

Regular Meeting

Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
February 16, 2023 – 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

Duane Cannon, County Manager
Paul Gainey, Asst. County Manager
Chana Watson, County Attorney
Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court
Verna Wilson, Chief Deputy Clerk
Della Rhymes, Asst. Chief Deputy Clerk
Brenda Royal, Chief Financial Officer

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting/Workshop was called to order at 6:00 PM by Commissioner Storey.

Commissioner Storey announced to the public that former Commissioner David Osteen had been appointed to represent District 5.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 02, 2023. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

None were present.

PUBLIC HEARING: THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY BE CONTINUED TO ONE OR MORE FUTURE DATES. ANY INTERESTED PARTY IS ADVISED THAT THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF ANY CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING AND THAT NO FURTHER NOTICE CONCERNING THE MATTERS WILL BE PUBLISHED.

The motion to go into the Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Board approved.

APPLICATIONS for SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

A petition by **Troy And Teresa White** 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 in an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 01/03/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 13-08-13-3721-0000-0080, 230 NE 841st Ave, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 1, Jody Stephenson)

Building and Zoning Official Leon Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Troy And Teresa White. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Special Exception requested by Troy And Teresa White. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **David and Maria Kelkites** 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 in an (AG)Agriculture zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 01/17/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 22-09-13-4357-0000-0160, 125 NE 415 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680).
(Commission District 2, Daniel Wood)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by David and Maria Kelkites. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve the Special Exception requested by David and Maria Kelkites. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **Oneal Properties, LLC** located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-4690, 22 SE 903 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680, to request a **Variance** for a reduction of setbacks for construction of gangway and dock by the petition dated 01/04/2023 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)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Variance request made by Oneal Properties, LLC. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Variance requested by Oneal Properties, LLC. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **John G. And Brandi Oneal** located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-4680, 8 SE 903 Avenue, Old Town, FL 32680, to request a **Variance** for a reduction of side setbacks to zero for the construction of a new dock by the petition dated 01/09/2023 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**)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Variance request made by John G. And Brandi Oneal. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Variance requested by John G. And Brandi Oneal. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **Jeffrey and Mary Griffin** located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-5730, 45 SE 226 St, Old Town, FL 32680, to request a **Variance** for a 1. to build a 720 square foot boat house (exceeds the 500 allowed). 2. exceed the 25% width of canal by 6 feet by the petition dated 01/17/2023 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**)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Variance request made by Jeffrey and Mary Griffin. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Variance requested by Jeffrey and Mary Griffin. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **Duane M. Sullivan** located on the property as described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 06-10-13-4526-0000-0110, 97 NE 434 St, Old Town, FL 32680, to request a **Variance** for a reduction of the north side setback (side) from 25 feet to 17 feet for construction of a pole barn by the petition dated 01/25/2023 which is located within Section 4.4.7 Agriculture subparagraph (1) of the Dixie County Land Development Regulations in accordance with Section 12.3 Variance Procedures. (**Commission District 4, Jamie Storey**)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the **Variance** request made by **Duane M. Sullivan**. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Variance requested by Duane M. Sullivan. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Wright said a zoning correction for the hardware store in Suwannee will be coming up for review in the future. He said the new owner wants to re-open this business. He said the zoning should be Commercial Neighborhood.

The motion to go out of the Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-13

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 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 JANUARY 19, 2023.

Troy and Teresa White

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-13 in support of Troy and Teresa White.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-13 in support of Troy and Teresa White. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-14

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 JANUARY 20, 2023.

David and Maria Kelkites

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-14 in support of David and Maria Kelkites.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-14 in support of David and Maria Kelkites. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION No.: **2023-15**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.3.1 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION OF SETBACKS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A GANGWAY AND DOCK WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7 RSF/MH SUBPARAGRAPH (2) A RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 4, 2023.

Oneal Properties, LLC

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-15 in support of Oneal Properties, LLC.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-15 in support of Oneal Properties, LLC. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.3.1 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7 RSF/MH SUBPARAGRAPH (2) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR A REDUCTION OF SIDE SET BACKS TO ZERO FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DOCK WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7. A RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 17, 2023. **John G. and Brandi Oneal**

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-16 in support of John G. and Brandi Oneal.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-16 in support of John G. and Brandi Oneal. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.3.1 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7 RSF/MH SUBPARAGRAPH (2) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR A (1.) TO BUILD A 720 SQUARE FOOT BOAT HOUSE (EXCEEDS THE 500 ALLOWED). (2.) EXCEED THE 25% WIDTH OF CANAL BY 6 FOOT WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7 A RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 19, 2023. **Jeffrey and Mary Griffin**

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-17 in support of Jeffrey and Mary Griffin.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-17 in support of Jeffrey and Mary Griffin. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO BE GRANTED, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 12.3.1 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION WITHIN SECTION 4.4.7 AGRICULTURE SUBPARAGRAPH (1) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12.3 VARIANCE PROCEDURES FOR A REDUCTION OF THE NORTH SIDE SETBACK (SIDE) FROM 25 FEET TO 17 FEET FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A POLE BARN WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 4.4.7 AGRICULTURE ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED JANUARY 26, 2023. **Duane M. Sullivan**

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-18 in support of Duane M. Sullivan.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-18 in support of Duane M. Sullivan. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

JERRY PARRISH AND CAROL WEST
Economic Impact Report

Ms. Carol West appeared before the Board and introduced Mr. Jeff Hendry, Executive Director of the North Florida Economic Development Partnership, to everyone and spoke about applying for small grants to help market and promote the Cross City Airport, the Annual Fly In event and pay for an analysis of the Forestry Industry in Dixie County to be done.

Dr. Jerry Parrish, Chief Economist and Director of State and Local Policy Analysis at the Institute of Government Florida State University, appeared before the Board to give a presentation on the completed analysis.

Dr. Parrish spoke about the history of the timber business in Dixie County. He said he met with Mr. Ed Eldridge with Resolute and they recalled knowing each other from past business relations. He said this is an important industry for the county and the state of Florida. He said that sawmills are considered a manufacturing business and U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for 2021 show this provides 500 jobs for Dixie County. He said this is 28.3 percent of private jobs. He discussed the work force as provided from a report from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The amount of people who live in Dixie and work out of town is 3,146; the people who live and work in Dixie is 1,448 which is 61.5 percent; while only 905 come from out of town to work in Dixie County. He said if the two sawmills he evaluated were to shut down it would be a total loss of 395 direct jobs for the county. He said there would be a loss of 227 indirect jobs like supply chain jobs, and 49 induced jobs like the salary of these sawmill and supply chain people being spent in the county. He said this is a tax revenue loss to the county of \$2,300.00-\$2,400.00 for each job lost. This is \$886,319.00 annual loss for the county.

Commissioner Stephenson said many people work in the medical field and must work out of town.

Commissioner Osteen said he worked hard to recruit new businesses in the past and will continue to do so.

Commissioner Hatch said the county has suffered from a sawmill closing and thankfully it has reopened and is profitable.

GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Mr. Bailey had nothing to discuss at this time.

JERED LIZOTTE, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. John Locklear had nothing to discuss at this time.

CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Ms. Bellot was not present for this meeting.

STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Fremen had nothing to discuss at this time.

STEVE HUTCHISON, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Hutchison was not present for this meeting.

DWAYNE CHAUNCEY, MOSQUITO CONTROL DIRECTOR

Mr. Chauncey was not present for this meeting.

MICHAEL LATSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Latson was not present for this meeting.

LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and informed them of the ISO Audit that has been completed. He said they received high numbers. He said they scored a four (4) on Residential and three (3) on Commercial. He said this will help reduce insurance rates for the residents.

He said he has been steadily making improvements within the Building and Zoning Department during his five (5) years as the Building and Zoning Official and will continue to do so.

Commissioner Hatch said this is the best numbers the county has ever had for the ISO Audit.

Mr. Wright said the attention to detail makes a huge difference.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if there was any response to the advertisement for employment.

Mr. Wright said he will be interviewing some applicants tomorrow.

Commissioner Storey asked about the computer program he and Mr. Wright had discussed which would help the Building and Zoning Department.

Mr. Wright said he has spoken with County Manager Duane Cannon about this purchase and it has been authorized and ordered. He said this program will allow the county to create their own ground elevation and contour maps without having to wait for Lidar images from the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD). He said the public will be able to see these before they invest in a survey of the property.

DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Director Brown appeared before the Board and presented their monthly Finance Report.

He said the deposits are down due to the holidays. He informed the Board they have applied for a Federal Fire Act Grant for the purchase of a \$120,000.00-\$125,000.00 oxygen generating machine. He said they currently rent bottles and purchase oxygen for \$2,000.00-\$3,000.00 per month. He said they have applied for the state EMS Matching Grant for \$66,000.00 for ventilators for the trucks. He said they have been awarded the state Fire Marshalls Grant for five (5) sets of turn-out gear at \$20,000.00 and a second grant for new hoods and gloves.

He said they did get a chassis remount and will be looking for another. He said eventually they will need to start replacing the trucks.

He said they attended the state EM Day event in Tallahassee, FL. He said they spoke to some people about appropriations with Representative Shoaf about Phase 2 funding for dredging. He also spoke with him about the two tankers that are needed. He said Representative Shoaf seemed favorable with assisting the county. He said they will meet with North Florida Professional Services, Wednesday at 2:00 PM to go over the second set of plans for the EOC. He said he spoke with the directors of Doctor's Memorial Hospital (DMH) about a hospital for our area. He said a free-standing ER will cost \$8-10 million dollars and a hospital would cost \$30-40 million dollars.

Commissioner Stephenson asked what the Board can do to help.

Mr. John Gerry spoke to the Board and suggested they contact HCA founder, Senator Rick Scott.

Director Brown informed the Board about a dangerous issue with their new SCBA breathing apparatus. He said they are reputable and approved units. However, two (2) have failed during a fire and the firemen were unable to breath and had to get out of the home. He said they purchased 25 of these and have sent them back to the company for testing. He said other departments, nationwide, have had the same issues with this apparatus. He said they will be using their older units until the apparatus are tested again. He said an investigation is currently open on this issue.

Commissioner Stephenson instructed Director Brown to send them off for testing.

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

Mr. Pendarvis appeared before the Board and presented three (3) state 911 grants for their approval.

He requested the Board's approval of the GIS Repository System Grant for \$457,000.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the GIS Repository System Grant for \$457,000.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

He requested the Board's approval of the Next Gen 911 System Grant for \$58,000.00.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the Next Gen 911 System Grant for \$58,000.00. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

He requested the Board's approval of the new recorder of 911 calls for \$30,000.00.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the new recorder of 911 calls for \$30,000.00. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

He requested the Board's approval of the contract for the Next Gen 911 provider, Indigital.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the contract for the Next Gen 911 provider, Indigital. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Pendarvis said they are moving forward with the phone upgrades. He said the sever room is ready and they are working with the Clerk.

GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE

Ms. Carter was not present for this meeting.

HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

Ms. Houghton was not present for this meeting.

ANGIE CROWLEY, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Crowley had nothing to discuss at this time.

DUANE CANNON, COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Duane Cannon appeared before the Board and requested their approval of several items.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the PTGA for a New Hangar Building Grant Agreement, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$954,333.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to execute the PTGA for a New Hangar Building Grant Agreement, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$954,333.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of **RESOLUTION 2023-20** in support of the PTGA New Hangar Building, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$954,333.00.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve RESOLUTION 2023-20 in support of the PTGA New Hangar Building, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$954,333.00. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the FDOT/FAA PTGA Design & Construction Grant Agreement for taxi lanes for the New Hangar Building at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$706,667.00 with FDOT 10% portion and FAA 90% portion.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to execute the FDOT/FAA PTGA Design & Construction Grant Agreement for taxi lanes for the New Hangar Building at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$706,667.00 with FDOT 10% portion and FAA 90% portion. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of **RESOLUTION 2023-21** in support of the PTGA Design & Construction Grant Agreement for taxi lanes for the New Hangar Building, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$706,667.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve RESOLUTION 2023-21 in support of the PTGA Design & Construction Grant Agreement for taxi lanes for the New Hangar Building, at the Cross City Airport, in the amount of \$706,667.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval for Commissioner Hatch to attend the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area Management Advisory Group Meeting on March 01, 2023, as a representative of the Board. He said this was requested prior to District 5 having appointed representation. Commissioner Hatch said he will attend this one and Commissioner Osteen can attend them in the future.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve Commissioner Hatch attending the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area Management Advisory Group Meeting on March 01, 2023, as a representative of the Board. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to accept the proposal from Nabors, Giblin, and Nickerson PA., in the amount of \$8,000.00, to provide legal services on the county's annual Fire Protection and Solid Waste Assessment Programs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to accept the proposal from Nabors, Giblin, and Nickerson PA., in the amount of \$8,000.00, to provide legal services on the county's annual Fire Protection and Solid Waste Assessment Programs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to advertise for Request for Proposal for Misdemeanor Probation Services. He said the Salvation Army will no longer be providing these services.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to advertise for Request for Proposal for Misdemeanor Probation Services. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

County Attorney Chana Watson added they received a letter from the Salvation Army on January 23, terminating these services within 90 days. She said the county is required to provide this service per statute.

Commissioner Stephenson asked where the probation fees go.

Attorney Watson said they are divided up between multiple agencies and it is a small amount of revenue.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the Old Town Residential Canal System Phase 1 Project for Mulching and Debris Removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the Old Town Residential Canal System Phase 1 Project for Mulching and Debris Removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the Twin Lakes Canal System Phase 1 Project for Mulching and Debris Removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the Twin Lakes Canal System Phase 1 Project for Mulching and Debris Removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the NW Hwy 358 (Old 19) Ditch Cleanout Project Phase 1 of Sediment and Debris removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to accept the lowest bid rate per hour from Right of Way Contracting, LLC. for the NW Hwy 358 (Old 19) Ditch Cleanout Project Phase 1 of Sediment and Debris removal, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to replace five (5) culverts North of CR 351 along the Airport Canal System, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to replace five (5) culverts North of CR 351 along the Airport Canal System, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to replace six (6) culverts North of CR 351 between CR 353 and SR 349, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to replace six (6) culverts North of CR 351 between CR 353 and SR 349, based on Storm Water Task Force Recommendation. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to Donate the East half of the Old Jail property to the Town of Cross City. The City will complete the Survey and all necessary documents to include a reversionary clause. The City will fence their portion, and has agreed to fence the County portion, if it remains County property.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to donate the East half of the Old Jail property to the Town of Cross City. The City will complete the Survey and all necessary documents to include a reversionary clause. The City will fence their portion, and has agreed to fence the County portion, if it remains County property. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board set a minimum bid amount to advertise for the West ½ of the Old Jail property including the building.

Attorney Watson recommended the Board consider selling these county owned properties through a realtor for more exposure and advertising.

Assistant County Manager Paul Gainey reminded the Board they have the authority to reject a bid.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to advertise the price for sealed bids at \$30,000.00 for the West ½ of the Old Jail property including the building. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon informed the Board they have received quotes for placing GPS Tracking Systems on all the remaining County Vehicles and County Equipment in the amount of \$1,064.40 per month, with the yearly cost being \$12,772.80. They currently have 17 Systems in place being used, at an annual cost of \$2,893.80.

Commissioner Stephenson said he feels this is a good idea good for several reasons.

Manager Cannon informed the Board the Storm Water Task Force Workshop will be held February 23, at 6:00 PM at the School Board meeting room in Old Town, FL.

Manager Cannon informed the Board the County Commission Committee List needs to be reviewed for any changes needed.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to have the County Manager look for funds to place GPS Tracking Systems on all remaining County Vehicles and County Equipment. Motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Hatch said he is hesitant because they have some things in place already that can be utilized without costing extra money.

There was more discussion on this matter.

Manager Cannon requested the Board discuss the Committee Assignments. The Board discussed giving the District 5 Committee Assignments back to their newly appointed representative, Commissioner David Osteen. Commissioner Stephenson agreed to be the alternate for the Florida Crown Workforce Board. Commissioner Wood agreed to be the alternate for Big Bend Water Authority. Commissioner Osteen agreed to fulfill these responsibilities.

BOCC Committee Assignments, District 5

1. Dixie County Artificial Reef Development Agency
2. Big Bend Water Authority
3. Florida Crown Workforce Board
4. Three Rivers Regional Library Board
5. Aucilla Landfill Board (alternate)

Manager Cannon informed the Board that on Monday, February 20, 2023, the County Offices will be closed for the President's Day Holiday.

CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Watson had nothing to discuss at this time. She thanked the Board for their understanding and patience.

Commissioner Hatch thanked her for her service to the Board.

BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Clerk Higginbotham had nothing to discuss at this time.

COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Wood asked about the caution light he had requested.

Manager Cannon replied nothing yet from FDOT.

Commissioner Hatch thanked Clerk Higginbotham and her staff for decorating the Board meeting room. He welcomed Commissioner Osteen back.

Commissioner Osteen said he is honored to be back on the Board. He said he appreciates the appointment and will continue to work for the citizens.

Commissioner Stephenson thanked the County Manager for getting the Road Department and the grader man to grade the Clyde Jones Road, so the rainwater flows off the road.

Commissioner Storey thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said they will continue to work on Hwy 358 for Jena.

Manager Cannon said this has been submitted to FDOT to evaluate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Edward Pivacek, owner of the historic Putnam Lodge, spoke to the Board and informed them they purchased 10 acres next to them and plan to increase their RV Park. He requested the Board's support.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if the property is in the city or the county.

Mr. Pivacek said the RV Park is in the county and are currently permitted for 160 sites.

Commissioner Stephenson said he is concerned for the safety of the area with the increased traffic.

Mr. Pivacek said they have 60 on five (5) acres and will have another 50 or 60 on the next five (5) acres.

Building Official Leon Wright said this Special Exception was prior to him being in office. He said there is city water and sewer available. He said there will possible be opposition to this in the future.

Mr. Pivacek said he has spoken with his neighbors about their plans and said this would be a couple of years down the road. He said he wants to get the Special Use in place early on.

Mr. Wright recommended the Board consider how long they allow a Special Exception to last before the owner starts working on the project. He said there was another property that was approved and not developed and is now up for sale. He said the Board put a stipulation in place for the solar farms to prevent this buying and flipping of property.

Commissioner Hatch agreed there should be ongoing development to keep the Special Exception in place.

Commissioner Stephenson asked Mr. Kirk Merhefka if the city sewer will be able to handle the additional sites for the Putnam Lodge RV Park expansion.

Mr. Merhefka replied no.

Mr. Pivacek said they applied for the Special Exception in 2017 and had to wait for the sewer to be put in place by the city.

Ms. Beverly Pivacek said their business was used to help qualify and support the city so they could get a grant for the lift station.

She said they would also consider creating an RV storage facility.

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Mr. Merhefka replied no.

Mr. Pivacek said they applied for the Special Exception in 2017 and had to wait for the sewer to be put in place by the city.

Ms. Beverly Pivacek said their business was used to help qualify and support the city so they could get a grant for the lift station. She said they would also consider creating an RV storage facility.

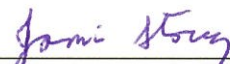
ADJOURN

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to adjourn at 7:42 PM. 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.