

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 19, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on May 19, 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. Joyner gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm.

EXPENDITURES

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

CHECK NUMBER	137889-138029
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	222,464.35
ROAD	36,474.05
MOSQUITO CONTROL	1,059.04
TRANSPORTATION	5,314.85
COURT FACILITIES	2,814.45
MISC GRANTS	4,240.62
EMS	29,089.69
FIRE	12,793.12
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	31.13
UTILITIES	2,065.72
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	759.22
CAPITAL PROJECTS	11,900.42
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	11,925.50
LANDFILL	80,838.05
TOTAL	\$ 421,770.21

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of two items: 1. Board action requested by the City of Cedar Key regarding JAG Grant and 2. Board action regarding Emergency Order 2020-057. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DeEtta Duckett spoke to the Board regarding a SHIP Workshop and her request to add manufactured homes as an option. Comm. Brooks addressed her concerns stating there would need to be additional work done to change the wording in the contract which outlines which types of housing is eligible through the SHIP Program. He advised Ms. Duckett to provide her contact information to Marlon Gayle so she could be made aware of the Workshop which would take place in September after the budget had been set for the upcoming year.

Allen Alexander, Bronson resident spoke to the Board regarding speeding on CR337 in the residential area between SR 24 and CR32. He stated the posted speed limit is 35 mph and this is not adhered to.

Comm. Brooks read into record the following emails:

1. Diane Webb, Williston resident shared her opinion regarding the possibility of a toll road being routed through Levy County and the revenue it could bring to the area from travelers.
2. Lori Schleede, Sisters of Cedar Key Vacation Rentals inquired of the Board if a request and plan had been submitted to the State for approval to operate vacation rentals.
Comm. Brooks stated a plan had been submitted on Friday and there was confirmation it had been received. He stated as soon as it was approved by the State, this information would be communicated to the public. The Board has continually expressed the need to the State of the importance and need for local decisions to be made by individual counties.
3. Two emails were submitted concerning the opening of bars, specifically Judy's Bar in Williston and the desire of the owner to keep her business alive.
4. Kay Mayton, Co-Owner of "A Downtown Beauty Lounge" expressed the need for small businesses to re-open.

Pat Bonner, Cedar Key resident and small business owner spoke to the Board regarding the re-opening of bars, vacation rentals and small businesses.

LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – 911

Mike West, 911 Coordinator

Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-054 approving a budget amendment necessary to allow for funds received from the E911 State E911 Board in the form of a Rural County Grant in the amount of \$29,892. No matching funds are required.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-054 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff McCallum spoke to the Board regarding the CR337 issue mentioned earlier during the public comments portion. before requesting Board approval to purchase POD III Control Panel and approval to correct sewage issues.

Col. Mike Sheffield spoke to the Board and provided quoted amounts, listed below, for the control panel replacement for POD III.

Montgomery Technology Systems	\$ 26,500.00
Florida Detention Systems	\$ 86,700.00
Stanley Security Solutions	\$147,500.00

Col. Sheffield stated the current control system was installed by Montgomery Technology Systems (MTS) and would require fewer components to be replaced. The other vendors would have to replace the complete MTS system.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the quote received from Montgomery Technology Systems for replacement of the POD III Control Panel as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Terry Witt asked for further information of what the quote from Montgomery Technology Systems covered. Jared Blanton, Finance Director spoke regarding the process to place funds in the appropriate account line for payment.

Undersheriff, Brett Beauchamp requested Board approval for upgrades to the sewage system at the jail for a total cost of \$12,304.80. He then explained the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has notified the county a failure to maintain a functional secondary blower is in violation of Rule 62-620.610(7) Florida Administrative Code and have requested entry of a Consent Order acknowledging two violations.

Comm. Brooks directed Atty. Brown inquire of the \$500 fines associated with the violations and report back to the Board.

Atty. Brown stated at the next meeting she would bring back the Consent Order, options for challenging and costs related the Board to consider.

Also, an insulated pump house has been on site for more than a year. Once the work has been completed on the metal strainer bar, a crane will be needed to remove the old pump house and to install a new one.

Mr. Blanton stated there is not enough money in the budget for both items and advised Sheriff McCallum to speak with Ali at the Board office to see if funding can be moved within the Sheriff's budget to cover both expenses.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the sewer upgrades as requested for a total amount of \$12,304.80. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

JAMES, MOORE & CO.

Zach Chalifour, CPA, Partner

Presentation of Levy County-BOCC Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2019 Audited Financial Statements. Following Mr. Chalifour's presentation, Jared Blanton spoke to the Board stating the James, Moore & Co. staff were easy to work with. He stated the auditing process was less time consuming than expected for their first time working with Levy County.

ATTY. BROWN – EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-057

Atty. Brown requested Board approval of Emergency Order 2020-057 stating it allows for the implementation of Phase 1, Levy County BOCC COVID-19 Phased Re-Opening Guide following the Governor's Emergency Order 2020-123, which was effective May 18, 2020 at 12:01 A.M. adopting Full Phase 1 Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Emergency Order 2020-057 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

CEDAR KEY

Virgil Sandlin, Cedar Key Chief of Police requested Board approval for:

1. The Certificate of Participation to decline to serve as the coordinating unit of government for the FDLE Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Countywide Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2020 and
2. The letter approving the distribution of the JAG Program for the Cedar Key project for Federal FY 2020.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve items 1 and 2 as requested by Chief Sandlin. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

- A. Requesting Board approval to re-appoint Chason Peck of District 5 and David Shewey of District 1 to the Board of Adjustments.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to re-appoint Chason Peck of District 5 and David Shewey of District 1 to the Board of Adjustments as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval to appoint/re-appoint the following people to the Planning Commission: Thomas J. Harper of District 2 (re-appointment), Karen Smith of District 1 (re-appointment), John Lott of the School Board of Levy County (re-appointment), and Kelly Bishop of District 5 as an alternate (appointment).

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to appoint/re-appoint those listed above to the Planning Commission as requested. Second was made by Comm. Joyner and the MOTION CARRIES.

TRANSIT

Connie Conley, Director

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2020-051, authorizing the signing and submission of grant application for a grant under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act and the Application for Federal Assistance SF-424 form for this grant. Funding in the amount of \$757,266 is for reimbursement at 100% of operational expenses to be expended over a period of 2-3 years.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-051 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience members who spoke regarding this item were: Terry Witt and Dana Sheffield.

- B. Requesting Board approval for Resolution 2020-055 amending the final budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$757,266 to be reimbursed with operational expenses at 100%.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-055 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Alice LaLonde, Administrative Manager

Requesting Board approval for approval of Cedar Key FAA CARES Funding Application. On April 14, 2020 the Cedar Key Airport is eligible for funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136). The funds in the amount of \$20,000 will provide assistance to airports in addressing the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency which will be used for Operational Expenses and must be spent within four years.

Comm. Joyner made a motion to approve the Cedar Key FAA CARES Funding Application as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience members who spoke regarding this item were Terry Witt and Dana Sheffield.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John MacDonald, Director

A. Requesting Board ratification of Emergency Declarations 2020-046 and 2020-052.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to ratify Emergency Declarations 2020-046 and 2020-052 as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

B. Requesting Board approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Florida Division of Emergency Management and Levy County for use of Weatherstem Stations.

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

C. Recap of Countywide Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing which was done at four sites throughout the county from Thursday, May 14th through Monday, May 18th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Upon request by Comm. Brooks, Bill Menadier gave an update of the Bird Creek Boat Ramp progress.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. Joyner reminded everyone of the additional traffic on the roadways due to the watermelon harvest taking place throughout the county this time of year.

Comm. Rooks spoke of large gatherings of people reported to have been near the Cedar Key airport. Alice LaLonde stated signs have been prepared by the Road Department and will be placed at the Airport to prevent this from happening in the future.

Comm. John Meeks stated the Small County Coalition will be holding their annual meeting and officer elections on June 3rd at 10:00 A.M. via phone conference. Comm. John Meeks stated he is up for his second term as Chairman of the Small County Coalition. There will also be a Zoom meeting of the Withlacoochee Middle/Lower Suwannee River meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Comm. John Meeks provided a copy of a letter he would like to send to Governor DeSantis's office concerning CARES Act money which has yet to be received by many counties throughout Florida, including Levy.

Comm. Brooks reminded everyone if they have not yet done so, to file their Census 2020 paperwork either by mail or online. Comm. Brooks stated he would like to draft a letter to be sent to Governor DeSantis inviting him to Levy County to open the remaining businesses. Comm. Brooks stated graduation ceremonies have begun in Levy County at the different schools and have been well received so far.

The meeting recessed at 11:40 A.M
The meeting reconvened at 1:36 P.M.

LEVY COUNTY CLERK & COMPTROLLER

Jared Blanton, Finance Officer

Presentation of Levy County-BOCC Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021, Budget-Staff Departmental Recommendations, Option Decisions & Revenue Discussion. The upcoming Workshop schedule is listed below:

- June 16, 2020 Workshop at 1:30 P.M.
- June 23, 2020 Workshop – If Needed
- July 7, 2020 Workshop
- July 14, 2020 Workshop
- July 28, 2020 Final Workshop
- September 8, 2020 Tentative Hearings
- September 22, 2020 Final Hearings

Mr. Blanton spoke to the Board of the need for a Full-Time Grants Coordinator/Legislative Affairs Position. Currently Tisha Whitehurst is handling the RESTORE Act Grant, but also has the responsibility of the Tourism Department. He encouraged the Board to begin seeking a Grants Coordinator now. Tisha Whitehurst also spoke regarding the importance for the county to have this position filled.

It was agreed by the Commissioners to begin searching for a person to fill this position.

Mr. Blanton spoke to the Board regarding Emergency Management App Development and Support expense. Following discussion of funding, Mr. Blanton stated he would carry this item over to the next meeting.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:11 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks