was further discussion about contracting companies and the State. Attorney Fuqua asked if a Board meeting could be held tomorrow at 3:00 to hire two (2) or three (3) contractors for debris monitoring and removal. Commissioner Bailey stated he wanted to be sure the contractors selected would hire local contractors who are able to perform the work. There was further discussion about contractors. There was consensus to hold the Special Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow, October 19, in the Clerk of Court Office. (The meeting was subsequently cancelled – the State hired the debris removal and monitoring contractors.)

ADAM JOHNSON, INTERIM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Mr. Johnson stated power has been restored to the Courthouse and the Sheriff's Office as of this afternoon. Mr. Johnson stated they are continuing to establish POD sites, and have added Hugh Creek, Scotts Ferry, and Ocheessee, and are working to get showers and latrines to these locations. Mr. Johnson stated he spoke with Waste Pro services and requested they put in services for POD and shelter locations. Mr. Johnson stated the Mossy Pond Library shelter site received trash services this afternoon. Mr. Johnson stated he has also contacted McPherson Pest Control to take care of these locations as well to help with the insect issues. Mr. Johnson stated he would continue to distribute information as he receives it and direct the public to needed assistance. Mr. Johnson stated he asked Mr. Jace Ford to place additional signs at the POD sites so people know where to find FEMA representatives to sign up for assistance.

Commissioner Jones asked when more tarps would be available. Mr. Jonathan Lord, Flagler County Emergency Management Chief (Mutual Aid) stated additional tarps should be received from FEMA between this evening and tomorrow evening. There was further discussion about tarps.

Commissioner Bailey asked the Board's thoughts on a postal mail out with criteria on how to apply for FEMA assistance so all mailboxes would receive the information in an effort to be sure everyone in the community knows about the assistance available and locations of sign-up areas. Commissioner Jones stated the post office is operational so the mail outs could be circulated. Mr. Johnson stated the mail outs would not be a reimbursable cost to the County. Clerk Hand stated the prison prints and mails materials and are given a bulk mail rate for every mailbox, so the postage is not as expensive. Clerk Hand stated it does not take them many days to prepare the mail outs.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion for the Board to pay for the mail outs regarding FEMA assistance. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

OTHER COUNTY STAFF REPORTS

RITA MAUPIN, DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Ms. Maupin stated there is a FEMA crew behind the Blountstown Library that is seeing residents.

Ms. Maupin stated the Blountstown Library received internet through Blountstown Elementary School, and the fiber optics internet line was broken due to the hurricane. Ms. Maupin stated she would be unable to check out books without the fiber optics and computers would not be able to be used. Ms. Maupin stated Southern Light is free through the school system to the library, and if the library were to change to Consolidated Communications, this would require a contract. Ms. Maupin stated she would like to wait before making a decision to change service providers and see if Mr. David Simpson could get internet running at the library again. Ms. Maupin stated the shelter at Mossy Pond Library is running well, and Shelton's Library could be opened at any time, as it has no damage. Ms. Maupin stated the libraries at Kinard and Altha have been compromised and books have mold. Ms. Maupin stated they are trying to mitigate the mold issue at Kinard with a climate-controlled trailer which could freeze the mold on the books. Ms. Maupin stated there are many copies of the books at both libraries and the State Library would replace the books if they cannot be saved. Ms. Maupin stated she spoke with Commissioner Bailey this afternoon about Hugh Creek Library and asked him to check and be sure the structure is safe and free from damage. Ms. Maupin stated during this time she would not charge any fines or charge for any lost books.

Mr. Johnson stated they have been looking at alternative shelter locations since the shelter at Blountstown High School would be closing since the school would be opening by the end of the month. Mr. Johnson stated the owner of the old Kids Kingdom building on State Road 20 has agreed for a shelter to be opened at the location but is requesting \$2,000 per month for the use of the building. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated if the property owner were to sign a contract with the Red Cross and donate the building space cost, they could write off the expense on their taxes. Chairman Wise asked if Red Cross charges for their services. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated Red Cross does not charge for their services. Commissioner Bailey asked how many people need relocation from the Blountstown High School shelter. Mr. Johnson stated there are sixty-eight (68) citizens at the shelter. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated the only other option would be to move everyone to the shelter in Marianna. There was further discussion about shelter sites. Mr. Johnson stated Superintendent Yoder would like the shelter cleared out by noon tomorrow so they could begin getting the school ready to reopen on October 29.

