

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Session  
September 20, 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. Commissioner Hall led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
2. Jennifer Johnson, with the Jefferson County Health Department, announced a steps challenge called “Steppin’ Coast to Coast” as part of the community health improvement plan. She also discussed the Health Department’s role in mosquito control. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick briefly discussed the County’s mosquito control spraying program.
3. Citizen John Nelson informed the Board and citizens that the PACE program was still available.
4. Scott Mixon and Chet Thompson from Georgia Pacific gave a presentation on the Foley Cellulose Mill and Fenholloway River.
5. Commissioner Barfield requested that the minutes from the September 6, 2016 Regular Session be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. She also requested that two items be added: the FDOT letter discussion and the CDBG item discussion with Bruce Ballister. Chairman Walker also requested that the Mosquito Control Annual Program be added under the consent agenda. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the consent agenda as amended—consisting of the approval of the agenda—was approved.**
6. Citizen Greg Walker addressed the Board regarding zoning issues of land near the Lloyd interchange. Commissioner Barfield requested that he email her specific questions and concerns. Commissioner Boyd asked County Coordinator Parrish Barwick to invite Heather Encinosa (attorney at Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson) to a future meeting.
7. Commissioner Barfield inquired about the procurement policy changes from the previous meeting. Chief Deputy Clerk Tyler McNeill stated the Clerk’s Office was ready to enforce the new policy as soon the new language was provided and approved by the Board.
8. Tom Love discussed the concept of a Home Rule Charter Commissioner at length before the Board. Citizens Vivian Royster, Charles Parrish, John Nelson, Chuck Sarkisian and Paul Henry provided comments and concerns about a charter. Commissioner Barfield stated she would want more citizen input before moving forward with the discussion, with either a petition from interested citizens or a neutral party/attorney to present the issue. Chairman Walker stated he had no interest in a charter. Commissioner Boyd inquired as to who Commissioner

Barfield would consider a neutral party, to which Commissioner Barfield stated Ginger Delegal with the Florida Association of Counties. Commissioner Boyd requested this item be placed on the next agenda. **On motion by Commissioner Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Barfield and carried 3 to 2 (Boyd, Hall opposed), the Board voted to delay further discussion for two months so the new Board members could review this item.**

9. Bruce Ballister, with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, discussed an ED project that could be done under CDBG if certain deadlines were met. He requested guidance from the Board. Chairman Walker requested that Commissioner Barfield take the lead on coordinating this process on the Board's behalf. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the Board approved moving forward on the ED project with the CDBG grant for Mr. Kundra's property at the Lloyd interchange.** Mr. Kundra and Mr. Ballister stated they would keep the Board informed of deadlines and the process as it progressed.
10. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick presented the SHIP housing bid recommendations. **On motion by Commissioner Barfield, seconded by Commissioner Bishop and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bid recommendations.**
11. Chairman Walker introduced the Economic Development Council funding discussion and stated his intent to focus on how the money was distributed. Commissioner Barfield acknowledged that the Board needed to tread lightly, as many people would be impacted by the Board's decision. Commissioner Hall recommended this item be discussed in a workshop setting. Chairman Walker stated the Board should perhaps wait until after the elections and the new Board was in place. Citizen Paul Henry recommended that economic development be placed under the Chamber of Commerce. Citizen Chuck Sarkisian stated it was not micro-managing to review expectations and goals to see if they were met. There was discussion as to whether the Board should hire an economic development employee that reported directly to the Board. County Coordinator Parrish Barwick requested his office not be charged with running Economic Development. EDC Director Julie Conley stated she was insulted by this discussion and found it difficult to listen to. She requested the Board make a decision one way or the other with regards to economic development. Ron Cichon, president of the Economic Development Council, addressed the Board regarding all of the council's efforts and accomplishments and stated economic development was most effective in its current iteration. He also noted that the EDC could only make recommendations to the Board but that the Board ultimately decided on all projects—specifically Project Game Changer.
12. Commissioner Barfield introduced the item of the FDOT letter regarding lighting at US-19 and I-10 (Nash Road north to the Interstate) as well as the re-alignment of North and South Salt Road and Highway 90. Commissioner Barfield requested that County Coordinator Parrish Barwick draft a letter to the above effect as soon as possible.

13. County Attorney Buck Bird stated he was still negotiating with the School Board's attorney on their portion of the re-districting costs for plaintiff's legal fees. Commissioner Barfield noted that the Board had paid for the mapper, the attorney and half of the plaintiff's legal fees and that the School Board needed to pay their share.
14. Commissioner Hall stated for the record that he was not voting in favor of a charter, but rather for the Commissioner to have this added to the next agenda if he so desired.
15. Commissioner Hall inquired about any possible grants or funding for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in rural churches around the county. Chairman Walker stated he was already talking with Fire Chief Mark Matthews about this item.
16. Commissioner Barfield stated she was going to address the trimming of the plants on US-90 east from the Courthouse. She also provided an update on the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency.
17. The warrant register was reviewed and bills ordered paid.
18. **On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Hall and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.**

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Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk