

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
January 26, 2021**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Rick Minor presiding. Present were Vice Chairman Bill Proctor and Commissioners Nick Maddox, Brian Welch, Kristin Dozier, Carolyn Cummings, and Jimbo Jackson. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Chasity O'Steen, and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

Chairman Minor called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were provided by Commissioner Kristin Dozier.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Proclamation Recognizing the Retirement of Althemese Barnes, Executive Director of the John G. Riley Center** (Via Zoom) presented by Chair Minor for her work with civil rights and Leon County.
 - Ms. Barnes thanked the Board for the acknowledgement.
- **Recognizing Leon County Volunteer Champion Peggy Sanford for “Rags2Bags” Mask Program** (Via Zoom) presented by Chair Minor and Royal King, Volunteer Leon Director, in recognition of Peggy Sanford and her team, for her efforts in making over 15,000 masks from the start of the pandemic in their “Rags2Bags” Mask Program.
 - Peggy Sanford, “Rags2Bags” Mask Program, recognized members who did an awesome job making masks. She thanked the Board for recognizing their work.
 - Chairman Minor congratulated Ms. Barnes and her team for their tremendous work and noted that their accomplishments would be shared on County platforms.
- **Toney Thomas Presentation**
Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Chairman Minor to add a presentation to recognize the retirement of Toney Thomas. The motion carried 7-0.
 - Commissioner Proctor recognized Toney Thomas, the long-time Courthouse Day Porter, for his years of service and upcoming retirement.
 - Toney Thomas acknowledged the Board for this honor.
 - Commissioner Dozier thanked Mr. Thomas for his service.
 - Chairman Minor gave his regards and thanked Mr. Thomas for his service.
- **Proclamation – Anita Louise Porter Davis**
 - Proclamation for former Commissioner Anita Louise Porter Davis was presented yesterday at her homegoing service for tireless service to the citizens of Leon County.
- **Update on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic**
 - Claudia Blackburn, Health Officer the Florida Department of Health in Leon County, provided an update on COVID-19. She noted they are seeing a slow decline. She discussed the vaccine rollout and that the supply is limited. Online

registration is closed; however, the Department of Health will start taking appointments with a new process. She shared that 46% of people 65 and older have been vaccinated. She noted the unity of the community. She reminded all to continue to wear a mask, social distance, and to continue to wear masks and hand washing even after being vaccinated.

- Commissioner Dozier confirmed with County Attorney O’Steen that each Commissioner has 3 minutes for discussion per item, there is no reserve time and Commissioners cannot give their time to another Commissioner; the Chair may extend the time by a motion approved by a simple majority. However, the motion to extend the time for debate is not debatable.
- Commissioner Dozier confirmed with the County Administrator that staff would add a link to the State’s COVID vaccination dashboard on the County’s website.
- Commissioner Jackson recalled when the original vaccine instructions came out. He asked about vaccinating those in long term care and other medical facilities. How do we determine who has the greatest need? Ms. Blackburn commented the long-term care facilities are being vaccinated through the federal government with CVS and Walgreens. She noted they are not being managed by the County Health Department. Commissioner Jackson spoke about the most vulnerable and those less privileged individuals or groups getting service. Ms. Blackburn stated that she would do research so that she could have accurate information to answer his concerns.
- Commissioner Welch confirmed with Claudia Blackburn that the schedule for the second dose is online at LeonFloridaHealth.gov, and citizens who received the first dose will receive a text message or phone call to confirm their appointment for the second dose.
- Commissioner Cummings commented on general reluctance for people of color to get the vaccine. Ms. Blackburn stated there is a taskforce lead by Dr. Elaine Bryant working with churches to find ways to build trust in the black community regarding the vaccines.
- Commissioner Proctor reflected on the immunization reluctance from the community and asked for a comprehensive plan from the Leon County Health Department. Claudia Blackburn stated that the Health Department is a division of the Florida Department of Health and is following the State’s vaccination plan. However, she added that the Health Department has a pandemic plan that she can provide to Commissioners.
- Commissioner Maddox reflected on prioritization of vaccination within the 65+ community to increase vaccinations among low income and minority residents. Claudia Blackburn stated that the Health Department executive order calls for the immunization of those 65 and older but does not provide for prioritization within this group. She explained that the Health Department in partnership with the local Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are reaching out to seniors in low-income minority areas to better reach these populations, and that the Health Department could request a state mission to provide vaccinations if the local FQHCs cannot service them.
- Chairman Minor reflected on the need for all citizens over 65 to have the ability to receive the vaccine, especially those without transportation. He stated that community partners hold weekly online “State of COVID-19 in Leon County” discussions every Friday.
- *Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Chairman Minor to give Commissioner Dozier additional time to address the County Administrator. The motion carried 7-0.* Commissioner Dozier asked for a more robust update at the February 9, 2021 meeting on COVID -19 updates.
 - County Administrator Long stated yes, staff would provide an update.

- Commissioner Dozier reflected on the President of the United States asking Americans to wear a mask for 100 days, and she asked that the County Administrator include any changes the Biden administration may make in the upcoming Board COVID update at the February meeting.
- *Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor to give Commissioner Dozier additional time to address the County Attorney. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Commissioner Proctor confirmed with County Attorney O'Steen that the federal government could adopt a plan for prioritization of vaccinations which would preempt the State's plan.

CONSENT

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

- 1. Minutes: July 14, 2020 Regular Meeting; July 14, 2020 Budget Workshop; and November 10, 2020 Joint County/City Public Hearing**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of July 14, 2020, Regular Meeting; July 14, 2020 Budget Workshop; and November 10, 2020 Joint County/City Public Hearing.
- 2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for January 26, 2021 and preapprove the payment of bills and vouchers for the period of January 27, 2021 through February 8, 2021.
- 3. Commissioner Appointment to the Water Resources Committee**
The Board approved Option 1: Ratify Commissioner Welch's appointment of a citizen, J. Terry Ryan, to the Water Resources Committee for the remainder of the unexpired term ending July 31, 2022.
- 4. Proposed Amended Board Policy No. 96-4 to be entitled "Public Records, Electronic Communications, and Records Retention"**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve amended Board Policy No. 96-4, "Public Records, Electronic Communications, and Records Retention" (Attachment #1).
- 5. Request to Schedule the First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting a Resolution Abolishing the Leon County Health Facilities Authority for February 9, 2021**
The Board approved Option 1: Schedule the first and only public hearing to consider adopting a Resolution abolishing the Leon County Health Facilities Authority (Attachment #1) for February 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.
- 6. Amended and Restated Administrative Law Judge Services Contract with the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Amended and Restated Administrative Law Judge Services Contract between Leon County and the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings (Attachment #1) and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Contract.

- 7. Approve the County's Coordinated Public Health Communications Plan to Build Community Trust and Confidence in the COVID-19 Vaccine**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the County's coordinated public health communications plan to build trust and confidence in the COVID-19 vaccine and authorize the County Administrator to execute any related public relations agreements, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.
- 8. Authorization to Proceed with Drafting an Ordinance to Amend Development Standards for Community Service Uses in the Rural Zoning District**
The Board approved Option 1: Authorize staff to proceed with drafting an Ordinance to amend development standards for community service uses in the Rural zoning district.
- 9. FY 2020 State Homeland Security Grant**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept the State Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$45,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Grant Agreement (Attachment #1); and, authorize the County Administrator to execute any future modifications, subject to legal review by the County Attorney; and Option #2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request in the amount of \$45,000 (Attachment # 2).
- 10. Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Calendar**
The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Calendar (Attachment #1).
- 11. Approval of Administrative Leave for COVID-19 Related Illnesses**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the use of up to 100 hours of Administrative Leave for COVID-19 related illnesses, retroactive to January 1, 2021 through the duration of the local declared state of emergency.
- 12. Homeless Encampments Status Report**
The following Citizen Comments were received via online submission:
- Brian Webb submitted an online comment questioning if the necessary permits were obtained by City Walk for its homeless shelter.
 - Rodney McKinnon, 1438 Lucy Street, strongly objects to the continuing operation of the temporary homeless shelter at 1709 Mahan Drive.
- The following citizen provided virtual comments:
- Brian Webb spoke in opposition to the illegal opening of the City Walk homeless shelter on Mahan Drive, as the owner of the medical center building next door.
- The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Status Report on Homeless Encampments.*
- 13. Child Protection Examinations Agreement with The Children's Home Society of Florida**
The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Agreement between Leon County and The Children's Home Society of Florida for the provision of State-mandated child protection examinations (Attachment #1) and authorize the County Administrator to execute.
- 14. Status Update on the Essential Libraries Initiative**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept the status update on the Essential Libraries Initiative; and Option #2: Direct staff to work with the Leon County Sherriff's Office to

further explore the concept of a joint visitation program within the Leon County Public Library.

- 15. Approval of the Plat of Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase II**
The Board approved Option #1: Approve the plat of Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase II for recording in the Public Record (Attachment #1), 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 (Attachment #2).
- 16. Local Agency Program Supplemental Agreement with Florida Department of Transportation for Construction of the Big Bend Scenic Byway Project**
The Board approved Option# 1: Approve the Local Agency Program Supplemental Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for construction of the Big Bend Scenic Byway Project (Attachment #1) and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement; and Option #2: Adopt the Resolution authorizing the Local Agency Program Agreement for construction of the Big Bend Scenic Byway Project (Attachment #2) and authorize the Chairman to execute.
- 17. Lease Agreement with the Tallahassee Astronomical Society for a Portion of Cypress Landing Park**
The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Resolution of Intent and the Lease Agreement between the Tallahassee Astronomical Society and Leon County (Attachments #1 & #2), and authorize the County Administrator, or designee, to execute the Lease Agreement.
- 18. Status Update and Approval of the Continuation of the Joint Project Services Agreement with Choose Tallahassee**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept the status update for the continuation of the Joint Project Services Agreement with Choose Tallahassee and authorize the County Administrator to finalize and execute subject to legal review by the County Attorney (Attachment #1).
- 19. Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Performance and Financial Report**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept the FY 2020 Annual Performance and Financial Report (Attachment #1).
- 20. FY 2020 Annual Housing Finance Authority of Leon County Report**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept the FY 2020 Annual Report from the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County (Attachment #1).
- 21. FY 2020 Annual Domi Education Entrepreneurial Community Impact Report**
The Board approved Option #1: Accept Domi's Entrepreneurial Community Impact Annual Report for FY 2020 (Attachment #1).

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS (3-minute limit per speaker; there will not be any discussion by the Commission)

The following Citizen Comment was received via online submission:

- Alesha Waller, 8701 Freedom Road, submitted an online comment in opposition to the mask ordinance.

The following citizens provided virtual comments:

- Alesha Waller, 8701 Freedom Road, stated that she was not in support of the mask mandate.
- Megan Mansell, 1929 Queenswood Drive, spoke in opposition to the mask ordinance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

22. Emergency Rental Assistance Program Funding

This item seeks Board acceptance of approximately \$8.9 million in federal funding from the U.S. Treasury, as well as the Board's consideration to establish a proposed Leon County Emergency Rental Assistance Program to expend these funds beginning in March 2021. Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (H.R. 133), this funding must be used to provide rent and/or utility assistance to eligible low-income households experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

The following citizens provided in-person comments:

- Stanley Sims, 1320 Avondale Way, provided a comment in support of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program funding.
- Tiffany Lumpkin, 536 Robinson Farms Road, asked several questions about how the program will provide payments for rent.
 - Commissioner Minor asked that Shington Lamy be given her contact information.
 - Commissioner Dozier asked that information be placed on the County website.
- Whitfield Leland III provided a comment in support of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program funding for property managers and landlords.
- Raz Bocanegra provided a comment in support the rental payments going directly to the landlords, who have invested in affordable housing.

Commissioners Comments:

- Commissioner Proctor reflected on the landlords that were left "high and dry" in the second half of the CARES funding program as they did not receive payment directly.
 - County Administrator Long explained that in the first round of the CARES Program, funds did go directly to the landlords, and in the second round, the funds went to the tenants to avoid payment hold-ups. He confirmed that for the new program, the U.S. Treasury requires that payments go directly to the landlord, and that rent up to 12 months in arrears qualifies, and 3 months prospectively at a time, with no caps.
- Commissioner Dozier confirmed with County Administrator Long that federal requirements to spend the funding by December 31st prompted the change to making payments to individuals rather than landlords. She confirmed with the County Administrator that applicants cannot apply for the same months of rent that they applied for in the previous program. She requested information on the assistance programs that the City offers.
 - County Administrator Long confirmed that future updates will include an overview of any City community assistance programs.
- Commissioner Welch asked if landlords could raise tenants' rents prior to applying for assistance. Alan Rosenzweig, Deputy County Administrator, stated that staff are unaware of any restrictions at this time; however, the U.S. Treasury may issue additional guidance over the next few months.

- Commissioner Maddox confirmed the program qualifications with the County Administrator, including a household income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), with priority for those whose income is at or below 50% AMI qualifies for unemployment, with priority for those who have been unemployed for the 90 days prior to the application.
- Chairman Minor confirmed the amendment to Option #4 to add “or another consulting firm.”
- Commissioner Cummings confirmed that the tenant and landlord can apply together.
- Commissioner Proctor commended the language in Option #3.
- Chairman Minor commended the program for providing direct payment to the landlords.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson approval of Options # 1-#5 with Option 4 amended. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Dozier out of Chambers).

Option #1: Ratify the request to the U.S. Treasury to receive the County’s allocation of \$8.9 million in Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds (Attachment # 1).

Option #2: Approve the proposed Leon County Emergency Rental Assistance Program and authorize the County Administrator to implement the program, make modifications to program criteria as may be needed to ensure the efficient and timely use of the County’s allocation, and enter into subgrant agreements with fund recipients, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

Option #3: Authorize the County Administrator to expend up to ten percent (10%) of the County’s funding allocation to establish and administer the Leon County Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

Option #4: (As amended) Authorize the County Administrator to engage Ernst & Young or another consulting firm to assist with implementation of the Leon County Emergency Rental Assistance Program as needed.

Option #5: Approve the associated Resolution and Budget Amendment (Attachment #2).

23. Sale and Purchase of Land to Relocate Proposed Northeast Park

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks Board consideration to relocate the proposed Northeast Park from the existing County-owned land at the intersection of Thomasville and Proctor Roads to a site between Centerville Road and the planned Welaunee Boulevard, adjacent to Montford Middle and Roberts Elementary Schools. To accomplish this relocation with no net cost to the County, this item recommends selling the County-owned site and utilizing the proceeds of the sale to purchase the new site.

The following Citizen Comment was received via online submission:

- John Bailey, 5855 Centerville Road, President of Centerville Rural Community Association, submitted an online comment in support of relocating the Park to Welaunee.
- Commissioner Maddox stated his support of staff recommendation.
- Commissioner Welch reflected that this item is good public policy.
- Commissioner Dozier reflected on the good timing of the park relocation. She confirmed with the County Administrator that a proposal for operation and management of the

Park will come back to the Board as it was unusual to have a County park inside City limits.

- County Administrator Long commented this is a different situation, and that they would bring back before the Board at the appropriate time.

Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox approval of Option #1: Authorize the County Administrator to initiate selling the parcel of property at Proctor Road and Thomasville Road and negotiate for the purchase of the parcel on Centerville Road adjacent to the Montford Middle and Roberts Elementary Schools in accordance with the Board's Real Estate Policy, for the purpose of developing a Northeast Park to be brought back to the Board for final approval, subject to the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board's approval to modify the location of the Northeast Park project description. The motion carried 7-0.

24. Purchase of the Supervisor of Elections Voting Operation Center Property and Awarding the Related Financing

County Administrator Long introduced this item. This item has a fiscal impact. The \$5.4 million financing for the purchase and repairs, including the roof, will be paid back over a 15-year period. Purchasing and repairing the building rather than extending the current lease will cost approximately the same amount over the 15 years and provides the County with a tangible asset.

- Commissioner Maddox commented that this is County money well spent and stated his support of the staff recommendation.
- Commissioner Proctor offered his support and noted that Supervisor and staff are deserving of updated facilities.
- Commissioner Minor stated his support for Option #1.
- Commissioner Dozier reflected on the comments received about the availability of other properties and confirmed with the County Administrator that staff explored other possible locations.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Proctor, for the approval of Options #1 -#2:

Option #1: Approve the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the Voting Operations Center property (Attachment #1); and adopt the Bond Resolution (21-03) and approve the Financing Agreement (attached thereto) with Sterling National Bank for the financing of the purchase and repairs to the Voting Operations Center property (Attachment #2) and authorize the County Administrator to execute the financing documents and any other closing documents necessary to complete the transaction.

Option #2: Approve the associated Budget Resolution (21-03) and Budget Amendment (Attachment#3). The motion carried 7-0.

25. Use of County Parks During COVID-19 and the County's Sponsorship of Visitor-Generating Community and Athletic Events

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item provides an updated report on the current COVID-19 restrictions related to the use of County parks and amenities and provides recommendations in seeking the Board's direction on County Tourism grant-sponsored community and athletic events for FY 2021 as we continue to mitigate the spread of the virus. As directed by the Board, this item includes public health guidance, local health metrics, and policy options for the County to sponsor tourism events based upon their relative risk to spread COVID-19.

The following Citizen Comments were received via online submission:

- Terri Sue Aldridge Lawson, 501 E. Tennessee Street, Springtime Tallahassee, submitted an online comment in support of funding Springtime Tallahassee and in support of Options #3 - Modify Phase 2 of the County's Response and Re-opening Plan to resume the County's sponsorship of all FY 2021 Tourism event grant recipients; or Option #4 - Modify Phase 2 of the County's Response and Re-opening Plan to narrowly tailor the County's sponsorship of FY 2021 Tourism event grant recipients based upon the relative risk to spread COVID-19.
- Ben Betts, 3529 Gallagher Drive, shared his support for Option 3. He is the director of the ASG Invitational and would like the opportunity to hold their annual event.
- Sharon Bragg, 1136 Spinney Court, submitted an online comment in support of funding Springtime Tallahassee and in support of Options #3 or #4.
- Bob Braman, 5528 Pimlico Drive, FSU, submitted an online comment in support of the grant funding for FSU Relays.
- John Corey, 3508 Oak Hill Trail, submitted an online comment in support of events at the county parks.
- Kelly Dozier, 2101 E Randolph Circle, The Chain of Parks Festival, submitted an online comment in support of fully funding the Legacy events for spring 2021.
- Elizabeth Emmanuel, 300 S. Duval Street, CEO Downtown Improvement Authority, submitted an online comment in support of funding for outdoor community events in spring 2021.
- William Faulkner, 1102 Victory Garden Drive, incoming President of Springtime Tallahassee, submitted an online comment in support of funding of special events.
- Shawn Frase, 320 Starmount Drive, submitted an online comment in support of reopening the parks for events.
- Gary Griffin, 856 N Forest Drive, President of the Friends of Maclay Gardens Inc., submitted an online comment in support of Option #1.
- Robert Hicks, 6364 Belgrande Drive, The Tallahassee Comets, Inc., submitted an online comment in support of Option #1; and a second comment updating his support from Option #1 to Option #3; and a third comment in support of Options #1 and #3.
- Joel Jarrett, 6532 Montrose Trail, current President of Springtime Tallahassee, submitted an online comment in support of Options #3 or #4.
- Ken Martin, 1205 Conservancy Drive, submitted an online comment in support of local festivals like Springtime Tallahassee.
- Ann Melder, 1242 Ronds Pointe Drive, submitted an online comment in support of funding Springtime Tallahassee and in support of Option #3.
- Fred Varn, 1405 Manor House Drive, Springtime Tallahassee Board Member, submitted an online comment in support of Options #3 or #4.

In person Speakers:

- Powell Kreis, 1214 Clark Avenue, spoke in support and making events safe for all.

The following citizens provided virtual comments:

- Laura Johnson, 6268 Bucklawn Circle, spoke in support of outdoor events and spoke of the financial loss due to COVID.
- Diana Ramsdell, Ochlocknee River Kennel Club, spoke in support of its annual dog show in February.
- Laura Johnson, Southern Shakespeare Company, spoke in support of the 2021 Southern Shakespeare Festival.
- Elizabeth Emmanuel, CEO Downtown Improvement Authority, spoke in support of the downtown events.

Commissioner Maddox moved staff recommendation, Option #1, seconded by Commissioner Jackson.

- Commissioner Dozier stated that she could not support the motion for Option #1 and stated her support of arts & cultural events.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor to give Commissioner Dozier additional time to address the County Administrator. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Dozier made a substitute motion, seconded by Chairman Minor for Option #3 for outdoor events with COVID response plans approved by the Division of Tourism and the City, for events requiring City approval, provided the COVID numbers do not get worse.

- Commissioner Welch expressed his support of the substitute motion, for the event organizations to survive.
- Commissioner Cummings expressed concern for the economic impact of not funding these events.
- Commissioner Maddox stated that he could not support the substitute motion without a plan for what happens if the COVID numbers get worse.
- Commissioner Jackson expressed that he could not support the substitute motion.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor to give Commissioner Dozier additional time to address the County Administrator. The motion carried 7-0.

- Commissioner Welch expressed his support of the substitute motion, for the event organizations to survive.
- Commissioner Cummings expressed concern for the economic impact of not funding these events.
- Commissioner Maddox stated that he could not support the substitute motion without a plan for what happens if the COVID numbers get worse.
- Commissioner Jackson expressed that he could not support the substitute motion.
- Commissioner Dozier expressed that if the events are funded and the COVID numbers get worse, it would not be possible to ask for the funds back. She reflected on the need for a February agenda item to review the events for March. *She amended her motion to include events occurring on or after March 1st.*
- County Administrator Long stated that this agenda item seeks Board direction on the types of events that the Board is comfortable funding.
- Commissioner Proctor expressed that he could not support the substitute motion.
- Chairman Minor expressed that many of the event organizations will not survive if they need to cancel the 2021 events.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor to approve Option #3 as amended: Modify Phase 2 of the County's Response and Re-opening Plan to resume the County's sponsorship of all FY 2021 Tourism event grant recipients for outdoor and virtual events with COVID response plans approved by the Division of Tourism, and the City, for events requiring City approval, for events occurring on or after March 1st, provided that the COVID metrics do not worsen. The motion carried 5-2. (Commissioners Proctor and Jackson in opposition).

26. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Recommencement of Road Improvements for the Tower Oaks Subdivision Two-Thirds Project and Approval of the Bid Award for Construction of the Project

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks Board adoption of a Resolution authorizing the recommencement of the Tower Oaks 2/3 road improvement project. As required by the Leon County Code of Laws, Chapter 16 Article II, the project ceased due to a significant cost increase above the original estimate. Upon notification of the project ceasing, the property owners have repitioned the County to recommence the project at an increased cost based on a competitive bid. This item also seeks Board approval to award the bid to C.W. Roberts Contracting for construction of the road improvements in the amount of \$713,699 along with a resolution and budget amendment to fully fund this project.

The following citizen provided a virtual comment:

- Jed Padilla spoke in support of the project and was available to answer any questions.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson approval of Option 1: Adopt the Resolution authorizing the recommencement of the Tower Oaks Subdivision road improvements (Attachment #1).

Option #2: Approve the bid award to C.W. Roberts Contracting in the amount of \$713,699 for construction of the Tower Oaks Subdivision Two-Thirds Project (Attachment #2) and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement.

Option #3: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request (Attachment #3). The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor out of Chambers).

27. Bid Award for Reconstruction of the Drive Thru Lane, Wash Rack and Push Walls at the Leon County Solid Waste Transfer Station

This item seeks Board approval to award the bid for reconstruction of the drive thru lane, wash rack and push walls at the Leon County Solid Waste Transfer Station to the lowest responsive bidder, Mejia International Group Corporation, in the amount of \$584,402.

Commissioner Maddox moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Welch approval of Option 1: Approve the bid award to Mejia International Group Corporation in the amount of \$584,402 for reconstruction of the drive thru lane, wash rack and push walls at the Leon County Solid Waste Transfer Station (Attachment #1) and authorize the County

Administrator to execute the Agreement. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Proctor out of Chambers).

28. Nominations to the Governor for Appointment to the Children's Services Council of Leon County

This item seeks Board nominations to the Governor for appointments to the Children's Services Council of Leon County.

- Chair Minor thanked the applicants that applied to serve on the Board. He suggested that the 15th seat be filled first by a motion, then the remaining 14 seats could be filled by two nominations from each Commissioner and separate votes for each.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Dozier to fill the 15th seat with applicant Mark O'Bryant. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to waive 3-minute discussion limit for this agenda item. The motion carried 7-0.

- Commissioner Proctor expressed his concern that other Commissioners may object to a Commissioner's nomination.
- County Attorney confirmed the process for the nominations was approved by the Board on December 8, 2020.
- Commissioner Dozier confirmed with the County Attorney that to deviate from the process approved at the December 8th meeting, a motion would need to be made and approved by a majority vote.
- Commission Maddox stated his support of the process approved on December 8th.
- Commissioner Welch stated his support of the process approved on December 8th.
- Commissioner Proctor stated his support of the process approved on December 8th.
- Commissioner Dozier reflected that this may not be the best process and should there be a 4-3 vote the process will need to be reviewed.
- Commissioner Cummings expressed her support of each Commissioner selecting two nominees.
- The Board commenced the nominations process, with each Commissioner nominating one applicant and then repeating the process with each Commissioner nominating a second applicant.
- Commissioner Minor objected to Commissioner Proctor's nomination of Bernie Bishop and reflected that Mr. Bishop's position would be as a watch dog. He expressed that Mr. Bishop would be able to be a better watch dog as an outsider.

Commissioner Proctor stated his opposition to Chairman Minor's objection.

Commissioner Proctor called the question. The motion died due to lack of a second.

- Commissioner Dozier stated her support of the motion for Option #1.
- Commissioner Proctor stated his support of his nominee, Bernie Bishop.
- Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to approve Option #1: Nominate 15 citizens to the Governor for appointment to the Children's Services Council of Leon County as follows:

Commissioner	Nominee	Nominee
Welch	Paul Mitchell	Jay Reeve
Cummings	Eric Whitehead	Zandra Glenn
Jackson	Brooke Brunner	Carmen Conner
Dozier	Mimi Graham	Liza McFadden
Maddox	Tom Derzypolski	Bennie Bolden
Proctor	Max Herrle	Barnie Bishop
Minor	Matt Guse	Henry Lewis
Full Board	Mark O'Bryant	

The motion carried 6-1. (Chairman Minor in opposition).

29. Full Board Appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, the Tourist Development Council, the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, the Animal Classification Committee, and the CareerSource Capital Region Board

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item seeks the full Board's consideration of the appointments of City Commissioners to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council and the Tourist Development Council, and the appointment of citizens to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, the Animal Classification Committee, and the CareerSource Capital Region Board.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Cummings to approve Option #1: Confirm the appointment of City Commissioner Jacqueline Porter, to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council for a two-year term ending December 31, 2022; And Option #2: Confirm the appointments of City Commissioners Dianne Williams-Cox and Curtis Richardson, to the Tourist Development Council for four-year terms ending December 31, 2024. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve Option #3: Appoint one citizen, Herschel Holloway, to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee for the remainder of the unexpired term ending March 31, 2023. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Dozier to approve Option #4: Appoint four citizens, two licensed veterinarians, Dr. Sondra Brown and Dr. Elizabeth Blount, and two informed citizens, Dr. Haven Cook and Bobbie Jo Finer, to the Animal Classification Committee for three-year terms ending December 31, 2023. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve Option #5: Appoint one nominated and recommended citizen, Erin Gillespie, to the CareerSource Capital Region Board for the remainder of the unexpired term ending June 30, 2021. The motion carried 7-0.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M., CONVENED AT 6:05 P.M.

30. First of Two Public Hearings to Consider a Development Agreement Between Leon County and Pepe Silvia Group, LLC

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item requests the Board conduct the first of two required Public Hearings to consider approval of a Development Agreement to provide for the redevelopment of a 10.5-acre property (Swamp Fox Road

Parcel) located on the south side of Swamp Fox Road and the establishment of a flood attenuation stormwater management facility needed for the planned redevelopment. A portion of a 17.6-acre property (Crowder Parcel) located adjacent to the railroad and north of Highway 20, adjacent to the stormwater management facility, would be donated to the County for future expansion of the stormwater management facility or other public infrastructure needs.

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jackson for approval of Option 1: Conduct the first of two Public Hearings to consider approval of a Development Agreement between Leon County and Pepe Silvia Group, LLC (Attachment # 1) and schedule the second and final Public Hearing for February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- Commissioner Dozier expressed support of the Development Agreement and reflected on the need to fund the maintenance of regional stormwater ponds.

The motion carried 5-0 (Commissioners Maddox and Proctor out of Chambers).

31. Second and Final Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance Amending Article VIII of Chapter 10 of the Leon County Code of Laws Entitled “Floodplain Management”, and Amending Section 10-1.101 Entitled “Definitions”, Section 10-4.327 Entitled “Topographic Alterations”, and Section 10-4.303 Entitled “Stormwater Management Design Standards”

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated this item requests the Board conduct the second and final required Public Hearing to consider adopting an Ordinance repealing and replacing the Floodplain Management section and amending flood-related definitions in the General Definitions section of the Land Development Code (LDC). These revisions are a migration to the State Model Ordinance and will ensure compliance with national and state standards and enhance the County’s efforts toward improving its community rating, thereby lowering flood insurance costs for property owners.

Commissioner Jackson moved, seconded by Commissioner Dozier for approval of Option 1: Conduct the second and final Public Hearing and adopt an Ordinance amending Article VIII of Chapter 10 of the Leon County Code of Laws, entitled “Floodplain Management”, and amending Section 10-1.101 entitled “Definitions”, Section 10- 4.327 entitled “Topographic alterations”, and Section 10-4.303 entitled “Stormwater management design standards” (Attachment #1). The motion carried 5-0. Commissioners Maddox and Proctor out of Chambers.

32. First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance Amending Chapter 5 of the Leon County Code of Laws Currently Entitled “Building and Construction Regulations”

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated this item requests the Board conduct the first and only Public Hearing to adopt a proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Leon County Code of Laws currently entitled “Building and Construction Regulations.” The amendment repeals the entirety of Chapter 5 and proposes a new Chapter 5 entitled “Building Code”, that corrects inconsistencies and updates regulations to be consistent with current Florida Statutes and the Florida Building Code (FBC).

Commissioner Dozier moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Welch for approval of Option # 1. Conduct the first and only Public Hearing and adopt the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Leon County Code of Laws currently entitled “Building and Construction

Regulations” (Attachment # 1). The motion carried 5-0 (Commissioners Maddox and Proctor out of Chambers).

CITIZEN’S COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Kristina Petrandis, 1901 Capital Circle NE, spoke in support of the Petrandis settlement agreement to end the 18-year litigation with the County.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney O’Steen:

- Provided a review of the Petrandis proposed settlement agreement.
 - Commissioner Proctor confirmed with the County Attorney that the County now owns the property and confirmed with the County Administrator that the County does not currently have plans for the property. He expressed that with the planting of trees, the property had been restored.
 - *Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to give Commissioner Proctor additional discussion time. The motion carried 7-0.*
 - *Commissioner Proctor offered a substitute motion to reduce the \$185,000 in the settlement by 50%. Motion died for lack of a second.*
 - Commissioner Maddox confirmed with the County Attorney that to adjust the settlement the County would need to provide a counteroffer.
 - Commissioner Dozier expressed that the property has not been properly restored and that it has cost the County a large amount of money. She confirmed with the County Attorney that the fees exceeded \$300,000 for outside counsel over the 18-year litigation timeframe.
 - Commissioner Welch stated his support of the proposed settlement.
 - Commissioner Cummings confirmed the terms of settlement agreement with the County Attorney and expressed concern if the County was doing the proper thing for the citizens and not unjustly enriching the County.
 - County Administrator Long stated that it may cost the County up to \$200,000 to remediate the property.
 - Commissioner Maddox stated that the proposed settlement would make the County whole.
 - Commissioner Proctor expressed that the County may be being unjustly enriched in this settlement.
 - Chairman Minor stated his support of the settlement.
 - *Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to accept the Petrandis settlement agreement, and direct the County Administrator to sign the settlement agreement. The motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Proctor in opposition.*

County Administrator Long:

- No comments

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Dozier:

- Requested the addition of three bills to the Board’s legislative priorities: (1) HB 387 expanding the PACE program; (2) HB 107/ SB 256 on Florida Competitive Workforce Act; and (3) SB 62 that strips the regional planning councils of authority.

- Chairman Minor provided a friendly amendment that the bills come back to the Board in the next meeting agenda.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to approve adding three bills (HB 387, HB 107/SB 256 and SB 62) to the County's legislative priorities, and to include the bills in a consent item on the Board's February 9th meeting agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to approve a proclamation recognizing Women's History Month. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Welch out of Chambers).

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox to invite Anna-Kay Hutchison, Community Partnerships School Director for Sabal Palm Elementary, to provide a presentation at the Board's February meeting. The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Welch out of Chambers).

- Reflected on the homeless shelter on Mahan Drive operating out of compliance and asked if the Chairman would address it and the new strategic initiative, to "Develop a public engagement coordination and planning process with the City and Big Bend Continuum of Care for the siting of all future homeless shelters and support facilities", at the next Chair-Mayor meeting.

Commissioner Dozier moved, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to authorize the Chairman to add the issue of the City Walk homeless shelter and the future process to site new homeless shelters to the next Mayor-Chair meeting. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Welch

- Asked the County Administrator if the Board retreat could be moved to different districts around the County.
- County Administrator Long stated that the Board is provided an agenda item annually in October outlining the upcoming retreat, and that the Board could provide direction at that time, or sooner if the Board desires.
- Commissioner Dozier expressed her support of rotating the retreat venue and stated that she would second the motion.
- Commissioner Minor offered a friendly amendment that the site provides video capability to live stream the retreat.
- Commissioner Welch made the motion and accepted the amendment.
- Commissioner Proctor offered an amendment that the site be "historically sensitive" and not associated with the historical oppression of African Americans.

Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Dozier to direct staff to include in the October Retreat agenda item options to rotate the Retreat location throughout the Commission Districts, and that the location have the ability to livestream the Retreat, and ensure the site is historically sensitive. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Cummings:

- Reflected on her recent tours of the County Divisions & Departments and the County new commissioner orientation, and commended staff. She expressed her appreciation for the excellent County staff presentations, and Commissioner Maddox's presentation at the Florida Association of Counties New Commissioner seminar.

Commissioner Maddox:

- Thanked the County Administrator for including him in new Commissioner Workshop.
- Acknowledged the last two meetings and thanked the Board for working together.
- Reflected on the City's Southern Action Plan. County Administrator Long confirmed that the Planning staff is bringing an agenda item to the Board at its February meeting.
- Acknowledged the County Attorney.
- Acknowledged former Commissioner Anita Davis and celebrated her life. He recalled the park being named in her honor.

Commissioner Proctor:

- Concurred with the great meetings they have had.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Dozier to approve a proclamation for the Hillsborough County Commission, recognizing the Tampa Bay Buccaneers going to the Super Bowl. The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor to approve a proclamation recognizing Bond Community Health Center and FAMU for the Bragg Stadium COVID testing site, to be presented at an appropriate time. The motion carried 7-0.

- Reflected on Dr. Robinson's efforts to utilize FAMU as a vaccination site. He expressed his support of FAMU being used as a vaccination site and confirmed with the County Administrator that the site will be considered.
- Commended Commissioner Maddox for the idea for a civics institute for youth.
- Reflected on the possibility of the property behind the courthouse becoming available for acquisition by the County in the future.
- Reflected on the possibility for the County to adopt an ordinance to decriminalize possession of 20 oz. or less of marijuana. County Attorney O'Steen clarified that HB 383 & SB 710 would legalize recreational marijuana in Florida.
- Reflected on Senate Bill 484 and requested that the County Attorney provide a copy of SB 484 to the other Commissioners for their review.

Chairman Jackson:

- Acknowledged the distribution of Leon CARES funding.

Chairman Minor:

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Proctor to retroactively approve a proclamation honoring the life and achievements of Anita Davis. The motion carried 7-0.

- Reflected on recent efforts to restore Amtrak passenger routes to Tallahassee and requested staff work with other local governments to extend the Florida rail system and urge the Governor to join the Southern Rail Commission.
 - Commissioner Dozier provided a friendly amendment to the motion, to authorize the County representative on the Apalachee Planning Council (ARP) to discuss this legislative priority at the next ARP meeting.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Proctor to direct staff to work with other local governments to extend the Florida rail system and direct staff to work with regional partners to urge the Governor to join the Southern Rail Commission, and authorize the County representative on the Apalachee Planning Council (ARP) to discuss this legislative priority at the next ARP meeting. The motion carried 7-0.

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- Housing Finance Authority of Leon County FY 2020 Audit and Financial Statements

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gwendolyn Marshall".

BY: _____

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Minor".

BY: _____

Rick Minor, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners