

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 6, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on May 6, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman, Comm. Desiree Mills
Comm. Tim Hodge
Comm. Rock Meeks
Comm. Charlie Kennedy
Comm. Johnny Hiers

Also present were:

County Attorney – Nicolle Shalley
County Manager – Mary-Ellen Harper

Chairman Mills called the Meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Comm. Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. Hodge.

EXPENDITURES

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

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|--------------------------|------------------------|
| CHECK NUMBER | 155171-155299 |
| FUND | AMOUNT |
| GENERAL REVENUE | 1,973,301.70 |
| ROAD | 80,941.22 |
| TRANSPORTATION | 102.85 |
| 911 | 19,054.83 |
| COURT FACILITIES | 56.36 |
| MISC GRANTS | 69,549.95 |
| EMS | 20,752.55 |
| FIRE | 11,995.02 |
| TOURIST DEVELOPMENT | 3,460.88 |
| UTILITIES | 2,857.30 |
| ADD COURT COSTS | 2,032.77 |
| BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY | 92,070.74 |
| CAPITAL PROJECTS | 16,380.00 |
| ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE | 200,920.23 |
| LANDFILL | 18,708.36 |
| TOTAL | \$ 2,512,184.76 |
| EFT/ACH PAYMENT | \$ 372,244.65 |

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. Hodge made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item 21, an item to be presented by Comm. Hiers under Commissioner Reports. Second was made by Comm. Kennedy and the MOTION CARRIES.

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Clerk of Court, Matt Brooks spoke to the Board regarding Minutes Book A, which was missing from the Clerk's archived inventory. He stated efforts are being made to recover the book at this time.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

(7:17) Requesting Proclamation declaring "May 4-10, 2025," as "National Travel and Tourism Week" in Levy County, Florida.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring "May 4-10, 2025" as "National Travel and Tourism Week" as requested. Second was made by Comm. Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(13:04) Kim Wheeler, Morriston resident, spoke to the Board of sand mining in Levy County and requested a moratorium be added to the county's Comprehensive Plan.

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Tammy Jones

- A. (14:00) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-25; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,160 DUE TO RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM A SECURITY GRANT FOR THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-25 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

COUNTY MANAGER

Mary-Ellen Harper

- A. (14:57) Requesting the Levy County Board of County Commissioners receive Second Quarter Fiscal Year Quarterly Reports for January 1 – March 31, 2025 from the Division of Animals and Natural Resources.

Matt Weldon presented the quarterly report for Mosquito Control and Parks. Brandy Cannon presented the quarterly report for Animal Services. Following Mrs. Cannon's presentation, the Commissioners discussed the ongoing search for a full-time Veterinarian.

Audience members who spoke were: Terry Witt, Jeff Hardison, Diane Marchand.

- B. (39:39) Requesting Board approval of the Amended and Restated Agreement for Medical Examiner Transport Services.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Amended and Restated Agreement for Medical Examiner Transport Services as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hiers and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. (40:15) Requesting the Board of County Commissioners appoint Tisha Whitehurst, Director of Executive Development and Tourism, to the North Florida Economic Development Partnership Board.

Comm. Hiers made a motion to appoint Tisha Whitehurst to the North Florida Economic Development Partnership Board as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

- D. (40:51) Requesting the Board of County Commissioners appoint Jacob Piazza to the Planning Commission as an Alternate for a term expiring April, 2028.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to appoint Jacob Piazza to the Planning Commission as an Alternate as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

- E. (41:21) Requesting the Levy County Board of County Commissioners receive a presentation from 1000 Friends of Florida.

Kim Dinkins gave a presentation to the Board on behalf of 1000 Friends of Florida regarding Landscape Conservation Planning in an effort to become a resource for Levy County.

- F. (56:09) Requesting Board approval of Task Assignment 2025-3 to North Florida Professional Services, Inc. to provide engineering services.

Comm. Hiers made a motion to approve Task Assignment 2025-3 to North Florida Professional Services, Inc. as requested. Second was made by Comm. Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- G. (1:02:54) Requesting Board approval of a non-competitive procurement for asbestos abatement in accordance with Sec. 2-204(b) of County Code, due to the timeliness of the project and the vendor's familiarity with the project; with award of contract to Acme Asbestos Abatement and Remediation in the amount of \$38,220.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to approve the non-competitive procurement with award of contract to Acme Asbestos Abatement and Remediation as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

- H. (1:03:38) Requesting Board approval of Task Assignment 2025-1 with JBPRO JBrown Professional Group, Inc. to provide engineering review of Development (Site) Plans and Subdivision Plats as needed.

Comm. Hodge made a motion to approve Task Assignment 2025-1 with JBPRO JBrown Professional Group, Inc. as requested. Second was made by Comm. Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ANIMAL SERVICES

Brandy Cannon, Manager

(1:04:39) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-26; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 BY TRANSFERRING \$70,848 FROM CAPITAL OUTLAY RESERVES TO THE GENERAL FUND AND APPROPRIATING THOSE FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Hodge made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-26 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Bernard "Bo" Cox, Provisional Building Official

- A. (1:05:44) Requesting Board approval of Task Assignment 2025-2 to Locklear & Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$51,700.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to approve Task Assignment 2025-2 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. (1:07:42) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-22; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUTY, FLORIDA AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 BY APPROPRIATING \$31,422 FROM THE BUILDING INSPECTIONS & SAFETY FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Cox stated the vehicle was to be purchased by the Housing Department, however, the grant funds would not allow for this purchase. With the help of Jessie Robinson and Connie Conley, it was determined this vehicle could be purchased for the Development Department using the same quote, as they were in need of an additional vehicle.

Comm. Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-22 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Kennedy and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. (1:09:10) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-27; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF THAT SURPLUS PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-320 OF THE COUNTY CODE AND SECTION 274.06, FLORIDA STATUTES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Hiers made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-27 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Leatha Keene, Director

(1:10:40) Mrs. Keene introduced Caleb Hardee, who gave a presentation of the Proposal for Pre-Storm EOC Meeting Restructuring and Organization Chart Proposal to the Board.

GRANT COORDINATOR

Brooke Smith

(1:26:24) RFP_2025_002 Suwannee Sound/Cedar Key Oyster Restoration

Requesting the Board (1) Reject the proposal of AECOM as non-responsive for the following reason – proposal exceeding the RFP criteria of less than \$1.5 million; (2) Reject the proposal of Sea & Shoreline as non-responsive for the following reasons – proposal exceeding \$1.5 million, omitted submission of litigation history and a statement of financial stability; and (3) Direct the County Manager, or designee, to negotiate a contract (in the form provided in the RFP) with SWCA Environmental Consultants as the sole responsive, responsible proposer in an amount not to exceed \$1,499,937; and (4) Authorize the Chair to sign the contract, subject to review by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Comm. Hiers made a motion to approve items 1-4 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Kennedy and the MOTION CARRIES.

MAINTENANCE

Mary-Ellen Harper, representing Doug Partin, Director

(1:28:21) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-24; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 BY TRANSFERRING \$14,500 FROM CAPITAL OUTLAY RESERVES TO THE GENERAL FUND AND APPROPRIATING THOSE FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT RENTAL EXPENSES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-24 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hiers and the MOTION CARRIES.

TRANSIT

Connie Conley, Director

- A. (1:29:25) Requesting Board approval of RESOLUTION 2025-23; A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A 2025-26 TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRIP AND EQUIPMENT GRANT FROM THE FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$390,298; PROVIDING DIRECTION AND AUTHORIZATION TO THE COUNTY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-23 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hiers and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. (1:30:11) Requesting Board approval for the purchase of a Transit T-150 Low Roof Cargo Van in the amount of \$43,162 for the Library to be purchased from Duval Ford, LLC from the Florida Sheriff's Association Contract, as authorized by SEC. 2-195(b)(7) of the County's Procurement Code.

Comm. Meeks made a motion to approve the purchase of a Transit T-150 Low Roof Cargo Van as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Audience member, Terry Witt spoke regarding the Emergency Management Department and releasing emergency information to the public more quickly.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

(1:33:22) **Comm. Hodge** spoke of health insurance cost for the county employees. Discussion among the Commissioners followed.

MINUTES

Requesting Board approval of minutes for Regular Meetings held February 18, 2025 and March 4, 2025.

Comm. Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes for Regular Meetings held February 18, 2025 and March 4, 2025 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:50 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Matt Brooks

Chairman, Desiree Mills