

**REGULAR MEETING  
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 5, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on March 5, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

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

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

Chairman Mills 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. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>151377-151388, 151391-151506</b>	
<b>FUND</b>		<b>AMOUNT</b>
GENERAL REVENUE		1,948,186.32
ROAD		57,384.60
SHIP		30,000.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL		180.35
TRANSPORTATION		862.24
911		18,529.08
COURT FACILITIES		9,152.37
MISC GRANTS		58,704.41
EMS		40,236.30
FIRE		184,776.56
ART V GRANT		75,609.50
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT		50,419.98
UTILITIES		589.71
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY		1,202.87
CAPITAL PROJECTS		1,112,326.16
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE		86,512.12
LANDFILL		4,608.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,679,280.76</b>
<b>EFT/ACH PAYMENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>48,445.57</b>

**LCNR EXPENDITURES**

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

<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>151390</b>
<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
GENERAL REVENUE	430.81
ROAD	399.17
EMS	58.99
FIRE	58.99
UTILITIES	111.00
LANDFILL	1,577.15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,636.11</b>

**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. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Brooks abstained from voting due to perceived conflict.

<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>151389</b>
<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
GENERAL REVENUE	89.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 89.90</b>

**AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS**

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with a change to the item under Procurement in the wording from Bronson to Williston for the Tower Project Resolution. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

Comm. Brooks requested Board approval of a Proclamation identifying the month of March, 2024 as “National Athletic Training” Month.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the Proclamation as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

Comm. Brooks announced and congratulated the Williston Baseball Team for their recent win of the State Championship title.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chiefland resident, Muriel Ellison spoke of garbage dumping near her property in the Springside subdivision in Chiefland.

## **BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **LEVY COUNTY COORDINATOR**

Wilbur Dean

- A. Logan Deuel, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: Presentation of payment in the amount of \$42,343.29 from the Goethe State Forest.
  
- B. Town of Bronson, Mayor Partin: Discussion of adding a Board Member to the Waccasassa Water & Wastewater Cooperative.

Atty. Shalley explained to the Board they would have to become members of the Cooperative in order for any Commissioners to become members. She also explained the responsibility of the Board if the decision is made to join the Cooperative.

The Board agreed by consensus to have staff look into the possibility of the Board of County Commissioners joining the Cooperative.

- C. Seeking direction from the Board regarding Budget Options the County needs to consider with the resignation of the Finance Director from the Clerk's Office.

Atty. Stan Griffis, Attorney for Danny Shipp, Clerk of Court, spoke to the Board of Mr. Shipp's intent to hire a new Finance Director, as this position would be needed. Mr. Shipp had chosen to wait until the Board's decision to determine if a person would be needed to fill the Budget Officer position.

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to made a decision on this item at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting after considering all options presented.

### **LEVY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2024-11 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of \$63,345 for the additional HVAC repairs to the jail.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-11 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **SHIP**

Wilbur Dean on behalf of Marlon Gayle, Housing Planner

Requesting Board approval of a Deferred Payment Loan Agreement in the amount of \$30,000 for Tamar M. Jones and Merlonda D. Jones, PA #613 for the purchase of a new unit in Williston, Florida.

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

## **DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

David Meyer, Development Director

Requesting Board approval to appropriate Reserves (Contingency) in the amount of \$89,300 for a new Code Enforcement Officer position and Professional Services for utilizing Special Magistrate.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to appropriate Reserves (Contingency) as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **LIBRARY**

Darlene Slattery, Coordinator

Requesting Board approval to purchase 70 shelves utilizing the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance Agreement, Contract No. 07-85 in the amount of \$35,566.05. Ms. Slattery stated the shelves would replace those destroyed by Hurricane Idalia at the Cedar Key Library.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the purchase of 70 shelves as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

John MacDonald, Director

Requesting Board approval of the 2023 Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA). The SMAA is an essential component of Emergency Management planning, response, and recovery operations. It increases available resources and improves response and recovery efforts. The SMAA is intended to allow for more timely and cost-effective resources.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the 2023 Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA) as requested. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Matt Weldon, Director

Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2024-4 for execution and submission for a 2024 FBIP Grant for Shell Mound Public Boat Ramp Phase II; for designating a County Project Manager for the Grant, and providing an effective date.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-4 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Alice LaLonde, Administrative Coordinator

The original request for the Board’s approval of Change Order No. 1 to extend CR 347 project limits from 1.47 miles to 2.21 miles (from SR 27 to US 19) will be brought back at a later date. Mrs. LaLonde explained the project was going over its original budget, and funding was to be supplemented by Impact Fee Funds (\$460,127.66), but DOT has offered \$1,000,000 for three (3) of the county’s projects. Once all bids have been received, funds can be designated to these projects, so Impact Fee Funds may not need to be used for this particular one. Mrs. LaLonde stated the contract for this project needs to be corrected with Anderson Columbia and it will be brought back for signatures.

Comm. Rock Meeks spoke of the complications with the improvement of this road as it passes through Federal Wetlands, which prevents any widening of this portion of the road or the existing culverts.

Ryan Asmus, FDOT, also spoke providing details of the road improvement with regard to width and resurfacing.

**PROCUREMENT**

Alicia Tretheway, Coordinator

- A. Requesting Board approval to appropriate Reserves (Contingency) in the amount of \$34,000 for tower leases. This increase is due to an increase in rental/leases previously approved by the Board on 2/6 and 2/20.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to appropriate Reserves (Contingency) for tower leases as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2024-12 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of \$56,121 for the ~~Bronson~~ Williston Tower Project.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-12 as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Requesting Board approval of Task Assignment 2024-2 between Levy County and ECS Florida, LLC for Preliminary Threatened & Endangered Species Assessment, Preliminary Wetlands Determination, and Environmental Permitting Services for the Gulf Hammock Pit in the amount of \$58,500. The cost for services will be split between three (3) different tasks:

Task 1	Ecological Services	\$19,750
Task 2	Protected Tree Inventory Services	\$ 4,250
Task 3	Environmental Permitting Services	\$34,500

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Task Assignment 2024-2 as requested. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

Audience member, Linda Cooper, expressed her disapproval of the County Engineering Department for the delay in resolving the permitting with DEP for the Gulf Hammock Rock Pit, which had been shut down since February 13, 2023. She pointed out the amount being paid to ECS Florida, LLC should not have been necessary, as the County Engineer should have resolved this issue.

Comm. John Meeks responded to Ms. Cooper, explaining the complications Mr. Carswell has faced in working with DEP to get the permitting issue resolved for the Gulf Hammock Pit.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS LEVY COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING**

Stacey Hectus, Director

- A. Quasi-judicial – Petition No. FP 23-07: McMillen Surveying, representing Gloria Danner, petitioning the Commission for a Final Plat (G & G Alliance) to correct an unlawful split on 14.6 acres, MOL. Said parcel is located in Section 19, Township 11, Range 15 in Levy County, Florida.

Atty. Shalley asked if any of the Commissioners had any ex-parte communication regarding this item. There was none.

Comm. Mills asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak regarding this item. There was none.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Petition No. FP 23-07 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rock Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Quasi-Judicial Petition No. SVA 24-01: McMillen Surveying, representing Joshua Ryan Morrison & Lindsay Morrison, Robert Norwood Terrell, Jr. & Michelle Marie Terrell, and Robert C. Morrison & Georgia Morrison, petitioning the Commission for a subdivision variance(s) to the Levy County Land Development Code section(s) 50-578(b), 50-581 and 50-583(m). These variances are required as part of final plat approval to subdivide 40 acres MOL in to three (3) parcels containing 10 ac. MOL. Parcel is located in Section 13, Township 11S, Range 17E in Levy County, Florida, near the Alachua County line. Said parcel has a land use and zoning of ARR/Agricultural Rural Residential (10 ac. minimum). Parcel Number(s): 0314702800.

Atty. Shalley asked if any of the Commissioners had any ex-parte communication regarding this item. There was none.

Comm. Mills asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak regarding this item. There was none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Petition No. SVA 24-01 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Quasi-Judicial Petition No. FP 23-06: McMillen Surveying, representing Joshua Ryan Morrison & Lindsay Morrison, Robert Norwood Terrell, Jr. & Michelle Marie Terrell, and Robert C. Morrison & Georgia Morrison, petitioning the Commission for a Final Plat with road construction, to subdivide 40 acres, MOL in to three (3) parcels containing 10 ac. MOL. Parcel is located in Section 13, Township 11S, Range 17E in Levy County, Florida, near the Alachua County line. Said parcel has a land use and zoning of ARR/Agricultural Rural Residential (10 ac. minimum). Parcel Number(s): 0314702800.

Atty. Shalley asked if any of the Commissioners had any ex-parte communication regarding this item. Comm. John Meeks reported ex-parte communication regarding this item.

Comm. Mills asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak regarding this item. There was none.

Comm. Rock Meeks made a motion to approve Petition No. FP 23-06 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Hodge and the MOTION CARRIES.

- D. Seeking approval to facilitate a joint meeting between the Levy County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners as this would be beneficial to further discuss recent Ordinance changes, Agritourism, Farmland Preservation, and Comprehensive Plan related items.

The Commissioners agreed to work with the Planning Commission to plan a meeting date later in the year on a Monday evening. Ms. Hectus stated she would communicate this information to the Planning Commission and report back to the Board with a date.

## RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sue Beaudette, Town of Bronson, spoke of the next scheduled Waccasassa Water & Wastewater Cooperative Board meeting coming up on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> in Cedar Key. A Job Fair will take place on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the First Baptist Church in Bronson beginning at 10:00 A.M. The next Bread of the Mighty Food Drive is scheduled for Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9:30 A.M. at the park in Bronson.

## COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

**Comm. Brooks** spoke of the Williston Boys Basketball Team's recent win of the State Title, thanking all who supported them.

**Comm. John Meeks** spoke of preliminary plans for funding in the amount of \$10.9 million by the State for renovation of the EOC building and for a new 911 Center. Comm. John Meeks expressed an interest in partnering with the ReBuild Program presented recently by Mr. Bohanan to assist those in the County needing assistance. He asked if one of the Commissioners would be willing to speak with Marlon Gayle to work with this program. Comm. Rock Meeks volunteered to speak with Mr. Gayle.

**Comm. Mills** thanked Governor DeSantis for presented \$2.5 million to Cedar Key for various projects including funds for the clam farmers. She also spoke of her desire to have the Annex property cleaned up, which would include cleaning out the building and disposing of the existing tables/booths. This building was formerly used as the school cafeteria.

Comm. John Meeks agreed with disposing of un-usable items and stated he would be in favor of giving the Maintenance Department permission to do this without asking, so long as the items are not listed as a county asset.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:18 A.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEVY COUNTY, FL

---

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

---

Chairman, Desiree Mills