

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
Board Reorganization
REGULAR MEETING
November 22, 2022**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Bill Proctor presiding. Present were Vice Chairman Nick Maddox and Commissioners Kristin Dozier, Brian Welch, Carolyn Cummings, Christian Caban, David T. O'Keefe, and Rick Minor. Also present were County Administrator Vincent Long, County Attorney Chasity O'Steen, and Clerk to the Board Beryl H. Wood.

Chairman Proctor called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He welcomed Chief Judge Jonathan Sjostrom and Clerk Gwen Marshall Knight and the numerous dignitaries that were present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was provided by Rev. Greg James of Life International Center and the Pledge of Allegiance was provided by Chairman Bill Proctor.

Chairman Proctor passed the gavel to Vice-Chair Maddox, who presided over the meeting and also welcomed Marcus Nicholas, new School Board Member, and Cliff Thaell, former County Commissioner. Vice-Chair Maddox gave his final remarks as Vice-Chair. He commented on the leadership of Chairman Proctor as the longest serving Commissioner with 30 years of service and his exemplary leadership. He presented Chairman Proctor with a plaque for his service.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY BEGINS

Presentations to Outgoing Chairman

County Administrator Long acknowledged the leadership of Chairman Bill Proctor and commended him on his 8th term as a commissioner. He presented Chairman Proctor with a collage of his Chairmanship for the past year.

Remarks by Outgoing Chairman

Chairman Proctor thanked everyone for being here at today's gathering and for the opportunity to serve. He thanked all County Commissioners former and present. He commented on the Bicentennial of Leon County and commented on the strength and fortitude of the County. He highlighted some of the successes during his tenure. He recalled events that will be forever stitched in his memory. He acknowledged the service of Commissioner Dozier and her service to the Leon County Commission for 12 years and wished her the best in her future endeavors.

Farewell Remarks by Commissioner Dozier

Commissioner Dozier acknowledged all and commented on her 12 years of service. She remarked on her decision to not seek re-election to District 5 and to find other ways to serve. She thanked her colleagues and shared that it was a true honor to serve alongside of them. She gave a special thank you to Marjorie Turnbull. She thanked the County Administrator and

County Attorney, staff, boards, and the incredible people of Leon County. She thanked her family. She thanked Gary Zirin, Commission Aide, for all his hard work and collaboration. She discussed the challenging year and a tough campaign and the call for unity that she supports.

Chairman Proctor thanked Commissioner Dozier for her dedication and reminded her that she would be forever part of the Leon County family.

INSTALLATION OF COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Chief Judge Jonathan Sjostrom presided over the installations for re-elected Commissioners Bill Proctor, Rick Minor, Nick Maddox and newly elected Commissioners Christian Caban, David T. O'Keefe alongside their families. He recognized Paul Mitchell who serves on the Children's Service Council.

REORGANIZATION

The Honorable Gwen Marshall Knight, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, was recognized as presiding officer for the 2022-2023 reorganization. She thanked the Board and staff for their leadership and support for the Clerk's Office. She welcomed Commissioner Caban and Commissioner O'Keefe to the Board.

Election of Chairman

Commissioner Cummings moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to nominate Commissioner Maddox, for Chairman for the Leon County Board of County Commissioners. The motion carried 7-0.

Election of Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to nominate Commissioner Cummings as Vice-Chair for the Leon County Board of County Commissioners. The motion carried 7-0.

Clerk Marshall Knight administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Chairman Maddox.

- Chairman Maddox acknowledged those who made him better during the election cycle: Josh Johnson, Pastor Rudy Ferguson, Sean Pittman, Daryl Jones, Pastor Quincy Griffin, and many more. He ended his remarks with together we can and thanked the citizens for the opportunity to serve as an at-large Commissioner and Chairman.

BENEDICTION

- The Benediction was provided by Pastor Quincy Griffin of Family Worship and Praise Center.

OFFICIAL BOARD PHOTO

- The Official Board photo was taken.

RECESS FOR RECEPTION

- The Board recessed for the reception at 4:15 p.m.

The regular public meeting reconvened following the recess at 4:36 pm.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Proclamation Recognizing Amaya Wayman for the Girl Flo Project and her Efforts to Ensure Access to Feminine Hygiene Products for Leon County School Students
 - Vice Chair Cummings presented the Proclamation honoring Amaya Wayman for the Girl Flo Project. Also standing with her were Melinda James, National Achiever Society, and Daryl Jones, School Board member joined as she was presented for her work at distributing over 10,000 feminine hygiene products in all middle and high schools in Leon County.
 - Amaya Wayman and her family accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board for its support.
- Proclamation Recognizing Joe Bullard's Induction into the National Black Radio Hall of Fame
 - Chair Maddox presented Joe Bullard a proclamation recognizing him as being inducted into the National Black Radio Hall of Fame for his role in shaping radio in Leon County.
 - Mr. Bullard thanked the Board for the honor and that Tallahassee was a kingdom of blessings as he gave heartfelt comments.
- Proclamation Recognizing the Retirement of Dan Rigo, Senior Assistant County Attorney
 - Chair Maddox presented proclamation to Dan Rigo, Senior Assistant County Attorney as he prepares to retire.
 - Dan Rigo thanked the Board for the proclamation. He remarked on his tenure with the County Attorney's Office.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON CONSENT AND NON-AGENDAED ITEMS

3-minute limit per speaker; there will not be any discussion by the Commission

- Bob Holliday, 3362 Foley Drive, President of the Tallahassee Historical Society, spoke in support of agenda item number 3 and the Lake Hall Schoolhouse item.
- Stephanie Shumate, 317 E. Call Street, President of Oasis Center for Women and Girls, introduced herself as the new Director of the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. She thanked the Board for the additional funding for the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and commented on the 13 big tasks at hand in their reimagining plan.
- Iris Ouzts, 15615 Blountstown Highway, congratulated Commissioner Caban and spoke in opposition of the name change of the Fort Braden Community Center. She spoke in support of Commissioner Jackson's name being placed somewhere else.
- Terrie Mock, 836 Sir Richard Road, asked the Board for reconsideration of the naming of the Fort Braden Community Center.

- Carma Harvey, 16919 Blountstown Highway, spoke in opposition to changing the name of the Fort Braden Community Center, and suggested instead renaming the new walking trail and playground in honor of Commissioner Jimbo Jackson.
- Kenneth Harvey, 16919 Blountstown Highway, spoke in opposition of the Fort Braden Community Center name change.
- Beth Young, 2418 Harvey Miller Creek Road, congratulated the Board. She spoke in opposition of the name change at the Fort Braden Community Center and thanked the County and community partners for saving the Fort Braden oak tree.
- Nicole Baker Harrison, 16024 Fletcher Creek Court, thanked the County and community partners for saving the Fort Braden oak tree, and asked for a meeting with the newly elected District 2 commissioner to discuss the renaming of the Fort Braden Community Center.
- Beth Jackson, 5659 Tecumseh Drive, commented on the Board's previous decision to rename the Fort Braden Community Center in honor of Commissioner Jimbo Jackson.

CONSENT

Chair Maddox commented about a group of scientists who are working on Lake Munson at Florida A&M University and stated that if they had needs or requests that they could reach out to the Board.

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

1. Minutes: September 20, 2022 Public Hearing

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the minutes of September 20, 2022, Public Hearing.

2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for November 22, 2022 and pre-approval of payment of bills and vouchers for the period of November 23, 2022 through December 12, 2022.

3. The Tallahassee Historical Society's Funding Request

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Tallahassee Historical Society's funding request and the associated Budget Amendment in the amount of \$10,000 to support the production of a children's activity book in celebration of the 2024 Tallahassee/Leon County Bicentennial, and authorize the County Administrator to execute an Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

4. Ratification of Board Actions Taken at the October 25, 2022 Workshop on the 2023 State and Federal Legislative Priorities

The Board approved Options #1 -2: Option #1: Ratify the actions taken by the Board at the October 25, 2022, Workshop on the 2023 State and Federal Legislative Priorities.

Option #2: Direct staff to include an agenda item during the Board's 2023 Annual Retreat to evaluate healthcare needs for women and children in the community.

5. FY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant

The Board approved Options # 1-2: Option #1: Accept the State Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$25,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Subaward and Grant Agreement, including any future modifications, subject to legal review by the

County Attorney.

Option #2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request for the State Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$25,000.

6. Request to Schedule the First and Only Public Hearing Regarding Intent to Use the Uniform Method for the Levy, Collection, and Enforcement of Non-Ad Valorem Assessments to Defray the Costs of the Tower Oaks 2/3 Program for Road Improvements, for December 13, 2022

The Board approved Options # 1-2: Option #1: Schedule the first and only public hearing regarding the County's intent to utilize the uniform method for the levy, collection, and enforcement of non-ad valorem assessments to defray the costs of the Tower Oaks 2/3 Program for Road Improvements, for December 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Option #2: Ratify the notice of public hearing provided by publication.

7. FY 2022 Year-End and FY 2023 Carry Forward Adjustments

The Board approved Options #1-2: Option #1: Approve the FY 2022 year-end budget adjustments, and the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request.

Option #2: Authorize the additional carry forward adjustments of FY 2022 appropriations to the FY 2023 budget by adopting the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request.

8. Proposed Revisions to Board Policy No. 16-08 "Leon Works Junior Apprenticeship Program Policy"

The Board approved Option #1: Adopt the proposed revised Leon Works Junior Apprentice Program Policy No. 16- 8 to expand the program participation to include all Leon County public, charter, and private schools.

9. Proposed Revisions to Leon County Personnel Policies and Procedures to Enhance Employee Recruitment and Retention

The Board approved Option #1: Adopt the proposed revisions to the Leon County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, Sections V, VII and IX.

10. Ratification of the Submission of a Grant Application for a FY 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant

The Board approved Option #1: Ratify the submission of the Grant Application for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) FY 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant.

11. Memorandum of Understanding with the Leon County Schools Adult & Community Education

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the School Board of Leon County for the provision of the Leon County Library's GED program and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Memorandum of Understanding, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

12. Memorandum of Agreement Between Leon County and the State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Miccosukee Community Center Community Development Block Grant Rehabilitation Project

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Leon County and the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the Miccosukee Community Center rehabilitation project, and authorize the County Administrator or his designee, as the Designated Official to execute the Memorandum of Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

13. Locally Funded Agreement Between Leon County and Florida Department of Transportation for the Design of the Springhill Road Bridge Replacement

The Board approved Options # 1-4: Option # 1 Approve the Locally Funded Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the County to pay 25% of the design of the Springhill Road Bridge replacement project and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement.

Option #2: Adopt the Resolution authorizing the Locally Funded Agreement for the design of the Springhill Road Bridge replacement project.

Option #3: Approve the Three-Party Escrow Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and Department of Financial Services to establish an escrow account for the Springhill Road Bridge Replacement project and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement.

Option #4: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing \$279,410 from Blueprint for the County local match.

14. Ratification of the Submission of a Grant Application for Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services 2022 Urban and Community Forestry Grant

The Board approved Option #1: Ratify the submission of a Grant Application for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services 2022 Urban and Community Forestry Grant.

15. Approval of the Plat for Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase III

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the plat for Fletcher Oaks Subdivision Phase III for recording in the Public Record, contingent upon staff's final review and approval, and

authorize the County Administrator to accept and execute the Performance Agreement and Surety Device and any future extensions thereto.

16. Fred George Wetland Restoration Grant Agreement

The Board approved Options #1-2: Option #1 Accept the grant of \$400,000 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the Fred George Wetland Restoration project and authorize the County Administrator to execute the grant agreement, including any future modifications, subject to final legal review by the County Attorney.

Option #2: Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request realizing \$400,000 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection into the County budget.

17. Springs Restoration Grant Amendment for Construction of the Belair/Annawood Sewer System Project

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Springs Restoration Grant Amendment for the Belair/Annawood Sewer System Project and authorize the County Administrator to execute the grant amendment, including any future modifications, subject to final legal review by the County Attorney.

Procurements: (These items are included under Consent.)

18. Second Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County for the Licensing, Hosting, and Support of the GOVMAX Budget Development Software

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Second Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County for the licensing, hosting, and support of the GOVMAX budget development software, and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

19. Bid Award for Renovations at 2990 Apalachee Parkway in the Cross Creek Shopping Center

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the bid award to Arris General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$297,145 for the renovation of 2990 Apalachee Parkway in the Cross Creek Shopping Center and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

20. Authorization of Pre-Event Contracts for Debris Removal and Disposal Services

The Board approved Option #1: Authorize the County Administrator to execute pre-event contracts for Debris Removal and Disposal Services to Ceres Environmental, AshBritt Environmental, DRC Emergency Services, and CrowderGulf, LLC, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

Status Reports: (These items are included under Consent).

- None

CONSENT ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

GENERAL BUSINESS

21. Proposed Renaming of the Leon County Courthouse in Honor of Judge Augustus D. Aikens, Jr.

County Administrator Long presented the item. He commented that this item seeks the Board's consideration of the renaming of the Leon County Courthouse in honor of Judge Augustus D. Aikens, Jr. upon his retirement on November 18, 2024. He asked for Board direction on this item.

Chief Judge Sjostrom spoke in support of honoring Judge Augustus D. Aikens Jr. by renaming the Leon County Courthouse. He shared the deeply committed judicial values that Judge Aikens embodies.

Vice-Chair Cummings thanked Judge Sjostrom for his letter. She supported the renaming of the Courthouse and acknowledged Judge Aikens as a professional and that she knew him personally, as she has worked for him. She recalled how he taught her how to have integrity in the midst of adversity. She commented on his service to the United States Armed Services. She shared that he merits the naming of the Courthouse after him.

Commissioner Welch commended Judge Aikens. However, he expressed concern with this being the only courthouse. He reflected on the importance of this decision and stated he would support the decision.

Commissioner O'Keefe acknowledged Judge Aikens. He commented on the naming of the one courthouse, and they should take into consideration community input. He made a substitute motion to postpone the item to the January 24, 2023 meeting. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner O'Keefe moved a substitute motion to postpone this item until January 24, 2023. The motion died for lack of a second.

Vice-Chair Cummings moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to approve Option #1: Approve the renaming of the Leon County Courthouse to the Augustus D. Aikens, Jr., Leon County Courthouse upon the retirement of Judge Aikens, which would be no later than November 18, 2024. The motion carried 7-0.

Chair Maddox congratulated Judge Aikens.

Judge Aikens and his family expressed appreciation and gratitude for the honor. He stated the courthouse is for the community and spoke of his love for Leon County.

22. Tallahassee Housing Authority Funding Request for the Second Phase of the Orange Avenue Apartments Redevelopment

County Administrator Long introduced this item. He stated as requested by the Board at the September 13, 2022, Commission meeting, this item presents a funding request from the Tallahassee Housing Authority to Leon County and the City of Tallahassee to address a funding gap for the second phase of the Orange Avenue Apartments redevelopment project. The Tallahassee Housing Authority has requested additional funding for the affordable housing project from Leon County and the City of Tallahassee in the amount of \$1 million each.

Vice Chair Cummings spoke in support of Option 1 and the need for affordable housing.

Commissioner Minor commented on this being a solid step in affordable housing that he wholeheartedly supports the item.

Commissioner Welch commented on the need for and support of this item.

Commissioner Proctor acknowledged the leadership of Brenda Williams of the Tallahassee Housing Authority. He stated that this move would support the vital need of establishment of 410 units of affordable housing.

Commissioner Caban shared that on the campaign trail they discussed affordable housing and he is looking forward to supporting this item.

Chair Maddox commended Brenda Williams for her efforts and discussed how affordable housing would combat so many issues.

Commissioner Cummings moved, seconded by Commissioner Welch, to approve Option #1: Authorize the County Administrator to allocate \$1 million of Emergency Rental Assistance 2 funding to support the funding request from the Tallahassee Housing Authority for the second phase of redevelopment of the Orange Avenue Apartments, execute a letter of commitment for such funding to Columbia Residential or its applicable affiliated entity as a forgivable loan, and execute customary documents to effectuate the closing thereof. The motion carried 7-0.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

- None

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS

3-minute limit per speaker; there will not be any discussion by the Commission

- None

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney O’Steen:

- Thanked the Board for the proclamation honoring Sr. Assistant County Attorney Dan Rigo on his years of service and his well-deserved upcoming retirement.
- Welcomed Commissioners Caban and O’Keefe.
- Shared the details of the Walmart, Inc. litigation settlement. She stated the County could opt in or the County could possibly proceed alone. She shared the proposed settlement is for disbursement of \$215 million dollars, which would be allocated for specified opioid mediation efforts throughout the State, and if Leon County opts in, it would be eligible for a pro rata percentage of the settlement proceeds and requested the Board’s approval to accept the Settlement Agreement and sign the Settlement Participation Agreement on behalf of the County.
- *Commissioner Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to allow the County Attorney to accept the Walmart Settlement Agreement for opioid mediation efforts and allow the County Attorney to sign the Settlement Participation Agreement. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

County Administrator Long:

- Welcomed new Commissioners Caban and O’Keefe, and re-elected Commissioners around the dais.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner O’Keefe:

- Reflected on recent hate speech and hate crimes occurring across the nation. He discussed the possibility of an agenda item to discuss further actions the County might consider in addressing this issue. Discussion followed among the Board.
 - Commissioner Minor recalled the resolution that had been adopted by the Board last year, condemning hate and extremism, and suggested that the County Administrator could provide an update on the actions taken since the adoption of the resolution.
 - Commissioner O’Keefe concurred with this approach. He stated that he would like to review the resolution and proceed from that point.

Commissioner Caban:

- Moved for a status report on the County’s private roads assistance programs. This was seconded by Commissioner Welch.
 - *Commissioner Caban moved, seconded by Commissioner Welch, for a status report on the County’s private road assistance programs. The motion carried 7-0.*

Commissioner Welch:

- Welcomed the new Commissioners and that he was looking forward to serving with them.
- Discussed the Bi-Centennial Anniversary.

- Acknowledged Commissioner Proctor for 30 years of service and congratulated Dan Rigo for his service to the County.
- Acknowledged Judge Aikens and noted that he had served with him and the County Attorney on the canvassing board.
- Reflected on his service on the Canvassing Board, and commended Mark Earley, the Supervisor of Elections.
- Thanked the Public Works Department for the repaving on Centerville Road in front of Montford Middle School and Roberts Elementary School.
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Chair Cummings:

- Expressed sentiments to Commissioner Caban and O'Keefe on their elections to the Board.
- Commended outgoing Chair Proctor and thanked him for his leadership.
- Acknowledged Chair Maddox.
- Thanked the Board for her election as the Vice-Chair.
- Thanked Commissioner Proctor for inviting Dr. Temple Robinson, Bond Community Health. She commended Dr. Robinson and Bond Health Center for their work in providing healthcare for low-income residents, especially those in the 32301 and 32304 zip codes. She also acknowledged Ms. Freeman of the Neighborhood Health Center and commented on how the two together do a tremendous job in healthcare. She confirmed with the County Administrator that a request would be made to both Dr. Robinson and Ms. Freeman to attend the upcoming Board Retreat in January.
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Minor:

- Commented on the service of Commissioner Bill Proctor of 30 years and his exemplary service to the citizens.
- Discussed the different dynamics of the Commission and welcomed the new body and new Commissioners.
- Thanked staff for making the Commission look good and to make community look as good as it is.
- Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Proctor:

- Requested a proclamation recognizing January 20, 2023, as Florida Arbor Day.
 - *Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to approve a Proclamation recognizing January 20, 2023, as Florida Arbor Day. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Requested a Proclamation for outstanding service to the community on their 100th anniversary for Sigma Gamma Rho.
 - *Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Cummings, to approve a Proclamation recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Shared that a commissioner orientation of court process in the courthouse would be helpful, and asked Judge Aikens for his consideration.

- o Acknowledged Chair Maddox and new Commissioner Caban and Commissioner O'Keefe.
- o Commended Joe Bullard for an outstanding broadcasting career.
- o Acknowledged Senior Assistant County Attorney Dan Rigo on his upcoming retirement.
- o Recognized Judge Aikens and others who found their niche for service.
- o Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chair Maddox:

- o Welcomed Commissioner Caban and Commissioner O'Keefe to the Board.
- o Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

RECEIPT AND FILE:

- Children's Services Council of Leon County Quarterly Financial Report, July 1 through September 30, 2022
- Children's Services Council of Leon County Resolution No. 2022-08 Establishing the Final Millage Rate for FY2023 Ad Valorem Tax Revenue
- Children's Services Council of Leon County Resolution No. 2022-09 Adopting the Final FY2023 Budget
- Capital Region Community Development District August 11, 2022, meeting minutes

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



BY: Nick Maddox, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

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