

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on September 8, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman Matt Brooks	Comm. John Meeks
Comm. Rock Meeks	Comm. Lilly Rooks
Comm. Mike Joyner	

Also present were: County Attorney – Anne Bast Brown County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

Chairman Brooks called the Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Comm. Rock Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. John Meeks.

EXPENDITURES

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the following expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

CHECK NUMBER	138878-139179
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	1,786,684.42
ROAD	154,098.33
SHIP	43,645.21
MOSQUITO CONTROL	358.88
TRANSPORTATION	4,138.16
911	15,500.88
COURT FACILITIES	2,332.73
MISC GRANTS	31,216.47
EMS	42,169.34
FIRE	12,136.49
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	8,055.35
UTILITIES	457.60
ADD COURT COSTS	151.55
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	2,257.86
SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF	97,751.10
CAPITAL PROJECTS	8,567.00
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	72,487.23
LANDFILL	105,766.27
TOTAL	\$ 2,387,774.87
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$ 276,575.68

MINUTES

The minutes for the Regular meeting held on June 21, 2020 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board meeting held on June 21, 2020 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to accept the agenda with no changes. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comm. Brooks read the public comments received by email:

Kim Wheeler – expressed her concerns of farmland preservation in Levy County in reference to MCORES.

William Dawkins – wishes to have a motor home set up on an adjacent lot to his property for his daughter to visit and assist with care of Mrs. Dawkins.

Toni Plemmons – expressing concerns for animals at the kennel at Animal Services.

Linda Collins spoke representing Cedar Key RV Resort objecting tax bills being sent to individuals, rather than one bill to the co-op as this is a commercial RV campground. Ms. Collins requested the Board re-evaluate how the bills are sent.

Wilbur Dean stated the tax bills are sent according to Florida Statute which gives the Board of County Commissioners authority to bill individual RV tenants and would contact Ms. Collins after further research upon direction by Comm. Brooks.

Judith Hyde requested direction by the Board regarding getting the zoning changed on the property she and her husband recently purchased in Chiefland. She stated when the purchase was made, there was no indication of its zoning status of commercial. They have planned to live there and wish to move a mobile home onto the property. Comm. Brooks provided information for Mr. and Mrs. Hyde of a process which could change the property from commercial to residential and by speaking with Mr. Maxson at the Development Department.

William Dawkins spoke regarding the email he submitted explaining his situation and request further.

Comm. Brooks suggested filing for a Hardship Variance with the Development Department and suggested they Maxson stated he would be glad to speak with Mr. Dawkins regarding his situation.

BUILDING & ZONING

Atty. Brown swore in members of the audience wishing to speak for or against the items to be presented.

Comm. Brooks asked if the Commissioners had any ex-parte communication regarding any of the items to be presented. There was none.

Ben Maxson, Development Director

- A. PUBLIC HEARING – McMillen Surveying, representing Barbara Heck, requesting Board approval of a Final Plat of “Karma Farms” (FP 05-19), a subdivision consisting of six (6) residential lots containing a minimum of 5 acres each.

Jeff McMillen spoke on behalf of Barbara Heck.

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item presented. There were none.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the Final Plat of “Karma Farms” (FP 05-19) as presented. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of a Preliminary Plat of “Father Daughter S/D” (PP 01-20) for Peter and Sylvia Stiebris, a residential subdivision consisting of two 10 acre lots, lying in the SE ¼ of Section 32, Township 12S, Range 18E, in Levy County.

Jeff McMillen spoke on behalf of Peter and Sylvia Stiebris.

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item presented. There were none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the Preliminary Plat of “Father Daughter S/D” (PP 01-20) as presented. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of a Subdivision Variance (SVA 01-20) for “Father Daughter S/D.”

Comm. Brooks asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the item presented. There were none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Subdivision Variance (SVA 01-20) as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

- A. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-093 for the Annual EMS Tax Assessment Rate Resolution.

Atty. Brown stated the amount included in the rate assessment resolution is set at the maximum amount of \$171.

Comm. Brooks then stated the 90% rate would be \$154.00 and the 75% rate would be \$129.

Jared Blanton stated the EMS Tax Assessment Rate has not been changed since 2012.

Comm. Brooks asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this item. Renate Cannon stated she would rather have services cut than pay a higher EMS Tax Assessment. Dana Sheffield stated he was supportive of the increase in order to prevent a reduction in services. Linda Cooper inquired of what the Board has done to tighten purse strings.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-093 adopting the EMS Assessment rate at \$154, the 90% 5-year average as detailed in the chart provided by Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Rooks voted NO.

Comm. Rooks stated her reason for her vote on this item had to do with the struggles of the people which would be paying this amount.

B. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-094 for the Annual Rate Resolution for Fire Protection Services at the current rate of \$129.

Mr. Dean stated there were no changes recommended for this Assessment.

Comm. Brooks asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this item. There were none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-094 adopting the Annual Fire Protections Services rate for residential dwelling unit of \$129 as detailed in the chart provided by Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

C. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-095 for the Annual Rate Resolution for Solid Waste Disposal.

Mr. Dean stated there were no changes recommended for this Assessment.

Comm. Brooks asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this item. There were none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-095 adopting the Annual Solid Waste Disposal rates of \$116 per dwelling unit as detailed in the chart provided by Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

D. PUBLIC HEARING – Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-096 for the Amended and Re-stated Resolution for Roadway Maintenance Service Assessments.

Mr. Dean stated many of the changes to this Assessment were reductions.

Comm. Brooks asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding this item. There were none.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-096 adopting the Amended and Restated Resolution for Roadway Maintenance Service Assessments as detailed in the chart provided by Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, PA. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Rooks voted NO.

Mr. Dean spoke to the Board regarding the Suwannee River Water Management District's planned open house to share changes in the flood mapping. Leroy Marshall, Chief Professional Engineer with the office of engineering and ERP with the Suwannee River Water Management District spoke to the Board regarding the flood mapping which is nearing completion. He extended an invitation to the public to view the maps and have the opportunity to make comments. The open house will be virtual on October 1st at 6:00 P.M. accessible through "Go to Meetings".

LEVY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Barbara Locke, Administrator

Requesting Board approval of the Annual Contract 20/21 between Levy County and the FL DOH, Levy County Health Department. She stated there were no changes to the requested contract amount of \$165,500.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Annual Contract for fiscal year 2020/2021 with the Florida Department of Health, Levy County Health Department as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mitch Harrell, Director

- A. Requesting Board approval and the Chairman's signature on the First Amendment to Antenna Site License Agreement between NexTower Development Group, LLC and Levy County. This is to amend the License Agreement dated February 7, 2020 for putting communications equipment of the tower being constructed in the Inglis area to address changes in commencement date and rental as a result of timing of construction.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve with the Chairman's signature the First Amendment to Antenna Site License Agreement with NexTower Development Group, LLC as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board ratification of the Affiliation Agreement between First Response Training Group and Levy County. This Agreement will allow EMS student the opportunity to complete their clinical rides with Levy County DPS. PCG to aid the County in obtaining supplemental payments under the Public Emergency Medical Transportation Program.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to ratify the Affiliation Agreement with First Response Training Group as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Requesting Board approval and the Chairman's signature on the Continuing Services Agreement between Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG) and Levy County. This Agreement will allow PCG to aid the County in obtaining supplemental payments under the Public Emergency Medical Transportation Program.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve with the Chairman's signature, the Continuing Services Agreement with Public Consulting Group, Inc. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-101 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2019-2020. This budget amendment is necessary to appropriate the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) via the Florida Housing Corporation (Florida Housing). The amount to be appropriated is \$240,768.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-101 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-102 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2019-2020. This budget amendment is necessary to appropriate funds in the amount of \$6,500 to repair a grounding issue at the Jail/SO Tower doghouse. Mrs. Tretheway stated the total cost for the repair will be \$9,000.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-102 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

TRANSIT

Connie Conley, Director

Requesting Board approval of the Shirley Conroy Rural Area Capital Assistance Program Grant Agreement. This 100% grant application was approved on April 20, 2020 for the purchase of one Ford Cutaway bus with seating capacity of 14 and 2 wheelchair positions.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Shirley Conroy Rural Area Capital Assistance Program Grant Agreement as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John MacDonald, Director

Requesting Board ratification of Emergency Declarations 2020-90, 2020-91 and 2020-098 extending the Local State of Emergency for the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to ratify Emergency Declarations 2020-90, 2020-91 and 2020-098 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephanie Sharp, PE introduced Jeff Arms who spoke to the Board and provided updates on the MCORES Northern Turnpike Corridor.

Audience members who spoke regarding this item were: Johnny Kolaski, Bronson resident, Renate Cannon, and Linda Cooper.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Menadier of Dewberry Engineering spoke to the Board of the Bird Creek Boat Ramp completion. He stated the next project for this area is construction of a pavilion, boardwalk, bird-watching areas and a fishing pier. He stated a title search would need to be done to continue with application for grant funding for the property where phase 2 of the project would take place.

The Board agreed by consensus to move forward to get a title search done on this property.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sheriff McCallum spoke to the Board stating as of October 1st the Sheriff's Department will now be required to transfer funds to the Board from Federal Fine and Forfeiture account. He stated he had been in contact with Jared Blanton, Finance Director and he is aware of this.

Sheriff McCallum then gave an update of an incident which had occurred in Williston over the weekend. After further discussion, he requested the Board give the ordinances more teeth for dealing with these organized events and block parties.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. John Meeks gave an update of the CARES Act Small Business relief fund requests provided by Ali Tretheway stating there had been 327 applications received. An estimated total of \$1,366,500 has been allocated, with \$533,500 left. This amount may change pending the final review of remaining unprocessed applications. There have been 210 applications processed and the Clerk's Office has processed 124 of these applications for payment. The plan for the remaining funds left after all applications have been reviewed and processed by the Clerk's Office is to evenly distribute the funds among those which were approved.

Comm. John Meeks announced the President had signed a 10-year moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. He then congratulated Comm. Brooks on his ACC Level 2 graduation.

Comm. John Meeks stated the Bird Creek Boat ramp has been improved to the point he hopes it will become a popular location for visitors.

Comm. Rooks spoke of farmlands protection and inquired of the other Commissioners to begin work on this.

Comm. Brooks spoke of a letter received from the City of Cedar Key read it into public record regarding the ownership of the fishing pier in Cedar Key.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 10:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks