

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 6, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on April 6, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman John Meeks	Comm. Mike Joyner
Comm. Rock Meeks	Comm. Lilly Rooks (by phone)
Comm. Matt Brooks	

Also present were: County Attorney – Anne Bast Brown County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean
Clerk of Court – Danny J. Shipp

Chairman John Meeks 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. Brooks.

EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	141451-141635
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	1,855,756.97
ROAD	70,340.46
SHIP	11,700.00
TRANSPORTATION	86,865.16
911	15,721.33
COURT FACILITIES	4,049.71
MISC GRANTS	6,294.37
EMS	50,832.77
FIRE	9,112.93
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	7,772.66
UTILITIES	2,663.27
DRUG TASK FORCE	3,187.50
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	3,711.97
SHERIFF FED EQUITABLE SHARE	1,500.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS	39,879.00
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	52,822.15
LANDFILL	22,888.95
TOTAL	\$ 2,245,099.20
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$ 278,396.91

MINUTES

The minutes for the Regular meeting held on January 5, 2021 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 5, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Wilbur Dean requested a change to item #13. The change is to request Board approval to reappoint Robert Lowyns of District 4 as an Alternate to the Planning Commission.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the Agenda with the change as stated by Mr. Dean. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Schweibert expressed gratitude to the Levy County EMS for their response to an emergency he had recently. Comm. John Meeks read into public record an email received from Anna Ortiz, who expressed concerns of immigration and undocumented farm workers.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

- A. Requesting Board approval of Proclamation 2021-034 recognizing April, 2021 as “National Healthcare Decisions Month.” The Proclamation was read into public record by Comm. John Meeks.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Proclamation 2021-034 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Wilbur Dean read into public record and requested Board approval of Proclamation 2021-036 recognizing April, 2021 as “Water Conservation Month.”

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve Proclamation 2021-036 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Recognition and appreciation of Dr. Kenneth Schwiebert, DMD was given by Comm. Brooks as he enters retirement. Thanks were given by the other Commissioners as well.

D. Comm. Brooks read into public record and requested Board approval of Proclamation 2021-039 proclaiming the month of April, 2021 as “Williston Wants Peace – No More Violence” month. He then invited Frankie Jackson and Gussie Boatwright to the podium where they each spoke in favor of the Proclamation and of re-scheduling the Crab Fest event to a different location away from its previous location in a residential area.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Proclamation 2021-039 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

COMMISSIONER, MATT BROOKS

Requesting Board authorization to file an injunction action against Keniuel Gates regarding the promotion of Crabfest in the event the organizer has not applied for a Special Events permit as of April 5, 2021, in accordance with the Levy County Code. Mr. Dean confirmed there had been no application for permit made by Mr. Keniuel Gates regarding the Crabfest event as of this morning.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to file an injunction action against Keniuel Gates as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Comm. John Meeks and Comm. Brooks read into public record letters received from Williston citizens and State leaders thanking the Commissioners, law enforcement and community leaders for their efforts to prevent violence associated with this event, as it had been occurring in previous years.

EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Paul Silverman, Trial Court Administrator

Request Board approval of renovations at the Levy County Courthouse as listed below:

1. Renovation and expansion of Hearing Room B to a Courtroom.
2. Expansion and improvement of ingress and egress at the public entrance to the Court.
3. Renovation and expansion of the Court Security area adjoining the public entrance.
4. Renovation of Clerk’s former finance office to create Sheriff’s Department offices.
5. Renovation of the Clerk’s former office space on the second floor to create space for mediations, depositions, assistance for self-represented litigants, court reporting, Magistrate, and attorney-client conferences.

Mr. Silverman stated these renovations could be done using the existing \$1.3 million courthouse improvement grant aid funds.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Courthouse renovations as listed above and explained by Mr. Silverman. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE-911

Mike West, 911 Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2021-038 and budget amendment. This budget amendment is necessary to allow for funds received from the State E911 Board in the form of a grant. The grant is in the amount of \$136,292 and will cover the cost of the annual GIS Maintenance.
- B. Requesting Board approval on the Florida Federal NG911 Grant Agreement. Signature is required in order to receive cost reimbursement.
- C. Requesting Board approval for the Chairman's signature on the E911 State Grant for Viper CPE Refresh. Funds received from this grant will cover the cost to upgrade the hardware and software for the PSAP Equipment which is over 5 years old. This will also prepare the PSAP for Next Gen implementation.
- D. Requesting Board approval for the Chairman's signature on the E911 State Grant Application for SIP Migration & Router Refresh. Funds received from this grant will cover the cost of the SIP Migration and Router Refresh, which is necessary to upgrade the NG911 telephony portion of the county's PSAP equipment.
- E. Update status of Grant application due to corrections.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve items A., B., C., D., and E. as presented. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

CLERK OF COURT & COMPTROLLER

Jared Blanton, Finance Officer introduced Zach Chalifour, CPA, an independent auditor with the auditing firm, James Moore and Company gave a presentation of the Levy County – BOCC Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020 Audited Financial Statements to the Board.

Audience member Terry Witt inquired of the reporting of CARES Act funds. His questions were addressed by Jared Blanton.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

- A. Requesting Board approval to reappoint Robert Lowyns of District 4 as an Alternate to the Planning Commission.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to reappoint Robert Lowyns of District 4 as an Alternate member to the Planning Commission as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

B. Mr. Dean stated Jared Blanton had requested clarification by the Board of their intent in the DPS Recruitment/Retention MOU for separate payments to be made.

Comm. Joyner made a motion giving clarification the Board intended separate payments to be made when the DPS Recruitment/Retention MOU was approved. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Danny J. Shipp, Clerk of Court stated there had been three dates selected to issue these checks to the DPS employees. They are: April 22, 2021, July 29, 2021 and August 26, 2021 and will be taxed at 22%.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John MacDonald, Director

A. Request ratification of LSE extension Emergency Declaration 2021-030, 2021-032 and Emergency Declaration 2021-033.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to ratify the LSE extensions for Emergency Declarations 2021-030 2021-032 and Emergency Declaration 2021-033 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. John Meeks voted NO.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT

Tisha Whitehurst, Coordinator

Per finance request and in accordance with the budget policy adopted by the BOCC, seeking approval to move RESTORE Act funds in the amount of \$300,000 as set forth in the submitted budget amendment. These funds have been previously approved and allocated to the Nature Coast Biological Station UF/IFAS Cedar Key Aquarium project.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve moving of RESTORE Act funds as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

TRANSIT

Connie Conley, Director

Requesting Board approval of the 2020-2021 5339 Notice of Grant Award to purchase a 14 seat, 2 wheelchair vehicle in the amount of \$87,675 at 100%. Mrs. Conley stated the grant application was presented and approved by the Board on December 3, 2019.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 5339 Notice of Grant Award as presented. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

SHIP

Marlon Gayle, Housing Planner

Requesting Board approval of the Deferred Payment Loan Agreement in the amount of \$11,700 for Amanda Jo Podobinski, PA #589 for an existing unit in Bronson, Florida 32621.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Deferred Payment Loan Agreement #589 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2021-035 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. This budget amendment is necessary to upgrade the computers at all of the Library branches. The network will also be upgraded. The total cost for this project is \$37,180.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-035 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2021-037 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. This budget amendment in the amount of \$327,068 is necessary to upgrade five (5) tower sites: Inglis, Bronson, Chiefland, Cedar Key and Williston.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-037 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dana Sheffield invited everyone to the Fly-In and Car Show scheduled for April 24th at the Cross City airport.

Town of Bronson, Mayor Sue Bodette, announced there were three (3) \$1,000 scholarships available for students, if they wish to apply. She stated the Town of Bronson Board had voted last night at their meeting and are interested in leasing the old gym from the Board of County Commissioners. She requested direction from the Board of how to formally proceed. Comm. John Meeks directed Mr. Dean to coordinate with Atty. Brown in creating a lease agreement or guidelines for use of the gym.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. Brooks expressed his support of the community in East Williston and of the City Police for the decision to cancel the Crabfest event this year.

Comm. Joyner spoke of the Wild Hog Canoe Race coming up and invited everyone to attend.

Comm. Rock Meeks stated Career Source is looking to fill vacant positions and asked if anyone had suggestions to please contact him.

Comm. John Meeks spoke of issues of interest in Tallahassee which could affect Levy County, one of which is emergency transport by non-EMS providers.

Comm. Rooks reported of a call from a citizen who was turned away from one of the satellite stations due to him trying to drop off garbage from a trailer he was hauling. She asked the other Commissioners to give this issue some thought and it would be something she would like to address later. Comm. Rooks asked for updates of the toll road issue. Information was offered by the other Commissioners, but there has still been no definite path given.

The meeting recessed at 10:56 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:03 P.M.

CEDAR KEY WORKSHOP

Comm. John Meeks called the Workshop to order and stated the purpose of the Workshop between the County Commissioners and the City of Cedar Key Commissioners is to discuss concerns and important topics with an open dialog.

Each City/County Official then introduced themselves. Representing the City of Cedar Key were: Susan Rosenthal, Sue Colson, Jim Wortham, Heath Davis and Nancy Sera. Levy County Commissioners present were: Commissioner and Chairman John Meeks, Comm. Rock Meeks, Comm. Mike Joyner and Comm. Matt Brooks. Comm. Lilly Rooks attended by phone. Attorney Anne Bast Brown, representing the Board of County Commissioners and Atty. Norm Fugate, representing the City of Cedar Key were also in attendance. The following Agenda was used for discussion of each topic of concern.

- I. Roads & Maintenance Agreement
 - a. Roads in CRA, County, Dock Street
- II. Submerged Lands Lease/Big Dock
 - a. Dock Maintenance/Cleaning/Waste Disposal
 - b. Law Enforcement
 - c. Hours of Operation
- III. Airport
 - a. Operations/Maintenance
 - b. Zoning/Land Use Issues
 - c. Hazard Areas?
- IV. CRA Payment History
 - a. Potential uses for funds going forward
 - b. Plans for future CRA

- V. Other Topics for Future Discussions
 - a. Public Works/Public Safety
 - i. Satellite Stations
 - ii. Infrastructure Maintenance
 - iii. Police Department/Fire Department/EMS
 - 1. Mutual Aid and Rescue
 - 2. Relocation of Station 5
 - b. Storm Water Management
 - i. County vs. City permitting/restrictions
 - ii. Operating with Water Management
 - c. Broadband Partnership Opportunities
- VI. Annexation?
 - a. Advantages
 - b. Disadvantages

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:31 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, John Meeks