Commissioner Bailey asked if a mission ticket for a generator could be put in for the new shelter location. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated this could be done if the property owner could be convinced to sign a contract with the Red Cross to use the location as a shelter.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to pay the property owner \$2,000 per month if they could not be convinced to donate the use of the property to house the displaced citizens. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Bailey asked when temporary housing is anticipated for the County. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated he would hope by November and FEMA has said they would have temporary housing soon, but in other counties soon has meant anywhere from six (6) weeks to four (4) months. There was further discussion about temporary housing. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

DOWLING PARRISH, BUILDING OFFICIAL

Mr. Parrish asked the Board if they would like to waive the building permit fees.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to waive the building permit fees. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. There was further discussion about permitting. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Commissioner Bailey asked if Mr. Parrish would need extra help in the Building Department. Mr. Parrish stated he would be unable to hire anyone to help unless they were a licensed building inspector. There was further discussion about the Building Department.

KRISTY TERRY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DIRECTOR

Ms. Terry stated a team from Tallahassee contacted her about setting up an SBA (Small Business Administration) /SBDC (Small Business Development Center)/ and FEMA Business Disaster Recovery office. Ms. Terry stated she would need to find a free office space that could fit three (3) desks and four (4) or five (5) workstations. Mr. Edenfield asked if one of the vacant buildings in the Harvey's shopping center would work. Ms. Terry stated she would hate to ask the owner to donate that space free, as they have already donated a lot. Mr. Jonathan Lord stated the old Kids Kingdom building has office space in the front that could be turned into an office area. Mr. Johnson stated he just got word the owner of the old Kids Kingdom property has agreed to donate the space and waive the \$2,000 per month fee. Ms. Terry stated she has also reached out to Ms. Kay Pittman with Ameris Bank about using the second floor of the bank for about three (3) weeks.

Ms. Terry stated they are working on getting ready for the weekend and are expecting thousands of volunteers coming to the region. Ms. Terry stated they are working on getting a list of areas that need volunteers. Ms. Terry stated everyone would be starting at the collections center and sent to locations from there.

Ms. Terry stated it has been suggested to hold a Super Council meeting on Monday morning and use that time to have a chance to get everyone on the same page, and while the SERT (State Emergency Response Team) are still here, pointed questions could be asked and more information obtained. Ms. Terry suggested inviting anyone who wants to come to sit in on the briefing at 7:00 a.m., and then hold the Super Council meeting right after.

CLIFF EDENFIELD, ROAD DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Edenfield stated 99% of the roads are clear, and most driveways are clear. Mr. Edenfield stated there are still a few driveways that are blocked but they are working to find these areas. Mr. Edenfield

stated FDOT has declared they are through with the cut and toss as of this afternoon so debris removal could begin.

Commissioner Bailey asked if anyone is aware of a sewage spill in Jackson County. Mr. Edenfield stated there is a major spill down the Chipola River. Commissioner Bailey stated it is all the way to Scotts Ferry. Mr. Johnson stated he was not aware of any sewage spills, but would check on this right away.

JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT – APPLICATIONS (CALHOUN CO SHERIFFS DEPT – PORTABLE RADIO/DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM)

Clerk Hand stated these grant applications are applied for by the Sheriff’s Department but the Board is the agency listed and must approve the applications.

- ❖ Commissioner Bailey made a motion to approve the Justice Assistance Grant applications. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING LOCATION/TIME

Clerk Hand stated next Tuesday is the regular Board meeting, and asked if the Board would be willing to change the time and location to 2:00 p.m. in the Courtroom. Clerk Hand stated the incident briefings are at 6:00 p.m. and there is a countywide curfew at 7:00. There was Board consensus to move the meeting to 2:00 in the courtroom. (The meeting was held in the Regular Meeting Room; electricity was restored.)

Commissioner Bailey asked if a price has been received on the purchase order for radio services. Clerk Hand stated no prices have been received. Commissioner Bailey asked if FEMA would reimburse the temporary radio communications cost. Mr. Johnson stated this cost would be reimbursable.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m., CT.


DANNY BAY WISE, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:


CARLA A. HAND, CLERK