

Regular Meeting

Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
July 06, 2023 – 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

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
Martha McCaskill, Administrative Asst/Grant Coordinator
Chana Watson, County Attorney
Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court
Della Rhymes, Asst. Chief Deputy Clerk
Jacki Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
Brenda Royal, Chief Financial Officer

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Commissioner Storey.

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 Osteen.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve Minutes from the BOCC and Town of Cross City Workshop of June 14, 2023. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2023. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Osteen 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 Wood. Board approved.

APPLICATIONS for SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

A petition by **Frank Scott Rice** 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 a (ESA) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/02/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 24-09-13-0000-4417-0500, 54 NE 796th Lane, Old Town, FL 32680.

(Commission District 1, Jody Stephenson)

Building Official Leon Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Frank Scott Rice. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Special Exception request made by Frank Scott Rice. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **Thomas and Traci Carter** 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 a (ESA) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/06/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 21-13-12-0000-3454-0000, 259 SE 371ST Street, Old Town, FL 32680.

(Commission District 3, Mark Hatch)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Thomas and Traci Carter. There was opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to table the Special Exception request made by Thomas and Traci Carter. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board tabled.

A petition by **Andrew Charles Disney** 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 a (AG) Agriculture zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/06/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 03-09-13-3949-0000-0170, 428 NE 582 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680.

(Commission District 1, Jody Stephenson)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Andrew Charles Disney. There was opposition.

Mr. Disney said he had spoken with his neighbors and was unaware of any opposition. He said he has plans to build a home in the future, but he is not ready to move forward with those plans.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to table the Special Exception request made by Andrew Charles Disney. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board tabled.

A petition by **Michael J. Ferraro** 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 a (AG) Agriculture zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 06/14/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 16-09-13-0000-4101-0900, 235 NE 504th Ave, Old Town, FL 32680.

(Commission District 1, Jody Stephenson)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Michael J. Ferraro. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Special Exception requested by Michael J. Ferraro. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

APPLICATIONS for VARIANCES

A petition by **James Leggett** located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0000-1090, 7 SE 230th Street, Old Town, FL 32680, to request a **Variance** for a reduction of the south side setbacks from 10 feet to zero for the placement of a 16 x 36 boat house by the petition dated 05/30/2023 which is located within Section 4.3.7 ESA Subparagraph (1) 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 James Leggett. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Variance requested by James Leggett. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

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

RESOLUTION 2023-60

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 ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (ESA) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JUNE 2, 2023.

Frank Scott Rice

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-60 in support of Frank Scott Rice.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-60 in support of Frank Scott Rice. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-61

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 6, 2023.

Thomas and Traci Carter

Resolution 2023-61 was tabled due to the Special Exception it supported being tabled earlier.

RESOLUTION 2023-62

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 AGRICUILTURAL AREA (AG) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JUNE 6, 2023.

Andrew Charles Disney

Resolution 2023-66 was tabled due to the Special Exception it supported being tabled earlier.

RESOLUTION 2023-63

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 AGRICUILTURAL AREA (AG) ZONING DISTRICT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PETITION DATED JUNE 14, 2023.

Michael J. Ferraro

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-63 in support of Michael J. Ferraro.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-63 in support of Michael J. Ferraro. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-64

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 WITHIN SECTION 4.3.7 ESA SUBPARAGRAPH (1) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION OF SOUTHSIDE SETBACKS FROM 10 FEET TO ZERO FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A 16X36 BOAT HOUSE WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECION 4.3.7. An ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (ESA) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED MAY 30, 2023. **James Leggett**

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-64 in support of James Leggett.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-64 in support of James Leggett. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

KAY MCCALLISTER, TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Ms. Kay McCallister informed the Board of the importance of controlled development to protect Dixie County.

Mr. Russ McCallister informed the Board about Unchecked Tourism. He said a lot of the people who live here now were once tourist to this area. He said it is important to maintain the natural state of the area and keep development under control. He said the local businesses support the idea of the Overnight Rental Licensing Program. He said this program will also address rental parking issues that neighboring properties deal with.

Ms. McCallister said this will require a part-time person to manage this program which will be funded by the Board. She said the Tourist Development Council funds cannot pay to staff this position, however there is office space available to share at the voting precinct.

Ms. McCallister said they have found a \$3,500.00 computer program to track the licensing. She said they are ready to start working with a local company to research, identify, and obtain contact information on the rental businesses who publicly advertise. The cost for this service will be \$4,000.00 - \$5,000.00. She said postcard notification will be mailed, in October 2023, to the rental properties informing them of the new license requirements. She said the licensing income should outweigh the expenses of the program which will start in January 2024.

Commissioner Hatch asked if this proposed computer program is the same as the program that Building and Zoning currently uses.

Mr. Wright replied it is the same operating platform and same company.

Commissioner Hatch asked if the annual renewal licensing will be set for the calendar or physical year. Ms. McCallister replied it will start in January 01.

Commissioner Hatch asked what happens if the license is not renewed.

Ms. McCallister replied a penalty fee will be charged.

Mr. McCallister said the TDC cannot enforce these regulations.

Commissioner Stephenson said the rentals are regulated by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants. He said the county will need to address liability.

Ms. McCallister said a self-inspection will be completed by the rental property owner and they will be provided with the rules of the program. Then if a complaint is made there is documentation in the file.

County Attorney Chana Watson said if the county takes on the responsibility and liability of this Overnight Rental Licensing Program, they will become the regulating authority for non-compliance. She said the \$150.00 fee is too low to cover the expenses of enforcement.

Commissioner Stephenson said the legal rentals will have to be regulated by the county or denied. Then the illegal rentals will have to be regulated by the county anyway, so they must implement something.

Mr. John Gerry commented that the transfer of liability is an issue.

County Manager Duane Cannon questioned the funding for the part-time employee and who will be responsible. He said the TDC cannot fund this per Florida Statute

Ms. McCallister said they can share office space at the old EMS Training Facility, but the TDC cannot pay for the salary of the position.

Manager Cannon said the Board would have to pay this part-time employee. He asked how many hours this position will need to work because this will need to be budgeted.

Ms. McCallister replied 20-25 hours per two-week pay period.

Commissioner Stephenson asked what percentage of money from the TDC goes back into the county.

Ms. McCallister replied 50 percent goes to improve parks and facilities only.

Commissioner Hatch asked what the county spends now for repairs and such from the TDC and can that money be reallocated.

Ms. McCallister Kay said this position may turn into a full-time position.

Ms. McCallister requested the Board approve the investment in the computer program and make improvements to the building and paying the part-time position.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to move forward with investing in the computer program and pay a part-time staff member and make improvements to the building that will be used for office space. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to raise the Overnight Rental Property Licensing Fee to \$200.00. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to get an itemized list of repairs to bring the building, that will be used for office space, up to code and answer if any TDC money can go towards the building. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Chief Financial Officer Jacki Johnson asked when will the part-time position become effective so they can budget for this out of general fund.

Ms. McCallister said the program will start in January 01 as of 2024.

Ms. Johnson clarified that repairs are not the same as improvements, regarding TDC funding.

Ms. Sarah Ross suggested the Overnight Rental Licensing Program Fee be increase. She said most rentals are not paying the bed tax.

Commissioner Hatch said these properties already pay the assessment fee and property taxes.

Manager Cannon asked how many overnight rental businesses will pay this fee.

Ms. McCallister said there are 150-200 rentals in Dixie County.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the \$200.00 Annual Licensing Fee per Overnight Rental Unit. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Ms. McCallister clarified that an Overnight Rental Business is classified as being rented for less than six (6) months.

MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, INC.

Mr. Alan Paulin, Sr. Vice-President

Annual Report/Budget Request FY 2024

Mr. Paulin appeared before the Board and presented the Meridian Annual Report. He said 2022 was the 50th year anniversary of Meridian. They are accredited through the Council for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). They provide a wide variety of services for Adults and Children and their services continue to expand based on the needs of the community.

Commissioner Hatch asked about pre COVID telehealth numbers compared to after COVID numbers.

Mr. Paulin replied telehealth started out at five (5) percent before COVID and raised to 60 percent during COVID and is now at 50 percent.

Mr. Paulin said they are funded through local, and public funds as well as insurance. He requested the Board approve an increase in the Budget for Meridian.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the 2.1 percent increase (\$56,361.00) in Budget for Meridian. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

KATRINA VAN AERNAM AND SHEILA FRIERSON, DIXIE COUNTY ANTI-DRUG COALITION

Ms. Sheila Frierson appeared before the Board and said they also partner with Meridian for services. She informed everyone they will be hosting a Mental Health Training Course on August 02, 2023 from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM at the Cross City Library. She requested the public register prior to July 24 because space is limited to 25 people.

Ms. Frierson said they will also be traveling to Washington, DC next week to promote and request funding for services provide by the Anti-Drug Coalition.

STEVE COPELAND, SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER MANAGER

Mr. Copeland appeared before the Board and informed them SWSD services 953 customers. He said they were very busy with the holiday. He said they fixed 12 grinders and cleaned the lift station twice daily. He stated the Financial Audit was completed and sent to the state on time. He said the auditor has commented that many of the outstanding issues have been corrected. He said they are accepting bids from local fuel companies for gas and diesel because they currently pay \$2.00 to \$3.00 more per gallon because of the distance for delivery. He said they will need a 500-gallon tank for gas.

Commissioner Hatch thanked him for the timely audit and good staff management.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if the Sewer Plant in Suwannee is at capacity.

Mr. Copeland replied not yet. He said this plant was built to service Suwannee, Horseshoe, and part of Old Town.

Commissioner Stephenson asked him to consider taking sewage waste from private septic services. He said the DEP regulations are very strict, and some private service providers are having to haul the waste as far as Georgia.

Mr. Copeland said he will present that suggestion to the SWSD Board.

GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Mr. Kellan Bailey appeared before the Board to discuss the two (2) fire station projects. He said they had a pre application meeting with SRWMD about the Old Town station. He said this property is in a flood zone and will need a bigger retention pond.

He said they will meet with Director of Emergency Services Darian Brown and his staff on July 12, 2023 to discuss the projects.

Mr. Bailey informed the Board of the Restore Act Application for the BP Oil Spill Money and said this will be used for the Working Waterfront Project in Horseshoe. He said August 01, 2023 is the submittal deadline. He said they attended a Board meeting last week in South Florida and got some good information and feel confident about the application.

Mr. Bailey presented information on the Cross City Library Roof Project. He said the AC units have been finalized and they will get a bid next week. He said they need to review with the County Manager if Subway and the Forever 54 Flower Shop is onboard with the roof renovations or not.

Mr. Bailey updated the Board on the CDBG Projects for 95 and 97. He said the environmental review has cleared. He said this will be submitted for approval and then they will move forward with design.

Mr. Bailey said the Hal Chairs Road/82 Avenue is in the planning phase. He stated the paving and striping of the 340 project is complete. He said they will be working on seeding the shoulders and ditches and this should be completed within the next 30 days.

Commissioner Stephenson commented that the shoulders are very steep.

Ms. Barbara Cummings asked about the time frame on the Willow Hole Road striping. Manager Cannon said that was awarded to Anderson Columbia and he will find out when they will start after the contract has been executed.

Commissioner Hatch asked about fencing around the retention pond.

Mr. Bailey replied yes, it will be fenced.

JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. John Locklear appeared before the Board and informed them that the 82 Avenue Project was awarded to Anderson Columbia and they will start this on Monday, July 10, 2023.

Mr. Locklear said the design plan for 351 South has been completed. He said the plan will be submitted to FDOT for review.

Mr. Locklear said the Storm Water Task Force Projects for improvements for the airport and prison drainage are moving forward with general permitting for culverts through the Suwannee River Water Management District. He said there are no major concerns with the proposal.

Mr. Locklear said the 358/Old Hwy 19 drainage improvements and the Old Town Upholstery Road Canal are moving forward with survey data collection, then they will design and model.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the 351-drainage issue past the Little Red Store. Manager Cannon replied three (3) cross drains will be replaced with concrete and an addition will be added for better drainage.

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.

Commissioner Hatch thanked the mosquito crew for spraying. He informed everyone that the cost of this product has increased per gallon. He recommended the public call in and leave their name and address for additional spraying. He said the data from the mosquito spraying trucks needs to be presented to the public for education.

Mr. John Pool requested additional information.

Commissioner Stephenson said the mosquito license had lapsed prior to the mosquito season; however, they are in compliance now.

TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Johnson was not present for this meeting.

LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Mr. Wright had nothing to discuss at this time.

DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Director Brown appeared before the Board and informed them the Fire Marshall has approved funding for Dixie County to get one tanker at \$650,000.00. He said the prices of the trucks have increased another \$110,000.00.

Director Brown informed the Board that the HMGP Grant request has been submitted for the replacement of Station 3 in the First District and turn this into a Hurricane Proof Facility. He said there is 1.7 million dollars in funding that can be used for this. He said the other HMGP Grant will be used for the replacement of a generator at Station 2 in Old Town.

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

Mr. Pendarvis had nothing to discuss at this time.

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 was not present for this meeting.

DUANE CANNON, COUNTY MANAGER

Manager Cannon appeared before the Board to request approval of several items.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement for the CR 357 Bridge Replacement over the 437402-1-52-01 Shired Creek & 437403-1-52-01 California Swamp Bridge No. 300043 & 300044.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the execution of the FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement for the CR 357 Bridge Replacement over the 437402-1-52-01 Shired Creek & 437403-1-52-01 California Swamp Bridge No. 300043 & 300044. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute **RESOLUTION 2023-57** in support of the FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement for the CR 357 Bridge Replacement over the 437402-1-52-01 Shired Creek & 437403-1-52-01 California Swamp Bridge No. 300043 & 300044.

*Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the execution of **RESOLUTION 2023-57** in support of the FDOT Construction & Maintenance Agreement for the CR 357 Bridge Replacement over the 437402-1-52-01 Shired Creek & 437403-1-52-01 California Swamp Bridge No. 300043 & 300044. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.*

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the FDOT TSMCA for FY 2024 in the amount of \$17,618.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the execution of the FDOT TSMCA for FY 2024 in the amount of \$17,618.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for Terry Harris in the amount of \$9,325.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the execution of the SHIP Rehab Reimbursement for Terry Harris in the amount of \$9,325.00. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the SHIP Release of Lien for James Nessmith in the amount of \$20,000.00. The check has been received and sent to finance for processing.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the execution of the SHIP Release of Lien for James Nessmith in the amount of \$20,000.00. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to execute the Work Order 23-16 for Passero Associates, LLC for the Runway 4-22 Drainage Improvements at the Cross City Airport in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the execution of the Work Order 23-16 for Passero Associates, LLC for the Runway 4-22 Drainage Improvements at the Cross City Airport in the amount of \$100,000.00. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to clear up the deed on NE 264th ST (Rollison Road) to ensure ownership of the Airport Canal, NE 264th ST road right of way and future access to the canal system across the property. The County agrees to fence the remainder of the property using chain-link fence to meet the Airport fence requirements and match the existing fence on parcel 11-10-12-0000-2657-0400 and pay for a survey for the legal description correction.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve to clear up the deed on NE 264th ST (Rollison Road) to ensure ownership of the Airport Canal, NE 264th ST road right of way and future access to the canal system across the property. The County agrees to fence the remainder of the property using chain-link fence to meet the Airport fence requirements and match the existing fence on parcel 11-10-12-0000-2657-0400 and pay for a survey for the legal description correction. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Dixie County Library Budget Amendment Increase Request in the amount of \$84,077.00 due to the State Aid Grant amount received of \$125,675.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approval of the Dixie County Library Budget Amendment Increase Request in the amount of \$84,077.00 due to the State Aid Grant amount received of \$125,675.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon informed the Board of the need to review the language of the Deed of Conveyance for the Old Landfill Property. This was previously approved to go to the highest bidder, Dwight Knight.

Manager Cannon informed the Board the Solid Waste staff will be working tomorrow, July 07, 2023 due to the July 04, 2023 holiday.

CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Watson appeared before the Board and informed them the Deed they are currently reviewing was not prepared by her. She said the attorney for Mr. Dwight Knight has revised the language and prepared a revised Deed for the Old Landfill Property. She said Mr. Knight is requesting a Warranty Deed for this property. She said this Warranty Deed would make the county liable for prior issues on the property. She said this language was not part of the original agreement for sale or in the original deed that she had prepared. She said this revised Deed was presented to the County Manager and not to her. She recommended the Board take no action until she can work this out with Mr. Knight's attorney.

Attorney Watson informed the Board the terms for payment within 45 days have not been met by the purchaser and they are now approaching 60 days without payment. She said per the terms of the agreement, the Board can move forward with another bidder or rebid due to non-performance by the winning bidder.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about the Scrap Metal Contract.

Manager Cannon said the contract is still pending because the contractor has been in the hospital. He said they should be able to move forward on Monday.

Attorney Watson said they are working on the terms of the agreement.

Attorney Watson recommended the Board consider implementing a Document Signing Program for convenience of signing contracts.

Commissioner Hatch agreed that is a good idea.

BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Clerk Higginbotham presented a framed photo of the different counties throughout Florida. She said that Kofile, which is the company scanning and preserving old files and records for the Clerk, had this made and it will be hanging in her office.

Chief Financial Officer Brenda Royal presented the Vouchers Report. She spoke to the Board about TRIM, which started July 01, 2023, and they will need to vote on the proposed millage rates within two (2) weeks. She said the Final Rates will be voted on in September.

Commissioner Hatch said he would like to move forward with the Flexible Spending Account (FSA) for employees versus the Health Savings Account (HSA) for employees.

Manager Cannon said he would recommend this to start in January of 2024.

COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Wood thanked Mosquito Control for their work.

Commissioner Hatch had nothing to discuss at this time.

Commissioner Osteen thanked the Sheriff and Road Department for making Jena safe for the holiday.

Commissioner Stephenson thanked all the County employees for their hard work through the holidays.

Commissioner Storey thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Mary Goodrich requested an update on the ditches and culverts cleaned out. She also expressed a concern with speeding in her neighborhood.

Mr. John Pool commented that the headlights on the” jacked-up trucks” pose a safety hazard for oncoming traffic.

Ms. Karen Van Aernam with Cross City Restore and Renew informed everyone the County Manager’s Office has been painted. She said they are waiting on signs from the Print Shop and they will be planting flowers there soon.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to adjourn at 12:05 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.