

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
March 19, 2024**

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

Chair Cummings called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was provided by Stanley Sims. The Pledge of Allegiance was provided by Chair Cummings.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Proclamation Recognizing March 2024 as Women’s History Month *(Chair Cummings)*
 - Adela Ghadimi, Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, and Glenda Thornton, President of the Board of Directors of The Oasis Center for Women & Girls, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board for its support.
 - Vice-Chair Welch acknowledged Women’s History Month.
 - Commissioner O’Keefe commented that women make up a large and important class in our society and community. He mentioned that he grew up surrounded by strong women. He ended his remarks by saying he could not think of anything more profound to say than thank you to all women.
 - Commissioner Minor echoed the sentiments and thanked all women.

- Proclamation Recognizing the Retirement of Scott Ross, Director of the Office of Financial Stewardship *(Chair Cummings)*
 - Scott Ross, Finance Director, accepted a proclamation for his retirement with Leon County after a lengthy career (36 years) in public service and, in his comments, gave appreciation to those who inspired his career, and he concluded with a thank you.
 - Commissioner O’Keefe acknowledged Scott Ross.
 - Vice-Chair Welch thanked Mr. Ross for his leadership and dedication to Leon County for all these years.
 - County Administrator Long acknowledged and thanked Mr. Ross for his dedication to the financial stewardship of Leon County.
 - Commissioner Minor thanked Mr. Ross and wished him a happy retirement and recognized the positive financial impact he had on Leon County.
 - Commissioner Proctor expressed his gratitude to Mr. Ross. He noted the high standard Mr. Ross maintained for the financial records of Leon County.
 - Commissioner Maddox expressed appreciation and thanked Mr. Ross for his leadership, stating that he has left the County in good hands.
 - Chair Cummings thanked Mr. Ross for his tenure and leadership.

- Proclamation Recognizing the Musical Career of George Clinton (*Chair Cummings and Commissioner Maddox*)
 - Commissioner Maddox and Chair Cummings presented a proclamation to soulful legend George Clinton, with all Commissioners and the Omega Fraternity standing in support.
 - Civil rights Attorney Ben Crump spoke in support of Mr. Clinton’s accomplishments and his legacy.
 - Commissioner Proctor acknowledged Mr. Clinton.
 - Vice-Chair Welch expressed appreciation to Mr. Clinton, acknowledging his contributions to the community.

- Proclamation Recognizing March 2024 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month (*Commissioner Maddox*)
 - Commissioner Maddox presented the proclamation for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.
 - Ashley Peterman, with the TLH MS Group, thanked Commissioner Maddox and the Board for the proclamation. She discussed the community walk held the prior weekend and provided information on how community members could support those affected by MS.
 - Commissioner Caban commented on how MS affected his family growing up and appreciated the TLH MS Group for bringing awareness to MS.
 - Chair Cummings thanked the TLH MS Group for the hard work they do.

- Presentation on the County’s Upcoming New Website (*Mathieu Cavell, Community & Media Relations*)
 - Mathieu Cavell presented an overview of the County’s relaunched website which makes it easier for citizens to connect to their government.
 - Vice-Chair Welch thanked Matt and his team for the robust work that went into redesigning the County government’s website.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON CONSENT AND NON-AGENDAED ITEMS

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

- Thomas Linton, 252 Rock Cress Road, CEO of Mindful Quest, spoke on his new business, which targets mental health needs. He spoke on behalf of the software company and the potential for partnership with Leon County. Their motto is “connecting those who hurt with those who help.”
- Carlos Ramirez, 4417 Westover Drive, handed out pamphlets to the Board on Geoengineering.com. Mr. Ramirez spoke on poor air and water quality. He emphasized the importance of a clean atmosphere and warned of the disastrous effect weedkillers cause to plants and our water systems.
- Angelina Lashay Respass, 3025 South Adams Street, spoke about an incident that occurred on March 3rd, in which she was pulled over by law enforcement. She discussed the situation, including how she was treated.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner O’Keefe, requesting that staff bring back additional information concerning this incident.

The motion carried 7-0.

Consent:

Vice-Chair Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Caban was out of Chambers).

1. Approval of Minutes: January 23, 2024, Regular Meeting

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the minutes of the January 23, 2024, Regular Meeting.

2. Payment of Bills and Vouchers

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the payment of bills and vouchers submitted for March 19, 2024, and the pre-approval of payment of bills and vouchers for the period of March 20, 2024, through April 8, 2024.

3. Request to Schedule the First and Only Public Hearing to Consider the Repeal Chapter 11, Article VI of the Leon County Code of Ordinances, entitled “Peddlers”, for April 9, 2024

The Board approved Option #1: Schedule the first and only public hearing to consider the repeal of Chapter 11, Article VI of the Leon County Code of Ordinances, entitled “Peddlers”, for April 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

4. First Appearance Attorney Funding Agreements for the Office of the State Attorney and Office of the Public Defender

The Board approved Options #1 & 2:

Option #1: Approve the agreement with the Office of the State Attorney, Second Judicial Circuit, in the amount of \$37,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

Option #2: Approve the agreement with the Office of the Public Defender, Second Judicial Circuit, in the amount of \$37,000 and authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

5. Approval of Maintenance Map for Scott Tower Road

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the Maintenance Map for Scott Tower Road.

Procurements: *(These items are included under Consent.)*

6. Approval for the Purchase of Two ExaGrid Data Backup Hardware Devices

The Board approved Option #1: Approve the purchase of two ExaGrid data backup devices utilizing OMNIA/Cobb County Contract #23-6692-03 and authorize the County Administrator to sign a three-year financing lease-to-own agreement with Insight Public Sector, Inc. for a total amount not to exceed \$288,140, and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney.

7. Authorization to Negotiate an Agreement for Construction Engineering & Inspection Services for Three FDOT Local Agency Program Bridge Projects

The Board approved Option #1: Authorize the County Administrator, or designee, to negotiate and execute an Agreement for Construction Engineering and Inspection services fee for the three FDOT Local Agency Program Bridge Projects, Miccosukee Road, Springhill Road, and Veterans Memorial Drive, with Halff Associates, Inc., and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney. If negotiations are unsuccessful, authorize the County Administrator or designee to negotiate with the next highest-ranked firms in order of ranking until a successful negotiation.

8. 2023 Annual Leon County Real Estate Portfolio Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the 2023 Leon County Real Estate Portfolio Annual Report.

9. 2023 Annual Supervised Pretrial Release Program Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the 2023 Annual Supervised Pretrial Release Program Report and authorize staff to submit the Report to the Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller for Leon County.

10. 2023 Annual Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the 2023 Annual Tallahassee-Leon County Board of Adjustment and Appeals Report.

11. FY 2023 Annual Code Enforcement, Nuisance Abatement, and Code Compliance Programs Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the FY 2023 Annual Report on the County's Code Enforcement, Nuisance Abatement, and Code Compliance Programs.

12. February 2024 Quarterly Economic Dashboard Report

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the February 2024 Quarterly Economic Dashboard Report.

13. Status Update on the Amazon Fulfillment Center

The Board approved Option #1: Accept the status update on the Amazon Fulfillment Center.

CONSENT ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

- **None**

GENERAL BUSINESS

14. Establishing the FY 2025 Maximum Discretionary Funding Levels for Outside Agencies Including the Community Human Services Partnership

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that pursuant to the County's Discretionary Funding Ordinance and Policy No. 93-44, "Fiscal Planning", this item sought Board consideration to establish the FY 2025 maximum discretionary funding levels for outside agencies, including the Community Human Services Partnership, dedicated homeless services, and special events.

Public Comments:

- Stanley Sims, 1320 Avondale Way, spoke of the unknowns and trying times for people in the community. He discussed his concerns for people who suffer from mental health issues and mentioned the need for a better alignment of funds to help address the problem.
- Angela Rivera-Drewek, 2119 Delta Blvd, Attorney at Legal Services of North Florida, spoke on homelessness and the affordable housing crisis occurring in Leon County. She asked the County Commissioners if they could do more, to keep current funding levels the same.
- Leslie Powell-Boudreaux, 2119 Delta Blvd, Executive Director of Legal Services of North Florida, spoke in support of the funding. She discussed the negative impacts on the community if funds were to be cut. She also discussed being funded over the statutory minimum of \$125,000.00.

Commissioner Discussion:

- Commissioner Maddox recused himself from Option #1 and Option #2 due to a conflict based on his employment with Family Promise of the Big Bend, which receives CHSP funding.
- Commissioner Minor recused himself from voting on any funding related to Whole Child Leon because his wife and Whole Child Leon are entering a contract for marketing and communication services. He further asked that a vote regarding Whole Child Leon be removed from Option #5 and made a new Option #6 so that he can vote on the remaining funding items in Option #5.
- Commissioner Minor commented that with this funding Legal Services of North Florida (LSNF) could hire an additional attorney and that would allow them to work on an extra 250 cases per year. He inquired about CHSP funding for LSNF to ensure they get \$125,000.00.
- Mr. Shington Lamy, Assistant County Administrator, responded by saying they bring that item to the Commission every July as part of how they spend their CHSP dollars. The agencies receive award letters over the summer and then the recommendation letters come before the Board in September.
- Vice-Chair Welch recalled that in 2016 there was a five-year temporary funding commitment to Legal Services of North Florida in the amount of \$125,000.
- County Administrator Long stated that the outside funding had not been restored at the time and at the time he recommended keeping the \$125,000 in for funding consistency purposes. He went on to say that the federal funding has now been restored.
- Vice-Chair Welch inquired where funding would come from, and County Administrator Long stated it would come from General Revenue. Vice-Chair Welch expressed his apprehension about the precedent being set.
- Commissioner O'Keefe spoke in support of the \$125,000 for LSNF. He discussed fiscal responsibility and stated that this is a smart investment. He gave examples of the individuals LSNF represents, like disabled people.

- County Administrator Long pointed out the current policy for CHSP-funded organizations and how they would not be eligible for any outside funding. He noted that the policy's intent is to have one process for distributing Human Services Funding.
- Commissioner Maddox shared that as much as he would like to support it, he invoked the current policy which prohibits organizations that receive CHSP funding from being line items within the budget under outside agency contracts. He continued by saying he would not like to deviate from the current policy at this time.
- Commissioner Caban agreed with Vice-Chair Welch and spoke on the importance of fiscal responsibility and conserving General Revenue. He commented on Option 2, and how they should share the \$834,000 from the American Rescue Plan evenly across the community.
- Chair Cummings responded on Option #2, stating it is just the amount of discretionary funding right now. When they have their budget workshop, they can modify their levels, but for now, they need to establish their levels before March 31st.
- County Administrator Long commented on Option #2 as having flexibility in the budget process. He continued speaking on the flexibility of the dollars in Option #2 and discussed what they could do at the first budget workshop.
- Chair Cummings disclosed that she was an employee and board member of LSNF. She further commented that the funding is never enough and that more funding is needed. She asked that the Board investigate this, because by taking away funding, LSNF will lose 1 attorney, who handles roughly 250 cases per year. She worries that marginalized communities will be taken advantage of in the legal system.
- Commissioner Proctor shared his thoughts on the LSNF funding. He recalled the 2.5 million tax break to Amazon, a trillion-dollar company. He spoke in support of the funding.
- Chair Cummings commented on Item #3, which gave \$5,000 for the “Shoes4school” initiative. Last year, Pastor Griffin from the Family Worship and Praise Center gave 5,000 pairs of new shoes to school children. Chair Cummings stated that this year they are expected to serve 7,000 children with new shoes. She would like to add \$5,000 dollars under Special Event Funding for shoes for back-to-school children. County Administrator Long stated that they could add the funds under special event funding.
- Commissioner Maddox discussed the CHSP policy that is in place. He expressed sympathy for the organizations looking to receive the funding and mentioned all organizations need additional funding. However, he believes that current policy prevents CHSP eligible organizations from getting funding under the current ordinance and does not want to deviate from policy.
- County Attorney O’Steen clarified that an ordinance, not a policy, governs CHSP funding.
- County Administrator Long provided clarification that these are not CHSP dollars, but their Article V obligation of \$125,000.00. He stated that this is what the Board has done in the past to reconcile their Article V obligations and CHSP funding. He noted that this is convoluted but important for consistency.
- County Attorney O’Steen suggested wiping the slate clean and having all motions and substitute motions withdrawn. Chair Cummings then asked all Commissioners to withdraw their motions so they could look at each option separately for clarification purposes.
- Commissioner Maddox sought clarification on whether LSNF could get Article 5 funding in the amount of \$125,000 and apply for CHSP funding as well.
- County Administrator Long stated that if the Board wished to reinstate the \$125,000, he requested that the record indicate that these funds are designated for Article V costs and expenses and that they remain distinct from the CHSP process.

Option #1: Establish the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) funding level for FY 2025 at \$1,445,000.

Option #2: Approve the allocation of \$834,000 in one-time funding from the American Rescue Plan Act to support the CHSP homeless services category and establish line-item funding for emergency shelters for the FY 2025 - FY 2026 funding cycle (\$417,000 each year).

- Commissioner Caban asked if Option #2 can still be amended at the next Budget Workshop. County Administrator Long responded by saying if that is the will of the Board, they can certainly do that.
- Commissioner Minor commented on 211 Big Bend being moved out of this category, and that it is now Option #5. He recommended taking funds out of CHSP for the \$125,000 for LSNF.
- Commissioner Caban asked County Administrator Long to inquire about tax/mileage rate increases. He discussed funding for areas of need, especially in his district.

Vice-Chair Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner O’Keefe, to approve Option #1: Establish the Community Human Services Partnership funding level for FY 2025 at \$1,445,000; and

Option #2: Approve the allocation of \$834,000 in one-time funding from the American Rescue Plan Act to support the CHSP homeless services category and establish line-item funding for emergency shelters for the FY 2025 - FY 2026 funding cycle (\$417,000 each year).

The motion carried 5-1. (Commissioner Caban in dissent and Commissioner Maddox abstained).

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Welch, to approve Option #3 as amended: Establish the non-departmental maximum discretionary funding level for FY 2025 at \$74,500 for special events funding to include \$5,000 for the “Shoes4school” initiative.

The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner O’Keefe moved, seconded by Commissioner Maddox, to approve Option #4: Establish the Commissioner Office Budgets at \$20,500.

The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner O’Keefe, to approve Option #5 as amended: Establish the FY 2025 Outside Agency Contracts as follows, with the exception of Whole Child Leon, and authorize the County Administrator to execute the associated funding agreements and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney; and provide \$125,000 in funding for Legal Services of North Florida as part of the County’s statutory Article V obligation:

- *2-1-1 Big Bend: \$112,500*
- *DISC Village: \$222,759*
- *Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: \$25,000*
- *Oasis Center: \$68,750*
- *St. Francis Wildlife Association: \$71,250*
- *Tallahassee Senior Citizens Foundation: \$179,000*

- Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation: \$63,175
- United Partners for Human Services: \$40,000

The motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Welch, to approve Option #6 – Board Direction as amended: Establish the FY 2025 Outside Agency Contracts to include funding for Whole Child Leon as follows, and authorize the County Administrator to execute the associated funding agreements and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney:

Whole Child Leon: \$38,000

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Minor abstained).

15. Approval to Rename Wahnish Way to Althea Gibson Way

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He stated that this item sought Board adoption of a Resolution approving the renaming of Wahnish Way in its entirety, from FAMU Way to Bragg Drive, to “Althea Gibson Way.” At the request of Florida A&M University, the City Commission initiated the proposed street renaming. The request for street renaming is recommended for approval by the Addressing Steering Committee.

Public Comments:

- Stanley Sims, 1320 Avondale Way, spoke in support of the name change.
- David Self, FAMU Attorney, spoke in support and explained the history of the name change.

Commissioner Discussion:

- Commissioner Proctor commented on renaming a section of Wahnish Way.
- Barry Wilcox, Development Support and Environmental Management, noted the uniform street naming and property numbering system ordinance states that in the case of renaming streets or extensions of streets, we shall rename the entirety of that street from end to end. This came about to assist EMS workers and other emergency management personnel.
- Commissioner Proctor clarified that there was no request or intention to change the entire street name. Specifically, Congressman Lawson's intention was to rename the street only from Orange Avenue to FAMU Way, and this was also not the intent of the Board of Trustees at FAMU.
- Barry Wilcox clarified that the request that came from City staff was to rename the entire street from end to end.
- Commissioner Maddox inquired whether they could address the issue by voting to waive policy in order to rename a segment of the street. County Attorney O’Steen informed the Commissioners that street renaming is governed by the Code of Laws, not a policy. The Board cannot waive the Code. County Administrator Long stated it is the Board’s ordinance.
- Commissioner Proctor pointed out that there are existing roads in the area that do not maintain the same name consistently from one end to the other. He provided examples such as Railroad Avenue, Old Bainbridge Road, Macomb Street, and Wahnish Way, where the street names change along different segments or sections.

This observation highlights the variability in street naming practices and suggests that having consistent names throughout the entire length of a road is not universally enforced or followed in the area.

- County Attorney O’Steen noted that ordinances go into effect prospectively, and that is why there are current streets that do not have the same name from end to end. She went on to say the reason the Board adopted the current code is for public health and safety. The current Code helps ensure that EMS, fire, and law enforcement know where they are going in the event of an emergency.
- Commissioner Caban stated he will follow the at-large Commissioners.
- Commissioner Maddox made the recommendation to put a sign titled Althea Gibson way starting from FAMU way down to Orange Avenue. He stated this can be done without changing the name of the street.

Commissioner Maddox made a substitute motion, seconded by Commissioner Proctor, to install honorary designation signage on Wahnish Way from Orange Ave to FAMU Way to honor Althea Gibson and to have staff bring back an agenda item with recommendations for a suitable location for renaming a street in honor of President Barack Obama.

The motion carried 7-0.

- Commissioner O’Keefe commented he hopes that in the future if any entities want the Commissioners to consider renaming a street, that they would inform the Commission they were comfortable with renaming the entire street in accordance with Code.

16. Approval of Consent to Assignment and Assumption Agreement for District 2 Medical Examiner Services

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He conveyed that Dr. Thomas Coyne is anticipated to begin serving as the new substitute District 2 Medical Examiner (ME) by May 1, 2024, while he awaits a gubernatorial appointment to the permanent position.

This item requests Board approval of a Consent to Assignment and Assumption Agreement for a new substitute District 2 ME and authorization for the County Administrator to execute the Agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney, to facilitate the transfer of the District 2 ME practice from Dr. Thogmartin to Dr. Coyne.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Proctor, approval of Option # 1: Authorize the County Administrator to execute Consent to Assignment and Assumption Agreement for the District 2 Medical Examiner contract with a new substitute Medical Examiner, and any amendments thereto, subject to legal review by the County Attorney

The motion carried 7-0.

17. Full Board Appointment to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

County Administrator Long introduced the item. He shared that this item sought the full Board's ratification of the appointment of a citizen to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe, for approval of Option #1: Ratify the Commission on the Status of Women & Girls appointment of Ashley Gilley to the Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, for the remainder of the unexpired term ending September 30, 2024.

The motion carried 7-0.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS, 6:00 P.M.

18. First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting a Resolution to Abandon a Portion of Platted, Unimproved Right-of-Way Located on the Capitola Plat

County Attorney O'Steen announced the public hearing. She stated this item requests the Board conduct a public hearing to formally abandon a portion of platted, unimproved right-of-way (ROW) totaling ½ acre and located within the Capitola Subdivision and delineated on the Capitola Plat, as requested by the adjacent property owners in order to incorporate the ROW into their property. Older plats often contain ROW for roads that were never built, or necessary, as is the case in this matter. Florida Statutes require a public hearing and adoption of a resolution to formally abandon any portion of a platted street.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Minor moved, seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe, for approval Option #1: Conduct the first and only public hearing and adopt the resolution to abandon a portion of platted, unimproved right-of-way located on the Capitola Plat.

The motion carried 7-0.

19. First and Only Public Hearing to Approve the Westminster Presbyterian Church Expansion Type "C" Site and Development Plan Application

County Administrator Long announced the public hearing. He stated this item requests the Board conduct the first and only public hearing and conditionally approve the Westminster Presbyterian Church Expansion Type "C" site and development plan application. The project site is located at 4321 Henry Robinson Way, within the Single and Two-Family Residential (R-3) zoning district, which allows the proposed 12,400-square-foot church expansion. Type "C" site and development plans require review and approval by the Board at a public hearing.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Maddox moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, for approval of Option #1: Conduct the first and only public hearing for the Westminster Presbyterian Church Expansion Type "C" site and development plan application and approve the application with conditions, based on the findings of fact and conclusions of law included herein and

those established within the Development Review Committee's record, as well as any evidence received at the public hearing.

The motion carried 7-0.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDAED ITEMS

(3-minute limit per speaker; Commission may discuss issues that are brought forth by speakers.)

- **None_**

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Attorney Chasity O'Steen:

- **None**

County Administrator Long:

- **None**

Commissioner Discussion Items:

Commissioner Maddox:

- Thanked Chair Cummings for an efficient meeting.
- Stated that he was honored to serve on the Board and commented on its collegial nature.

Commissioner O'Keefe:

- Echoed the sentiments of Commissioner Maddox for a great meeting and the collegial nature of the commission.

Commissioner Minor:

- Acknowledged Chair Cummings for her leadership and echoed the sentiments of his colleagues.
- Shared that CRTPA walked up North Munroe to observe some safety opportunities that CRTPA will put in their application when submitted in May.
- Discussed the potential new AMTRAK route from Dallas to Miami, including Tallahassee in that route. He asked for public input to be provided to the Federal Railroad Administration.

Commissioner Caban:

- Commended staff for the Woodville Park with the resurfacing project. He stated he is receiving a lot of positive feedback.
- Stated that the Ft. Braden sidewalk projects mean a lot to the community and thanked the Public Works Department.
- Requested a proclamation for the Woodville Fire Department for their Annual Founders Day for the 3rd Saturday in March.

Commissioner Caban motioned, seconded by Commissioner Proctor, to approve a proclamation to recognize Woodville Founders Day.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

Commissioner Proctor:

- Thanked Chair Cummings for a great meeting and the professionalism of the Board.
- Congratulated George Clinton on a well-deserved proclamation.
- Announced the scheduling of a Community Meeting at the Bruce Host Library to address transparency regarding expenditures including Fire Services, and to address other questions pertaining to finances. Requested staff to identify appropriate locations around FAMU’s campus for the placement of signage recognizing the FAMU football team as 2023 HBCU National Champions.

Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Caban, to bring back an agenda item to establish a protocol to amplify Public Service Announcements for missing children and adults.

- Commissioner O’Keefe commented that he supports this idea and speculated on how it would work with Amber alerts.
- Commissioner Proctor commented on the current process and how it has fallen short and said silence can’t be the way we inform. He continued that there needs to be a formal process to get the information out.
- County Attorney O ’Steen commented on researching the initial point of contact process because missing children are usually reported to law enforcement first. She went on to say that information gathering could take place and a proposal brought back.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

- *Commissioner Proctor moved, seconded by Commissioner Caban, to request staff to identify appropriate locations around FAMU’s campus for the placement of signage recognizing the FAMU football team as 2023 National Champions.*

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out Chambers).

- Commissioner Proctor congratulated Howard University's Basketball Team and wished them the best of luck.

Vice-Chair Welch:

- Commended Commissioner Minor on the work for the North Monroe Street Corridor. He told Commissioner Minor that he has been a champion for this cause.
- Extended congratulations on George Clinton’s proclamation.

Vice-Chair Welch moved, seconded by Commissioner O’Keefe, to approve a proclamation recognizing Joseph Simons as Volunteer Firefighter of the Year in the State of Florida.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

Chair Cummings:

- Acknowledged 3 County projects that won American Public Works Association Infrastructure Awards.
- Requested a proclamation recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Commissioner O'Keefe moved, seconded by Commissioner Caban, to approve a proclamation to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

- Received a letter from Chief Judge Frank Allman about naming Courtroom 3A for Judge Jimmy C. Hankinson and requested staff to bring back an agenda item.
 - Vice-Chair Welch shared his concern with the naming of courtrooms and stated he would support the motion even though he has some reservations.
 - County Attorney O 'Steen asked if they were waiving policy or if they were going to ask staff to look at the policy to make sure it's consistent. Chair Cummings said it would be smart to have staff look at the policy first.

Commissioner O'Keefe moved, seconded by Commissioner Minor, to bring back an agenda item on the renaming of Courtroom 3A in honor of Judge James C. Hankinson.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

- Requested a proclamation recognizing Public Works Week from May 19th – 25th.

Commissioner Minor moved, seconded by Commissioner Caban, to approve a proclamation to recognize Public Works Week from May 19th – 25th.

The motion carried 6-0. (Commissioner Maddox out of Chambers).

- Chair Cummings requested that at the budget workshop, staff analyze the cost of a 5% raise for all County employees as she wants pay to remain competitive.
- Thanked the County staff for all they do.

Receipt and File:

- Capital Region Community Development District meeting minutes for January 11, 2024.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carolyn D. Cummings

BY: _____
Carolyn D. Cummings, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Gwendolyn Marshall Knight*

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