

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session
July 19, 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 Attorneys Buck Bird and Scott Shirley, County Coordinator Parrish Barwick and Clerk of Court Kirk Reams.

1. Chairman Walker called the meeting to order.
2. Dick Bailar, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, announced public forms for the upcoming election that would be held on Monday and Tuesday (August 25 & 26) at 7 pm at the Courthouse.
3. Alex Quintana, on behalf of Congresswoman Gwen Graham’s Office, announced an upcoming economic development workshop.
4. County resident Ms. Day addressed the Board on the condition of the end of Barrington Road. She stated that the road was in need of draining pipes. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick stated that all information he had seen indicated that this portion of the road is a private road. Commissioner Barfield stated she would work with Ms. Day and County Coordinator Barwick to try to reach an agreement. County Coordinator Barwick noted that many people had come before the Board for work on private roads and that it was the policy of the Board to not do work on private roads with public funds. Commissioner Hall recommended providing the necessary documentation to have the road turned over to the County.
5. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the consent agenda—consisting of the approval of the agenda and the minutes of the July 5th, 2016 Regular Session—was approved.**
6. David Fox, with Fred Fox Enterprises, presented the CDBG Housing Plans and Bid Tabs to the Board. County Coordinator Barwick recommended the Board only go 10% or less for any overage on these projects. It was the consensus of the Board to accept Coordinator Barwick’s recommendation. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved the housing plans and bid tabs.**
7. County Coordinator Barwick presented the annual report on mosquito control and the budget submittal. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the Board approved the mosquito control budget as proposed at \$32,500.**
8. Library Director Natalie Binder presented the Library private funding grant program for literacy development and stated this was from an anonymous donor. The total amount is for \$453,000 over three years. **On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and unanimously carried, the Board approved the privately funded grant program for literacy**

development. Ms. Binder stated she would be back before the Board at a future meeting to have a budget amendment approved in order to spend money this fiscal year.

9. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams presented CIGP project for Beth Page Road. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Boyd and unanimously carried, the Board approved Resolution No. 2016-071916-01 for the CIGP project for Beth Page Road for \$505,404 to be completed by December 31, 2017.**
10. Clerk of Court Kirk Reams presented SCRAP project for Freeman Road. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved Resolution No. 2016-071916-02 for the SCRAP project for Freeman Road for \$916,000 to be completed by December 31, 2017.**
11. Clerk of Court Reams reminded the Board of the budget workshop to be held on Thursday, July 21st at 6 pm.
12. Economic Development Director Julie Conley introduced the Game Changer Letter of Intent item. Commissioner Walker stated he was not in favor of passing the LOI with so many unanswered questions. Commissioner Boyd stated it was obvious the intent of the Board was to not take any action until the referendum vote in August. Commissioner Bishop asked if the county moved forward with the LOI, if there was any chance of a lawsuit if the project does not go through. Attorney Bird stated the Board can take a position with nothing being final until the referendum. Commissioner Boyd stated that even if the referendum passed, the Board's list of demands made the project impossible. Chairman Walker stated he would not move forward with the deal as it currently is regardless of the referendum. Citizen Ken Smith, owner of the property involved in the Game Changer project, commented on the project and addressed the Board. Citizen Troy Aversa stated he was glad to see language about the referendum included on the Letter of Intent, but stated he had issues with the partnership deal with the Smiths because of the increased cost the county would pay for the land at the end of the deal. Citizen Phil Calandra stated the LOI pre-empts the referendum and commented on the LOI language with several recommendations. **Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the revised LOI, to which Commissioner Boyd seconded. The motion failed 2 to 3 (Barfield, Bishop and Walker opposed).** Commissioner Barfield commented she would like to see more information before voting in favor of the Letter of Intent and noted it may be best to wait until after the referendum vote.
13. Chairman Walker stated the Board had previously turned down the anti-fracking proclamation and asked Attorney Bird if it was possible to be placed on a future agenda. Attorney Bird stated that if the Board wanted to take a stance against fracking, an ordinance could be developed to be presented at a future meeting.
14. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.

**15. On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Hall and
unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk