

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 3, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on October 3, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman, Matt Brooks
Vice-Chair, Comm. Desiree Mills
Comm. Tim Hodge
Comm. Rock Meeks
Comm. John Meeks

Also present were: County Attorney – Nicolle Shalley
County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

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

EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	149917-149929, 149932-150045	
FUND	AMOUNT	
GENERAL REVENUE		2,203,995.63
ROAD		69,741.78
MOSQUITO CONTROL		399.38
TRANSPORTATION		12,937.72
911		18,529.08
COURT FACILITIES		15,668.11
MISC GRANTS		38,618.13
EMS		181,307.56
FIRE		95,863.29
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT		4,913.36
UTILITIES		2,237.73
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY		1,470.74
SHERIFF FED EQUITABLE SHARE		1,549.41
CAPITAL PROJECTS		59,599.00
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE		5,889.90
LANDFILL		4,327.56
TOTAL	\$	2,717,048.38
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$	53,197.15

LCNR EXPENDITURES

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the following LCNR expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. John Meeks abstained from voting due to perceived conflict.

CHECK NUMBER	149930
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	1,055.92
ROAD	113.18
UTILITIES	43.58
LANDFILL	145.39
TOTAL	\$ 1,358.07

AMB SUPPLY, INC. (DBA LEVY JONES) EXPENDITURES

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the following AMB Supply, Inc. (DBA Levy Jones) expenditure for payment. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Brooks abstained from voting due to perceived conflict.

CHECK NUMBER	149931
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	563.35
EMS	1,102.50
FIRE	1,102.50
TOTAL	\$ 2,768.35

MINUTES

The minutes for the Budget Hearing held September 5, 2023 and the Special Meeting held September 12, 2023 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second was made by Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item #12, listed under SHIP items. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cindy Watson spoke regarding transportation of patients to treatment facilities for dialysis. She stated SREC runs on weekdays from 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 and on Saturdays for patients in Gilchrist and Dixie County at no cost. Levy County Transit is unable to accommodate these hours. She inquired if there was anything the Board could do to help this with this situation.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

- A. A group from the Suwannee Valley Players made a request to the Board for approval of a Proclamation identifying the month of October, 2023 as “National Arts & Humanities” Month. The Proclamation was then read into public record.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Proclamation identifying the month of October, 2023 as “National Arts & Humanities” Month as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Recognizing Ed Jennings for 39 years of loyal and dedicated service to the University of Florida and 6 years of service to the citizens of Levy County until his well-earned retirement from the UF/IFAS Levy County Extension Office.

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONER, JOHN MEEKS, DISTRICT 1

Requesting Board approval to run for Second Vice President for the Florida Association of Counties and submit a letter support.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve Comm. John Meeks’s request to run for Second Vice President for the Florida Association of Counties and to submit a letter of support. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Mike West, 911 Coordinator

Requesting Board approval of both the VSE Contract for GIS Database support and the VSE Technical & Cost Proposal with Statement of Work.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the VSE Contract for GIS Database support and the VSE Technical & Cost Proposal with Statement of Work as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

- A. Announcing the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will be holding a Public Meeting at the Levy County Government Center Auditorium on Monday, October 23, 2023 from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
- B. Requesting Board approval and the Chairman’s signature on five letters urging Congress to advance legislation protecting Federal Health Benefits for pre-trial detainees. The Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP) strips federal health benefits from individuals admitted to jail before they are convicted of a crime. This policy contributes to the over-incarceration of individuals suffering from mental and behavioral health crises, making jails the largest behavioral health providers in the nation.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the five letters with the Chairman's signature as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John MacDonald, Director

Requesting Board approval of a budget amendment for an overage over \$8,000 for 2 Emergency Management vehicles.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the budget amendment as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-60 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of \$4,000 for the Road Department restroom repairs.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-60 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of the Funding Agreement between Levy County and the Nature Coast Business Development Council for Fiscal Year 2024. There is no change in the funding amount of \$66,400.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Funding Agreement with the Nature Coast Business Development Council for Fiscal Year 2024 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Wilbur Dean on behalf of Alice LaLonde, Administrative Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-61, a Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and authorizing the execution of the Agreement, and all related documents, for the Development of a Cultural Resource & Resiliency Study at the George T. Lewis Airport in Levy County, Florida.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-61 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-62, a Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and authorizing the execution of the Agreement, and all related documents, for the design and construction of new restrooms and lighted kiosk at the George T. Lewis Airport in Levy County, Florida.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-62 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

SHIP

Marlon Gayle, Housing Planner

Requesting Board approval of a Deferred Payment Loan Agreement in the amount of \$30,000 for Ronetta Latrease Thomas and Davarus Rashad Rush, PA #608, for a new unit in Williston, Florida.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Deferred Payment Loan Agreement as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Inglis Mayor, Steve Schwing stated the DRC (Disaster Recovery Center) at the Inglis Community Center will be shutting down their operation as of 6:00 P.M. on Thursday. Assistance will be available by phone. Mayor Schwing also reminded everyone of the Mullet Toss Event coming up on October 21st. This event will take place from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Sue Beaudette, from the Town of Bronson stated the next Wacassassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative meeting will take place in Bronson on Wednesday, October 18th at 1:00 P.M. at the Dogan Cobb Municipal Building. The next Bread of the Mighty Food Bank is scheduled for the 4th Friday of the month, October 27th at the park beginning at 9:30 A.M. The next Beautify Bronson Day will be on Saturday, October 28th, beginning at 9:00 A.M. and efforts will be focused on the library location. The Bronson Trunk or Treat event will take place at the park on Tuesday, October 31st, beginning at 6:30 P.M. Ms. Beaudette spoke of a meeting she had with Mr. Hastings from Animal Control regarding call-out's for the Town during their non-business hours. She inquired if this service could be continued by the County, as the Town lacks the resources to house and care for stray animals.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. John Meeks stated Bronson High School festivities will be taking place this week and wanted to make everyone aware of the closure of a portion of SR 27 and SR 24 for the Homecoming Parade, which will begin at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday. He spoke of the Resiliency Florida Conference he attended recently.

Comm. Hodge reported of Chiefland High School's Homecoming last week and also asked everyone to continue keeping those affected by the closing of the mill in Perry in their prayers.

Comm. Mills reminded everyone of the scheduled Workshop, "Doing Business with Levy County", coming up on the 19th at 6:00 P.M. and of the Town of Yankeetown's 100 Year Celebration will take place on October 12th.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:03 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks

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