### **Regular Meeting** Dixie County School Board Meeting Room February 18, 2021 – 6:00 PM

While adhering to the CDC Guidelines and following State of Florida Executive Orders: 20-51 Establishing Response Protocol, 20-52 declaring a Public Health Emergency, 20-69 regarding Local Government Public Meetings and the Dixie County Emergency Declaration 2020-27. The Board will meet and limit access by staff and the public to the meeting room. The public can hear and participate in the meeting via conference call by dialing

1(917)900-1022 and enter code 32628.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Jody Stephenson Mark Hatch, Chairman W. C. Mills James Valentine Jamie Storey, Vice Chairman

### **STAFF**

Duane Cannon, County Manager Michael Osteen, County Attorney Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court Jacki Johnson, Chief Financial Officer Della Rhymes, Asst. Chief Deputy Clerk

### CALL TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Commissioner Hatch.

### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

The Invocation was led by Commissioner Storey and the Pledge to the American Flag was led by Commissioner Mills.

### APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Mills made the motion to approve Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 21, 2021. Commissioner Valentine seconded. Board approved.

*Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve* Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 19, 2020. *Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.* 

*Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the* Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 03, 2020 with modification. *Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.* 

## *Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve* Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 17, 2020. *Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.*

County Attorney Michael Osteen said the outstanding meetings to be reviewed and approved for 2020 are one more meeting in Jun;, all the meetings in July; all the meetings in August; all the meetings in September; all the meetings in October and one more meeting in November.

Commissioner Hatch directed Human Resource Supervisor Ms. Melissa Long to email the remaining minutes as soon as possible.

### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Commissioner Mills made the motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

The motion to go into public hearings was made by Commissioner Storey. Commissioner Valentine seconded. Board approved.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY BE CONTINUED TO ONE OR MORE FUTURE DATES. ANY INTERESTED PARTY IS ADVISED THAT THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF ANY CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING AND THAT NO FURTHER NOTICE CONCERNING THE MATTERS WILL BE PUBLISHED.

A petition by *John and Heidi Frasca* requesting a *Special Exception* to be granted, as provided in Section 4.4.5 subparagraph (9) of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Agricultural (A-4) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated October 24, 2020 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 02-09-13-3948-0000-0260 (44 N. E. 626 Avenue, Old Town; Heritage Oaks S/D; Lot 26; 2.50 acres). (Commission District 1)

Ms. Tammi Clyatt appeared before the Board and reminded the Board that the Special Exception request made by John and Heidi Frasca had been tabled at the last meeting. *Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Special Exception requested by John and Heidi Frasca. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.* 

A petition by *Donald L. and Sharon K. Force* requesting a Special Exception to be granted, as provided in Section 4.4.5 subparagraph (9) of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Agricultural (A-4) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated January 27, 2021 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 32-09-13-4489-0000-0790 (251 N. E. 316 Avenue, Old Town; Indian Trails S/D; Lot 79; 3.0 acres). (Commission District 4)

Ms. Tammi Clyatt appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Donald L. and Sharon K. Force.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the Special Exception requested by Donald L. and Sharon K. Force. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

A petition by *Scott and Sybil Smith* to request a variance for a 20'x 60' pole barn to be used as an RV cover as provided by the petition dated January 22, 2021, which is located within a Residential, (Mixed) Single Family/Mobile Home (RSF/MH-2) zoning district to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2942-0000-0170 (95 S. E. 234 Street, Old Town; Garden Island Replat; Lot 17; .204 acres). (Commission District 3)

Ms. Tammi Clyatt appeared before the Board and read the Variance request made by Scott and Sybil Smith.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the Variance requested by Scott and Sybil Smith. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

### RESOLUTION 2021-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.4.5 SUBPARAGRAPH (9) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECEREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN AGRICULTURAL (A-4) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 24, 2020. John and Heidi Frasca

Ms. Tammi Clyatt read Resolution 2021-10 in support of John and Heidi Frasca to the Board by title only.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Resolution 2021-10. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

### RESOLUTION 2021-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.4.5 SUBPARAGRAPH (9) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECEREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN AGRICULTURAL (A-4) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 27, 2021. *Donald and Sharon Force*  Ms. Tammi Clyatt read Resolution 2021-19 in support of Donald L. and Sharon K. Force to the Board by title only.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the Resolution 2021-19. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

### **RESOLUTION 2021-20**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.3.1 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A 20' X 60' POLE BARN TO BE USED AS AN RV COVER, WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN A RESIDENTIAL, (MIXED) SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME (RSF/MH-2) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 22, 2021. Scott and Sybil Smith

Ms. Tammi Clyatt read Resolution 2021-20 in support of Scott and Sybil Smith to the Board by title only.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the Resolution 2021-20. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to go out of the Public Hearings. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

### MICHELLE CANNON, TAX COLLECTOR

Dixie County Tax Collector, Ms. Michelle Cannon appeared before the Board and requested they approve the budgeted salary for her office.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the budgeted salary request for the Tax collector. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

County Attorney Michael Osteen asked if the tax Collector can help with tax-payer stickers for the Dumping Garbage and Parks and Recreation stickers for Boat Ramps.

Tax Collector Michelle Cannon said they will need to discuss this at a workshop.

Commissioner Mills made the motion to schedule a workshop with the Tax Collector regarding Boat and Dump stickers to be held on March 04, 2021 at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

### KEVIN LAMAR, ANDERSON COLUMBIA

Jena Hwy 358 Bridge

Mr. Kevin Lamar appeared before the Board to discuss some options for building and rebuilding bridges. He presented them with some material for them to review. Mr. Lamar said the Jena Bridge was built in 1955 therefore it is 66 years old. He said the biggest concern is the safety of the bridge. He said this is a slab deck construction bridge with only a guard rail and the wooden piling show signs of decay. He said the two-lane bridge measures 20 feet from inside curb to inside curb. He said it is narrow and there is not room for pedestrian traffic. He said the truck limits are 22 tons for a single unit truck; 26 tons for a

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 4 of 12

combination truck and 33 tons for a semi tandem. He said the Boat, RV and larger delivery truck traffic is increasing to Jena.

He said this bridge is not on the replacement plan with the state and asked if the county had plans to repair or replace the bridge.

He said that Anderson Columbia can get the permits and build and replace the bridge with a new design that poses less risk to the county financially within 12 months at a cost of 1.5 million dollars. He said this new method is a cheaper and faster way to build bridges for rural counties. He said the new bridge can be built beside the old bridge while the traffic continues to flow over the old roadway. After construction the road would be realigned with the new bridge and the old bridge dismantled. He also discussed the possibility of widening a box culvert on Hwy 358 in Jena.

Commissioner Valentine inquired about funding for the bridge. Mr. Lamar replied they understand that rural counties don't have a lot of money.

Commissioner Stephenson asked how many other companies are doing this type of design build for bridges.

Mr. Lamar replied that any company can do bridge replacement and do this same design build.

# Commissioner Storey made the motion to schedule a workshop for March 04, 2021 at 1:30 PM with Anderson Columbia and get more information on this type of bridge and possibly discuss road design too. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Lamar requested the Board give him specifics to address and they can look at the issue and give a rough estimate.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the Shired Island Bridge.

County Manager Duane Cannon said this is on the five-year plan.

Mr. Lamar said they can look at that bridge and another bridge to the north.

Commissioner Mills inquired about the cost of building a temporary bridge and then re-build the bridge in the same place.

### KEITH SEGAR, SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER

Mr. Keith Segar had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

### **GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Mr. Greg Bailey was not present for this meeting.

### JERED LIZOTTE, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. Jered Lizotte was not present for this meeting.

### **CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

Ms. Cindy Bellot was not present for this meeting.

### STEVE FREMEN, VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Steve Fremen appeared before the Board and gave them some material to review and to discuss regarding the James Paul Crown Jr. property. He said this property is in Suwannee. He said the fines are up to \$4,000.00 as of today and the assessed value for 2020 is \$26,600.00. He said they need a plan for how high the fines should increase and when to pursue the collecting of fines.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 5 of 12

Commissioner Hatch suggested \$5,000.00 be the limit for the fines.

County Attorney Michael Osteen said the Board had moved to let the fines go up to the assessed tax value.

Commissioner Hatch asked all the Board members if they agree with that figure.

Commissioner Mills said they should not let it go up to the property value.

Commissioner Storey suggested they use \$5,000.00 as a limit.

Commissioner Mills made the motion for the fines to go up to \$5,000.00 before taking further action against the property. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Fremen requested the Board decide how long to allow the fines to continue after they place a lein on the property and how long the lein will last and when to begin the foreclosure process.

### STEVE HUTCHISON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Steve Hutchison appeared before the Board and said the palm trees will be trimmed at the Courthouse and the debris will be picked up Monday. He said the man bid and will trim 12 trees for \$300.00.

Mr. Hutchison said they are getting the survey on the 5 acre property on Chavous and they are looking for rock on the property and it is not in a flood zone.

Mr. Hutchison said he has the inmate crew today. He said the Board had a Workshop on culverts. He asked if they want him to take out the plug at Anderson fence and clean out the culvert and also the mainline culvert.

Commissioner Hatch discussed some phone calls from Suwannee regarding the banning of golf carts on the Suwannee Mainline Road. He said a lot of residents enjoy having access to that road for various reasons.

Mr. Hutchison clarified the county maintains the road they do not make the rules for it.

### Commissioner Storey made the motion to schedule a workshop with FWC about the Suwannee Mainline Road to be held on March 04, 2021 at 2:30 PM. Commissioner Stephenson seconded.

Commissioner Mills inquired about their main concern and if it was the side by side traffic and ATV going off road.

Mr. Hutchison said they have the same problems the county does.

Commissioner Hatch said the road was going to be closed in prior years but, was left open and the county would maintain it as an evacuation route.

### DWAYNE CHAUNCEY, MOSQUITO CONTROL DIRECTOR

Mr. Dwayne Chauncey had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

### MICHAEL LATSON, SOLID WASTE

Mr. Michael Latson had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

### LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING

Mr. Leon Wright had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 6 of 12

### DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Director Darian Brown was not present for this meeting due to responding to a fire at the Vocational School.

County manager Duane Cannon requested the Board's approval of Resolution #2021-18 in support of the State for Emergency extension for COVID 19.

## Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve Resolution #2021-18. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

### GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE

Ms. Gail Carter had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

### HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Ms. Holly Houghton spoke to the Board via telephone. She said the Fair Association will meet Tuesday, February 23 to finalize the plans for the Livestock Fair to start. She said that February 27 will be the dog show. She said they will discuss the CDC protocol for social distancing and follow the same rules as last year.

### MELISSA LONG, HUMAN RESOURCE SUPERVISOR

Human Resource Supervisor Melissa Long had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

### **DUANE CANNON, COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Duane Cannon appeared before the Board to request their approval of the execution of the SCRAP project for 362 Ave and NE 364 Ave from NE 594 Street to SR 349 in the amount of \$1,600,000.00.

Commissioner Mills made the motion to execute SCRAP project for 362 Ave and NE 364 Ave from NE 594 Street to SR 349 in the amount of \$1,600,000.00. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board approve Resolution 2021-21 in support of the SCRAP project for 362 Ave and NE 364 Ave.

Commissioner mills made the motion to approve Resolution 2021-21. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the execution of the SCRAP project for CR 340 from CR 349 to the Suwannee River Bridge in the amount of \$2,300,000.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to execute SCRAP project for 340 from CR 349 to the Suwannee River Bridge in the amount of \$2,300,000.00. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board approve Resolution 2021-22 in support of the SCRAP project for CR 340 from CR 349.

Commissioner mills made the motion to approve Resolution 2021-22. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 7 of 12

Manager Cannon informed the Board that he received an email from Mr. Adam Evans of the Steinhatchee Legion requesting permission for a round trip ATV Benefit Ride from Steinhatchee to Shirred Island using the Bowlegs Mainline and the Willy Locke Road on Sunday, February 21, 2021.

County Attorney Michael Osteen cautioned the Board as to the liability of approving this request. Commissioner Stephenson made a motion to deny based upon the attorney recommendation. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board denied.

Manager Cannon informed the Board of and Airport advisory meeting this week. He requested they allow Steve McMillan Surveyor to perform a survey on several pieces of property at the airport for some potential leases.

He said that Mr. Bill Palmer of Red Roof Aviation has some clients who store their planes inside his hanger who may want to lease property. He said some other people, like Mr. Mike Cassidy, may want their own lease with the county. He said that Mr. Bill Palmer has a lot of property and the county could cut out some property and lease to others.

County Attorney Michael Osteen said that Mr. Palmer has a long-term lease with the county at a very cheap rate.

Commissioner Hatch said any new leases will be at fair market value.

Manager Cannon said that Mr. Palmer is okay with this idea because it would benefit the county. Commissioner Storey made the motion to get a survey of the property at the airport for potential leases. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to close Hinton Landing Park for the Old Town United Methodist Church Sunrise Service on April 04, 2021 from 6:00 until 8:00 AM.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to close Hinton Landing on April 04, 2021 from 6:00 until 8:00 AM. Commissioner Mills seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon informed the Board of a request from Anderson Columbia to do a Reef Project off the coast of Dixie County. He said they want to partner with the County to get permits from the ARMY Corps and DEP and Anderson will do the design and deployment of the reef. He said they have some culverts at roll off site in Horseshoe that can be used for this.

He requested the Board's approval to move forward with negotiations. He recommends doing a contract with the specifics listed and said that Anderson Columbia have said they will assume the responsibility and cost.

Commissioner Hatch said they will want to name that reef as part of the agreement.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve moving forward with negotiations and a contract for the reef project with Anderson Columbia. Commissioner Valentine seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the quote from WW Gay for \$29,352.00 to replace the Chiller at the Dixie County Jail.

Commissioner Mills made the motion to approve the replacement of the Chiller at the Jail. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of a Letter of Support Dixie County Criminal Justice Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Planning Grant.

Commissioner Mills made the motion to approve the Letter of Support. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 8 of 12

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to allow the Emergency Services employee, Ms. Lisa Sumrall, to help look over the Inmate Medical as discussed at the workshop today.

Commissioner Mills made the motion to allow the Emergency Services employee, Ms. Lisa Sumrall, to help look over the Inmate Medical. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Fixed Assets to be moved from the Clerk's office and handled by the Board's office under the Human Resource Department by Ms. Melissa Long as discussed in the workshop today.

Commissioner Mills made the motion for Fixed Assets to be handled in the Board's office by Ms. Melissa Long. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon informed the Board that the Cross City Expo Committee is proceeding with the Expo on April 24, 2021.

Commissioner Hatch asked for clarification on the Rent-A-Bed with the Sheriff office by the next meeting.

County Attorney Michael Osteen informed the Board that there are some Resolutions that were passed by the Board in 2020 that need to be signed "nunprotunkt" by then active Commission Chairman Mills and by then active Interim Clerk Ms. Melissa Long.

Manager Cannon said there are some items that need Commissioner Hatch's signature as well.

Manager Cannon read aloud the list as follows:

- 1. Resolution for the LAP project for the Bike Path.
- 2. Resolution for the CR 55A Construction Contract.
- 3. Resolution for the Meridian Behavioral Healthcare Contract.
- 4. Resolution for the Passero and Associates Task Order for the Rehab at the Cross City Airport.
- 5. Resolution for the SHIP program amending 2020-2023 LHAP.

# Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to have Commissioner Mills and Ms. Melissa Long sign the Resolutions that were passed by the Board in 2020 "nunprotunkt." Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon asked them if they could come to his office to take care of this list tomorrow at 11:00 AM.

Commissioner Mills said he could.

Commissioner Hatch said he could come after 4:00 PM. He asked what time is good for Ms. Long.

Ms. Long replied that she would be able to meet as well.

County Attorney Michael Osteen informed the Board that they had sent a letter to vacate to Mr. Don Quincey III on his hanger lease. He said that Mr. Quincey III has been late with his payments. He said they had previously met with him and he signed a new lease and is now three months behind. He recommends that the Board terminate this lease.

### MICHAEL OSTEEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Michael Osteen had nothing to discuss with the Board at this time.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 9 of 12

### **BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT**

Clerk Barbie Higginbotham appeared before the Board to inform them that she has checked with CRI about being consultants for the Finance office. She said they can come in April and have the books ready to Audit. Mr. Richard Powell had originally said it would be September or October before he could start the Audit. She said that CRI has spoken with him and he will be able to finish by June 30. She said she did call Purvis and Gray and they would not give a quote and would not be able to meet until May. She said they would like to move forward with CRI.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the quote from CRI.

Clerk Higginbotham said she had a proposed contract from them for \$75,000.00. She said it may be less because the Clerk staff will be helping them with the work.

Commissioner Hatch said this work must be done.

Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve CRI to be consultants and help get the books ready for Audit. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Clerk Higginbotham said Ms. Jacki Johnson has asked about keeping the FY 2020 and FY 2021 vouchers in the Clerk's office for easy access.

Commissioner Hatch said they have always been kept in the Board's office.

Commissioner Mills said he wants them to have access to whatever they need in order to fix everything. Commissioner Mills made the motion for the FY 2020 and FY 2021 vouchers to be kept in the Clerk's office. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the Board having access to the vouchers if needed. Clerk Higginbotham said whatever you need let her know.

Clerk Higginbotham thanked the Board for all their help and support.

She said that the Munis support staff said Dixie County is three updates behind on the system. She said the are reaching out to get the updates installed to improve the functioning of the system.

She informed the Board that the Sales Tax and Re Employment Taxes were behind but, are now caught up and \$800.00 in late fees had to be paid.

She informed the Board that her staff has been cleaning up and re organizing. She said there were mounds of boxes and paperwork in the Criminal/Traffic office that came from the Finance Vault and were already marked to be destroyed. She said her staff has relocated this to an empty office and they are going through the boxes for verification of contents and that it has met the retention schedule for destruction. She inquired how the Board wanted to handle the destruction of old records.

Commissioner Hatch said it has always come before the Board for approval. He said the last time records were approved for destruction was in 2017 and for her to refer to the Retention Book for confirmation. Commissioner Valentine and Commissioner Mills agreed that the Board should approve record destruction.

### **COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS**

Commissioner Valentine had nothing further to discuss.

Commissioner Storey had nothing further to discuss.

Commissioner Hatch had nothing further to discuss.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 10 of 12

Commissioner Mills had nothing further to discuss.

Commissioner Stephenson had nothing further to discuss.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Edmond Becker spoke to the Board as a 24-year resident and taxpayer. He said that he heard tonight that Dixie County is a small county with limited funds. He said there is money being spent here and there. He said the bridge in Jena is a funnel and is unsafe. He said then you locate money for 340 that is already paved to be widened. He said he thinks there are better places to spend the money. He said half of the roads in Cross City flood with the rainfall. He said the county has a problem with flooding. He said that in front of Mr. Joe Anderson's home on Hwy 19 the FDOT has equipment working on the ditch. He said the operator of the equipment is doing a good job fixing this ditch for drainage. He also asked if these projects that are being done around the county are being subjected to competitive bidding. He said he is concerned about the airport fly in traffic increasing. He said the globes on the power lines are too close to each other and need to be spaced out properly according to law.

Commissioner Stephenson said that some of the road and bridge projects have been in the works for several years and are funded by grant money.

Manager Cannon said the projects that were discussed tonight are on a five-year plan. He said the applications were submitted to FDOT five years ago and approved. Then the money is allotted based on the engineers cost estimate for the project.

Mr. Becker said he is also concerned about the job performance of the contractors and the time it takes to complete a job. He said the paving from Old Town to Cross City is still not completed. He said it took 6 months to pave 10 miles of road.

Commissioner Mills said that the projects are subject to competitive bidding and performance bonds which are mandated by the state.

Ms. Carolyn Walker asked when her road, NE 95 street, will be paved. She said nothing has happened yet.

Commissioner Storey said they are working on this. He said he has been bringing this up every meeting to the engineer, Mr. Greg Bailey. He said he is helping with getting the funds to do the road but, can't do anything until October.

Ms. Carolyn Walker said she doesn't understand the delay.

Commissioner Storey said the NE 95 Street had gotten dropped by the Board to address the widening of 351. He said that Mr. Greg Bailey will have an answer in October 2021.

#### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to adjourn at 7:16 PM. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

#### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

Mark Hatch, Chairman

Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk-Auditor

<u>PLEASE BE ADVISED</u> that if a person decided to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearings, he/ she will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he/ she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

"Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (352) 486-4931 (Voice & TDD) or via Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771."

The Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM and the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Individuals that would like to be placed on the agenda should call Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court, by 4:00 PM on the Friday Preceding the Board meeting, at (352) 498-1200.

Regular Meeting-APPROVED – February 18, 2021–6:00 PM – Page 12 of 12