# ***Regular MeetingDixie County CourthouseCommission Meeting RoomApril 18, 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 Commission Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Mills.

**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:**

The motion to approve the Commission Minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2019 was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

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

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

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Ms. Tammi Clyatt appeared before the Board and read the Beckham Variance by title only. She said letters were sent, signs were posted and there was no opposition. The motion to approve the Beckham Variance was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Board approved.

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Ms. Clyatt read the Bonser Special Exception by title only. She added letters were mailed, signs were posted and there was no opposition. Tha motion to approve the Bonser Special Exception was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissoiner Osteen. Board approved.

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Ms. Clyatt read the Rana Special Exception by title only. She stated letters were mailed, signs were posted and there is opposition. Commissioner Osteen asked about the main complaint and he thinks it’s a reflection of fish house next door which is not the same piece of property. Ms. Alice Farrell said Ms. Nell Curtis owns the adjoining property and she feels like it is an unnecessary operation, it is too close to them and it will be a big mess near them. Ms. Curtis said they haven’t even mowed the yard. Commissioner Osteen asked if they have spoken with them and both replied no. Ms. Curtis added by the time scallop season begins they will have an awful time with people parking in their yard, people will get on her dock and she lives alone in fear. Commissioner Osteen stated it will not be for scallops and Ms. Curtis stated it will not matter and they will still use it. Mr. Jeffery Locke who owns property directly across from this one and stated they will bring in freezers and an ice house. Commissioner Osteen stated there is no fish house and the freezer will be on the dock. Ms. Farrell said it is close to his house. Building Official Leon Wright stated part of the structure is already there and it is an existing piece. Mr. Locke said the freezers will be going on and off all night long and he ask the commission how they would you like it if they owned next to it. County Attorney Michael Osteen stated you bought property in a fishing community. Ms. Curtis commented it is not a commercial lot. Commissioner Higginbotham stated it is 500 feet over. An audience member said it was purchased it in 1968 and it was never supposed to be commercial. Commissioner Osteen asked if they know the people who will run it. An audience member added there will be a dock out there and do you know anything about more construction. Commissioner Higginbotham stated there is three phase power. Ms. Curtis asked about paying a fine for sleeping or staying in it and Commissioner Osteen replied they will not sleep in it. Ms. Farrell stated they strenuously object to it and she hopes it carries weight with all of the Board. Commissioner Osteen suggested to table it until Ms. Farrell can talk to them and Ms. Farrell stated she will do that but it will not change her mind. Miss Jordan Butler appeared before the Board and said she works in Steinhatchee at the Sea Hag Marina and they make silent ice makers now. Mr. Locke stated again the people will be going and coming all night long. Commissioner Osteen said he understands the concerns and the commercial fisherman have been run out of town. Ms. Farrell said again they object. Mr. Wright stated it is just for them for to get ice for the boats. Ms. Curtis said if they have boat slips then there will be more traffic. The motion to approve the Rana Special Exception was made by Commissioner Osteen and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Board approved. County Manager Tim Alexander stated the meeting time was changed due to a major project pay off with the Department of Economic Opportunity and had nothing to do with the public hearings. Ms. Clyatt said all adjacent property owners received a notice. Ms. Farrell stated she is very disappointed.

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Ms. Clyatt read the Vance Special Exception by title only. She stated letters were mailed, signs were posted and there was no opposition. The motion to approve the Vance Special Exception was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

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Ms. Clyatt read the Zitza Variance by title only. She said letters were sent, signs were posted and there was no opposition. The motion to approve the Zitza Variance was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

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

**RESOLUTION 2019-20**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION12.3.1OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONSTO PERMIT A VARIANCE OF FIVE (5) FEET ON THE NORTH SIDE, FIVE (5) FEET ON THE SOUTH SIDE AND EIGHT (8) FEET ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE PROPERTY LINES, LOCATED WITHIN A RESIDENTIAL, (MIXED) SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME (RSF/MH-2) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED BY THE PETITION DATED MARCH 28, 2019. ***(Len Beckham)***

Ms. Clyatt read Resolution 2019-20 by title only. The motion to approve Resolution 2019-20 was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**RESOLUTION 2019-21**

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 RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN AGRICULTURAL (A-4) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED MARCH 4, 2019. ***(Thomas Bonser)***

Ms. Clyatt read Resolution 2019-21 by title only. The motion to approve Resolution 2019-21 was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**RESOLUTION 2019-22**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.7.5- IN THE COASTAL MANAGEMENT AREA ON LOTS ADJACENT TO A WATER BODY OR WATER COURSE SUBPARAGRAPH (1) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT COOLERS, FREEZERS, ICE ROOM LOADING DOCK AND DOCK SLIPS FOR BOATS IN A RSF/MH-RESIDENTIAL, (MIXED) SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME (RSF/MH-1) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED MARCH 14, 2019. ***(Naveen Rana)***

Ms. Clyatt read Resolution 2019-22 by title only. The motion to approve Resolution 2019-22 was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**RESOLUTION 2019-23**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION12.3.1OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONSTO PERMIT A VARIANCE OF FIFTEEN(15) FEET ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PROPERTY, LOCATED WITHIN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSISTIVE AREA (ESA-4) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED BY THE PETITION DATED MARCH 1, 2019. ***(Douglas Zita)***

Ms. Clyatt read Resolution 2019-23 by title only. The motion to approve Resolution 2019-23 was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

 **RESOLUTION 2019-24**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.3.5 SUBPARAGRAPH (4) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (ESA-4) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2019. ***(Everett Vance)***

Ms. Clyatt read Resolution 2019-24 by title only. The motion to approve Resolution 2019-24 was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

 **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.

***(Second Reading)***

County Attorney Michael Osteen read Ordinance 2019-03 by title only and said this is the second reading. He noted it is regarding sale of tobacco within 1,000 feet of all schools in Dixie County. The motion to approve Ordinance 2019-03 was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR:**

Ms. Cindy Bellot appeared before the Board and stated the Jena Tech Center will be hosting an arts festival on May 4, 2019. She also noted during the last week of May the Library will have an exhibit from NASA. Ms. Bellot stated the Library has 11,073 patrons at the end of last month. Commissioner Mills asked Ms. Bellot to let the ladies in Suwannee know he really wanted to be there.

**CHEYENNE HUTCHINSON, TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL:**

Mrs. Cheyenne Hutchinson reminded everyone of the Airport Fly-In and Business Expo on Saturday April 27, 2019 and invited all to come out.

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

Mr. Greg Bailey appeared before the Board and said they are well on their way with plans for Highway 351A and hopes to bid soon. He added work is being done on Old Town Upholstery and Kate Green Roads and he don’t see any impediments. Mr. Bailey said they received results on the School Zone study for the High School and the Florida Department of Transportation prepared a large document. He read the recommendation and their study found six prior accidents over the last five years and two of them happening after the signal went up. He noted all previous accidents had been during the day time and the last two were due to the driver not seeing the signal was there. Mr. Bailey stated FDOT criteria for a speed zone would require the speed limit be increased because there is not very much pedestrian volume. He said even though FDOT does not recommend reducing the speed limit they said it is okay to add flashing beacons to increase awareness approaching the signal for both directions. Mr. Bailey did say FDOT is totally against rumble strips. Manager Alexander asked when the flashing lights can be installed and Mr. Bailey said the County needs to write a letter to FDOT requesting funds to allow Anderson Columbia Company Inc install them while they are there working.

Mr. Bailey informed the Board about upcoming legislation establishing a new toll road from Tampa to Jefferson County which would go through Dixie County. Commissioner Mills inquired if the County would get a say and Mr. Bailey replied typically FDOT will study the route and hold public hearings then funding is appropriated and it is built. Commissioner Mills said the County has no say and Mr. Bailey said public hearings will be help for public input and you can write a letter. Commissioner Mills inquired about the location and Mr. Bailey replied they’re studying it now and it will be about twelve years or so before it is open.

Commissioner Hatch pointed out years ago people were able to park along Highway 19 throughout town and then FDOT decided to remove this parking to make the travel lanes wider. He said Highway 19 is not any wider than it ever was and they need to put turn lanes in the middle of Highway 19 to accommodate the semi trucks entering and leaving the Cross City Veneer Mill, WBT Trucking and the S & D Carriers. Commissioner Higginbotham added the turn lane stops near the Rick Gooding Funeral Home. Assistant County Manager Duane Cannon stated FDOT is not paving in the city limits of the Town of Cross City nor in Old Town due to unavailability of funds.

**STEVE HUTCHINSON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT:**

Road Superintendent Steve Hutchinson appeared before the Board and stated he talked to Lyme Timber regarding a rock pit. Manager Alexander added there is rock near the old vocational school but someone may buy the property. Commissioner Higginbotham said Ronnie Williams has forty acres near the old rock pit and Manager Alexander inquired if there is any to trade for it. Road Superintendent Hutchinson stated the County must be off Company Land in thirty days.

Road Superintendent Hutchinson said we have a used ambulance and would like the Board to buy a utility bed and put on the road. Manager Alexander added it is in his budget. The motion to purchase a utility bed for an old ambulance was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**JOE RUTH, SOLID WASTE & MOSQUITO CONTROL DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Joe Ruth appeared before the Board and thanked Road Superintendent Hutchinson for cleaning up help at Hudson Ball Field. He asked the Board what to do with the roll-off site Hudson and Commissioner Osteen stated a wrap on was put in the chain link fence to hide it from traffic on Highway 19. Mr. Ruth said they clean it three times a week.

Mr. Ruth recommended the Board increase the garbage special assessments by $10.00 per year for three years. He said surrounding counties have an escalator to help with the cost of living adjustment. Commissioner Higginbotham added if we do this then in 2022 the Board will be where it should have been. Mr. Ruth said he would like to add mosquito control and Commissioner Higginbotham suggested increase the fire assessment as well. Manager Alexander stated it will be $190.00 next year, $200.00 the next year and $210.00 by the year after to get caught up. Commissioner Hatch said he agrees and would like to support our fire department. The motion to approve a ten dollar increase to the special assessments for the next three years was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved. Manager Alexander stated he will bring a plan of action back to the next meeting. Commissioner Higginbotham added it will be seventy-five percent for garbage, twenty-two percent for fire and three percent for mosquitoes.

Commissioner Hatch inquired about the need for 20 yard dumpsters. Mr. Ruth said he knows of 17 people who would like to rent one at $200.00 each and that would help replenish the Solid Waste funds. He said he has a quote for 20 yard dumpsters from Waste Quip in Lakeland, Florida for $6,895.00 per dumpster. He said they had purchased some small dumpsters from them and they last for about 12 years. Mr. Ruth said the new quote is at $4,019.00 for 8 dumpsters. Commissioner Mills asked him to also get a quote and time frame to build from Gray Welding on making some small ones and Mr. Ruth said they are slow to build. Manager Alexander said seventy-five percent of the Solid Waste equipment budget went to dumpster purchases. Manager Alexander said they need to pick up ten dumpsters now for nonpayment.

**LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING:**

Mr. Leon Wright appeared before the Board and said they issued 55 permits and collected $8,000 this past month. He noted in February they had a permitting audit and done a great job with a score of four out of four and he said the lower the number the better. Mr. Wright stated this is his one year mark and he has enjoyed working with the County and has tried to help people. He said a number of the Board got phone call and they tried to help this person but he explained if not their property then we couldn’t help. He also said he and his department spent a lot of time he did all he could to help the lady. Mr. Wright stated there are three new cell phone towers going in: one in the north end of the County has foundation in place, second one north of Chavous found a small sink hole and they’re moving to a new location on the same site and the third one has not yet been started yet. He noted they issued two stop work orders in the last month.

Mr. Wright stated he wanted to clear up a misunderstanding about the Construction License Board Members. He said Mr. Bobby Lindsey is the Chairman and there are five members appointed and he is the sixth member with no voting or approval power. He said Taylor and Alachua Counties have updated their procedures and you now need to take a test to renew your license. He said he is looking into a school to help.

Manager Alexander informed the Board Mr. Wright is the Official Building Code Administrator and is licensed and his raise will take effect next pay period. Commissioner Mills expressed his thanks to Mr. Wright for doing a good job and helping Dixie County get in compliance. He said he has received a lot of positive feedback. Mr. Wright said he has worked in other counties and pulled permits as a contractor and wants this process to be easier for everyone. Commissioner Higginbotham commented Mr. Wright is a patient man and Mr. Wright said the Board has been very supportive of him and he appreciates it. Commissioner Hatch said he appreciates the training and knowledge that Mr. Wright has brought to the job.

Commissioner Mills asked Mr. Steve Fremen about the Code Enforcement Training that he has been receiving. Mr. Fremen replied he has been going to school and the training is very hard. He said he has been learning State and County Law. He said the County must have ordinances in place before they can tell someone to clean up their property. Commissioner Hatch and Commissioner Mills agreed they need to work on these and get some ordinances established. Mr. Fremen suggested looking over what some other counties have in place for ordinances and use as a reference or guideline. He said MuniCode has stipulations for issuing tickets and fines however, the Building Department has never been strict about this before. He commented the school teaches what you cannot do.

**DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES:**

Emergency Services Director Darian Brown appeared before the Board and went over monthly report. He thanked the Board for the assessment situation and stated they have struggled for a long time. He stated there were 323 calls and 8 flights out and noted collections are finally catching up. He said he was concerned last year about the collections being down but they are getting better. EMS Director Brown said he got the insurance payment of about $1,300.00 or so and would like to replace the truck. He said he has money in the budget and they have funding now available. The motion to replace the wrecked truck was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

EMS Director Brown noted Chief Scott Pendarvis has been promoted from Captain to Chief. He said Chief Pendarvis took it upon himself and wrote a grant for $16,000.00 which has been rewarded for software and five computers. EMS Director Brown congratulated him. He also recognized Chief Scott Garner for helping with a wreck on US Highway 19 in Levy County on his day off work.

Chief Garner appeared before the Board and stated hurricane season is coming and it will be here shortly. He said they will go to coastal communities in May and June to get information to them. He said today there is cold front with severe weather heading in our direction and if stays on its current path is then it won’t be too bad for us but if it slows down then the weather will be bad. He said we can expect winds up to 80 mph and possible hail with four feet of flood inundation in our coastal towns. Chief Garner said he will do training for all the coastal towns with a system similar to the reverse 911 system to help get the word out in case of severe weather.

**TIM ALEXANDER, COUNTY MANAGER:**

County Manager Tim Alexander appeared before the Board and stated the Annual Airboat Adventure will be held at Shired Island and he recommended closing the County Park for May 3-4, 2019. The motion to close the Shired Island Park for May 3-4, 2019 was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Board approved. Manager Alexander noted they will submit insurance proof.

Manager Alexander presented the Foster and Foster Actuarial for GASB. The motion to approve the updated contract was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

Manager Alexander presented a pass through grant for the Sheriff. He said it’s a JAG grant for $2,765.00. The motion to approve the JAG grant was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

 Manager Alexander thanked the Board for changing the time of the Board meeting in order to accommodate DEO and the state revolving loan fund for Cross City Lumber. He said Clerk Johnson received a check in the amount of $1,500,000.00 to pay off the debt owed to the County. He added once the check clears our bank then he will need action for the Chairman and Clerk to sign the check. The motion to approve the payment to the state revolving loan fund for DEO was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved. Manager Alexander commended the Board for stepping out on a limb and what a success story we have in place. He also noted there are 92 families being supported with the Board’s help.

Manager Alexander recommended approval of the request for proposal for the new auditing firm. The motion to advertise for a new auditing firm was made by Commissioner Hatch and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Board approved.

Manager Alexander informed the Board the River Shores of Jena Property was not plated under PRD. He said the original developers did not go through the proper channels and half of the property is zoned commercial and the other half of the property is zoned residential. He said the NCFRPC recommends the Board to apply for the zoning change because the home owners association of the subdivision cannot apply for the change. County Attorney Michael Osteen stated the Board will amend section 16.1 of the LDR to take care of this matter. He said that all the property owners cannot be reached for approval of the zoning change. Commissioner Higginbotham and Commissioner Osteen inquired about the original plans for the subdivision development. Mr. Clay Spivey replied it was developed for stick built or modular homes. Manager Alexander added he thinks they were allowed 12 or 8 buildings per acre, but he will verify this. Commissioner Mills stated the Board is not approving an RV Park. Attorney Osteen said the application can be started on behalf of the Board and it will be advertised like normal.

The motion to allow the Board to apply for the zoning change to residential for River Shores at Jena was made by Commissioner Osteen and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Board approved. Commissioner Mills clarified for the public that the Board was in opposition of creating a RV Park there.

Manager Alexander noted the Cross City Flood Management RIVERS grant application was submitted to Suwannee River Water Management District in the amount of $446,655.00 and Commissioner Higginbotham attended the meeting. He also said the Yellow Jacket Fish Camp is being advertised and packets are available in the Board office. He noted the Board will spend $25,000.00 from the TDC funds.

Manager Alexander said the Cross City Airport inspection on April 29, 2019 at 2:00 PM. He reminded the Board to be looking for a rock pit location. He stated the payment in lieu of taxes has been received from the Water Management District. Manager Alexander said Clerk Johnson got a call from FDOT about our funds being cut.

**MICHAEL OSTEEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

County Attorney Michael Osteen appeared before the Board and said the Extreme Broadband has a public records request because they appealed Judge Johnson’s ruling and the appellant court kicked it back. He noted they have changed lawyers for the fifth time and there are asking for emails from Manager Alexander and himself. He said it will cost about $20,000.00 to sift through all the irrelevant information to pull the one relating to Central Florida Electric. He said they are suing over a public records request that they feel was a violation of the public records law. County Attorney Osteen said Clerk Johnson explained to them in a letter filing the request would be too costly and time consuming. Clerk Johnson requested the Board approve the hire of Attorney Mike Roper of Orlando, FL to represent the Board and handle the case. The motion to hire Mike Roper was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

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

Clerk Dana Johnson appeared before the Board and presented a satisfaction of UCC regarding the Cross City Lumber loan. The motion to approve the satisfaction of the Cross City Lumber UCC was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

Clerk Johnson appeared before the Board to inform them of a Tax Deed Auction. She said the winning bidder has signed a Quit Claim Deed to the Board. She said the Board will need to sign a Quit Claim Deed back to the Assessed Property Owner. She said a new Sale date will be set for the property. The motion to void of the Tax Deed Sale and to execute the necessary documents needed was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

**COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS:**

The Commissioners each wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Attorney Osteen announced if anyone hears that he, Manager Alexander and Commissioner Higginbotham are looking at a local property near the Jena Boat Ramp. He said they are researching the possibility of a parking area which would benefit the County. Commissioner Higginbotham stated Mr. Mitch Mitchell wants to sell the property and the Board agreed to obtain the property if possible.

Commissioner Mills thanked Manager Alexander for working on all the extra things and all of our people for stepping up like EMS Director Brown, Chief Garner and Chief Pendarvis. Manager Alexander commented you are only as good as the staff around you.

Commissioner Mills stated for everyone the Board is working on updated the rules and regulation governing trashy looking properties. He said they were fortunate on making progress with the owner of the property near the Suwannee River Bridge. He said all the members of the Board want Dixie County to look nice. He also stated another issue for Dixie County is being able to make a living within the county. He said there must be progress and growth of business in order to improve the quality of life for the residents and their children and grand children. He said the county must update and thrive with the changing times. He said the goal of the Board members is to approve development based on the benefit to the whole community and county.

**ADJOURN:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Higginbotham and seconded by Commissioner Osteen. The Board approved and the meeting adjourned at 11:43 A.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

 DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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

 W.C. Mills, Chairman

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Dana D. Johnson, Clerk-Auditor