

Regular Meeting
Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
October 03, 2024 – 10:00 AM

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.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Jamie Storey

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

The Invocation and Pledge to the American Flag was held by Commissioner Storey

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

9/5/2024 Regular BOCC Minutes

Motion to approve the 09-05-2024 Regular BOCC Minutes made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

9/5/2024 Budget Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the 09-05-2024 Budget Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

9/16/2024 Regular BOCC Minutes

Motion to approve the 09-16-2024 Regular BOCC Minutes made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

09/16/2024 Budget Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the 09-16-2024 Budget Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Motion to approve vouchers made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

None present.

Motion to go into a public hearing made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. 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 **HEATH & KRISTINA GREENE** 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 02/14/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-3520 36 SE 893 AVE, OLD TOWN, FL 32680; 0). (COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the Special Exception for Heath & Kristina Greene made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

A petition by **Kathryn McCallister** 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 08/20/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0002-2540 374 SE 241 ST, Old Town, FL 32680 (Suwannee); 0). (COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2024-86

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 FEBURARY 14, 2024. WHEREAS, **HEATH** and **KRISTINA GREENE** 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 02/14/2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0003-3520 (36 SE 893 AVE, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-86 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-87

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 AUGUST 20, 2024. WHEREAS, **KATHRYN MCCALLISTER** 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 08/20/2024; and WHEREAS, the recreational vehicle is to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0002-2540 (374 SE 241 ST, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-87 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Mr. Leon Wright stated that another inspector is coming in for the Horseshoe Beach and Jena area and that they captured some high-water marks of up to 16.3 feet. He stated that the owners who have lost their homes have applied for demo permits and that he is working on them.

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

Mrs. Shiela Frierson stated that the Anti-Drug Coalition is volunteering in Horseshoe Beach and Jena. She stated that they are working with the Lutheran World Relief to provide hygiene items, clothing and bedding to the community. She gave the Board a printout of their services.

STEVE COPELAND, SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER MANAGER

Commissioner Hatch stated that the water has been turned off and that they were able to save the reservoir tank but that both wells suffered saltwater intrusion. He stated that only 10% of the residents had power and that they are hoping the water will be turned on over the upcoming weekend.

GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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

Old Town Fire Station - He stated that the Old Town Fire station is ongoing.

Sheriff's Office Evidence Building - He stated that the plans for the Sheriff's Office Evidence Building are ready to submit for permitting.

Hal Chaires Road - He stated that they are waiting on approval to advertise for Hal Chaires Road.

He stated that the Restore Act money is at the point where it needs to be submitted and needs Board approval to approve them so that they can amend the documents and move forward.

The projects included are:

Jena Highway Bridges - \$3,657,330.00 dollars

Motion to approve moving forward with the Jena Highway Bridges project in the amount of \$3,657,330.00 dollars made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

The Commercial Dock in Horseshoe Beach - \$610,000.00

Mr. Bailey stated that the Commercial Dock in Horseshoe Beach was \$610,000.00 dollars and that there is money left over, if the Board wanted to add onto it.

The Board discussed and changed the amount to \$1,000,000.00 dollars instead of \$610,000.00

Motion to approve moving forward with the Commercial Dock in Horseshoe Beach in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 dollars made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

Shired Island Campground - \$1,500,000.00

The Board discussed and agreed to keep the amount at \$1,500,000.00

Motion to approve moving forward with the Shired Island Campground in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 dollars made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

The Seawall in Suwannee - \$2,400,000.00

Motion to approve moving forward with the seawall in Suwannee in the amount of \$2,400,000.00 dollars made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. John Locklear had nothing to bring to the Board.

KAY MCCALLISTER, TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Mrs. Kay McCallister and Mrs. Karen VanAernam discussed the current lease with the Stephenson property next to Shired Island which has been in place since February 3rd, 1992, he asked that the Board bring the lease financially current and to make revisions.

Motion to approve to bring the lease between Margie Stephenson and Dixie County financially current made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

Motion to approve getting a current appraisal on the property to help finalize the purchase details made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Mrs. Cindy Bellot stated that there was significant saltwater intrusion in the Suwannee Tech Center that resulted in the loss of books and the bookshelves. She stated that the Jena Tech Center did not have any water come in, but that part of the metal on the roof had come off during the storm. She stated that they are seeing a lot of people who have been completely devastated by the hurricane and that they are doing everything they can to help them.

STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

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

STEVE HUTCHISON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Steve Hutchison was not present at the meeting.

TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tim Johnson had nothing to bring to the Board.

LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Mr. Leon Wright presented earlier in the meeting and had to leave early.

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

Mr. Scott Pendarvis was not present at the meeting.

DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Chief Darian Brown informed the Board that the roof is being installed on Fire Station Four (4). He stated that the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) will have the plumbing installed next week and that the footers are being dug.

Chief Brown stated that there were damages to the Fire station in Suwannee from the storm and that the insurance company has already cleaned it out. He stated that station 51 in Jena was damaged also and that the doors were repaired.

Chief Brown informed the Board that they set up a mobile medical unit at the Cross City Airport and stated that they had seen 175 patients in five (5) days.

Chief Brown presented a Water Use Agreement between Dixie County and the new Dollar Stores to tie in and use the water as needed. He stated that Attorney Chana Watson had reviewed the agreement.

Motion to approve the Water Use Agreement between Dixie County Fire Rescue and Dollar General stores to tie into and use water as needed made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Chief Brown stated that they had applied for a Department of Health Grant and that eight departments were awarded. He stated that they should be receiving a minimum of \$66,000.00 a year for three (3) years. He stated that the Grant would allow them to hire another person to help with the Paramedicine Program.

Chief Garner gave a few updates and stated that there is 15% of people without power. He stated that there are 467 accounts in Horseshoe Beach and 707 accounts in Suwannee without power. He stated that there are 1399 accounts with Central Florida Electric without power in Dixie County, mainly coastal communities.

Chief Garner stated that The National Hurricane Center and National Weather Service are in the area doing highwater marks.

He stated that there were three (3) fatalities in the County and stated that two (2) were indirect and one (1) was directly related to the Storm.

Chief Garner stated that they are working on a housing plan for the people who have lost their homes due to the storm. He stated that the State would give a person a trailer through FEMA, but that it could not go into a flood zone. He stated that if you qualify for those trailers that the State would deed the trailer to the County and then the County would deed the trailer to the individual. It would be up to the individual to apply for the permits and move the trailer. He stated that when the County deeds the trailers to the individuals it is theirs forever more. He stated that Attorney Watson has more information.

GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE

Mrs. Gail Carter was not present at the meeting.

HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Mrs. Holly Houghton was not present at the meeting.

ANGIE CROWLEY, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Angie Crowley was not present at the meeting.

JOHN JENKINS, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER

Action Items:

1. Request Board approval of the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for James Ellenberg in the amount of \$22,396.90.

Motion to approve the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for James Ellenberg in the amount of \$22,396.90 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

2. Request Board approval of the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for Judith Smith in the amount of \$24,705.30.

Motion to approve the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for Judith Smith in the amount of \$24,705.30 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

3. Request Board approval of the SHIP Down Payment Assistance for Caleb Anderson in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Motion to approve the SHIP Down Payment Assistance for Caleb Anderson in the amount of \$20,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

4. Request Board approval to execute the contract between Dixie County and Anderson Columbia for the LAP Project NE 592nd St from US 19 to NE 272nd Ave in the amount of \$1,430,959.81. ***Motion to approve and execute the contract between Dixie County and Anderson Columbia for the LAP Project NE 592nd St from US 19 to NE 272nd Ave in the amount of \$1,430,959.81 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.***

5. Request Board approval to execute Amendment # 7 for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 Additional funds in the amount of \$74,000.00.

Motion to approve and execute Amendment # 7 for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 Additional funds in the amount of \$74,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

6. Request Board approval to execute Resolution 2024-85 in support of Amendment # 7 for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 Additional Funds in the amount of \$74,000.00.

Motion to approve and execute Resolution 2024-85 in support of Amendment # 7 for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 Additional Funds in the amount of \$74,000.00 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

7. Request Board approval to execute the contract between Dixie County and Anderson Columbia for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 in the amount of \$2,048,134.15.

Motion to approve and execute the contract between Dixie County and Anderson Columbia for the PTGA FDOT CTY Airport Design & Rehab Runway 4-22 in the amount of

\$2,048,134.15 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.

8. Request Board approval of the Annual Certified Budget for Arthropod (Mosquito) Control as presented.

Motion to approve the Annual Certified Budget for Arthropod (Mosquito) Control as presented made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Information Items:

1. Please see the handouts for Mosquito Control Spray Routes for the months of July, August and September.
2. Reminder County Offices will be closed Monday, October 14 in observance of Columbus Day.
3. Reminder there will be a Workshop on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 5:00 pm to review the Employee Policy & Procedure Manual.

CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Chana Watson read a resolution sent to the County condemning Amendment four (4). The Board decided not to take any action on the resolution and felt it was best to leave it up to the citizens.

Attorney Watson updated the Board regarding the seawall that is believed to be encroaching upon the property of Mr. Michael Rom and request direction from the Board.

Commissioner Osteen made a motion to have Attorney Watson reach out and obtain a survey of the County property to see if in fact the seawall was on the property of Mr. Rom and to issue a hold harmless agreement to Mr. Rom regarding any injury that might incur due to the seawall. Seconded by Commissioner Wood, Board approved.

BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Mrs. Barbie Higginbotham stated that Mrs. Dot Futch had a SHIP (State Housing Initiatives Partnership) loan for roof replacement and that there is a five-year lien on the property. Mrs. Higginbotham stated that unfortunately Mrs. Futch's house was damaged, and she has to demolish it. She stated that she was not at her five (5) year mark yet on the lien. Mrs. Higginbotham stated that she had reached out to Stephanie Barrington to try to resolve it.

Mrs. Higginbotham informed the Board that a county employee had not turned in a time sheet in time and will not be getting a paycheck this week because of it.

She mentioned that at the last meeting they had voted on the accrued sick leave and that no money was mentioned, so it was not budgeted. She stated that there is \$109,000.00 dollars that will have to be paid out in full to the three (3) employees.

Mrs. Higginbotham stated that she is here for all of the citizens and the community during these tough times.

COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Daniel Wood stated that almost everybody in District Two (2) has power and that the community came out and helped clear the roads. He stated that he is continuing to pray for Dixie County

Commissioner Mark Hatch stated that it is heartbreaking for everybody in the coastal communities that have lost their homes. He stated that he is keeping everybody in his prayers. He thanked everybody for their help.

Commissioner David Osteen stated that the storm was devastating and that he is trying to do everything he can to help the community.

Commissioner Jamie Storey mentioned to keep all of the EMS (Emergency Medical Services) in your thoughts and prayers because of the recent hardships from Hurricane Helene.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

There were none.

ADJOURN

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

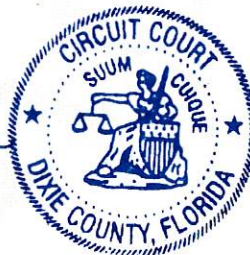
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



Jamie 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.