

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 17, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on October 17, 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. Rock Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. Hodge.

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	150046-150056, 150059-150186	
FUND		AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE		762,448.66
ROAD		64,814.07
MOSQUITO CONTROL		1,958.00
TRANSPORTATION		14,724.42
COURT FACILITIES		2,693.34
MISC GRANTS		73,841.27
EMS		213,147.35
FIRE		174,669.24
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT		6,508.55
UTILITIES		3,047.81
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY		5,294.80
CAPITAL PROJECTS		18,418.39
LANDFILL		113,987.13
TOTAL	\$	1,455,553.03
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$	748,484.15

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	150057
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	892.52
ROAD	1,489.64
EMS	14.57
FIRE	14.57
UTILITIES	49.98
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	8.95
CAPITAL PROJECTS	148.21
LANDFILL	73.96
TOTAL	\$ 2,692.40

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	150058
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	5,644.09
TOTAL	\$ 5,644.09

MINUTES

The minutes for the Regular Board Meetings held September 5, 2023 and September 19, 2023 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meetings held September 5, 2023 and September 19, 2023 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an item for the Emergency Management Department and to change the order of Item #15 to Item #13, Public Hearings to be presented by Planning & Zoning. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

A Letter of Appreciation from Mark Warren, Levy County Extension Office Interim CED was read into public record by Comm. John Meeks. The letter was written to the Construction/Maintenance Department for their assistance with the recent office renovations done at the Ag. Extension Office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Amanda Handley spoke on behalf of DOT reporting of the first Chiefland Community Working Group meeting held on September 14th as part of the PD & E Study. The second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28th at the Tommy Usher Pineland Center in Chiefland from 5:30 P.M. until 7:30 P.M.

Renate Cannon thanked the Road Department for removal of a tree blocking the entrance to her driveway.

BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONER JOHN MEEKS

- A. Sharon Wolfe introduced the President of the ARC of Levy County, Rissa Johns, who spoke regarding the future home of the Levy ARC. She stated the property offered by the Board would not fit their space needs however, a property located in Chiefland had been presented as a possible site. This was shared with the Commissioners for their information.

Consensus was given by the Commissioners in support of the ARC of Levy County to re-locate to property in Chiefland as indicated.

- B. John MacDonald requested Board approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection regarding waterway debris removal in storm-impacted areas of Levy County resulting from Hurricane Idalia.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the MOA as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mitch Harrell, Director

- A. Requesting Board approval of quarterly write-off's for FY 2023. The amounts are listed below:

Oct. 2022 – Dec. 2022	\$ 134,095.63
Jan. 2023 – March 2023	\$ 259,642.79
April 2023 – June 2023	\$ 387,990.17
July 2023 – Sept. 2023	<u>\$ 228,790.88</u>
Total	\$1,010,519.47

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Department of Public Safety write-off's for FY 2023 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

B. Chief Harrell presented the FY 2023 Department Report to the Board.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Jacqueline Martin, Director

A. Ms. Martin recommended the date to set interviews for Construction/Maintenance Director of the afternoon of November 7, 2023.

The Commissioners agreed to set the interviews on November 7, 2023, beginning at 1:30 P.M.

B. Review County Policy #207, HOURS OF WORK, specifically section (0)i pertaining to Administrative Leave Compensation. The current policy states: All non-exempt personnel who are released from work by the County Coordinator on a schedule work day due to an impending or declared emergency or disaster, shall be compensated at their normal hourly rate for their normal work schedule for the remainder of their shift and up to one (1) additional normal scheduled work day from the emergency or disaster is declared.

The Commissioners agreed to give direction for staff to update the policy and bring it back for approval.

SOLID WASTE

Travis Newsome, Administrative Director

A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-65, and amending the final budget for FY 24 in the amount of \$25,000 for the annual re-occurring Waste Tire Amnesty Grant with FDEP.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-65 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

B. Requesting Board approval for the Small County Solid Waste Grant Agreement from FDEP, an annual re-occurring grant; authorize the Director of Solid Waste to serve as Grant Manager on behalf of the County; adopt Resolution 2023-64, and waive the bid process to purchase a Mac Trailer utilizing Grant funds from MD Trailer Sales & Leasing, Inc. for a total price of \$129,480.49.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve the Small County Solid Waste Grant Agreement from FDEP, authorizing the Director to serve as Grant Manager; approve Resolution 2023-64; waive bid process and approve purchase of a Mac Trailer utilizing Grant funds as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

TRANSIT

Connie Conley, Director

A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-66, amending the final budget for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$160,000 for receipt of the Shirley Conroy Rural Area Capital Assistance Grant. This is a 100% grant and the funds will be used for the purchase of a 14 seat vehicle.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-66 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCUREMENT

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2023-63 amending the final budget for Fiscal Year 2024 in the amount of \$238,550. The Miscellaneous Grants Fund (Fund No. 115) is increased due to receipt of additional revenue from a Florida Department of Environmental Protection Resilient Florida Grant for the Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-63 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of the Agreement between Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., and Levy County for the provision of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. The cost of the Agreement for FY 24 is \$91,932.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve the Agreement with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. as requested. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Mrs. Tretheway announced the Levy County Board of County Commissioners will be holding a Public Meeting at the Levy County Government Center Auditorium on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. to discuss the proposed Levy County Government Center Park Project.

The meeting recessed at 10:06 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 10:13 A.M.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – PLANNING & ZONING

Atty. Shalley asked if any of the Commissioners had ex-parte communication with any of the petitioners. Ex-parte communication was declared by Comm. Rock Meeks and Comm. Hodge.

Stacey Hectus, Director

- A. Requesting Board approval of Petition No. PP 23-06. Ronald Parrish, Surveyor, representing Loy Ann Mann, petitioned the Board for a Preliminary Plat (Indian Acres) to divide 102.42 acres, MOL into three (3) lots and a conservation area. Said parcel is located in Section 11, Township 12S, Range 14E in Levy County, Florida and has a land use of ARR/Agricultural Rural Residential (10 ac. minimum). Parcel Number: 0096700300.

Comm. Brooks asked if any in the audience wished to speak regarding the item presented. There were none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Petition No. PP 23-06 as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval, on first reading, Ordinance 2023-9 titled 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 DIRECTIONS TO THE CLERK AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm. Brooks asked if any in the audience wished to speak regarding the item presented. Those who spoke were:

Bill Menadier spoke on behalf of the owners of Out of Towners RV Park located just outside of the city limits of Williston regarding the provision in the Ordinance relating to accessing city utilities, as they are not available to them at this time.

Gary Diedenbach, Executive Vice President of CHW Consultants spoke on behalf of V.E. Whitehurst and Sons and Whitehurst Cattle Company regarding the mining item within the Ordinance and the one year time requirement.

Tommy Williams spoke in opposition of over-regulating the County and was in favor of each case should be considered individually.

Comm. Mills made a motion to continue the first reading of this Ordinance to the November 7th meeting at 5:00 P.M. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and THE MOTION CARRIES.

Following discussion by the Commissioners, Atty. Shalley summarized the changes, which would be made to the Ordinance for the November 7th meeting.

- C. Requesting Board approval, on first (transmittal) reading, Ordinance 2023-10 titled AN ORDINANCE ON EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 163.3191, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSION FROM CODIFICATION; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO THE CLERK AND COUNTY STAFF; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES.

Comm. Brooks asked if any in the audience wished to speak regarding the item presented. There were none.

Comm. Mills made a motion to approve, on first reading, Ordinance 2023-10 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Inglis Mayor, Steve Schwing spoke of the Mullet Toss Event coming up in Inglis this weekend at the South Levy Recreation facility.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. Rock Meeks stated he would not be present for the December 5th meeting.

Comm. Mills thanked Tisha Whitehurst for her assistance in providing items for Cedar Key to be used during festivals. She also reminded everyone of the "Doing Business with Levy County" Workshop scheduled for Thursday, October 19th at 6:00 P.M.

Comm. Hodge commended the Road Department for work done recently on some roads in the county.

Comm. John Meeks reminded everyone of the Trunk or Treats event taking place in Bronson on Tuesday, October 31st. Comm. John Meeks then spoke of an Economic Development Opportunity from a company wishing to locate on the 36 acres in Otter Creek recently acquired by the County.

Wilbur Dean gave brief information to the Board of a forestry-based business interested in leasing 20 acres of the property. Scott Osteen also spoke of the opportunity for the County.

Atty. Shalley spoke of a Land Leasing Policy for the County, stating this is something she is working on and could be ready for their review in December, at the earliest.

The Board agreed this would be possible as soon as the Land Leasing Policy was complete and approved. Atty. Shalley provided information on the process for the County to lease property.

Comm. Brooks spoke of the Florida Scorecard and the increased number of housing permits processed in Levy County.

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

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks