

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2020**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Bryan Desloge presiding. Present were Vice Chairman Rick Minor and Commissioners Nick Maddox, Bill Proctor, Kristin Dozier, Mary Ann Lindley, and Jimbo Jackson. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Herb Thiele, Assistant Finance Director Edward Burke and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

Chairman Desloge called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was provided by Pastor Gregory James of Life Church International Center. Commissioner Maddox then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **ADDED: UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
(CLAUDIA BLACKBURN, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, LEON)**
 - Claudia Blackburn, Florida Department of Health-Leon County, provided an update on the COVID-19 outbreak. She noted that Governor Ron DeSantis has declared a State of Emergency due to the coronavirus. The number for the Florida Department of Health 24-hour COVID-19 call line is 1-866-779-6121. The Leon County Department of Health number is 850-404-6300 and is available Monday – Friday from 8:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. Also, as requested by the County Department of Health, the County has activated the Emergency Operations Center. The FDOH website is www.FLHealth.gov/COVID-19. She welcomed coming back to give updates.
 - Commissioner Dozier confirmed that citizens should refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Health for information related to COVID-19.
 - Chairman Desloge encouraged staff to continue pushing out the contact information on social media.
- **Proclamation Recognizing Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month**
 - Commissioner Dozier read into the record a Proclamation recognizing Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.
 - Nicki Sargent and Ashley Smith thanked the Board for their recognition and support. They invited the community to attend the Walk MS event on April 4, 2020 at Lake Ella.
- **Proclamation Recognizing the 7th Anniversary of Destiny Church**
 - Commissioner Minor read into the record a Proclamation recognizing the 7th Anniversary of Destiny Church.
 - Brittany Jones, Keith Berry and Deshawn Jones, on behalf of Pastor Clarence Jackson, accepted the Proclamation and thanked the Board for this honor and continued partnership.

- **Proclamation recognizing April 1st as National Census Day**

- Chairman Desloge read into the record a Proclamation recognizing April 1st as National Census Day.
 - Cherie Bryant, Director Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Dept., highlighted the message shared concerning completing your census intake. She recognized the Census Committee and all volunteers. She thanked the Board for their recognition.

- **Presentation of the Neighborhood of the Year and Neighbor of the Year Winners**

- Christic Henry, the Council of Neighborhood Association (CONA) and Leroy Peck, CONA President, thanked the County and all their partners and spoke of those that love their neighborhood.
- Commissioner Desloge presented the following awards:
 - Leon County's Small Neighborhood of the Year -Blairstone Homes Association
 - Leon County's Large Neighborhood of the Year- Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood Association.
 - Leon County's Unincorporated Area Neighborhood of Year -Walden Place Homeowners Association.
 - Neighbor of Year- Rhonnie Schaffer (Green Hills Neighborhood).

- **Proclamation Recognizing the Retirement of County Attorney Herbert W.A. Thiele**

- Chairman Desloge read the proclamation into record honoring County Attorney Thiele's committed service to Leon County.
- County Attorney Thiele thanked the Board for their heartfelt recognition. He remarked it has been a pleasure and honor to serve the County for the last 30 years.

CONSENT:

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozier to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

1. Minutes: December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting.

2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for March 10, 2020 and pre-approve the payment of bills and vouchers for the period of March 11, 2020 through April 13, 2020.

3. Federal Election Cybersecurity Initiatives Grant for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

The Board approved Option 1 and 2: Option 1: Accept and authorize the Leon County Supervisor of Elections to recognize and spend its FY 2019-2020 Federal Election Cybersecurity Initiatives Grant award in the amount of \$24,670, plus 15% matching funds, within the requirements of the Memorandum of Agreement. Option 2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request.

4. Commissioner Appointments to the Contractors Licensing and Examination Board and the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

The Board approved Option 1 & 2: Option 1: Ratify individual Commissioner appointments of citizens to the Contractors Licensing and Examination Board:

- a. Chairman Desloge reappoints John Salvo for a three-year term ending March 31, 2023.*
- b. Commissioner Dozier appoints Sean Morgan for a three-year term ending March 31, 2023.*

[Should the Board choose to appoint Mr. Morgan it would be necessary for the Board to waive the conflicting employment relationship disclosed on Form 4A by a two-thirds affirmative vote.]

Option 2: Ratify Commissioner Lindley's appointment of Tonnelle Graham to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls for the remainder of the unexpired term ending September 30, 2021.

5. Consideration of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee's 2020 Recommendations

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the inclusion of Leon County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee's recommendations in the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Local Housing Assistance Plan as presented.

6. Community Land Trust

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Agreement with Tallahassee Lenders' Consortium to serve as the Community Land Trust and authorize the County Administrator to execute in a form approved by the County Attorney.

7. Consideration to Pursue Designation as an AARP Age-Friendly Community

The Board approved Option 1: Direct staff to pursue designation as an Age-Friendly Community in coordination with the City of Tallahassee.

8. Approval of the Plat of Summerfield Phase 1 Subdivision

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the plat of Summerfield Phase I Subdivision for recording in the Public Record, contingent upon staff's final review and approval, and authorize the County Administrator to accept the Performance Agreement and Surety Device in a form approved by the County Attorney.

9. Florida Department of Environmental Protection Waste Tire Amnesty Event Grant

The Board approved Options 1 & 2: Option 1: Accept the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Waste Tire Amnesty Event grant in the amount of \$25,000 and authorize the County Attorney. Option 2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing the \$25,000 into the FY 2020 budget.

10. Adoption of a Resolution in Support of FDOT Transportation Alternative Set Aside Grant Application to Construct the Gadsden Street Sidewalk Project

The Board approved Option 1: Adopt the Resolution in support of the Florida Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Set-Side Grant Application to construct the Gadsden Street sidewalk project.

Status Reports:

11. Supervised Pretrial Release Program 2019 Annual Report

Option 1: Accept the Supervised Pretrial Release Program 2019 Annual Report and authorize staff to submit to the Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller for Leon County.

12. Status Report on the Capital Area Sustainability Compact

Option 1: Accept the Status Report on the Capital Area Sustainability Compact.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER)

- Ashton Henderson, FSU Assistant Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Development, 3265 Gramercy Place, requested the Board's support of the inaugural Beyond the Gridiron Thrive summit on March 20-21 for children ages 10-14, and asked for the County's support in spreading the word.
- Commissioner Proctor congratulated FSU Coach Leonard Hamilton for being named the ACC Coach of the Year. He requested a proclamation recognizing him. Additionally, he requested a proclamation recognizing Rickards High School Boys' Basketball Team as the State 5A Champions.
- Commissioner Maddox offered his support for the summit and offered a friendly amendment to include a proclamation for the inaugural Beyond the Gridiron Thrive Summit.
- *Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded Commissioner Maddox, to approve a proclamation recognizing FSU Coach Leonard Hamilton as the ACC Coach of the Year; a proclamation recognizing Rickards High Schools Boys' Basketball Team as the State 5A Champions and a proclamation recognizing the inaugural Beyond the Gridiron Thrive Summit, March 20-21, 2020.*
- *The motion carried 7-0.*

GENERAL BUSINESS

13. Setting of the FY 2021 Maximum Discretionary Funding Levels for Outside Agencies including the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP)

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He noted pursuant to the County's Discretionary Funding Ordinance and Policy No. 93-44 Fiscal Planning, this item seeks Board consideration to approve the FY 2021 maximum discretionary funding levels for outside agencies including the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) and special events.

Public Speakers:

- Courtney Atkins, Executive Director Whole Child Leon, 1126 Lee Avenue, thanked the Board for their support of the Children's Services Council. She reflected on her organization's current projects with community partners.
- Leslie Powell-Boudreaux, Legal Services of North Florida, 2119 Delta Blvd, thanked the Board for their continued support.
- Commissioner Maddox recused himself from the vote on Option 1, due to the appearance of a conflict of interest due to his current employment with the Boys and Girls Club.
- Commissioner Minor confirmed that expanding the Promise Zone does not change the categories eligible for funding from previous years.
- Commissioner Dozier reflected that a second grant application was necessary for the Promised Zone funding. She reflected on the potential overlap of CHSP funding categories as well as possible overlap with initiatives in the Office of Economic Vitality.
- County Administrator Long and Shington Lamy confirmed that an application is required for each category applied for including the Promised Zone.

Commissioner Minor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve Option 1: Approve an increase in the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) funding level for FY 2021 from the current \$1,300,000 to \$1,445,000, of which \$145,000 is recommended to be dedicated to the expanded Promise Zone. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox abstained).

Chairman Desloge reflected on the fact that the Kearney Center is operating at a deficit and is being supported by a benefactor. He sought more information for collaboration with the City and Kearney Center leaders on a long-term plan for the Kearney Center.

Commissioner Lindley inquired about an agenda item to include an analysis on supporting the Kearney Center and the impact the Kearney Center has on surrounding businesses and residents.

Commissioner Proctor recognized the vital contribution the Kearney Center makes to the community and reflected on what the County could do to offer support.

Commissioner Dozier reflected on her recent tour of the Kearney Center. She asked that the proposed agenda item include the coordination of services through the Continuum of Care to qualify for additional federal funding. She encouraged the County to focus their attention on the homeless shelter and not their umbrella organizations, Connecting Everyone with Second Chances, Inc. (CESC).

Commissioner Proctor confirmed that the County is setting the maximum discretionary funding level and reflected that additional funding may be required to meet future funding requests. He confirmed with the County Attorney that he was not prohibited from speaking with the Rick Kearney.

- County Administrator Long clarified that operating funding cannot be provided outside of the CHSP process and that it only required a separate application if applying for different services. He noted should the Board choose, a budget discussion item to amend policy including ordinance revisions could be provided.

Commissioner Maddox noted that Kearney Center may have a request for additional capital funding.

Commissioner Lindley confirmed that this is the second year of the County's \$100,000 Capital Funding agreement with the Kearney Center.

Commissioner Dozier established that Option 6 was not needed since the contracts would be coming back in April. She confirmed that additional requests for Capital Funding could be considered later. She noted the program funding is currently addressed in the CHSP process.

Shington Lamy, CHSP Director, shared that separate information is needed, they would need another application in another category to qualify for additional funding.

Commissioner Proctor reflected on the need for County support of the homeless shelter and suggested funding of the Kearney Center could be addressed in Housing Services.

Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozer, to direct staff to bring back a budget discussion item including an analysis of the collaborative long-term funding support for the Kearney Center and revisions to the County's line item funding Ordinance. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Options 2 -5:

- 2) Approve the non-departmental maximum discretionary funding level for FY 2021 at \$37,000 for special events funding.*
 - 3) Maintain the Commissioner District Budgets at \$12,500.*
 - 4) Maintain the Kearney Center Capital Funding at \$100,000.*
 - 5) Approve a Resolution and Budget Amendment Request for \$10,000 from General Fund Contingency for County Sponsored Events for the balance of the current fiscal year.*
- The motion carried 7-0.*

14. Analysis of Lobbying Regulations and Request to Schedule First and Only Public Hearing for April 28, 2020, to Consider Adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article XII of the Leon County Code of Laws Regarding Lobbying Regulations

County Attorney Thiele introduced this item. He stated, as requested at the Board's meeting of January 28, 2020, this agenda item will provide an analysis of various lobbying regulations. This item will also request the Board to schedule a public hearing to consider adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article XII of the Leon County Code of Laws regarding lobbying regulations.

Chairman Desloge called for public speakers.

- Maxwell Herrle, 117 S. Gadsden St., lobbyist, stated that the process to register as a lobbyist with the County is difficult. He reflected on needed updates to the current registration form, the need for online registration and the need to remove the requirement to have the form notarized.

Commissioner Proctor acknowledged the need for allowance for electronic registration and asked if the process could be accomplished online.

- County Attorney Thiele stated that an electronic registration could be explored in collaboration with the Clerk of Court who currently oversees the process.

Commissioner Minor shared the need for lobbyist clarification, and the need to update the registration process by working with the Clerk of Court's Office. He requested a Q & A section be added to the County's lobbyist webpage.

- County Attorney Thiele reflected on the current enforcement of the Ordinance, which requires the issuance of a citation by the Sheriff's Office and added that the Clerk of Court and the State Attorney would also be involved. He indicated other enforcement methods could be explored.

Commissioner Minor motioned to delay the public hearing and requested that staff bring back an agenda item exploring the following: (1) enforcement models for lobbyist registration, (2) removal of the notary requirement on the application form, (3) working with the Clerk of Court to explore an online registration and payment process, (4) adding a Q & A on the lobbyist registration County webpage, (5) simplifying the definition of a lobbyist by removing the exemption in Section 2.681 (6), which involves persons making information requests.

Commissioner Lindley offered an amendment to the motion to include the addition of lobbyists being able to speak at a publicly noticed meeting without registering.

Commissioner Minor accepted the amendment to the motion.

Commissioner Dozier noted that several lobbyists register after being notified by staff that they are not in compliance with the County's ordinance. She reflected on the need for a more efficient and effective enforcement process. She expressed support of the Q & A section on the webpage to include an explanation of when individuals need to register as a lobbyist. She clarified with County Attorney Thiele that, if any individual is being paid to approach a County Commissioner to influence their vote, it would be enough to trigger lobbyist registration.

Commissioner Minor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, to approve Option 2 as amended: Do not schedule first and only public hearing for April 28, 2020, to consider adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article XII of the Leon County Code of Laws regarding lobbying regulations; and direct staff to prepare an agenda item to further explore the following: (1) enforcement models for lobbyist registration, (2) removal of the notary requirement on the application form, (3) working with Clerk of Court to explore an online payment process, (4) adding a Q&A on the lobbyist registration webpage, (5) simplify the definition of a lobbyist by removing exemption 6, and (6) allowing a lobbyist to talk at County publicly noticed meetings without registering.

The motion carried 7-0.

15. Authorization to Amend the Emergency Management Budget to Perform Scheduled Upgrades to the 9-1-1 System Infrastructure

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this agenda item seeks authorization to amend the Emergency Management budget to perform scheduled upgrades to 9-1-1 system infrastructure and establish the text-to-911 system.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Minor, approval of Option 1: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request in the amount of \$797,155 to implement 911 system upgrades.

Commissioner Proctor asked if this technology could be used to disseminate information related to COVID -19.

County Administrator Long indicated that the technology is not currently used for that application, except if it were utilized for reverse 911 situations.

The motion carried 7-0.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

16. Second and Final Public Hearings to Consider Adoption of a Proposed Ordinance Creating a New Section 10-6.657 of the Land Development Code, Entitled “Mining Zoning District”

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He shared this item provides for the second and final Public Hearing to adopt an Ordinance which implements the provisions of the Industry and Mining Future Land Use Category of the Comprehensive Plan by establishing a Mining zoning district. The County currently does not have an existing zoning district dedicated to implementing the mining provisions of the referenced Future Land Use Category. The new zoning district will provide certainty on the allowed land use, development standards, permitting requirements and reclamation standards for mining uses within the Urban Service Area.

Chairman Desloge confirmed there was no public comment.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozier, approval of Option 1: Conduct the second and final Public Hearing and adopt an Ordinance creating a new Section 10-6.657 of the Land Development Code, entitled, “Mining District”. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor out of chambers).

17. First and Only Public Hearing on an Ordinance updating the Capital Improvements Schedule of the Capital Improvements Element of the Comprehensive Plan

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item provides for the annual update to the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements pursuant to Florida

Statutes, and requests the Board to conduct the first and only public hearing to adopt an Ordinance updating the Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Capital Improvement Schedule.

Chairman Desloge confirmed there was no public comment.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson, approval of Option 1: Conduct the first and only public hearing and adopt the Ordinance updating the Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvements Schedule. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor out of chambers).

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER)

- Chairman Desloge confirmed that there were no speakers on Non-Agendaed Items.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney Thiele:

- Thanked Commission and Staff for his retirement celebration on Monday. He thanked everyone for the 30 wonderful years of being the County's lawyer.

County Administrator Long:

- Shared the County activated the EOC as requested by the Leon County Department of Health.
- Acknowledged, for the second year in a row, Leon County was named by Southern Living, which has a reach of 23 million subscribers, as the No. 10 South's Best City and the No. 9 South's Best College Town.
- Congratulated County Attorney Thiele on his much-earned retirement and thanked him for his years of service to Leon County.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Dozier:

- Reflected on the success of the recent Red Hills Horse Trials.
- Recalled the recent ground-breaking for the cross-county improvements at the Apalachee Regional Park.
- Shared her thoughts on the recent League of Women Voters 100th Anniversary Celebration of the women's right to vote.
- Commended staff on the COVID-19 updates from the EOC.
- Acknowledged County Attorney Thiele on his retirement and thanked him for his many years of service to Leon County.
- Welcomed incoming County Attorney, Chasity O'Steen.
- Reflected on her recent walk near Lake Henrietta and the current city projects in the area. She requested more information on the contamination flowing into the lake and confirmed with the County Administrator that staff will prepare a status report on the city and county collaboration to limit the contamination flowing into Lake Henrietta.

Commissioner Proctor:

- Requested a Proclamation recognizing the students representing Talquin Electric Cooperative on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington D.C.

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to request a Proclamation recognizing the students representing Talquin Electric Cooperative on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington D.C. The motion carried 7-0.

- Reflected on the stalled construction of the Washington Square Project and requested a status report.
 - Commissioner Dozier reflected on the need for the Washington Square status report and questioned what triggers are available for the project to move forward.

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozier, to direct staff to bring back a status report on the Washington Square Project. The motion carried 7-0.

- *Reflected on the need for a County Department of Elder Affairs and made a motion to direct staff to bring back an agenda item exploring the development of a County Department of Elder Affairs. Motion died for a lack of a second.*
- Expressed concern regarding the gentrification of the Springfield/Frenchtown area, and stated that citizens may call his office if they do not understand the real value of their property.
- Applauded County Attorney Thiele on his retirement and thanked him for his years of service.
- Requested a proclamation for Willie and Carrie Pittman for their support of female students attending Florida Agriculture and Mechanical College (FAMC) and Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University (FAMU).
- *Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to request a proclamation recognizing Willie and Carrie Pittman for their support of female students attending FAMC and FAMU, to be presented at an off-site event. The motion carried 7-0.*

Commissioner Lindley:

- Congratulatory remarks to the County Attorney on his retirement.
- Reflected on the success of the recent Red Hills Horse Trails.
- Gave kudos to staff for a great Boys to Men concert.

Chairman Jackson:

- Congratulated County Attorney Thiele on his retirement and thanked him for his many years of service.
- Welcomed incoming County Attorney, Chasity O'Steen.

Commissioner Maddox:

- Thanked County Attorney Thiele for his leadership and sound guidance.
- Welcomed incoming County Attorney, Chasity O'Steen.
- Wished Happy Birthday to his son.

Commissioner Minor:

- Announced that the Kearney Center needs supplies related to preventing the spread of the Coronavirus and encouraged community donations such as hand wipes, sanitizer, soap, etc.
- Expressed his appreciation to County Attorney Thiele and incoming County Attorney O'Steen for working together on the lobbyist ordinance amendments.
- Thanked County Attorney Thiele for tenure and wished him well in retirement.

Chairman Desloge:

- Noted the recent ground-breaking for the cross-county improvements at the Apalachee Regional Park.
- Commended the success of the recent Red Hills Horse Trials.
- Congratulated County Attorney Thiele on his retirement and thanked him for his years of service.
- Requested staff explore software used to identify uncollected vacation rental bed tax revenue, possible loss of property tax and building fee revenues associated with unpermitted improvements.
- *Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Minor, to direct staff to bring back an agenda item exploring the software used to identify uncollected vacation rental bed tax revenue and possible loss of property tax and building fee revenues associated with unpermitted improvements. The motion carried 7-0.*

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- None.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

ATTEST:



BY: _____
Bryan Desloge, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

BY:

Gwendolyn Marshall, Clerk of Court
& Comptroller, Leon County, Florida