**regular Meeting**

***Dixie County Courthouse***

***Commission Meeting Room***

***April 4, 2019 – 10:00 AM***

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

W. C. Mills, Chairman

David Osteen, Vice-Chairman

Gene Higginbotham

Mark Hatch

Jamie Storey

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Alexander, County Manager

Michael Osteen, County Attorney

Dana D. Johnson, Clerk of Court

Della J. Petty, Deputy Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Board meeting was Called to Order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Mills.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:**

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

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES:**

The motion to approve the Commission Minutes from the Regular Meeting of

March 21, 2019 was made by Commissioner Osteen and seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

The motion to approve the Minutes from the Workshop of the Airport Master Plan

held on March 21, 2019 was made by Commissioner Osteen and seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

The motion to approve the Vouchers was made by Commissioner Osteen and seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

The motion to go into the Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

***PUBLIC HEARING: 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.***

**ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-03**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RESTRICTING THE SALE OF TOBACCO WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF ALL DIXIE COUNTY SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; ENFORCEMENT; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. ***(First Reading) (No Vote needed at this time.)***

The motion to go back into the Commission Agenda Items was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. The Board approved.

**SCOTT KOONS, N. CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL:**

Mr. Scott Koons appeared before the Board to inform them the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (NCFRPC) is celebrating 50 years of service. He stated they started providing services for Alachua County in 1969 and Dixie County became a member in February of 1981. He stated their mission is to enhance public safety, protect regional resources, promote economic development and provide technical services to local governments. He stated there are 10 Councils across the State of Florida and stated our region consists of 12 counties, 40 municipalities and 13 member cities. He stated our region covers 8,000 square miles and serves a population of 560,000. Mr. Koons stated the Councils are made up of 2/3 Local Elected Officials and 1/3 Gubernatorial Appointees and noted Commissioner Gene Higginbotham is the Elected Official Representative and Mrs. Lorene Thomas is the Gubernatorial Appointee for Dixie County. He commented hroughout their 50 years they have provided assistance with Local and Regional Comprehensive Planning, Block Grant Applications, Hurricane Shelter Studies, Coastal Hazard Mitigation, Solid Waste Management Plans, Hazardous Waste Monitoring Programs, Job Training, Emergency Planning, Disadvantaged Transportation Programs, Tourism Task Force, Water Distribution Recommendations, Pipeline Safety Training, and Interstate 75 beautification. Mr. Koons read Proclamation 2019-19 by title only and requested the Board approve it recognizing the NCFRPC for 50 years of service. The motion to approve Proclamation 2019-19 was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

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

Mr. Greg Bailey appeared before the Board to give an update on the paving projects around the County. He stated the Kate Green Road has been paved and Anderson Columbia Company, Inc. (AC) is working on smoothing the transition between the driveways and working on the shoulders of US Highway 19. He stated they are working on the drainage issues and the driveways on the Old Town Upholstery Road.

Commissioner Hatch inquired about getting rumble strips for the red light at the new High School and Mr. Bailey replied he has expressed the concerns of the Board to FDOT and they should finish their report next week. Commissioner Storey inquired about re stripping for Chavous Road and Mr. Bailey replied project had been submitted as a Highway Safety Project and he will check on the status of it. Assistant County Manager Duane Cannon added the restriping project is on the 2024/25 year plan. Commissioner Hatch asked if this could be done while AC is already working in the area and Commissioner Storey agreed that is a good idea. Mr. Bailey said he will check on the possibility.

Mrs. Margaret Corbin appeared before the Board and asked if there are any plans to work on Highway 358 to Jena. Mr. Bailey replied it is not currently on the list of paving projects and Mrs. Corbin stated it needs lines painted on it and needs to be widened. She said there is a lot of traffic and it is difficult to see at night as well as pass oncoming traffic. She asked if it could be added to the list and County Manager Tim Alexander stated he will also look into it. Commissioner Mills asked if AC will be smoothing all the transition areas when they put down the last layer of asphalt and Mr. Bailey replied yes.

**JERED LIZOTTE, LOCKLEAR & ASSOCIATES:**

Mr. Jered Lizotte appeared before the Board to update them on the Peril of Flood Grant requirements. He said they have held three meetings so far in Jena, Horseshoe and Suwannee and they need to hold three more for compliance. He also stated the Lower Suwannee and Cow Pond projects are progressing. Mr. Lizotte said they are still contacting land owners for permission to access their property to gather data. He stated on April 9, 2019 there will be a Suwannee River Water Management District Meeting in regards to the Old Town Hammock Spring Grant. He said that it is up for approval and once voted on they can start on this project.

**TIM ALEXANDER, COUNTY MANAGER:**

County Manager Tim Alexander informed the Board about the insurance pay off from the wrecked EMS truck. He said the insurance will pay $15,644.33 and asked if the Board would like to buy back the automobile. The motion to buy back the vehicle was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

Manager Alexander requested the Board approve Proclamation 2019-18 recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. He said the Town of Cross City will pass one as well. The motion to approve Proclamation 2019-18 was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

Manager Alexander informed the Board he met with Mayor Talmadge Bennett on the Horseshoe Dredging Project. He said they are completing the survey on the canals and getting the Hold Harmless agreements from the land owners for release of liability and then they can execute the Interlocal Agreement. Mayor Bennett stated each canal will be quit claimed to the County. He said they are ready to start the first canal and Raker Land Surveying is done with the West side and is working on the East side now. He estimated about six weeks for the survey to be completed. Mayor Bennett added he hopes to have everything completed and ready to turn over to the Board by August 1, 2019. He said the Army Corps of Engineers is currently in conflict with the dredging contractor. Manager Alexander stated we are responsible for any damages. Road Superintendent Steve Hutchinson added the contractor has asked to borrow some old culverts from the County for use to protect the pumping hoses.

**DANA D. JOHNSON, CLERK OF COURT:**

Clerk Dana Johnson appeared before the Board and informed them she will meet with the Auditors on April 8, 2019 in regards to the 2017 Audit. She said they will be completed by June 30, 2019. She informed the Board that her office is having trouble with a server and it will cost approximately $30,000.00 to fix. She stated Dixie County Ordinance 2004-04 allows the Clerk to collect an additional $15.00 for citations and misdemeanors. She said she would like to use a portion of this money to help pay for the server as well as $10,000.00 she currently has on hand. The motion to approve Clerk Johnson to use money collected from Ordinance 2004-04 to help pay for her server was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved. Clerk Johnson thanked the Board for their support.

**COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS:**

Commissioner Mark Hatch discussed the possibility of helping the Oyster Man Association this year by donating some crushed concrete and Commissioner Mills stated the County does not have any crushed concrete available and doesn't want to crush any at this time because it will damage the rock crusher. Commissioner Higginbotham suggested donating a load of rocks and Road Superintendent Hutchinson added it has to be a special type and size of rock. Manager Alexander said he will get a price.

Commissioner Jamie Storey inquired about the monthly bill for funeral flowers and Commissioner Higginbotham said we have taken care of it.

Commissioner WC Mills addressed Mrs. Margaret Corbin and said Commissioner Osteen has been working diligently for the citizens of his district over his past two years in office. He said the Board will support him in his efforts to help with projects in his district just as we help each other.

Commissioner Mills addressed Mrs. Becky Williams from the Dixie County Advocate and offered her a public apology in regards to the milling add in the newspaper. He said her did not mean any personal offense towards her and looks forward to working with her in the future. Mrs. Williams thanked Commissioner Mills. Commissioner Hatch added he would also like to apologize as well.

**ADJOURN:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. The Board approved and the meeting adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Dana D. Johnson, Clerk-Auditor