REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 21, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held on April, 21 2026 at 9:00 A.M. in the BoCC meeting room at the Levy County Government Center.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Tim Hodge called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

INVOCATION: Given by Comm. Meeks

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Comm. Kennedy

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

District 1:	Vice Chairman Charlie Kennedy
District 2:	Comm. Rock Meeks
District 3:	Comm. Desiree Mills
District 4:	Chairman Tim Hodge
District 5:	Comm. Johnny Hiers

ALSO PRESENT:
County Manager, Mary-Ellen Harper
County Attorney, Gray Robinson

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS: Clerk of Court, Matt Brooks announced his office is participating in Operation Green Light, This event is designed to help citizens resolve certain driver license suspensions, pay eligible court-related fines and fees often with reduced fees or flexible payment options.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- **Action Taken:**
- Amendments:
  - Motion — Comm. Mills motion to approve
  - Second — Comm. Meeks
  - Vote Outcome — 5-0 motion passes

1. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS *(Audio 5.26)*

Presentation of a proclamation declaring April 2026 as Water Conservation Month. April is typically one of the driest months of the year and a time when water demands are highest.

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

2. Declare four pickup trucks, one riding mower, one water wagon, and a bus as surplus and to approve the transfer of these assets to the Levy County Sheriff's Office. *(Audio 10.23)*

- **Presenter: Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager**
- **Discussion:** During the April 7, 2025 meeting, the BoCC approved the transfer of Animal Control to the Sheriff, with an anticipated effective May 1, 2026, subject to an Interlocal Agreement and Ordinance amending the Levy County Code to be prepared by the County Attorney and increase the Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation to the Sheriff by $650,000. As part of this agreement, all vehicles assigned to Animal Services will be transferred to the Sheriff pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement and the County's procedures for surplus property.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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3. Approve RESOLUTION 2026-12: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 0316118600 AS SURPLUS AND DIRECTING COMPETITIVE DISPOSITION OF THAT SURPLUS PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING DIRECTIONS TO COUNTY STAFF; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 11.20)*

- **Presenter: Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager**
- **Discussion:** On February 3, 2026, the Board of County Commissioners discussed the property and directed staff to prepare this Resolution to move forward with the process to declare the property as surplus and dispose of it in accordance with Sec. 2-305 of County Code.

- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Hiers motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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4. Approve RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS; PROVIDING CERTAIN FINDINGS; AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT OF SAID SURPLUS PROPERTY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Audio 12.50)*

- **Presenter: Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager**
- **Discussion:** The County is making this office available to Representative Johnson's staff rent-free. Representative Johnson's Office will pay a prorated amount of the monthly utilities
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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5. Provide direction to staff to acquire or terminate the lease for the State of Florida for the Levy County Forestry Camp. *(Audio 13.40)*

- **Presenter: Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager**
- **Discussion:** On Tuesday, February 17, 2026, the BoCC directed staff to work with the Interim County Attorney to explore the County's options for both acquiring and terminating the lease for the State of Florida for the Levy County Forestry Camp.
- **Mills and Hiers commented in favor of the termination of lease.** Relocating Public Safety to the Government Center would result in an estimated utility savings of $50,182.51. Levy County has been awarded a CBDG Disaster Recovery Grant from Florida Commerce for $294,500 for Public Safety building renovations. No fees are associated with releasing the lease.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm**.** Mills motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
  - **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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6. Approve the purchase of one (1) LifePack 35 Heart Monitor in the amount of $64,173.41 from Stryker quoted under the Sourcewell Contract Solicitation #041823 in accordance with Sec. 2-200(c) of County Code. *(Audio 19.00)*

- **Presenter: Mitch Harrell, LCDPS Director**

- **Discussion:** This purchase is a grant funded capital purchase of a heart monitor for use under the Community Para medicine Program.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Meeks motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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7. Approve upfitting the 2024 F550 Chassis (received last FY) at a cost of $140,598.00 as quoted by Southeastern Upfitters as a non-competitive procurement in accordance with Sec. 2-204(b) of County Code. This will replace the frontline fire apparatus (Squad) at Station 11. *(Audio 20.13)*

- **Presenter: Mitch Harrell, LCDPS Director**
- **Discussion:** Hiers was thankful the job was staying local. Southeastern Upfitters was the only company available to provide a quote.
- **Public Comments:** Linda Cooper made comment regarding no backup data to justify the need for this purchase.

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Hiers motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Desiree
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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8. Award RFP_2026_03 – Levy County Hurricane Shelter Generator to Cavan Electric, Inc. for $994,624.44. Awarding this contract will allow grant funding to be used for reimbursement of expenditures related to the purchase and installation of a backup generator for emergency shelter located at Bronson Middle/High School. *(Audio 25.34)*

- **Presenter:** Leatha Keene, Director
- **Discussion:** Mills asked for recommendations from Leatha and Chief Harrell in regards to any website or app for tracking current fires in and around the county. Recommended website is FDax. This website gives information on fires, index levels, drought conditions etc.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm**.** Mills motioned to approve
  - Second Comm. Kennedy
  - **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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9. Award ITB_2026-02 Levy County Solid Waste Compactor to Quality Equipment & Parts, Inc. for $413,890.00 for the purchase of a Rototech RPA2030C Compacting Grapple. This will be replacing the current 30 year old stationary compactor in the transfer station. *(Audio 31.04)*

- **Presenter:** Travis Newsome, Assistant Director
- **Discussion:** Travis spoke on Tire Amnesty day outcome, 165 customers and 155 tires collected. Kennedy asked about a time frame of completion of work. Travis stated he hopes to have this done in a weekend time frame.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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10. Approve appropriation of $413,000 Reserves for Contingency within the Solid Waste Fund for the purchase of the replacement knuckle boom at the Landfill Transfer Station. *(Audio 34.14)*

- **Presenter:** Jason Rivera, Director
- **Discussion:** The purchase of the replacement knuckle boom was included in the FY26 Adopted Budget CIP Plan; funds were placed in the Solid Waste Fund's reserves rather than being appropriated to the appropriate capital outlay account.

- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**

  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Rock
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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11. Approve and authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement with Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects, LLC, for annual maintenance services related to the County's EMS, Fire Protection, Residential Solid Waste, and Road Maintenance assessment programs for Fiscal Year 2026-27 for $27,700. *(Audio 35.41)*

- **Presenter:** Jason Rivera, Director
- **Discussion:**

- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Meeks motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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12. Approve an increase of $19,224.12 to the appropriation for Chiefland Fire Rescue to purchase 4 portable radios. *(Audio 36.29)*

- **Presenter:** Jason Rivera, Director

- **Discussion:** Hodge asked if radios would be a benefit to the county. Chief King stated ½ of Chiefland Fire Rescue calls are in the county and ½ in city limits. The need for the additional radios is due to the high volume of volunteer fire fighters.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Meeks motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Hiers
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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13. Approve the Satisfaction of Mortgage and Satisfaction of Unsecured Note for Tina M. Bracewell. The required ten (10) year affordability period has been satisfied, and the County's lien is eligible to be released in accordance with SHIP program requirements. *(Audio 40.48)*

- **Presenter:** Kari Bastow, Grants & Finance Manager
- **Discussion:**

- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Hiers motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Mills
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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14. Approval of Levy County Vulnerability Assessment Update (26PLN35) between Levy County and the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, and authorization for the Chair to execute all associated documents. The Project will include the Town of Inglis and the portion of the City of Fanning Springs that is located within Levy County. *(Audio 41.45)*

- **Presenter:** Kari Bastow, Grants & Finance Manager
- **Discussion:**

- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

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15. Award ITB_2026_6 Levy County Road Sign Materials to Osburn Associates, Inc. for $69,276.80. Materials will be used for the fiscal year 2026. *(Audio 43.17)*

- **Presenter: Don Clifton, Road Department Director**

- **Discussion:** Mills and Hiers said they have received many calls from citizens praising the Road Department.
- **No public comment**

- **Action Taken:**
  - Motion Comm. Mills motioned to approve.
  - Second Comm. Meeks
- **Vote Outcome:** 5-0 motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Diane Garte (Morriston) asking for a letter of support from the board for creation of a UNESCO Heritage Site in Levy County and joining other counties in Florida.

Emily Casey (Gulf Hammock) ask the board to consider purchasing the Levy County Forestry Camp for future vocational school for the county.

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16. Request for Approval of Expenditures *(Audio 50.24)*

- Chairman Hodge requested approval of expenditures in the amount of ***$1,043,239.12***

- **Action:**
  - Motion: Comm. Mills motioned to approve.
  - Second: Comm. Meeks
  - Vote Outcome: 5-0 motion passes

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

- Comm. Meeks- None

- Comm. Mills- Quarterly department reports, Wild Hog Canoe Race

- Comm. Hiers- Ambulance access to citizen's properties, North Central Florida Advisor board in need of board members, Quarterly department reports, Wild Hog Canoe Race

- Comm. Hodge- Wild Hog Canoe Race, Quarterly department reports

- Comm. Kennedy- Wild Hoe Canoe Race, Ambulance access to citizen's properties, requested update on the old Building and Zoning building that is currently for sale, Quarterly department reports

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BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:03am

Minutes Submitted by: Matt Brooks, Clerk of Court & Comptroller
Date Submitted: 04/21/2026