

Regular Meeting
Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
December 05, 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.

COMMISSIONERS

Daniel Wood, District 2
Mark Hatch, District 3, Vice Chairman
Jamie Storey, District 4

STAFF

John Jenkins, 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

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner and newly elected Vice Chairman Mark Hatch called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

11/07/2024 Regular BOCC Meeting

*Motion to approve 11/07/2024 Regular BOCC Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Storey.
Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.*

11/15/2024 Workshop for Animal Control Position Hiring Discussion

*Motion to approve 11/15/2024 Workshop for Animal Control Position Hiring Discussion
Minutes made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.*

11/19/2024 Organizational Meeting

*Motion to approve 11/19/2024 Organizational Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Storey.
Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.*

11/19/2024 Regular BOCC Meeting

Motion to approve 11/19/2024 Regular BOCC Meeting Minutes made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Motion to approve vouchers was made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Motion to go into public hearing was made by Commissioner Storey. 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 **Ronald Parrish** 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 in a Residential Single Family/Mobile Home (RSF/MH) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 10/22/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-4850 168 SE 903 AVE, OLD TOWN (Suwannee), FL 32680;0). (COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the special exception for Ronald Parrish was made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

A petition by **CROOK ALLEN B CROOK JEANNE K** 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 10/24/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-4660 20 SE 901 AVE, OLD TOWN (Suwannee), FL 32680; 0). (COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the special exception for Crook Allen B Crook Jeanne K was made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

A petition by **BARRY & JENNIFER HESS** 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 10/18/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-3850 65 SE 894 AVE, OLD TOWN, FL 32680; 0).

(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the special exception for Barry and Jennifer Hess was made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

A petition by **PHILLIP & ABBIE SAMUELS** 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 11/13/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-3620 70 SE 894 AVE, OLD TOWN, FL 32680; 0).

(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the special exception for Phillip and Abbie Samuels was made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

A petition by **John Blakely** 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 10/23/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 30-09-10-0000-0360-0300 4984 SW HWY 358, Steinhatchee, FL 32359; 0).

(COMMISSION DISTRICT 5 DAVID OSTEEN)

Motion to approve the special exception for John Blakely was made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

A petition by **Sheila Flowers** 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 10/16/2024 to be located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0000-0040 32 SE 245th St, Old Town (Suwannee), FL 32680 ; 0).

(COMMISSION DISTRICT 3 MARK HATCH)

Motion to approve the special exception for Sheila Flowers was made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2024-107

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 22, 2024. WHEREAS, **RONALD PARRISH** 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 10/23/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 30-09-10-0000-0360-0300 (4984 SW HWY 358, Steinhatchee, FL 32359). (Commission District 3 Mark Hatch)

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-107 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

It was pointed out by the owner of the property that the address listed on the Resolution was incorrect. The Board will have it corrected and signed.

RESOLUTION.2024-108

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 24, 2024. WHEREAS, **ALLEN CROOK** and **JEANNE CROOK** 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 10/24/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0003-4660 (20 SE 901 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680). (Commission District 3 Mark Hatch).

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-108 made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-109

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 18, 2024. WHEREAS, **BARRY and JENNIFER HESS** 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 10/18/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0003-3850 (65 SE 894 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680). (Commission District 3 Mark Hatch).

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-109 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-110

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED NOVEMBER 13, 2024. WHEREAS, **PHILLIP and ABBIE SAMUELS** 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 11/13/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0003-3620 (70 SE 894 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680). (Commission District 3 Mark Hatch);

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-110 made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-111

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 23, 2024. WHEREAS, **JOHN BLAKELY** 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 10/23/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 30-09-10-0000-0360-0300 (4984 SW HWY 358, Steinhatchee, FL 32359).(Commission District 5 David Osteen).

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-111 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-112

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 ONE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE IN AN (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 16, 2024. WHEREAS, SHEILA FLOWERS 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 recreational vehicle, by the petition dated 10/16/2024 to be located on Dixie County Parcel No.: 19-13-12-2994-0000-0040 (32 SE 245th ST, Old Town, FL 32680). (Commission District 3 Mark Hatch).

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-112 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

Mr. Wright asked the Board for approval for the Old Town Cracker House Winery for a zoning change from a 2APS license to a 2COP license. He stated that the current 2APS license covers sales of sealed containers/package only, but now the winery is having wine tasting onsite and the State has ruled it as a consumption on premises. He said the change of zoning codes will allow for the wine tasting on the premises.

Motion to approve the signing of the zoning change from a 2APS zoning to a 2COP zoning for the Cracker House Winery in Old Town made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

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

Mrs. Shiela Frierson informed the Board that the Anti-Drug Coalition is going to be holding a Town Hall Community Meeting soon with guest speakers including Director of Emergency Services Darian Brown for a community update after the storms to inform residents of where the County stands on recovery. She handed out a flyer regarding this.

Mrs. Frierson gave an update on the Lutheran Relief Supplies Kits they have been handing out and stated they have given out 4,184 and have a few left that they are saving for an event with the homeless of Dixie County.

Mrs. Frierson introduced Mrs. Nikki Waits, who is with pier support and is a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist.

Mrs. Waits stated that she has ten (10) years' experience in recovery and that she holds a Jail Bridge Program and support meetings in the jail with 97 active piers who participate in the meetings as of October of 2024, which includes 35 men and 14 women. She added that four (4) women and six (6) men have entered rehab because of the peer support program and who have been actively engaged since 2022. She reiterated the importance of these programs within our County.

KAY MCCALLISTER, TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Mrs. Kay McCallister and Mrs. Karen Vanaernam presented a reminder of upcoming events in the month of December within the County.

Events include:

Christmas tree lighting at Dyals Park in Suwannee on December 05, 2024, at 6:00 PM

Golf cart/ATV parade at 5:30 PM Friday, December 6, 2024, to proceed around the town circle and then to light the tree at City Hall with the Anti-Drug Coalition serving refreshments.

Cross City Restore and Renew and Resolute have purchased three Christmas trees for Jena, D-Track and Suwannee as well as a Nativity Scene and those will be taken and set up soon. She said the Suwannee Christmas tree has been set up and gave a testimonial of a resident saying that it made her cry because it was so beautiful.

Christmas in Dixie will be held at the Ball Field on Friday, December 13, 2024, from 3-9 PM

Christmas on the Farm will be held at the Cracker House Winery on Saturday, December 14, 2024, at 9 AM lasting throughout the day.

Horseshoe Beach Park will be showing The Grinch Movie on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

There will be a drive thru Nativity at the Church of God in Cross City on Friday, December 6, 2024, and Saturday, December 07, 2024, starting at 7:00 PM.

Update: The Turkey Trot went very well.

SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER

Commissioner Hatch stated that he would present on behalf of Scott Rome the Interim Manager who was not present. Commissioner Hatch stated that Suwannee is working hard to get the grinder pumps up and going and everything is working well.

GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Mr. Greg Bailey updated the Board on the following projects which included:

EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is moving along.

Sheriff's Evidence Building-Did the Geo Tech testing, and it resulted in low Flow counts which could be an indicator of karst activity. He said there would need to be additional testing to check for voids.

CDBG- Was advertised today and the bids are scheduled to be back around January 7th.

Fire Stations- The two (2) new fire stations designs are moving ahead, the building plans are due to be complete around January 1st.

BP Restore Act projects- all projects have been submitted. He said there will be a meeting in April of 2025 to approve the projects, then they should be able to immediately secure the funds for Horseshoe Beach. He reminded the Board that the amount of funds requested was originally \$600,000 but then it was bumped to one (1) million dollars to allow for the scope of work to be loose enough to do a lot of different things, including an additional parking lot and purchase of land. He added that storm damage items will be provided for with FEMA money to replace items and then the BP Restore Act will help with additional funding for what is not covered by FEMA.

The other projects on the list of the items to be restored can be requested in May of 2025 and they will be available in December of 2025. He said they are seeking a way that the County can phase those projects and bank roll them/cash flow them, but they haven't had too much success with that so far. He added that they are still exploring how to go about doing this where the County doesn't have to pay up front and then get paid back.

Mr. Bailey also mentioned another treasury fund the County has with the amount of about two (2) million dollars in related funds, not through the BP Restore Act Grant, but through the Department of Treasury that may be eligible for use on some of these projects. He stated that some are restricted and some not, some have to be tied to economic development and tourism type items.

Commissioner Hatch asked if those funds can be used to purchase property like the fifty acres for the Industrial Park for 1.2 million dollars.

Mr. Bailey said yes.

Commissioner Hatch recommended looking into that hard.

JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. Jared Lizotte of Locklear and Associates presented the Board with updates as to what they are doing within the County.

Hal Chaires Road: Should see movement this coming Monday, December 9th. He said he would coordinate with County Manager John Jenkins for School Zone issues.

Commissioner Hatch recommended Mr. Lizotte to keep Director of Emergency Services Darian Brown and EMS informed as to what they are doing as well.

CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Mrs. Cindy Bellot was not present at the meeting.

STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Steve Fremen was not present at the meeting.

STEVE HUTCHISON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Steve Hutchison stated that he had nothing to present to the Board.

TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tim Johnson was not present at the meeting.

Commissioner Hatch requested a dumpster for Christmas at the Glen Dyals Park this Saturday, December 7th. Mr. John Jenkins said he would work on it this afternoon.

LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Building and Zoning Official Leon Wright reminded the Board that the first LPA (Local Planning Agency) meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12th. He said this first meeting will be an Organizational Meeting.

He also told the Board that he had a site visit from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) yesterday for a Hurricane Idalia follow-up. He explained that the County will more than likely get a CAV (Community Assisted Visit) after the first of the year (2025). He recommended starting code enforcement on flood plain violations. He stated that the County already has an Ordinance in place, which was redesigned after the last CAV.

Commissioner Hatch reminded the Board that if the CAV happens at the County level it will cause suspension of grant activities.

Mr. Wright stated that they have processed almost 800 permits since October 1st and have recently seen an increase in mobile homes and houses in the County.

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

Mr. Scott Pendarvis stated that he had nothing to present to the Board.

DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Mr. Darian Brown provided a budget report for the Board to review. He said they asked Lisa to collect more, and she is \$17,500 over budget so far.

He reminded the Board of the upcoming Christmas Party Saturday night, December 07, 2024, from 6-9 PM.

He also reminded the Board of the Fire Expo scheduled for December 13, 2024, from 6-9 PM at the Roy Ward Ball Field

He gave an update on fire stations #3 and 6: Station #3(First District Station) and Station #6 (Horseshoe Beach Station).

He said they are still in the process of purchasing land and have agreed on numbers with the owners of the property for sale, but they are also having an appraisal done to see if they agree with the numbers the owner is asking for. Mr. Brown asked for a motion to move forward with the purchase of the property if the number of the appraiser falls into line with the purchase price and the guidelines the County has for purchasing.

Motion made to approve going forward with the purchase of land for Fire Stations #3 and #6 pending the numbers after the appraisal are good and fall in line with the County guidelines made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood.

Mr. Brown updated the Board on Ambulance repairs. He said the ambulance damaged in the wreck is still being repaired and the new truck is having the stretcher installed and stickers placed. He said they should be back and ready in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Brown gave an update on Fire Stations 1 and 4.

Station 1, the EOC had the walls go up last week and is currently under construction, but coming along well.

Station 4, the new station on Chavous Road, has been built. He said the electrician came this week and HVAC guy should be coming and then the sheet rock will be installed. He said it should be ready around February of 2025.

He asked the Board for a motion on the DRC in Old Town at the Old School. He said there are around 11 people a day utilizing the site and wanted a motion from the Board to either close it down after 30 days or keep it open.

The Motion to approve to keep the DRC in Old Town open for thirty more days and then close after the thirty days is complete made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Mr. Brown told the Board he would not be at the 12/19/2024 BOCC meeting due to a dentist's appointment and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Brown stated that the Idalia CAT A Debris was submitted and is under review and the CAT B money RFI (Request for information) was answered and submitted this morning for final review.

He said Hurricane Debby CAT A and CAT B have been sent to the State and then will be sent to FEMA.

He said Hurricane Milton didn't have a lot of costs other than manpower costs and sheltering costs, but we should get covered for those.

He stated that their department would be handling the recovery portion and all the PWs for the Helene Contracts. He said they started those and have met with Mrs. Twist regarding the exploratory costs and days and time to collect, which is sixty days to get all the damage information and have it submitted.

He provided a printout of the arial surveys for Horseshoe Beach, Jena and Suwannee which showed the cubic yards of the debris.

Commissioner Hatch recommended looking at the wording from DOT (Department of Transportation) for definition of right of way.

Mr. Brown said that is a legal issue and recommended getting with Attorney Watson for help with this.

Mr. Brown also asked for recommendations on getting rid of the Comfort Stations in the coastal communities.

Commissioner Hatch recommended extending the timeframe for another thirty days in Suwannee due to the town still having grinder pump issues, but he wasn't sure about Horseshoe Beach or Jena.

Mr. JD Nobles said Horseshoe Beaches have already been removed.
D Track's are still in use.

Mrs. Sarah Ross stated that she is still witnessing people using them in the Jena area.

No motion was made at this time, but the Board recommended revisiting this at a later time.

GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE

Mrs. Gail Carter stated that he had nothing to present to the Board.

HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Mrs. Holly Houghton gave an update on the Fair and the add-ons (extra money on hogs/gifts of extra money for the children). She said they are going to try and do add-ons differently going forward. She said this could be in the form of a set a flat dollar amount for add-ons or personally give the child money or donate to the Fair Association.

She also stated that they are no longer going to absorb the credit card fees as they have been doing in the past because these fees are increasing and cost them a lot of money. She added they are trying to look into trying Zelle or Venmo.

Commissioner Storey asked how much the commissioner rate is. She said it is 7-13% for each animal sold. She also added that this percentage goes to the Fair Association. She also reminded that the costs of electricity and maintenance to run the fair are around \$2,000. She stated she could get a finance report and bring it back to the Board if needed.

ANGIE CROWLEY, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Angie Crowley stated that he had nothing to present to the Board.

JOHN JENKINS, COUNTY MANAGER

Action Items:

1. Request Board approval to set the dates and time for the BOCC meeting for the 2025 year. In previous years they were set for the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 am and the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Motion to approve to set the dates and time for the BOCC meeting for the 2025 year. In previous years they were set for the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 am and the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

2. Request Board approval of the SmartCop Invoices 48365 & 47994 and Dana Supply Invoice 913011 for ARPA audit purposes.

Motion to approve the SmartCop Invoices 48365 & 47994 and Dana Supply Invoice 913011 for ARPA audit purposes made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

3. Request Board approval of the SHIP Repair Reimbursement for Martin Barber Jr in the amount of \$7,700.00.

Motion to approve the SHIP Repair Reimbursement for Martin Barber Jr in the amount of \$7,700.00 made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

4. Request Board approval of the 2FRSP81 Dixie County Airport & Prison Flood Abatement-Ph II in the amount of \$350,00.00.

Motion to approve the 2FRSP81 Dixie County Airport & Prison Flood Abatement-Ph II in the amount of \$350,000.00 made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

5. Request Board approval of the Sheriff Evidence Building Grant Amendment AMD002 to reallocate \$7,720.00 from the "F" Construction category to the "G" Consultant/Contracts category for the required ERI (Electrical Resistivity Image) Survey. This is to determine the stability of the soil for the foundation of the building.

Motion to approve the Sheriff Evidence Building Grant Amendment AMD002 to reallocate \$7,720.00 from the "F" Construction category to the "G" Consultant/Contracts category for the required ERI (Electrical Resistivity Image) Survey. This is to determine the stability of the soil

for the foundation of the building made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

6. Request Board approval for Liberty Partners to seek appropriations for the Sheriff Evidence Building.

Motion for approval for Liberty Partners to seek appropriations for the Sheriff Evidence Building made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

7. Request Board approval for Liberty Partners to seek appropriations for a new Library.

Motion approval for Liberty Partners to seek appropriations for a new Library made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

8. Request Board direction on placing a BOCC Christmas ad in the Dixie County Advocate for the Dec 19, 2024, edition.

Motion for Board direction on placing a ¼ page BOCC Christmas ad in the Dixie County Advocate for the Dec 19, 2024, edition made by Commissioner Wood. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.

9. Request Board approval to move the 1:00 pm Workshop to be held today to Dec 19, 2024, at 4:00 pm.

Motion for Board approval to move the 1:00 pm Workshop to be held today to Dec 19, 2024, at 4:00 pm made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Information Items:

1. Reminder of the Employee Safety Meeting to be held on Thursday, Dec 19, 2024, at 12:00 pm at the Trail Riders Community Center.

Motion to make a donation in the amount of \$500 from the Board and an additional \$100 each from each Commissioner made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

2. The Shired Island bridge has reopened to light traffic and weight restrictions do apply.
3. The 7th Annual Christmas in the Park will be held at Glen Dyals Park in Suwannee on Dec 7, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

4. Cracker House Winery will be hosting Christmas on the Ranch on Dec 14, 2024, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Motion to make a donation in the amount of \$250 from the Board to purchase a banner for the Christmas on the Ranch made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

Mr. John Jenkins announced Mr. Roy Bass as the new Assistant County Manager.

CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Watson stated that Michal Roma is seeking compensation for the seawall in Horseshoe that is encroaching on his property. She said she had the document ready for signature and making the Board aware that he is asking for compensation.

Update: Non-Congregate Sheltering Housing Program. Attorney Watson stated that FEMA met yesterday, December 04, 2024, to discuss options for travel trailers. She said the County is in the process of receiving ten (10) more trailers. She added that the County has received 95 trailers in total and she provided a list of 50 plus applicants and is requesting the Board look at the applications for the individuals in their districts and let her know which to approve. She said there have been 155 total applications and 85 trailers given out within the County.

Attorney Watson also asked the Board for a decision on what to do regarding the titles for the FEMA trailers. She stated that each title has to be recorded in the County's name and then transferred over to the owner with transfer fees of around \$85-\$115 each trailer.

It was recommended by Attorney Watson to require the owner to transfer the title into their name and not allow it to remain in the County's name because of liability reasons and to maybe meet the individual at the Tax Collector's Office to ensure that the transfer has taken place.

Commissioner Hatch said that he didn't like the idea of charging the owner after originally saying that these trailers would be issued at no cost to the applicant.

Commissioner Storey recommended the County covering the transfer from FEMA to the County, but then the applicant/owner of the trailer be responsible for the transfer from the County to their name.

Finance Director Brenda Royal stated that the County doesn't have any money in the budget to pay for this right now.

Motion to require the individual FEMA trailer applicant to be responsible to pay \$100 towards the title transfer into the individual's name made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.

BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Mrs. Barbie Higginbotham stated that he had nothing to present to the Board.

COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Wood encouraged everyone to come support the Bears football team tomorrow night.

Commissioner Storey stated that the little league field sketches are being reviewed and there will be a meeting after the first of the year to pick a design and then go forward with building.

Grant Coordinator Martha McCaskill added that they are also planning on adding a FDOC staging area to the field for storm events.

Commissioner Hatch welcomed Roy Bass as the new Assistant County Manager. He also asked everyone to keep Commissioner Osteen in your prayers for travel and others that are sick. He said he was sending the contact information for the dumpster requested earlier in the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. J.D. Nobles addressed the Board with an update on the Town of Horseshoe Beach items.

He stated that he heard that the canal cleanup was finished, and equipment pulled out and wanted verification if that was fact because things are still not cleaned up.

Chief Scott Garner said the clean-up is handled through DOT (Department of Transportation).

Commissioner Hatch asked for a contact person with DOT so they can find out.

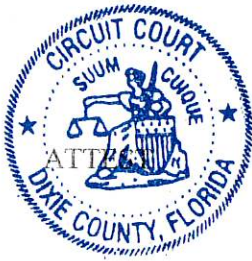
Chief Garner said he would get that information.

Mr. Steve Hutchison said they can't dredge the canals as they are with all the debris in them.

Mr. Nobles also stated he received a drawing to review from Mr. Locklear with Locklear and Associates, and has a main concern with the staging areas taking up 100% of the community boat ramp and 40% of the park area as well as the four (4) month timeframe for dredging and said they would almost be shut down by the end of that amount of time. He asked Locklear and Associates to consider getting other help to get this done. Possibly Mr. Buckley in Horseshoe Beach.

ADJOURN

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Wood. Board approved.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA



Jody Stephenson, 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.