

Regular Meeting
Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
September 05, 2024 – 6:00 PM

The Board meetings are audio recorded. 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, District 1, Vice Chairman
Daniel Wood, District 2
Mark Hatch, District 3
Jamie Storey, District 4, Chairman
David Osteen, District 5

STAFF

Paul Gainey, County Manager
Martha McCaskill, Administrative Asst/Grant Coordinator
Chana Watson, County Attorney
Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court
Verna Wilson, Chief Deputy Clerk
Brenda Royal, Chief Financial Officer
Joannie Morse, Deputy Clerk
Victoria Darkow, Deputy Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Jamie Storey.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

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

3. APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

07-30-2024 Town of Horseshoe Beach and BOCC Workshop

Motion to approve the Town of Horseshoe Beach and BOCC Workshop on 07-30-2024 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

08-01-2024 Funds Allocation Workshop

Motion to approve the Funds Allocation Workshop on 08-01-2024 made by Commissioner Stephenson. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

08-04-2024 Emergency Meeting for Hurricane Debby

Motion to approve the Emergency Meeting for Hurricane Debby on 08-04-2024 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

08-15-2024 Regular BOCC Meeting

Motion to approve the Regular BOCC Meeting on 08-15-2024 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

4. VOUCHER APPROVAL

The motion to approve Vouchers was made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

5. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

None present.

Motion to go into public hearing made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. 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.

APPLICATIONS for SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

A petition by **Alex Kemp** requesting a **Special Exception** to be granted, as provided in Section 4.7.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle (RSF/MH) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/07/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-5440 20 SE 908th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680; 0).
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Mr. David Fritz stated that he lives across the street and opposed the exemption.

Commissioner Hatch stated that he would talk with Mr. Alex Kemp and table the Special Exception until the next meeting.

Motion to table the Special Exception for Alex Kemp until Monday, September 16, 2024, made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

A petition by **Edward Deutsch** requesting a **Special Exception** to be granted, as provided in Section 4.7.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle (RSF/MH) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 07/03/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-5430 14 SE 908th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680;0).
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Property Owner, Edward Deutsch informed the Board that he recently purchased the property and that him and his wife would be building his home and making improvements. He stated that there are RVs across the street from them and across the canal.

Motion to approve the Special Exception for Edward Deutsch made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

A petition by **Nicholas Mole** requesting a **Special Exception** to be granted, as provided in Section 4.4.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle. ("AG" AGRICULTURE) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 07/31/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 16-09-13-4110-0015-0170 140 NE 470th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680;0).
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 1 JODY STEPHENSON)

Motion to approve the Special Exception for Nicholas Mole made by Commissioner Stephenson. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

A petition by **Bright William D Bright Nicole** requesting a **Special Exception** to be granted, as provided in Section 4.4.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle. ("AG" AGRICULTURE) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 07/11/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 04-10-13-4519-0000-0450 1444 NE 239th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680; 5).
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 2 DANIEL WOOD)

Commissioner Wood stated that the couple were planning on retiring and building a home on the property.

Motion to approve the Special Exception for Bright D William D Bright Nicole made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

A petition by **Sheri Pugh** requesting a **Special Exception** to be granted, as provided in Section 4.3.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle (ESA) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/22/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 25-09-13-4423-0001-0140 490 NE 356th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680; 2).
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 1 JODY STEPHENSON)

Motion to approve the Special Exception for Sheri Pugh made by Commissioner Stephenson. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

APPLICATIONS for VARIANCES

A petition by **Patrick Miles** located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 30-13-12-2994-0003-5550 (83 SE 908th St. Old Twon FL 32680(Suwannee)) to request a **variance** for a Reduction of side setbacks from 10' to 5' on both sides for construction of a boathouse. by the petition dated 07/30/2024 which is located within Section 4.7.7 RSF/MH subparagraph (2) of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations in accordance with section 12.3 VARIANCE PROCEDURES.
(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the Variance for Patrick Miles made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

Motion to go back to the Board made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2024-71

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.7.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECERATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JUNE 7, 2024. WHEREAS, **ALEX KEMP** have filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a Special Exception as provided in Section 4.7.5 special exceptions of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Residential Single Family/Mobile Home Area (RSF/MH), Zoning District, by Petition dated 06/07/2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2294-0003-5440 (20 SE 908th AVE, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Tabled until the next meeting on September 16, 2024

RESOLUTION 2024-72

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.7.7 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT REDUCTION OF SIDE SETBACKS FROM 10' TO 5' ON BOTH SIDES FOR A CONSTRUCTION OF A BOATHOUSE (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JULY 30, 2024. WHEREAS, **PATRICK MILES** have filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a

Special Exception as provided in Section 4.7.7 RSF/MH subparagraph (2) of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations in accordance with Section 12.3 VARIANCE PROCEDURES WHEREAS, the **Reduction Of Side Setbacks From 10' To 5' On Both Sides For A Construction Of A Boathouse**, by the petition dated 07/30/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 30-13-12-2994-0003-5550 (83 SE 908TH ST, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-72 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-73

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 4.7.5 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JULY 5, 2024. WHEREAS, **EDWARD DEUTSCH** have filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a Special Exception as provided in Section 4.7.5 special exceptions of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Residential Single Family/Mobile Home Area (RSF/MH), Zoning District, by Petition dated 07/05/2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0003-5430 (14 SE 908th AVE, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-73 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-74

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 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN AGRICULTURAL AREA (AG) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JULY 31, 2024. WHEREAS, **NICHOLAS MOLE** has filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a Special Exception as provided in Section 4.4.5 of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Agricultural (AG) Zoning District, by Petition dated July 31, 2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 16-09-13-4110-0015-0170 (140 NE 470th AVE, Old Town, FL 32680). (Commission District 1 Jody Stephenson)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-74 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-75

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 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN AGRICULTURAL AREA (AG) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JULY 11, 2024. WHEREAS, **WILIAM BRIGHT AND NICOLE BRIGHT** has filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a Special Exception as provided in Section 4.4.5 of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Agricultural (AG) Zoning District, by Petition dated July 11, 2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 04-10-13-4519-0000-0450 (1444 NE 239th AVE, Old Town, FL 32680).

(Commission District 2 Daniel Wood)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-75 made by Commissioner Stephenson. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-76

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 SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN ENVIROMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (ESA) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JUNE 22, 2024. WHEREAS, **SHERI PUGH** has filed a Petition requesting Dixie County Board of County Commissioners to grant a Special Exception as provided in Section 4.3.5 Special Exceptions of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations to permit one recreational vehicle in an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), Zoning District, by Petition dated June 22, 2024; and WHEREAS, the vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 25-09-13-4423-0001 (490 NE 356th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680).

(Commission District 1 Jody Stephenson)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-76 made by Commissioner Stephenson. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

Mr. Leon Wright stated that at the last meeting the Commissioners asked how they could help him in the Building and Zoning Department. Mr. Wright stated that he needed help with the inspections for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) in Suwannee and Jena.

Mr. Wright stated that he came before the Board to ask the County Commissioners to approve advertising for the inspections through the 1206 program.

He explained that the 1206 is a program that FEMA pays to come in and do the inspections for you.

Commissioner Hatch approved advertising for help with the inspections for FEMA through the 1206 program. Commissioner Osteen Seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Wright stated that he has the Land Development Regulations and is waiting on Legal insert to go into them, but that he needed someone to be a second set of eyes for reassurance to validate that everything is correct. He stated that he needed clear direction.

Mr. Wright stated that they had talked to two different attorneys and that they need to incorporate some of the language and verbiage in the LDR's

Attorney Watson stated that they had to get it sent out and advertised quickly to have the roll out date in October. She stated her recommendation is to follow the Statues

Mr. Wright stated that he disagreed with adopting it and then making amendments if something was wrong and that he needed the Verbiage to be cut copied and pasted.

Attorney Watson stated that she would try to get it to Mr. Wright by mid-week.

Commissioner Hatch stated they could be adopted on the next BOCC meeting on October 3rd and then the second reading on the 17th and approve it

Commissioner Hatch stated that Mr. Greg Bailey could be a second set of eyes to look over and verify that the LDR's are correct.

Motion to approve Mr. Greg Bailey to proceed with trying to establish a reasonable fee schedule for reviews made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

6. Audit Presentation by Powell and Jones

Powell and Jones representative presented a budget packet for the Board to review and discuss.

7. Florida Department of Agriculture Fiscal Year Report – Commissioner Storey

Commissioner Storey presented copies of the Agriculture Fiscal Year Report to each Commissioner.

8. KATRINA VANAERNAM AND SHIELA FRIERSON, DIXIE COUNTY ANTI-DRUG COALITION

Mrs. Katrina VanAernam was not present at this meeting.

8. STEVE COPELAND, SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER MANAGER

Mr. Steve Copeland stated that there are 932 active accounts.

Mr. Copeland informed the Board that there was an Emergency Water Board meeting last night and that they addressed the Standard Operating Procedures of the Board during the meeting.

9. GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Mr. Greg Bailey updated the Board on ongoing projects, these included:

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Mr. Bailey stated that the contract was submitted to Mr. Leon Wright for review.

Old Town Fire station – Mr. Bailey stated that it is continuing.

Sheriff's evidence building – Mr. Bailey stated that they are working through the storm water design.

CDBG – He stated that he had received environmental review approval and are reviewing the plans for bidding.

Hal Chaires road – He stated that the pre-construction meeting is next Thursday September 12, 2024, at 11:00 AM.

Fire stations in Horseshoe Beach and Hwy 351 – He stated that they are on hold until they locate a suitable site.

Restore Act Funds – Mr. Bailey stated that the amendments need to be complete and submitted by late October 2024.

Commissioner Osteen asked if there would be monies left over for a splash pad

Mr. Bailey stated that yes there would be money left over for park improvements and that monies would continue coming until 2030 for the projects that they spoke about.

Mr. Scott Niland asked about repairing the Oyster Reef's

Mr. Bailey stated that the Board has to decide which projects to prioritize.

10. JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. John Locklear updated the Board on some ongoing projects.

351 Design – He stated that they met with the Water Management District on a variety of topics

Cow Creek Boat Ramp – He stated that there is one component that has to be approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Shired Island Restoration – He stated that he had sent out the draft plans to Mr. Paul Gainey today and does not have any lab results yet.

Horseshoe Beach Dredging- He stated that the surveying is done and working on plans and that Suwannee will be done next week.

11. CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Mrs. Cindy Bellot thanked everybody for praying for her while she was out. She stated that they had 992 kids participate in the Summer Program at the Library and that they had partnered with the school system to hand out 11,200 meals for the kids. Mrs. Bellot informed the Board that the library's roof is still leaking and that books are still getting ruined. She stated that the County really needed a freestanding library and was hoping to find a grant that covered some of the money for the library. She stated that the director of the Three Rivers Regional Library System had to be involved in the Grant.

Mr. John Locklear volunteered to write the Grant for the new Library.

Motion to approve allowing Mr. John Locklear and Associates to find a Grant for a new Library for Dixie County was made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

12. STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Steve Fremem had nothing to bring to the Board.

13. STEVE HUTCHISON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Steve Hutchison was not present at this meeting.

14. TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tim Johnson updated the Board and stated that the site at Suwannee changed their schedule and will be closed on Thursdays instead of Wednesdays.

15. LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Mr. Leon Wright presented at the beginning of the meeting due to having to leave early.

16. SCOTT PENDARVIS, 911 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR & I.T. ADMINISTRATOR

911 Communications Director & I.T. Administrator Scott Pendarvis presented two Grants to the Board to be signed which are:

1. 911 System Maintenance in the amount of \$46,245.80 dollars.

