

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Session

February 1, 2024

9:00 A.M.

The Board met on this date in regular session. Chairman JT Surles, Commissioners Austin Hosford, Ben White, Gene Hall, and Chris Tuten were present. Also present were County Manager Shannon Metty, County Attorney Heather Encinosa, and Clerk of the Circuit Court Jason L. Welty.

1. **6 PM Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Chairman Surles called the meeting to order promptly at 9:00 A.M., and Commissioner Hall led the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Public Announcements, Presentations, & Awards**
 - a. Sheriff Mac McNeill introduced a new EOC employee. Sheriff McNeill returned EMO funds of \$49,468.00 for FY2023 to the Board.
3. **Citizens Request & Input on Non-Agenda Items**
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. **Commissioner Hosford stated his intent to add an item to the Consent Agenda.** He referenced the summary of the discussions on the two bike trails in detail. County Attorney Heather Encinosa added that constituents were expecting this topic to be introduced in a future meeting, but ultimately, Chairman Surles stated that the matter has already been voted on and decided. **Commissioner Hosford made the first motion to add the item to the Consent Agenda, and Commissioner White seconded the motion. All were in favor except for Commissioner Hall. Tuten made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, White seconded the motion, while Hall did not consent.**
5. **General Business**
 - a. **Trade Zone Presentation and Support Letter**
 - i. Caroline Smith of Apalachee Regional Planning and Vanessa Spaulding, Manager of Foreign Trade Zone at the Tallahassee International Airport. **Commissioner Hall made the first motion to approve the request for a Letter of Support, Commissioner Hosford seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.**
 - b. **Vista Road Discussion**
 - i. Encinosa explained that the argument is to make investments to bring the road up to county standards and make it a county road. It poses a public safety issue as the Sherrif's Office requires the road for emergency access as well as the jail emergency exit. The final decision was made to send out certified letters to the property owners requesting they vacate before moving further.

- c. **John Deer 670G Motor Grader Lease**
 - i. **On a motion by Commissioner Hosford, seconded by Commissioner Tuten, the Board unanimously approved the item.**
 - d. **Budget Calendar**
 - i. **On a motion by Commissioner Tuten, seconded by Commissioner Hosford, the Board unanimously approved the item.**
 - e. **EMS Grant for Ultra-Sound Machine**
 - i. **On a motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Tuten, the Board unanimously approved the item.**
 - f. **CDBG Grant Closeout**
 - i. **On a motion by Commissioner Hosford, seconded by Commissioner Tuten, the Board unanimously approved the item.**
 - g. **Conflict Affidavit**
 - i. **On a motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Tuten, the Board unanimously approved the item.**
6. **Clerk of Courts**
- a. Clerk of the Circuit Court, Jason L. Welty, discussed the new Transparency Clerk's duties and achievements, including website updates. He introduced his office's partnership with Ending Violence Against Women Internationally and Refuge House. He also introduced his initiative to have jurors donate their earnings from jury duty to Refuge House.
7. **County Engineer**
- a. N/A
8. **County Attorney**
- a. N/A
9. **County Manager**
- a. Shannon Metty spoke about whether the mines should be closed.
10. **County Commissioners**
- a. Commissioner Hall inquired how much progress has been made on the monument for the late Commissioner Walker.
11. **On motion by Chairman Surles and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**