

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
April 14, 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 Chasity O'Steen, and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

Chairman Desloge called the virtual meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He shared this meeting was held via video conference and was held utilizing communications media technology pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 20-69, Emergency Management due to COVID-19 for Local Government Public Meetings.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was provided by Chairman Bryan Desloge and he proceeded with a roll call.

County Attorney Chasity O'Steen explained the virtual meeting process as outlined in the April 10, 2020 Proclamation 2020-08 which was read into record.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Update on Coronavirus Disease 2019(COVID-19).
Mark O'Bryant, President and CEO, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, provided background on the work that has been done regarding COVID-19 pandemic and provided the current status of testing. He highlighted the importance of staying in place.
 - Chairman Desloge thanked Mr. O'Bryant for his leadership and for everyone at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) for all of their efforts during this time.
 - Commissioner Lindley confirmed with Mr. O'Bryant that TMH has several weeks' worth of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in stock.
 - Commissioner Minor reflected on racial and ethnic disparities in access to health care and stated that he would like to see additional statistics from the Florida Department of Health (FDOH).
 - Mr. O'Bryant stated they are pleased with their supplies and ensured the Board that they are taking precautions to keep employees safe. He confirmed the current socio-economic disparity in the State and stated that data by race and ethnicity is available on FDOH's website.
 - Commissioner Proctor confirmed with Mr. O'Bryant that the local health care partners have come together and are working to complement each other. He reflected on the effects of COVID-19 on the jail population and need for walk-up testing sites for those that rely on public transit.
 - Mr. O'Bryant stated that the best protocols for the jail is to keep people in place, screen the workers and provide them with the appropriate PPEs. He confirmed that citizens must have a referral from a physician to receive testing; however, those showing up at the Northwood testing site without a referral are being referred to a physician. Mr. O'Bryant stated that he would explore the possibility of a walk-up option for those that do not own a vehicle.
 - Commissioner Dozier also thanked Mr. O'Bryant and all the staff at TMH. She confirmed with Mr. O'Bryant that TMH has been able to procure supplies as the

supply chain reopens in addition to using donated masks for non-direct patient care. She asked about the availability of testing and rapid testing in Leon County.

- Mr. O'Bryant stated that only patients with symptoms are being tested and results are processed by labs in 3-5 days. He explained that TMH does not have enough of the testing reagents to do immediate or rapid response testing as these resources are allocated to the hospitals with priority being given to high-impact areas such as southeast Florida.
- Commissioner Jackson confirmed that Second Harvest food distribution is being done by drive-thru, using social distancing, and applying reasonable precautions. He asked if there are significant projection changes since the April 8th TMH report.
 - Mr. O'Bryant indicated that there have been changes and it is believed that the warmer temperatures may be beneficial in slowing down the spread. He reflected that social distancing efforts have also helped to reduce the number of new cases.
- Commissioner Proctor reiterated the importance of walk-up testing for COVID-19 for those without vehicles and advocated for street outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness. He inquired about requiring the use of masks and gloves for employees in food preparation and drive-thru restaurants.
- Mr. O'Bryant said that following the basic guidelines for food preparations and distribution is a good idea but was not sure under whose authority that lies.
- County Administrator Long expressed his thanks to Mark O'Bryant and Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, and to Capital Regional Medical Center.

CONSENT:

Commissioner Minor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to approve the Consent Agenda, Item 9 was pulled from the agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

1. Minutes: January 28, 2020, Regular Meeting

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of January 28, 2020, Regular Meeting.

2. Payment of Bills

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for April 14, 2020 and Pre-Approve of Payment of Bills and Vouchers for the Period of April 15, 2020 through April 27, 2020.

3. Modification of Policy No. 01-05 and Temporary Rules of Procedure for the Use of Communications Media Technology (CMT) to Conduct Virtual Meetings of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and Boards, Councils and Committees

The Board approved Option 1: Ratify the modification of Policy No. 01-05 and Temporary Rules of Procedure for the Use of Communications Media Technology (CMT) to Conduct Virtual Meetings of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners and Other County Boards, Councils and Committees authorized in Amended Proclamation No. 2020-7.

4. Commissioner Appointment to the Contractors Licensing and Examination Board

The Board approved Option 1: Ratify Commissioner Maddox' appointment of David Fronczak to the Contractors Licensing and Examination Board for a three-year term ending March 31, 2023.

5. Authorization to Proceed with the Sale of a Portion of County-Owned Real Estate Identified as the Leon County Court Annex Building at 1920 Thomasville Road

The Board approved Option 1: Authorize staff to proceed under Article 12, Real Estate Policy with the sale of portion of County-owned real estate identified as the Leon County Annex building on Thomasville Road at no cost to the County.

6. Authorization to Transfer a Surplus Leon County Vehicle to Emergency Care Help Organization

The Board approved Option 1: Authorize the transfer of the 2006 Ford F250 Leon County surplus truck to the Emergency Care Help Organization (ECHO).

7. Bid Award for Septic System Services, Continuing Supply

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the bid awards to Brian's Septic Service, and to Apalachee Backhoe and Septic Tank, LLC for Septic System Services, Continuing Supply and authorize the County Administrator to execute both agreements.

8. Approval of the Plat of Cottages at Lonnie Subdivision

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the plat of Cottages at Lonnie Subdivision for recording in the Public Record, contingent upon final review and approval by the County Engineer and authorize the County Administrator to accept the Maintenance Agreement and Surety Device in a form approved by the County Attorney.

9. Approval of the Plat of Fletcher Oak Subdivision Phase I - Pulled

Status Reports:

10. Annual Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Annual Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

CONSENT ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

Item 9. Approval of the Plat of Fletcher Oak Subdivision Phase I

This item was pulled by Commissioner Minor who recused himself due to the appearance of a conflict. He shared his wife's real estate client has interest on one of the properties in the plat.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, The Board approved Option 1: Approve the plat of Fletcher Oak Subdivision Phase I for recording in the Public Record, contingent upon staff's final review and approval, and to authorize the County Administrator to accept the Performance Agreement and Surety Device in a form approved by the County Attorney. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Minor recused).

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER; THERE WILL NOT BE ANY DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION)

- Chairman Desloge acknowledged the citizen comments that were submitted virtually prior to the meeting.

- Demetria Pope, 3100 Dian Rd., inquired about using County owned property and support to establish infill property. While doing so, conduct a trial program to determine the effectiveness of intergenerational housing options.
- Manuel F Munoz, 4180 Covenant Lane, Apt. 308, thanked the County workforce for all their hard work.
- Steve Urse, 1118 Waverly Road, acknowledged the efforts made to protect the Leon County Citizens and wanted to ensure help was given to the homeless and vulnerable. He asked that the Board consider an ordinance like Alachua County that requires retail establishments to limit customers to one per 1000 square feet and to wear mask.

GENERAL BUSINESS

11. Status Report on Leon County's Response Efforts Related to COVID-19

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He noted this agenda item provides the Board a status report on Leon County's response efforts related to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The status report includes a discussion of the latest efforts being taken to plan for a surge in health care needs, the impact of the pandemic on the U.S. economy and its potential fiscal impact to Leon County's finances, and a summary of the policy responses taken by the state and federal government. At this time, response efforts are still ongoing; accordingly, this agenda item should not be considered an After-Action Report. Rather, this status report is intended to serve as a summary of the County's actions to date in coordination with local, state, and federal partners to prepare for and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Representatives from Leon County Emergency Management, the local health care community, and others will participate in the April 14 Board meeting to present the latest updates and information available.

He acknowledged the public comments received. *Citizen Comments received via online submission:*

- Yuh-Mei Hutt, 4089 Faulkner Lane, requested the County provide guidance for best practices for businesses, to be provided before the release from the safer-at-home order.
- Curtis (Toby) Bradley Chapman, 12086 Waterfront Drive, acknowledged the Board for their tireless efforts and leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Kimberly Van Zant, 3209 Mahan Drive, Lot 1, opposed the approval of \$300,000 in funding to provide emergency housing for the area's homeless population.
- Beth Sisson, 487 Frank Shaw Road, shared support of additional funding for housing the homeless and commended the Commissioners for their working with the City.

Presentations:

- County Administrator Long explained the County's full focus on COVID-19 response and indicated that individual staff would provide updates. He thanked staff for their efforts and the support of the Board and the Constitutional Officers.
- Claudia Blackburn, Leon County Health Department, thanked her team that have work tirelessly from the start of this pandemic. She shared the Health Department's 5 objectives: (1) stop the spread of COVID (2) protect the elderly (3) leverage resources to test the community (4) promoting social distancing 5) preparing for a medical surge. She indicated that the Health Department has reports on the demographics of positive cases that can be shared with the Board.

She indicated that her organization is encouraging employers to screen their employees. She indicated that social distancing is key to flattening the curve and thanked County staff.

- Kevin Peters, Director of Emergency Management, shared the EOC was activated on March 10th, and staff has participated in over 70 conference calls to facilitate information sharing. He reported that the State Emergency Center was activated on March 9th and a statewide stay at home order was issued by the Governor on April 3rd. Mr. Peters reported that more than 155,000 different PPE items have been distributed to health care partners and assisted living facilities.
- Shington Lamy, Director of Human Services & Community Partnerships, provided an update on the local homeless COVID-19 Taskforce and efforts to prevent the spread of the virus within local shelters. He shared there has been no reported cases of COVID-19 in the homeless population. He announced the County has partnered with the City and the Big Bend Homeless Coalition to establish a non-congregate shelter for those that have been diagnosed for COVID-19 or awaiting test results.
- Alan Rosenzweig, Deputy County Administrator, indicated that there is a decline in consumer spending and the County is entering into a recession that could last for at least a year. There is a fiscal impact for FY 2020 and FY 2021. Sales Tax revenue is down, gas tax revenue is down, public services tax revenue may not be affected, but the tourist tax revenue will be significantly impacted. There is no direct impact on the property taxes as the property values are already set; however, next year is in question. All of which will be reviewed at the budget workshop in June.
- Andy Johnson, Assistant to the County Administrator, indicated that Congress passed three (3) major pieces of legislation: 1) Phase I on March 6th, included \$8 billion for testing and supplies 2) Phase II Families First included paid leave for workers and tax credits, and 3) Phase III Cares Act included \$2.2 trillion in economic relief. Phase IV will be recovery and is on hold for now.
- Matt Cavell, Assistant to the County Administrator, shared information that the gator graphic has received national coverage and that CMR public information efforts have been viewed over six million times.
- Chief Abrahams, Chief of Emergency Medical Services, indicated that EMS staff has put forth an outstanding effort including supporting the Northwood Center drive-thru testing site and engaging with community partners. He reported that there are no positive cases for EMS employees.
- Christina Paredes, Director of the Tallahassee-Leon County Office of Economic Vitality, provided an update on the COVID-19 Economic Disaster Relief (CEDR) Grant awards for 489 businesses which included SBA loans. She shared they would provide a detailed status report at the next Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meeting.
- Wanda Hunter, Assistant County Administrator, provided an update on the COVID-19 team, including the Constitutional Officers, that developed protocols to protect employees and citizens.
- Chasity O'Steen, County Attorney, indicated that her staff has been working on the County State of Emergency proclamations and virtual meeting protocols.
- Commissioner Proctor inquired how the funding for non-congregate homeless sheltering would be distributed.
 - County Administrator Long noted the non-congregate homeless sheltering plan was approved by State Emergency Management and FEMA.
 - Shington Lamy indicated that the non-congregate homeless sheltering funds will be reimbursed by FEMA and the Big Bend Continuum of Care

- will serve as the coordinator and collaborator of community homeless provider partners for the homeless sheltering plan.
- Commissioner Proctor reflected on the need for mandating masks and gloves with an emergency ordinance for restaurant workers.
 - County Attorney O’Steen replied that the Florida Department of Health issues guidelines to restaurant workers and their guidance is that masks are to be used as needed.
 - Commissioner Proctor indicated his displeasure in not receiving any funding from the federal Phase III legislation.
 - Commissioner Maddox noted that a letter was sent to Congress requesting funding be sent directly to the counties.
 - Commissioner Jackson reflected on whether the Tallahassee Development Center cases were factored into the numbers of cases for 32304 since their residences may be in other areas.
 - Commissioner Dozier inquired about protocols for cleaning public areas.
 - Claudia Blackburn and County Administrator Long indicated that the County is adhering to the guidelines and facilities staff has PPEs.
 - Commissioner Dozier inquired about a local contact tracing system.
 - Ms. Blackburn indicated that the State is working toward that system.
 - Commissioner Dozier asked about procedures on conducting Public Hearings and Town Hall meetings.
 - County Attorney O’Steen indicated that the modification approved in the consent agenda item #3 is sufficient for Public Hearings. She noted the Sunshine Law applies to Townhall meetings.
 - Commissioner Dozier confirmed with Mr. Lamy that the Big Bend Continuum of Care meets regularly with partners serving the region. She also questioned if there are remaining dollars that could be used to cover items that are not FEMA reimbursable.
 - County Administrator Long indicated that the County would spend up to \$300,000 authorized to support emergency sheltering and will report back to the Board.
 - Commissioner Lindley expressed concern regarding the fiscal impacts of the pandemic and expressed support of Options 1-5 and made a motion to approve Options #1-5.
 - Commissioner Minor reflected on the need to assemble a group of people to plan for reopening the local economy.
 - Cristina Parades indicated there is a State Restore Economic Strength through Employment and Tourism (RESET) taskforce.
 - Commissioner Proctor confirmed with County Administrator Long that an After-Action Report would be forthcoming once the pandemic subsides.

Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dozier, approval of Options 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5:

- 1) Accept the status report on Leon County’s response efforts related to COVID-19.*
- 2) Authorize \$300,000 in funding from the Catastrophe Reserve Fund to support the emergency sheltering plan for the homeless population in Leon County as described in this item.*
- 3) Cancel the April 28 budget workshop, conduct the June 16 workshop as scheduled, and conduct a July 14 workshop (if necessary).*
- 4) Reschedule the Board’s September meetings and budget public hearings from September 8 and September 22, 2020 to September 15 and September 29, 2020.*

5) Ratify the County Administrator's action to grant up to 100 hours of Administrative Leave to Leon County employees who are health care providers and emergency responders exempt from the leave provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
The motion carried 7-0.

12. Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) and COVID-19 Response

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item seeks Board consideration to allow Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) agencies the ability to utilize current year County Grant funding to address unanticipated COVID-19 related operational needs.

Public Comment: (All citizen comments were received via online submission)

- Amber R. Tynan, 2477 Tim Gamble Place, Suite 200, United Partners for Human Services, submitted a comment in support of Options 2-4 and commended staff for their work on this item. She additionally, supported the three proposed options: (1) reject applications received after the March 31st extended deadline, (2) reopen the CHSP Portal to all agencies on April 15th for at least one week, (3) Fund CHSP agencies for FY 20-21 at same level as FY 19-20.
- Jackie Malone, 6010 Rich Farm Road, Brehon Family Services, submitted a comment in opposition with re-opening of the CHSP portal after the March 31st extended deadline and for late application submissions.
- Rob Renzi, 6410 Williams Road, Big Bend Cares, submitted a comment in opposition to the reopening of the CHSP Portal and asked that the entire CHSP process be postponed for one year.
- Pam Irwin, 8530 Charrington Forest Drive, Capital Medical Society, submitted two comments expressing opposition with the CHSP portal reopening and supporting the March 31st extended deadline.
- Debbie Moroney, 7787 McClure Drive, Alzheimer's Project, submitted a comment opposing the reopening of CHSP portal.
- Dana Farmer, 1990 Mallory Square, Equality Florida Action Inc., submitted a comment in support for funding of Rapid Rehousing.
- Daniel Moore, 2912 Abbotsford Way, Ability 1st, submitted a comment recognizing the agencies that met the March 31st CHSP application deadline.
- Terri Sue Aldridge, 2595 Farragut Way, Widening Adult Vital Experiences (WAVE), submitted a comment in opposition to the reopening of the CHSP portal and requested the 6 late applications be disqualified.
- Kimberly Galban-Countryman, 3248 Storrington Drive, Lighthouse of the Big Bend, submitted a comment in opposition to the reopening of the CHSP portal and requested the Board continue funding the current CHSP-funded organizations for another year at the FY 2019-20 level.
- Lt. Ryan Meo, 7100 Summit Ridge Drive, Salvation Army, submitted a comment thanking the County for extending the deadline and commended staff.
- Carrie Litherland, 1336 Jackson Street, The Legal Aid Foundation of Tallahassee, submitted a comment in support of the following: (1) fund agencies in FY 2020-21 at the same level as FY 2019-20 (2) reopening the CHSP portal for all agencies on April 15th for one additional week (3) accept only the applications received by the March 31st deadline.
- Randall Nicklaus, 4482 Argyle Lane, 2-1-1 Big Bend, submitted a comment in opposition of the reopening of the CHSP portal and supporting funding the CHSP agencies in FY 2020-21 as the same levels as FY2019-20.

The following comments were received after the 8 p.m. submission deadline:

- Mickey Moore, Moore Business Strategies, submitted a comment on support of Options 2-4 and thanked the efforts of the City and County partnership via the CHSP.
- Nicholas Swaine, Lighthouse of Big Bend, submitted a comment opposing the reopening of the CHSP portal and requesting the Board fund the current grants for one more year.
- Tim Center, Capital Area Community Action, submitted a comment opposing the reopening the CHSP portal and in support of rejecting applications received after March 31st.

County Administrator Long explained that the County has been flexible and made changes to reflect the current conditions.

Commissioner Maddox recused himself, due to the appearance of a conflict of interest of his current employment with the Boys and Girls Club.

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Options 1 - 4: Option 1: As amended, accept the status report on the County's efforts to address the needs of Community Human Services Partnership human services agencies impacted by COVID-19; and reopen the CHSP Portal to all eligible human services agencies for seven days. Option 2: Authorize the County Administrator to amend the Agreements with human service agencies to expend FY 2020 programmatic funds to address COVID-19 related operational needs. Option 3: Authorize the County Administrator to carryforward remaining FY 2020 Community Human Services Partnership funds to FY 2021 upon agency requests to address COVID-19 impacts. Option 4: Authorize the County Administrator to extend the FY 2020 Community Human Services Partnership Agreements with human service agencies (not awarded new grant funding) until December 31, 2020 to address COVID-19 impacts.

- Commissioner Minor requested the county Administrator outline the CHSP application process. He stated his support of reopening the CHSP Portal to the 6 agencies. In the future, he indicated that if the application window is reopened, it should be extended for everyone. He shared his support of reopening all the applications for 7 days to remedy the situation.
 - County Administrator Long explained that the deadline was initially extended to March 31st and that that six (6) previously funded agencies had not met the extended deadline, so staff reached out to six agencies and further extended the deadline for them. He indicated that staff conducted a webinar with all the agencies to address any issues and the application deadline was extended for only the six (6) who did not meet the deadline.
- Commissioner Dozier expressed her opposition to reopening the application portal for only those 6 agencies. She reflected some agencies may not have applied for Promise Zone funding because time ran out. She shared her support of Commissioner Minor's suggestion to reopen the application portal for all agencies. She asked the County administrator if holding the current funding level for FY 2021 is an option.
 - County Administrator Long indicated that any changes to the process would also need to be approved by the City. He indicated that staff will proceed with whatever direction the Board chooses.
- Commissioner Dozier stated her support of holding the current funding level for FY 2021.

- Commissioner Lindley indicated that entire agenda item was focusing on flexibility due to the current situation and stated that Board actions shouldn't delay the process. She supported Commissioner Proctor's motion to approve Options 1-4.
- Commissioner Proctor inquired the County Administrator for guidance.
 - County Administrator Long stated he is comfortable with the way the problems were addressed and with the options offered.
- Commissioner Proctor stated his support of reopening the portal for 7 days for all the agencies and amending his motion.
- Commissioner Proctor amended his motion to include reopening the CHSP application for 7 days for all agencies.
- Commissioner Lindley expressed concern about slowing down the process but stated her support of the application extension.
- Commissioner Minor indicated that this amendment should not slow down the FY 2020 funding and County Administrator Long confirmed.
- Commissioner Dozier shared her support of the seven (7) day extension.

- Commissioner Lindley cautioned if they extend another week this would delay agencies getting their funds.
- Commissioner Minor explained the additional seven (7) days would provide time for all agencies to go back and improve their application if desired.
- Commissioner Jackson explained that the rules are as important as administering the programs to the public.
- Commissioner Desloge stated he was in support of the seven (7) day extension.

Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley to approve: Option 1: As amended: Accept the status report on the County's efforts to address the needs of the Community Human Services Partnership human services agencies impacted by COVID-19; and reopen the CHSP Portal to all eligible human services agencies for seven days.

Option 2: Authorize the County Administrator to amend the Agreements with human services agencies to expend FY 2020 programmatic funds to address COVID-19 related operational needs;

Option 3: Authorize the County Administrator to carryforward remaining FY 2020 Community Human Services Partnership funds to FY 2021 upon agency requests to address COVID-19 impacts; and

Option 4: Authorize the County Administrator to extend the FY 2020 Community Human Services Partnership Agreements with human service agencies (not awarded new grant funding) until December 31, 2020 to address COVID -19 impacts.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox abstaining).

13. Bond Community Health Center and Neighborhood Medical Center Funding Request for COVID-19 Response

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this agenda item seeks Board consideration of requests from Bond Community Health Center (Bond) and Neighborhood Medical Center (NMC) to amend their respective agreements and realign budgeted Primary Healthcare Program funds to address unanticipated financial impacts of COVID19.

Commissioner Proctor commented on his submittal requesting funding. He supported that by sharing that African-Americans are disproportionately affected by COVID-19. He

indicated that 40% of the people in the community are uninsured and that an increase in funding may be needed in the future.

County Administrator Long indicated that the ask was for an advance of County funds.

Shington Lamy indicated that the Federal funds will be very helpful to Bond and Neighborhood for their COVID-19 efforts.

Commissioner Desloge shared their support for the proposed options.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, approval of Options 1-2: Option 1: Approve the request to amend the Agreements with Bond Community Health Center, Inc. and Neighborhood Medical Center, Inc and advance funds in the amount of \$73,683 to Bond and \$145,111 to NMC from the Primary Health Care Program and authorize the County Administrator to execute. Option 2: Authorize the County Administrator to advance funds from the Primary Healthcare Program for June 2020 if needed, in accordance with the Amended Agreements with Bond Community Health Center, Inc., and Neighborhood Medical Center, Inc. The motion carried 7-0.

14. Actions Taken in Response to the Financial Impact of COVID-19 and Tourist Development Tax Collections

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item summarizes the actions taken in response to the anticipated financial impact of COVID-19 on the Tourist Development Taxes (TDT) collected on overnight stays in Leon County. TDT revenues fund the Leon County Division of Tourism and the Council on Culture and Arts (COCA).

Public Comment: (received via online submission)

- John Outland, 1562 Tung Hill Drive, submitted a comment requesting BP funds for non-profits, affordable housing and maintenance of existing infrastructure, to have community wide economic benefits.
- Kathleen Spehar, Council on Culture & Arts, submitted a comment in support of keeping the current 1 cent penny sales tax, TDT for COCA and committed to expense reduction and revenue-generating initiatives.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Option 1: Accept the report on the actions taken in response to the financial impact of COVID-19 and Tourist Development Tax collections.

- Commissioner Dozier commended staff on their efforts to reduce expenses and working together on the current issues. She inquired about the process for grant recipients who have had to cancel their events due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Kerri Post stated that Tourism is working with grant recipients to reschedule and working with the agencies to reimburse for expenses made in good faith.
- Commissioner Dozier confirmed with Kerri Post that the agencies would not be penalized for future grants, if an event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Commissioner Minor commended Kerri Post and the Tourism staff.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor was out of the chambers).

15. Authorization to Purchase Two New Ambulances Utilizing the Florida Sheriff's Association Cooperative Contract with Hall-Mark RTC

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item seeks Board approval to utilize cooperative purchasing (piggybacking) in the amount of \$517,758 for new ambulances. Leon County Emergency Medical Services replaces ambulances each year due to the continuous high usage.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to approve Option 1: authorize the purchase of two new ambulances from Hall-Mark RTC in the amount of \$517,758, utilizing the Florida Sheriff's Association cooperative purchasing agreement. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor was out of the chambers).

16. Bid Award for Eastside Branch Library Wall and Roof Repairs Project

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item seeks Board approval to award the bid for the Eastside Branch Library Wall, Roof and Structural Repairs project to OliverSperry Renovation and Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$399,995.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Lindley, approval of Option 1: Approve the bid award to OliverSperry Renovation and Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$399,995 for the Eastside Branch Library Wall and Roof Repairs Project and authorize the County Administrator to execute Agreement. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor was out of the chambers).

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

- NONE

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney O'Steen:

- Presented an offer from Johnny Petrandis to settle outstanding litigation. She stated they are recommending a counteroffer for the Board's consideration. She discussed the proposed settlement, amount of fees and costs incurred in the litigation to-date, and referenced background materials about the case.
- Commissioner Lindley commented on the amount of funds they have spent associated with the litigation of this case and recommended accepting the settlement.
- *Commissioner Lindley made a motion to accept the settlement offer from Johnny Petrandis. The motion failed for a lack of a second.*
- Commissioner Dozier discussed the length of the litigation and made a motion to present the counteroffer proposed.
- *Commissioner Dozier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to present the counteroffer.*
- Commissioner Maddox suggested a shade meeting to flesh out the details.
- Commissioner Proctor stated his objection to taking the private property, unless it was for a public purpose. He indicated the property has regenerated naturally. He thanked the County Attorney for attachment 3. He asked what was the purpose of taking this private property? Also, he welcomed the Shade Meeting.
 - County Attorney O'Steen indicated that the Board would need to give direction to notice for a Shade Meeting for April 28.
- Commissioner Proctor asked had counsel visited the wooded area?

- Commissioner Lindley stated her opposition to presenting a counteroffer. She then offered a substitute motion.
- *Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to schedule a shade meeting to discuss the Johnny Petrandis outstanding litigation. The motion carried 7-0.*
- County Attorney O’Steen presented an offer to settle the Weilhammer litigation through a Mediation Settlement Agreement.
- *Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to accept the Weilhammer Mediation Settlement Agreement. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Wished a Happy Birthday to former County Attorney Herb Thiele.

County Administrator Long:

- Expressed concern regarding the County revenue reductions due to the current economic conditions.
- Acknowledged County Attorney O’Steen for her hard work and guidance to the County, since the start of this pandemic.
- Thanked the amazing IT team for their work transitioning to a virtual setup.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Dozier:

- Acknowledged County Attorney O’Steen as this was her first meeting.
- Stated the Florida Department of Agriculture is having issues with their supply chain and are looking into rolling out programs to assist farmers with local food banks, etc. She requested a report on how the county could assist with the possibility of connecting farmers with bulk buyers/consumers such as Second Harvest, TMH, CRMC, FSU, etc.
- Requested a taskforce to help small businesses and nonprofits to navigate the grant application process.
- County Administrator Long indicated OEV is leading with this initiative and may offer additional information at the April 15th Blueprint meeting.
- Discussed grant funding for utility payments.

Commissioner Minor:

- Wished Happy Birthday to former County Attorney Herb Thiele.
- Thanked County Attorney O’Steen for getting through her first meeting.
- Thanked Second Harvest for their efforts to feed those in need.
- Recognized parents trying to educate their children virtually.
- Encouraged the public to continue practicing social distancing.

Commissioner Proctor:

- Thanked Staff for their continuing efforts during these adverse times.
- Reflected on the need for the summer youth program for 2020 given the current revenue downturn.
- Requested an update on the efforts to reduce the Jail population due to the COVID-19 pandemic and stated he would like to see a reduction in the number of inmates housed.

- County Administrator Long stated that the jail inmate population numbers are low due to the efforts of the State Attorney and the Sheriff and an update would be provided to the Board.

Commissioner Lindley:

- Thanked staff for their continuing efforts during such tough times.

Commissioner Maddox:

- Thanked all for a great meeting and thanked the Board for their direction in reopening the CHSP portal.
- Happy 13th Birthday to his daughter!

Commissioner Jackson:

- Thanked staff for a great meeting.

Chairman Desloge:

- Recognized the outstanding leadership of the county and community coming together.
- Indicated his concern for the new Salvation Army congregate housing.
- Asked the County Attorney to explain the lifting of the curfew.
County Attorney O'Steen explained that the curfew was lifted due to the State Executive Order that was issued but indicated that the County could implement one if that is what the Board desires.
- Commissioner Lindley stated her support in issuing a curfew.
 - County Attorney O'Steen responded the curfew was lifted due to the State Executive Order that was issued but indicated that the County could implement one if that is what the Board desires.
 - Commissioner Lindley stated her support in issuing a curfew.
- County Attorney O'Steen clarified that the Local State of Emergency Proclamation issued on April 13th would be amended to reinstate the curfew.
- Commissioner Minor asked County Administrator to share the Sheriff's view on the curfew.
 - County Administrator Long indicated that the Sheriff's view was that the enforcement of a curfew could take away from County resources that could be used for other enforcement issues.
 - Chairman Desloge stated his support of the curfew.
- *Commissioner Lindley moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to reissue an 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew including the exceptions from the previous curfew, effective April 15, 2020.*
The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor was out of chambers).

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- Leon County Research & Development Authority Financial Statements for Years ending September. 30, 2019 and 2018

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.


LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Desloge".

BY: _____
Bryan Desloge, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

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