Motion to approve and sign the 911 System Maintenance Grant in the amount of \$46,245.80 dollars was made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

2. 911 System Refresh in the amount of \$154,156.94 dollars

Motion to approve and sign the 911 System Refresh Grant in the amount of \$154,156.94 dollars was made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

Mr. Pendarvis asked Attorney Chana Watson that if they are just applying for the Grant does he have to bring it to the Board to sign to apply for it or can he have the County Manager sign to apply for the Grant.

Attorney Watson stated that depending on the Grant, the County Manager could sign it as applying for it, and then bring it to the Board to be accepted.

Mr. Pendarvis stated that at the last meeting they had agreed to sign the Grant for an upgraded mapping solution for 911. He stated that he had two contracts that he needed approval for the Rapid Deploy Software Contract pending Attorney Review.

Motion to sign the Rapid Deploy Software Contract pending Attorney Chana Watson's review made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

Mr. Pendarvis stated that there is a second contract for the hosting side of the mapping solution that needed approval pending attorney review.

Motion to sign the hosting side of the mapping solution pending Attorney Chana Watson's review made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

17. DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Chief Brown updated the Board on the tropical forecast stating that we are in the peak of Hurricane Season.

Chief Brown stated that almost all of the debris left behind from Hurricane Debby has been picked up and that they are moving into the second round of cleanup.

Chief Brown handed out a packet to the Board about the Hurricane Idalia LAP (Legislative Appropriation Program) fund money and updated the Board on a few of the projects. He stated that if the Board had any questions on the packet, to call and that they will explain.

Station six (6) - He stated that they had made an offer on a parcel of land and are currently waiting on an answer back from the owner.

Suwannee Dredging- He stated that Suwannee Dredging will begin next week.

Chief Brown stated that all of the projects through the Hazard Mitigation Grant are in State Review and that a match of 25% has been confirmed by the State of Florida.

He went over the PA Grants Manager Process Steps with the Board.

He stated that he had reached out to the State Contractor and stated that the contractor had assured him that Chief Brown and his staff are doing everything correct and in a timely manner.

Chief Garner stated that the biggest issue that they might have, is with Shired Island, informing the Board that once the money is allocated that they have 18 months do the projects including the park and bathhouse He stated that they will not separate them into smaller projects and that it is a reimbursement project totaling \$2,721,060.00 dollars.

Chief Brown stated that he reached out to a local provider for crisis intervention and would like to go forward with the contract if the Board approved.

The Board stated to move forward pending attorney review.

Chief Brown stated that the logistics building suffered storm damage and that there is mold around the outlets and in the walls. He stated that is where they keep all their medical supplies, and that insurance won't cover it. He stated that the medical supplies were temporarily moved and that the inmate crews removed most of the sheetrock out from the building.

Chief Brown stated that they are waiting on the report from the insurance company for the building. Chief Brown stated he would like to have a supply building at his station.

He stated that one of the old school portables is a concrete building and the cost of moving it is \$10,000 dollars to move from Cross City to Old Town.

Motion to move the building for \$10,000 dollars made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

Chief Brown stated that the Florida Department of Health has a 3,000,000.00 dollar grant for the Community of Paramedicine that is split over three (3) years for 15 departments in the State of Florida that have Mobile Integrated Health. He stated that it is about \$40,000 to \$60,000 dollars a year.

Chief Brown stated that he met with HCA Hospital earlier today and stated that they are trying to help with billing and fuel costs for the ambulances wait time.

He stated that he has been in contact with a few different hospitals in hopes of building a hospital in the County. He stated that he offered two different parcels and that they left the office to go look at the land and will be in contact.

Chief Brown stated that the Health Department advertised for a doctor and that they had an interview over the phone and that it went well and was going to come meet the staff and tour the facility.

Chief Brown stated that they are getting the roof on Station four (4) in Old Town and that the permit for the EOC is moving forward.

Chief Brown informed the Board that he spoke to a representative with the senator's office to submit a request for appropriations to replace the circle drive and repave the office so that the trucks will fit.

Chief Brown updated the Board on the wait time for the ambulances at the emergency room and stated that they have been charging the hospital for wall time. He stated that they had sent a letter and received the first month's total in the amount of \$10,332.00 for 40 calls.

Chief Brown informed the Board that one of the ambulances wrecked during the storm and that the driver was at fault. He stated that insurance was contacted for repairs, but that they would not service it and that he needed to replace it.

18. KAY MCCALLISTER, TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Mrs. Kay McCallister stated that both pickleball pavilions are up and are waiting on the concrete slab.

Commissioner Hatch stated that she is going to need two (2) picnic tables for each pavilion, four (4) in total.

Commissioner Hatch made a motion to purchase four (4) brand new picnic tables for the pickleball pavilions. Commissioner Osteen Seconded. Board approved.

19. GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE

Mrs. Gail Carter was not present at the meeting.

20. HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Mrs. Holly Houghton was not present at the meeting.

21. ANGIE CROWLEY, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Angie Crowley was not present at the meeting.

22. PAUL GAINEY, COUNTY MANAGER

Action Items:

1. Request Board approval for the SHIP Release of Lien for Allie Lou Corbin in the amount of \$30,172.70.

Motion to approve the SHIP Release of Lien for Allie Lou Corbin in the amount of \$30,172.70 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

2. Request Board Approval for the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for Sara Chavous in the amount of \$24,904.30.

Motion to approve the SHIP Reimbursement for Sara Chavous in the amount of \$24,904.30 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

3. Request Board approval for the SHIP Down Payment Assistance for Kenneth Sluss II in the amount of \$20,000.00

Motion to approve the SHIP Down Payment Assistance for Kenneth Sluss II in the amount of \$20,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

4. Request Board approval to execute the Annual Rate Resolution 2024-62 for Fire Protection Services of the Special Assessment in the amount of \$125.00 for FY 2025.

Motion to approve executing the Annual Rate Resolution 2024-62 for Fire Protection Services of the Special Assessment in the amount of \$125.00 for FY 2025 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

5. Request Board approval to execute the Annual Rate Resolution 2024-63 for Solid Waste and Disposal Services of the Special Assessment in the amount of \$180.00 for FY 2025.

Motion to approve executing the Annual Rate Resolution 2024-63 for Solid Waste and Disposal Services of the Special Assessment in the amount of \$180.00 for FY 2025 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

6. Request Board approval to execute the Scrap Metal Services Agreement renewal between WC Mills and Dixie County.

Motion to approve executing the Scrap Metal Services Agreement renewal between WC Mills and Dixie County made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

7. Request Board approval to execute the Bridge Right of Way Easement 43063, BOT file 150368623, CR 357 at California Swamp between FDOT and Dixie County.

Motion to approve executing the Bridge Right of Way Easement 43063, BOT file 150368623, CR 357 at California Swamp between FDOT and Dixie County made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

8. Request Board approval to execute the Bridge Right of Way Easement 43025, BOT file 150367743, CR 357 at Shired Creek between FDOT and Dixie County.

Motion to approve executing the Bridge Right of Way Easement 43025, BOT file 150367743, CR 357 at Shired Creek between FDOT and Dixie County made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

9. Request Board approval of the updated Restore Act Horseshoe Beach Working Waterfront application.

Motion to approve the updated Restore Act Horseshoe Beach Working Waterfront application made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

10. Request Board approval to execute the FAA BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) Construct Taxilane to T-Hangar Ph III Grant in the amount of \$336,000.00.

Motion to approve executing the FAA BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) Construct Taxilane to T-Hangar Ph III Grant in the amount of \$336,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

11. Request Board approval to execute the FAA AIP (Airport Improvement Program) Construct Taxilane to T-Hangar Ph III Grant in the amount of \$214,500.00.

Motion to approve and execute the FAA AIP (Airport Improvement Program) Construct Taxilane to T-Hangar Ph III Grant in the amount of \$214,500.00 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

12. Request Board approval to allow Shelly Hatmaker to hold a Trunk-n-Treat event at Waldo Park on Oct 31, 2024, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. This event is open to the public.

Motion to approve to allow Shelly Hatmaker to hold a Trunk-n-Treat event at Waldo Park on Oct 31, 2024, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. This event is open to the public made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

13. Request Board approval to allow Carly Gray to hold a Trunk-n-Treat event at Glen Dyals Park on Oct 26, 2024, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. This event is open to the public.

Motion to approve to allow Carly Gray to hold a Trunk-n-Treat event at Glen Dyals Park on Oct 26, 2024, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. This event is open to the public made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved

14. Request Board approval for the Christmas in Suwannee event to be held at Glen Dyals Park on Dec 7, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

Motion to approve the Christmas in Suwannee event to be held at Glen Dyals Park on Dec 7, 2024, at 2:00 pm made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

15. Request Board approval of the NCFRPC Agreement between Dixie County and the Planning Council for the Annual Monitoring of Hazardous Waste Generators FY 2025.

Motion to approve the NCFRPC Agreement between Dixie County and the Planning Council for the Annual Monitoring of Hazardous Waste Generators FY 2025 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

16. Request Board approval to reallocate ARPA money not used by the Clerk of Court in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Building/Zoning for digitization of documents.

Motion to approve to reallocate ARPA money not used by the Clerk of Court in the amount of \$30,000.00 to Building/Zoning for digitization of documents made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

17. Request Board approval to apply for the RIF (Rural Infrastructure) Grant to do a feasibility study for a wastewater treatment plant in Old Town.

Motion to approve to apply for the RIF (Rural Infrastructure) Grant to do a feasibility study for a wastewater treatment plant in Old Town made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

18. Request Board approval for Lamar Brothers Construction to complete asphalt patch work on NE 209 Ave, and NE 544 St in the amount of \$33,000.00.

Motion to approve the Lamar Brothers Construction to complete asphalt patch work on NE 209 Ave, and NE 544 St in the amount of \$33,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

19. Request Board approval to apply for a Rural Revolving Loan Fund through Florida Commerce in the amount up to \$1,000,000.00. This would be to purchase property near Cross City Lumber for

the purpose of leasing the property to a company to build a mill that utilizes the by products from other nearby mills.

Motion to approve to pursue applying for a Rural Revolving Loan Fund through Florida Commerce in the amount up to \$1,000,000.00 made by commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

Information Items:

1. Reminder of the Final budget Hearing on Monday, Sept 16, 2024, at 5:30 pm.
2. Reminder of the BOCC meeting on Monday Sept 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm.
3. Horseshoe Beach would like to set meeting dates and times for a joint workshop.

Commissioner Osteen stated that Mr. Gainey should coordinate with Horseshoe Beach to set up a time and date for a joint workshop.

4. Horseshoe Beach has sent a letter requesting some of the Restore Act funds. Mr. Gainey stated that if the Board allowed it, that he would respond back to them and ask them to provide the County with the projects that they had in mind.

5. Grandfathering of Sick Leave Policy question:

- The Policy was effective Feb 1, 2001, and stated that anyone who holds over 480 accrued hours of Sick Leave at the time could continue to accrue Sick Leave. There are Employees questioning.

Motion to grandfather all three employees in to continue to accrue Sick Leave made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

6. Horseshoe Park discussion.

Mr. Gainey provided a printout of Horseshoe Park to bring ideas for discussion and stated that the bath house has to meet FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) requirements.

7. Direction on how to move forward with the County Manager position. The Acting Assignment ends September 9, 2024.

Chairman Jamie Storey asked Attorney Watson if the Board chooses to take away acting assignment and make him the County Manager, do they have to advertise?

Attorney Watson stated that the acting assignment position would be a promotion and that under the County's procedures for promotion there are no requirement for advertisement.

Attorney Watson stated that the statute does not suggest that the County must advertise and that it is up to the Board to promote Mr. Gainey or to advertise the position.

Commissioner Wood made the motion to advertise for the County Manager position. Commissioner Hatch seconded the motion. Board approved with discussion.

Commissioner Wood stated that he was happy with Mr. Gainey but that he feels it should be advertised.

Commissioner Hatch stated that he is not happy with Paul and what they give him to work with. He stated that he feels that he is not informed properly, and that Mr. Gainey needs to fix the Policies and Procedures.

Mr. Gainey stated that it is the Boards Policies and Procedures manual, and that he is following it and stated that he was okay with whatever decision the Board decided to make.

Commissioner Hatch stated that Mr. Gainey needs to agree to fix the Policies and Procedures.

Mr. Gainey stated again that it is the Boards responsibility for any updates to their manual.

Mrs. Barbie Higginbotham stated that she tries to update her Policies and Procedures annually and that if the Boards Policies and Procedures need to be updated, then that is on the Board to do.

Commissioner Hatch stated he cannot support Mr. Gainey if he doesn't make updating the manual a priority and asked when the last time was that the Human Resources updated it.

Attorney Watson stated that it was updated in February of 2022.

Mrs. Higginbotham stated that we cannot hold Mr. Gainey at fault for following the manual.

Commissioner Hatch stated that Paul needs to make it a priority to go over the Policies and Procedures.

Mr. Gainey stated that he would be happy to put together a committee to look at the policies

Commissioner Hatch asked for a commitment from Mr. Gainey to hold a workshop annually to review the Policies and Procedures

Mr. Gainey stated that it is the Boards Policies and Procedures not the County Manager's.

The Board Continued the discussion with Mr. Gainey.

Mrs. Angie Crowley stated that she started to review the Policies and Procedures last year and that Duane Cannon kept putting it off. She stated that she is ready to have a workshop and update the manual.

Mrs. Linda Brock asked what was holding up Mr. Gainey's promotion since he already agreed to holding a workshop.

Mrs. Larie Hartman stated that this should have been taken care of in private and not in front of everybody.

Commissioner Hatch and Commissioner Wood recanted their motions.

Motion to hire Mr. Paul Gainey as County Manager made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

Mr. Gainey asked the Board for a date on the workshop.

Commissioner Hatch stated after the October 3rd, 2024, Board meeting.

Motion to hold a Policy and Procedure Workshop on October 03, 2024, at 1:00PM after the regular BOCC meeting made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

23. CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Chana Watson updated the Board on the status of the addition of other defendants to the lawsuit and distributed a letter advising the Board and Department heads that they need to continue and preserve any records that could potentially involve the lawsuit. She stated that there might be an increase in Opioid Funding.

24. BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Clerk Barbie Higginbotham congratulated the Commissioners and stated she is looking forward to the next four (4) years. She stated that she has a great team, and that Mr. Gainey is doing great and would like to keep that momentum going.

25. COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Jody Stephenson did not feel well and had to leave the meeting early.

Commissioner Wood congratulated Mr. Gainey.

Mr. Gainey gave an update on the lights at Joe Anderson Park and stated that Duke Energy is going to install another light on the other side. Mr. Gainey also stated that the lights at Willow Hole and Purvis Landing Road were also installed.

Commissioner Hatch congratulated Commissioner David Osteen and Jody Stephenson for winning the election and Mr. Gainey for the County Manager position.

Commissioner Osteen stated that the lights for the pickleball court at DTRAC need to be fixed.

Commissioner Storey congratulated Commissioner Hatch, Commissioner Osteen and Stephenson for winning the election.

He thanked the Emergency Medical Services for their hard work and Mr. Leon Wright for his hard work.

26. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mrs. Linda Brock asked if the County had a policy on Violence of a Board member against an employee and if she could have a copy.

Commissioner Hatch stated that there would have to be an investigation.

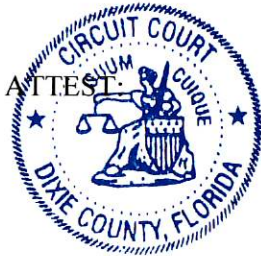
Mrs. Barbara Cummings was curious about where the feasibility study for a waste treatment facility in Old Town.

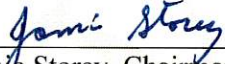
Mr. Gainey defined the feasibility study.

27. ADJOURN

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA





Jami Storey, Chairman



Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk-Auditor

PLEASE BE ADVISED that if a person decides 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.