

Regular Meeting

Commission Board Room
Dixie County Courthouse
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628
November 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
Martha McCaskill, Administrative Asst/Grant Coordinator
Chana Watson, County Attorney
Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court
Verna Wilson, Chief Deputy Clerk
Della J. Rhymes, Asst. Chief Deputy Clerk
Brenda Royal, Chief Financial Officer

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Organizational Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM 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 Stephenson.

County Manager Duane Cannon requested a nomination for Chairman of the Board.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion for Commissioner Storey to serve as Chairman. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Stephenson voted yes.

Commissioner Hatch voted no.

This was a four to one vote.

County Manager Duane Cannon requested a nomination for Vice-Chairman of the Board.
*Commissioner Storey made the motion for Commissioner Stephenson to serve as Vice-Chairman.
Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.*

County Manager Duane Cannon requested the Board's approval of BOCC Meeting dates and times for first (1st) and third (3rd) Thursdays of each month. The first (1st) Thursday at 10:00 AM, and the third (3rd) Thursday at 6:00 PM.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the BOCC Meeting days and times for the year 2024. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to adjourn at 6:03 PM. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Commissioner Storey.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 02, 2023. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Stephenson 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 **Jeannie and Dale Hesh** 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 Agriculture (AG) zoning district, in accordance with the petition dated 10/20/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 06-10-13-4525-0000-0000, 889 NE 434 St, Old Town, FL 32680. (**Commission District 3, Mark Hatch**)

Building Official Leon Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Jeannie and Dale Hesh. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Special Exception request made by Jeannie and Dale Hesh. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

A petition by **Dorothy Christine Shoun** 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 10/18/2023 to be located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 01-10-13-4512-0000-0010, 1455 NE 272 Ave , Old Town, FL 32680. (**Commission District 2, Daniel Wood**)

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read the Special Exception request made by Dorothy Christine Shoun. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve the Special Exception request made by Dorothy Christine Shoun. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

APPLICATIONS for VARIANCES

A petition by **Lucas Putz** located on the property described as follows: Dixie County Parcel # 19-13-12-2994-0003-3560, 10 SE 894 Ave, Old Town, FL 32680 to request a **Variance** for a reduction of side setbacks on the east side of property from ten feet down to eight feet, and reduce the west side setbacks from ten feet down to five feet for the construction of a new home by the petition dated 10/25/2023 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 Lucas Putz. There was no opposition.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Variance request made by Lucas Putz. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

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

RESOLUTION 2023-117

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 OCTOBER 20, 2023.

Jeannie and Dale Hesh

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-117 in support of Jeannie and Dale Hesh.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-117 in support of Jeannie and Dale Hesh. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-118

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 OCTOBER 18, 2023.

Dorothy Christine Shoun

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-118 in support of Dorothy Christine Shoun.

Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-118 in support of Dorothy Christine Shoun. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

RESOLUTION 2023-119

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 OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TO GRANT A VARIANCE WITHIN SECTION 4.7.7 RSF/MH SUBPARAGRAPH (2) OF THE DIXIE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR A VARIANCE FOR A REDUCTION OF SIDE SET BACKS ON THE EAST SIDE OF PROPERTY FROM 10 FEET DOWN TO 8 FEET, AND REDUCE THE WEST SIDE SETBACKS FROM TEN FEET DOWN TO FIVE FEET FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOME WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN SECION 4.7.7. A RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY/MOBILE HOME AREA (RSF/MH) ZONING DISTRICT, AS PROVIDED IN THE PETITION DATED OCTOBER 25, 2023.

Lucas Putz

Mr. Wright appeared before the Board and read Resolution 2023-119 in support of Lucas Putz.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-119 in support of Lucas Putz. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

JAMIE HINOTE, HAVEN HOSPICE

Ms. Hinote appeared before the Board and requested their approval of Resolution 2023-123 in recognition of National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. She informed the Board that they have provided services to the North Central Florida community for over 45 years.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion approve Resolution 2023-123. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Mr. Bailey appeared before the Board and gave them status updates on several projects:

- The Old Town Fire Station plans have been delivered to the EOC for review. The draft/bid packets are at the County Manager's Office for review. They will be advertising after Thanksgiving.
- The mechanical plans for the Cross City Library roof are still in production. There are still some legal documents that are needed from the Subway shop next door.

Commissioner Hatch asked if the County Staff could do the AC installation work.

Manager Cannon said they can look into this to save some money.

- The surveys for the CDBG Projects for 95 and 97 have been completed. They are working on the base plans and will be assessing drainage improvements.
- The 90 percent plans for the Hal Chairs Road Project will be submitted to FDOT next week.
- The survey for the Sheriff's Evidence Building has been done and they are working with the Sheriff on the floor plan.
- They looked at Commissioner Stephenson's concerns on County Road 340. They looked at the Inspector information and the plans. FDOT has reviewed and has no issues. He said there is some shadowing on the pavement.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the warranty on the road.

Mr. Bailey said he will verify the warranty.

Commissioner Stephenson said he is concerned with water intrusion and cold weather freezing and busting the pavement.

Mr. Bailey said the only way to know for sure is to do core samples. He recommended waiting 12 months.

- The \$4,200.00 change order for the bridge joint repair on County Road 340 is still pending.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about the pricing for the core sampling.

Mr. Bailey replied he will check with the Geo Tech and Lab Analysis.

JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. Locklear was not present for this meeting.

CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Ms. Bellot appeared before the Board and discussed the Cross City Library Annual Report.

She said they had 7,782 people attend programing for the year. She said more people are moving into the county and they come here for social interaction and learning. A representative from Senator Rubio's office was there yesterday. She said they also have someone to assist with Medicare questions on Wednesdays. The folks with FEMA will be leaving soon. Ms. Bellot thanked the Board for all their support.

STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Fremen appeared before the Board and informed them they had two (2) hearings scheduled for last week on two (2) properties. He said one was postponed. The other case went before the Judge and was not assessed fines due to change in ownership. He said they will have to start over and notice the new owner of the property on Tick Road. He said this case is three (3) years old. The Judge ruled the fines go to the owner and not the property.

Mr. Wright said the Code Enforcement process needs to change. He said they would like to mirror Columbia County's process. The Code Enforcement Officer will issue a warning, then the owner has 30 days to comply, a citation is issued for non-compliance, then the owner gets fined administrative costs before the magistrate in court, the magistrate issues an order, if the owner does not comply with the order, then the county can place a lien on the property. This will require an expense account for code enforcement.

Mr. Wright said that Columbia County tows and impounds campers that are not supposed to be on the property.

County Attorney Chana Watson said she needs to clarify Homestead and Foreclosure.

Mr. Wright requested the Board allow another attorney to assist with this matter. He said a lawyer from Columbia County has offered to help.

Attorney Watson said the costs of cleaning up these properties are a budget concern for the county. She requested more time to figure out how to recover the costs.

Mr. Wright said this needs to be addressed early in the process for cost savings.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion for Building and Zoning to get with the County Attorney and figure out how to implement this new process. Commissioner Hatch seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Hatch asked if Attorney Kyle Felty may be able to assist. Attorney Watson replied he will assist when and where he can.

Mr. Wright informed the Board that he met with Mr. Gene Boles about the Code Enforcement Ordinance. He said there are two (2) separate codes for the LDRs. He said he will get clarification tomorrow and possibly bring this before the Board in December for a first and second reading. January 2024 they will move forward with training the local planning council.

Mr. Wright informed the Board they are in compliance with state regulations for processing permit applications. He said the recent storm had caused delays. He said over the past three (3) months they have processed 991 permit applications.

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.

TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

Mr. Johnson was not present for this meeting.

LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL

Mr. Wright had nothing further to discuss with the Board.

DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Director Brown appeared before the Board and informed them of the following scheduled events.

- Christmas in Dixie/Fire Expo will be held on December 15, 2023, from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM at the High School. He said 2,000 people attended last year. He said they are accepting donations of gifts for the children.
- The Emergency Services Safety Dinner will be held at Camp Anderson on December 09, 2023, at 5:00 PM. This is a family-oriented event. Please RSVP by December 01, 2023.

Director Brown said he and several staff members will be attending the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial at the Fire College in Ocala, FL. He said the new tanker is getting painted. He said plans for the new fire stations and EOC expansion are moving forward.

Division Chief Scott Garner appeared before the Board and requested they approve the local state of emergency extensions.

Resolution 2023-120 Emergency Declaration Extension for Hurricane Idalia for seven (7) days; from November 06, 2023, until November 12, 2023.

Commissioner Osteen Made the motion to approve Resolution 2023- 120 Emergency Declaration Extension. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Resolution 2023-121 Emergency Declaration Extension for Hurricane Idalia for seven (7) days; from November 13, 2023, until November 19, 2023.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve Resolution 2023- 121 Emergency Declaration Extension. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Resolution 2023-122 Emergency Declaration Extension for Hurricane Idalia for seven (7) days; from November 20, 2023, until November 26, 2023.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve Resolution 2023- 122 Emergency Declaration Extension. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Chief Garner said he and North Florida Professional Services have been assessing damage at the County Park and Community Center in Suwannee, the jail generator, Station Two, and the communications tower in Shamrock.

Chief Garner said they are verifying the damage done underneath the Cow Creek Bridge was storm related with FDOT and the Couty Manager. This will be submitted to FEMA.

Commissioner Osteen asked about the damage done to the roads by the heavy trucks. He asked if this could be submitted to FEMA.

Chief Garner said this would be harder to prove.

Commissioner Osteen recommended the Sand Hill Creek Bridge on Hwy 358 also be assessed. Mr. Bailey said they can look at this bridge.

Commissioner Hatch asked about McGriff Pass.

Chief Garner said this has been presented to Senator Rubio's Office. He said the county does not own this waterway.

Commissioner Hatch said the county should enter into a lawsuit against the ARMY Corp of Engineers. He said the pass has not been dredged in 30 years.

Mr. Bailey informed everyone that there will be a couple of bills through Tallahassee to fund areas impacted by Hurricane Idalia.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about Horseshoe. He said there is no longer a deep channel due to the storm.

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

Mr. Pendarvis appeared before the Board requested, they approve the Fall Grant for \$5,768.80.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the Fall Grant for \$5,768.80. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Mr. Pendarvis requested the Board approve a contract for IT Back-up Services at \$900.00 per month.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve a contract for IT Back-up Services at \$900.00 per month. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

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 requested the Board's approval to follow suit with Governor DeSantis for State office closures and allow the county offices to close on the following dates:

- Wednesday, November 22, 2023
- Friday, December 29, 2023
- Tuesday, January 02, 2024

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve the closing of the county offices on the dates as presented. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Road Projects to be submitted to FDOT for the 5-year Road Project Plan.

- McCrabb Landing Road/NE 349th Ave, NE 765th Ave, NE 356th Ave from SR 349 to NE 339th Ave.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve NE 349th Ave, NE 765th Ave, NE 356th Ave from SR 349 to NE 339th Ave. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Road Projects to be submitted to FDOT for the 5-year Road Project Plan.

- Jena Hwy/CR 358 from US 19 to SW 661st St

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve CR 358 from US 19 to SW 661st St. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Road Projects to be submitted to FDOT for the 5-year Road Project Plan.

- SE 71st Ave, SE 265th ST, SE 269th St from CR 351 S to SE 60th Ave

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve SE 71st Ave, SE 265th ST, SE 269th St from CR 351 S to SE 60th Ave. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's direction for the property parcel #26-09-09-0045-0000-0590 in Jena. They received one (1) bid from Tracy Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$75,200.00. The minimum bid was set by the Board at \$645,000.00. The current appraisal value is \$175,000.00.

The County Manager recommended the Board either:

- Re-advertise for bids.
- Lower the minimum bid.
- Advertise for and hire a realtor to help market the property.

Commissioner Stephenson said the county needs to recover the cost that was paid back in 2006.

Commissioner Hatch suggested this property be used as a land swap for economic development.

The Board did not accept this bid from Tracy Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$75,200.00.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to begin paperless employee payroll checks on January 01, 2024. This is for five (5) existing employees and all future employees.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve beginning paperless employee payroll checks on January 01, 2024. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the SHIP Emergency Repair Reimbursement for Yvette Myers in the amount of \$13,600.00.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to approve the SHIP Emergency Repair Reimbursement for Yvette Myers in the amount of \$13,600.00. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval to cancel the Task Order with NFPS for Application and Administrative Services for the Restore Act Grant.

Commissioner Stephenson made the motion to cancel the Task Order with NFPS for Application and Administrative Services for the Restore Act Grant. Commissioner Wood seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval of the Commissioners Committee Assignments as presented.

Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve the Commissioners Committee Assignments as presented. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

County Manager Duane Cannon took a moment and informed everyone that he has resigned and accepted another job offer. He expressed his gratitude and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as County Manager. He thanked the staff and the public for their support.

Manager Cannon requested the Board's approval for an Acting Assignment of Paul Gainey as County Manager for a six (6) month period effective on December 09, 2023.

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to approve an Acting Assignment of Paul Gainey as County Manager for a six (6) month period effective on December 09, 2023. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.

Commissioner Hatch asked about the Assistant County Manager position.

Mr. Paul Gainey replied he would like to have the opportunity for him and Ms. Martha McCaskill to manage the office duties without hiring another person as an assistant until after six (6) months. He said they may hire some temporary administrative help.

County Attorney Chana Watson suggested the Board approve an Acting Assignment of Martha McCaskill as Asst. County Manager for a six (6) month period effective on December 09, 2023.

Commissioner Stephenson said they need to advertise for a County Manager or an Asst. County Manager as soon as possible.

Mr. Paul Gainey informed the Board they should have a better idea of what needs to happen by January 2024.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about the pay scale for Mr. Gainey and Ms. McCaskill.

Manager Cannon informed the Board that policy states they will receive the same pay rate for 30 days. After that if they are still in that acting position, they will be compensated for the budgeted position for the duration of the acting assignment. If the Board or the employee chooses to change course, then the employee will go back to the original pay rate and position.

Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve an Acting Assignment of Martha McCaskill as Asst. County Manager for a six (6) month period effective on December 09, 2023. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.

Manager Cannon informed every one of the following:

- All County offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holidays Thursday, November 23, 2023, and Friday, November 24, 2023.
- Recognition of Commissioner Stephenson for the Certified Board Member Program completion from Florida Association of Counties.

CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Attorney Watson appeared before the Board and informed them they have code enforcement cases coming up but have no exact dates yet.

She informed the Board about a \$207 million-dollar class action lawsuit/opioid settlement with McKenzie and Company, Inc. There is another \$175,000.00 plus in the settlement for the first year and the rest to be paid out over the next several years.

She informed them she will soon have the contract ready for the “as needed trash hauling.”

BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT

Clerk Higginbotham appeared before the Board and expressed her thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to work with Mr. Duane Cannon as the County Manager. She said they have been working together since 2021 and have made a lot of positive changes.

She welcomed Mr. Gainey on board as the Acting Assignment County Manager.

COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Wood said he has enjoyed working with Mr. Cannon as well and looks forward to working with Mr. Gainey and Ms. McCaskill.

Commissioner Wood asked about the storm debris in canals through the hammock area.

Manager Cannon said that clean out work has been awarded to the 3G Environmental Services and they will be working on this.

Commissioner Wood asked about the Trash Compactor.

Asst. County Manager Gainey replied they have power to the site and will be connecting the power soon. He said they are installing a pole barn over the compactor.

Commissioner Wood asked about painting the center line on the Willow Hole Road.

Asst. County Manager Gainey replied they will get a quote from Jenkins Painting.

Asst. County Manager Gainey informed the Board they had received a quote on stripping Hwy 358 in Jena and the work will be done within a couple of weeks.

Commissioner Wood asked about the new signs for Hinton Landing.
Manager Cannon said they have been submitted and will be done within the next week.

Commissioner Wood asked about the rumble strips.
Manager Cannon replied he does not know about this.

Commissioner Hatch said the county must sue the Army Corp of Engineers for not addressing unsafe waterways. He said the county has done everything required to be able to move forward with this project. He said the McGriff Pass is an economic killer for the Town of Suwannee.

***Commissioner Hatch made the motion to sue the Army Corp of Engineers for unsafe waterways.
Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.
This was a five to zero vote.***

Commissioner Hatch informed everyone about the partnership with the BOCC and the Town of Cross City and Retail Strategies.
Town of Cross City Councilman Mr. Kirk Merhefka said they are looking forward to working together to help the city and county grow.
Commissioner Hatch said the Board must keep looking for more businesses for Dixie County.

Commissioner Hatch informed everyone that his church, Suwannee River Baptist Church in Old Town, will be preparing Thanksgiving Meals for the public.

Commissioner Hatch congratulated Mr. Gainey and Ms. McCaskill on their acting appointments.

Commissioner Osteen thanked Manager Cannon for all his hard work and service and said he will be missed.
Commissioner Osteen asked about getting power to the roll off sites of Jack Roberts curve and Jena.
Asst. County Manager Gainey replied they have a quote from Tri County Electric for the Jena site, and he has requested a quote from Central Florida Electric for the Jack Roberts curve site.

Commissioner Osteen said he had met with FWC and Taylor County about the derelict sailboats in the Steinhatchee River. He said FWC will follow the state statute and do more patrols. He said the vessels must be under power and operational, have working lights, and not be anchored in the channel. He said he will be following up with Taylor County on the Ordinance they are working on. He said some of these vessels need to be tagged and towed.

Manager Cannon said they must notify the boat owner and then move forward.

Attorney Watson said they will have to cover the costs and follow the procedures.
for tagging, towing, and disposal of derelict vessels.

Commissioner Stephenson wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Duane Cannon.

Manager Cannon said this will be his last meeting.

Commissioner Storey thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He congratulated Mr. Gainey and Ms. McCaskill. He expressed how much he respected Mr. Duane Cannon and appreciated him and wished him well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Karen Van Aernam of Cross City Restore and Renew invited everyone to the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day beginning at 7:15 AM. She said they have been working around the city with the donated funds. She announced the following scheduled events:

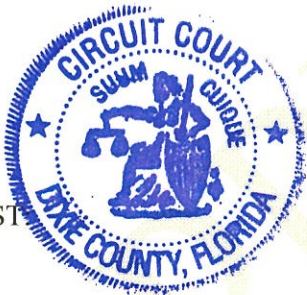
- Monday, November 27 and Tuesday, November 28 they will be decorating for Christmas in Dixie.
- Friday, December 01, 2023, at 5:30 PM they will gather at City Hall and walk to light the Christmas Trees at the Courthouse, the Post Office and at City Hall.
- The next Workshop will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2023, at 5:00 PM with the BOCC and the Town of Cross City.

Commissioner Storey thanked Ms. VanAernam for all her hard work around town.

Commissioner Hatch said he has worked with four (4) County Managers. He thanked Mr. Duane Cannon for his service to the county and said he will be missed.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Osteen made the motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM. Commissioner Stephenson seconded. Board approved.



ATTEST

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Jamie Storey

Jamie Storey, Chairman

Barbie Higginbotham
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.

Workshop/Meeting Minutes –
Date – Time – Page 13 of 13