

**EMERGENCY MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 26, 2020**

The Emergency Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on May 26, 2020 at 9:00 A.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
Clerk of Court – Danny Shipp

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Comm. Joyner requested the Board hear and consider a request for a family cemetery to be allowed on their property.

Comm. Brooks requested Emergency Order 2020-059 be placed on the agenda for Board approval.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with the two items as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

DISCUSSION OF RE-OPENING OPTIONS

Wilbur Dean provided updates to the Commissioners stating the County Departments are open for business with safety measures in place with the exception of the Veterans Office and the Branch Offices of the Tax Collector. The courthouse will be re-opening to the public June 1st with the changing of location of the security entrance to the court side and the addition of temperatures taken before entering for court hearings. The other entrance will be for Clerk of Court business transactions.

Atty. Brown spoke to the Board regarding the safety measures required for the court side of the building. She stated the judges have control over what is done in the courtroom, however, the rest of the building is not required to follow the same guidelines. At this time, the wearing of masks or some type of face covering has been required by the Judges for those coming into the court side of the building and courtrooms.

Comm. Brooks requested John Meeks be appointed to the group making decisions regarding courthouse safety and use of Court Facilities funds during the COVID-19 emergency.

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to direct Mr. Dean organize a group all interested parties in the courthouse and to appoint John Meeks as the Board's designee to be a part of the decisions made concerning the use of Court Facilities funds for the safety of the public and employees.

Sheriff McCallum spoke regarding the requirements his staff will be involved in enforcing. He stated the security machine is being moved to the court entrance of the courthouse to make it easier for the Deputies to check people coming into the building for court.

Matt Weldon spoke to the Board regarding the opening parks in the county for swimming. He stated the proposed reopening of Henry Beck Park in Gulf Hammock and Blue Springs Park in Bronson would be on Monday, June 1st with limited attendance of 50 people in each park. There will be no pavilion rentals, no volleyball and no drop-off's allowed. Signs will be posted encouraging social distancing. No season passes will be issued for this year. A total of 50 people will be allowed to enter at 10:00 A.M. and this group would leave by 2:00 P.M. to allow another group of 50 enter until 6:00 P.M. The attendants would utilize the next hour for cleaning.

Comm. John Meeks requested the times for park operation be 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. allowing for all to exit before the next group is allowed to enter.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to adopt the proposed re-opening of swimming parks with the modifications to the times of operation and to allow for acceleration of full opening based upon how smoothly the first week goes. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Atty. Brown advised the Board to rescind the Emergency Order closing all County Parks.

Comm. John Meeks amended his motion to include rescinding of the Emergency Order which closed all County Parks. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Sheriff McCallum spoke to the Board regarding the attempts of "block parties" taking place in Levy County.

Jeanine Turner spoke to the Board and gave an update of the re-opening of the Libraries.

Comm. Joyner requested the Board to allow a family to place a cemetery on their property for their use.

Atty. Brown stated there is a process for a family cemetery to be allowed and she has not been made aware of any action taken to initiate this process. She stated the Board cannot take action until the required steps have been taken. She recommended the Board take no action on this item at this time.

Comm. Joyner stated he would speak to the family and give them permission to prepare a cemetery as they will be needing to utilize this in the near future and will personally take responsibility for the decision.

Comm. Brooks requested Mr. Dean to encourage staff to process this application as quickly as possible.

Atty. Brown explained and requested Board approval of Emergency Order 2020-059, restating the provisions of Emergency Order 2020-026, as previously amended, and to clarify no Emergency Order be construed to require the wearing of face masks. An addition will be included to clarify how the County Park facilities will operate.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Emergency Order 2020-059 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Audience members, Linda Cooper and Terry Witt inquired when a sound system would be in place for the meeting room.

Mr. Dean stated he had been in contact with Brady Clark, who manages the IT systems for the Board offices and he is searching for a suitable temporary sound system for the meeting room.

Property Appraiser, Oz Barker spoke of the relocation progress of his office to the Annex.

Clerk of Court, Danny Shipp spoke of the order presented to him by the Supreme Court for re-opening the courthouse for court hearings on Monday. He spoke of how the new rules will be implemented.

Comm. John Meeks reported of the Memorial Day service held yesterday at the Rosemary Hill Cemetery.

Comm. John Meeks presented a letter addressed to the Governor's office from Levy County and the Small County Coalition concerning the release of CARES Act funding. The portion of the funding Levy County will receive is \$2.4 million.

The Commissioners agreed to sign and send the letter to the Governor's office as presented.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 10:43 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks