

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
June 7, 2016

The Board met this date in regular session. Present were Chairman Stephen Walker, Commissioners Betsy Barfield, Benjamin “Benny” Bishop, Hines Boyd and Gene Hall. Also present were County Attorney Buck Bird, County Coordinator Parrish Barwick and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Chairman Walker welcomed the Jefferson County School Board Members, the Jefferson County Superintendent of Schools and the School Board’s Attorney.
3. Leslie Ames and Tom Singleton with the Suwannee River Water Management District presented the Board with a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) check in the amount of \$9162.83. Ms. Ames and Mr. Singleton then made a presentation to the Board on Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) plans.
4. Attorney Linda Bond Edwards, the County Commission’s counsel for the re-districting issue, gave a brief overview of the re-districting fees. She stated a judgment was rendered and the County Commission and School Board would be required to pay for plaintiffs’ attorney fees and costs. The costs were currently upwards of \$220,000 but Attorney Bond Edwards and School Board Attorney Cureton had spoken with plaintiffs’ counsel and the amount due was lowered to \$200,000 at this point. Both attorneys awaited direction from their respective Boards before negotiating with plaintiffs’ counsel.
5. Chairman Walker briefly adjourned the meeting to allow the School Board the opportunity to meet.
6. Chairman Walker called the meeting back to order.
7. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda, the minutes of the May 17th Regular Session, the Appointment of Buddy Westbrook to the Planning Commission and TDC Appointments—was approved.**
8. County Engineer Rob Davis, with Preble-Rish, presented bids for the project on Big Joe Road. He stated the low bidder was Peavy and Sons at \$855,717 and recommended the Board approve low bidder with the caveat that Preble-Rish lower project down to budgeted amount of \$776,330. **On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried the Board approved the engineer’s recommendation as stated above.**
9. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams noted that the Piney Woods Road project would be brought before the Board at the next meeting.
10. Marcia Elder, with the Small Business Program, gave a brief update to the Board. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Commissioner Boyd to be the Board’s representative on the Small Business Committee.** It was the consensus of the Board to renew hosting for the websites/email related to the Small Business Program for \$300.

11. Commissioner Walker introduced the net resolution and stated that Commissioner Thomas of Wakulla County had requested Jefferson County participate in the resolution to lift the ban on nets. **Commissioner Bishop made a motion to approve the resolution, to which Commission Boyd seconded for discussion.** Commissioner Barfield expressed concern at not having more information before making a decision. **The motion failed 2 to 3 (Barfield, Boyd and Hall opposed).**
12. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick introduced the Mosquito Control equipment item and stated his desire to purchase two new sprayers at approximately \$15,200 each with mosquito control funds. He also noted that the sprayers currently in use were over ten years old. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the Board approved the equipment purchase.**
13. Commissioner Boyd requested an update on the GBE project at the Industrial Park. County Coordinator Barwick provided an update on the project and stated he just needed a value of the land before the project could be finalized with the bank. Commissioner Boyd recommended an appraisal. Commissioner Barfield stated that averaging two other parcels previously sold in the same area would give an accurate price. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward by averaging the price of the two parcels, which resulted in an amount of approximately \$12,500 to be added to the \$577,000.
14. Commissioner Hall requested the Board look into more decorative signs that welcome people into Jefferson County at the county line on US-19, Highway 90 and Highway 27.
15. Commissioner Barfield introduced a land issue between two property owners on Whipoorwill Road. She stated she would discuss with Planning Attorney Scott Shirley to see how to proceed.
16. Commissioner Barfield discussed the code enforcement appeals process. She suggested the Board go out for bid to find a magistrate to hear appeals and requested this item be placed on the next agenda.
17. Commissioner Barfield inquired about an evaluation for County Coordinator Parrish Barwick. Chairman Walker suggested that each commissioner complete the evaluation sheet individually and email to his attention prior to meeting with the County Coordinator.
18. Chairman Walker thanked Sheriff Hobbs for his help at the head of the Wacissa River. He inquired if PILT money could go towards a security camera system at the Wacissa River. Commissioner Barfield requested this item be placed on the next agenda.
19. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
20. **On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk