

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 7, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on November 7, 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 – by phone
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. Mills.

EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	150187-150351
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	2,204,472.05
ROAD	94,759.26
MOSQUITO CONTROL	180.35
COURT TECH/CRIM PREV	12,732.94
TRANSPORTATION	1,906.08
911	18,529.08
COURT FACILITIES	12,817.80
MISC GRANTS	1,050.11
EMS	62,115.70
FIRE	90,924.43
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	11,083.41
UTILITIES	7,137.68
ADD COURT COSTS	4,804.40
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	4,983.28
IMPACT FEES - EMS	53.08
IMPACT FEES - PARKS	150.31
IMPACT FEES - RD DIST III	1,410.00
SHERIFF FED EQUITABLE SHARE	3,000.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS	2,972.54
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	10,866.01

LANDFILL		28,745.78
TOTAL	\$	2,574,694.29
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$	366,260.59

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	150352
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	2,684.91
ROAD	1,170.27
MISC GRANTS	73.50
EMS	55.45
FIRE	46.48
UTILITIES	49.98
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	33.94
CAPITAL PROJECTS	148.21
LANDFILL	284.24
TOTAL	\$ 4,546.98

AMB SUPPLY, INC. (DBA LEVY JONES) EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	AMOUNT
FUND	150353
GENERAL REVENUE	221.60
ROAD	269.90
EMS	155.90
FIRE	155.90
TOTAL	\$ 803.30

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of item #15. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Comm. Brooks introduced Levy County's newly appointed Judge, Luis Bustamante who spoke briefly to the Board.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Veterans Services Director, Olajuwon White requested Board approval of a Proclamation identifying the week of November 6th – 12th, 2023 as Operation Green Light for Veterans Week. He then read the Proclamation into public record.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Proclamation identifying the week of November 6th – 12th, 2023 as Operation Green Light for Veterans Week as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONER, TIM HODGE

Comm. Hodge requested and made a motion for Board approval to send three (3) letters of support for the Cedar Key Aquaculture Association to Wilton Simpson, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner, Representative Chuck Clemons, Sr., and Senator Keith Perry. The letters request support and assistance for the Clam Farmers of Cedar Key whose industry was impacted after Hurricane Idalia. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROPERTY APPRAISER

Jason Whistler requested Board approval to Appropriate Reserves (Contingency) for additional budget approved by the State of Florida in the amount of \$12,460.

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

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

Requesting Board approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Florida, Department of Commerce and Levy County and designate an Elected or Appointed Official and one person from a Non-Profit engaged in Economic Development as the Designated Contacts (Exhibit A). This is necessary due to the re-designation of the North Central Region composed of Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union as an RAO.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

Atty. Shalley pointed out the Board needed to also select Designated Contacts.

Comm. Mills made a motion to appoint Comm. John Meeks and Scott O'Steen as the Designated Contacts. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Jacqueline Martin, Director

Presenting the proposed Amendment to Hours of Work Policy #207(9)(i)(ii) for Board consideration. Proposed Amendment from granting one (1) Administrative Day during a declared disaster to:

The County Coordinator may close County offices and grant administrative leave with pay to the affected employees. Administrative leave is based on employee's regular rate of pay and regular daily work hours.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Amendment to Hours of Work Policy #207(9)(i)(ii) as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Alice LaLonde, Administrative Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Corrective Resolution 2023-62, a Corrected Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and authorizing the execution of the Corrected 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. Mills made a motion to approve the Corrective Resolution 2023-62 as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting the Board's consideration of whether they would like to accept property offered to the County, and if so, directing the Road Department and County Attorney to return to the Board with a title search evidencing clear title, an executed Right-of-Way Deed and Resolution to accept the Right-of-Way. The property is a driveway located in the Williston Golf and Country Club off SR 121.

The Board agreed by consensus to accept and gave direction to Road Department staff and Atty. Shalley to return with a title search evidencing clear title, an executed Right-of-Way Deed and Resolution to accept the Right-of-Way.

- C. Requesting Board direction of a grader repair. The Road Department has a 2000 John Deere grader with 115,227 hours in need of a transmission replacement for the quoted price of \$45,423.38. This will be the 2nd transmission since 2019 at 12,236 hours. A comparative pricing is included for the Board for a new/used grader of different makes and models for information purposes.

Following discussion among the Commissioners, Comm. John Meeks made a motion to Table this item. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- D. Update given to the Board of the FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of the recommended ranking for RFQ_2023_002, Continuing Professional Services and the Form of Agreement with the selected proposers. All proposers were selected and approval would add them to the Library of Professional Service Providers.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the ranking for RFQ_2023_002, Continuing Professional Services and the Form of Agreement with the selected proposers as recommended. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval to waive the bid process and award the lowest quote received (HVAC Concepts) for the replacement of two (2) A/C units for the Planning & Zoning Department in the amount of \$25,529.00. This will be paid out of the Project 500 budget.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to waive the bid process and award the lowest quote received from HVAC Concepts for replacement of two (2) A/C units for the Planning & Zoning Department as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Requesting Board approval of the Scope of Services regarding Continuing Roofing Contracts.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Scope of Services regarding Continuing Roofing Contracts as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- D. Requesting Board approval of the Scope of Services for Grant Management Services. Funding for this opportunity can be taken from the Grant Position.

Jared Blanton spoke in favor of this opportunity.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Scope of Services for Grant Management Services as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- E. Update provided to the Commissioners regarding County Wide HVAC Services Continuing Contract.

COUNTY ATTORNEY – REMOVED FROM AGENDA

~~Nicolle M. Shalley~~

~~Requesting the Board: (1) consider an offer to settle an outstanding Final Judgment ordered for liquidated damages for time sentenced to County jail; if the offer is approved, authorize the execution of a Satisfaction of Judgment by the Chairman or Clerk of Court, which Satisfaction is to be held in Escrow and not released until payment of the settlement funds are received by County Probation Services, Inc.~~

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Kilsimer, Public Involvement Coordinator hired by the Town of Inglis, spoke to the Board of the Inglis Septic to Sewer Project stating there will be a Public Information meeting on Monday at 6:00 P.M. at the Inglis Community Center.

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sue Beaudette, Town of Bronson stated the Bread of the Mighty Mobile Food Bank would be switching the day for their food giveaway to Wednesday, November 15th at 9:30 A.M. at the park. The next Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative Board meeting will also be on the 15th at 1:00 P.M. in Cedar Key. CFEC is holding a “Fiber Chat” at the new Bronson Fire Station next Thursday, November 16th beginning at 5:30 P.M. This will be an opportunity for people to sign up their location for fiber internet. A bar-b-q dinner will be provided for all who attend.

Steve Schwing, Inglis Mayor reported of the Mullet Toss event stating it was well attended and he looked forward to the event for next year.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Comm. Hodge stated a Pop-Up Library would be in Cedar Key on November 9th from 1:30 – 4:00 P.M. The Cedar Key Seafood Festival held recently was a success.

Comm. John Meeks reported of the 4-H Advisory meeting held recently, stating the need for 4-H leaders in the Levy County area. Congratulations were offered to those students who recently attended and competed in the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

Comm. Brooks reported of sports accomplishments for Williston High School teams. Comm. Brooks also spoke of Veteran’s Day Events scheduled to take place in Williston on Friday, November 10th. Comm. Brooks then spoke of his inquiry into a Public Information Officer and asked if there was consent by the Board for its creation. Atty. Shalley asked about the position and who would be hiring. Clarification and direction was given for staff.

The meeting recessed at 10:17 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 P.M.

HUMAN RESOURCES – CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR INTERVIEWS

Jacqueline Martin, Director advised the Commissioners of the three (3) applicants selected for interviews, stating one had withdrawn his application.

The remaining two (2) applicants, Grady Hartzog and John Partin were then interviewed by the Commissioners individually.

Following interviews, the Commissioners directed Ms. Martin to contact with Mr. Partin to offer the position and negotiate a salary.

The meeting recessed at 2:27 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 5:03 P.M.

PLANNING & ZONING – PUBLIC HEARINGS

Stacey Hectus, Director

- A. Requesting Board approval of Ordinance No. 2023-11, an Ordinance of Levy County, Florida, amending the Code of Ordinances of Levy County, Florida relating to manure composting and disposal; by creating a new article within Chapter 22 – Businesses, by amending Chapter 74 – Solid Waste; by amending Sec. 2-140 to provide civil penalties for violations; adopting findings of fact; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause; providing for inclusion in the code and providing direction to the Clerk and an effective date.

Comm. Brooks asked if there were any in the audience who wished to speak for or against the item presented.

Audience members who spoke were: Rose Fant, Renate Cannon, Mark Warren, Christine Switt.

The Ordinance title was read into public record by Stacey Hectus.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2023-11 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of, on first reading, Ordinance No. 2023-9, an Ordinance of Levy County, Florida, amending Chapter 6 related to alcoholic beverages, Chapter 22 related to prohibited businesses, Chapter 50 (Land Development Code) related to zoning district use regulations and Appendix B related to fees, rates and charges, all being within the County Code of Ordinances; providing for inclusion in the code; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause; and providing direction to the Clerk and an effective date.

The meeting recessed at 7:26 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 7:33 P.M.

Comm. Brooks asked if there were any in the audience who wished to speak for or against the item presented.

Audience member who spoke were:

Zeb Cheshire, Attorney for Anderson Columbia
 Jose Lopez, Kimley-Horne
 Jerry Diedenback, CHW, representing Whitehurst & Sons
 Sallie Ann Collins
 Christine Switt
 Ed Suer
 Mark Warren
 Roger Chelton

Heather Crofton
 Karen Eagle
 Laurie Wall
 Larry Zelesky
 Rachel Spry
 David Meyer
 Rose Fant

The Ordinance title was read into public record by Stacey Hectus.

Atty. Shalley stated the changes she would make in the Ordinance for it to be brought back for the second reading in December.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-9, with revisions as stated. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:31 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks