

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA

COURTHOUSE ANNEX

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2018

6:00 P.M.

The Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida met this day in regular session with the following members present: Alston Kelley (District 1), Wayne Vickers (District 2), Ronnie Moore (District 3), Alfred Martin (District 4) and Rick Davis (District 5). Also present were County Attorney George T. Reeves, and Clerk Billy Washington.

The Chairman, Honorable Wayne Vickers, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and conducted roll call.

Commissioner Kelley presented a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt the agenda.

Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held March 14, 2018. Commissioner Kelley seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the minutes.

Sheriff Ben Stewart gave a brief overview of portions the recently passed Marjorie Douglas Stoneman High School Public Safety Act. He spoke specifically about the provision requiring a school resource office (SRO) in each school. This provision would require five additional resource officers. Sheriff Stewart presented the associated costs for five officers as \$248,275.25 for salary and benefits and \$147,125.00 for start-up costs. Joining the sheriff for this overview was school superintendent Dr. Karen Pickles. She indicated that the state will provide \$387,883 to the school district to offset the costs. However, this money would not be for the additional five SROs only. These dollars would also have cover the cost of the two existing SROs also. Sheriff Stewart also expressed his concerns over finding qualified applicants to fill these positions. Sheriff Stewart added that the recent meeting with CSX officials was successful. He also indicated that the jail was currently at 102% spending on inmate medical costs.

Clerk Washington presented the revenue and expenditure reports by fund. He showed that the county had a year to date total revenue of \$16,049,527.00 and year to date expenditures of \$13,115,006.84. Clerk Washington also commended the actions

of the sheriff's department employees in the recent medical emergency that took place in the courtroom.

Commissioner Kelley presented a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the consent agenda. Items on the consent agenda were four sheriff department employee payouts totaling \$9,644.53.

Under Public Works Item #1, Road Department Coordinator Lonnie Thigpen presented a request to add area to the existing mowing contract. He said that the proposed area would be an additional 193.22 acres at a cost of \$3256.78 per mowing cycle or \$16,283.90 per year. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Kelley seconded the motion. During discussion, County Attorney Tommy Reeves stated that gas tax revenue cannot be utilized to pay for the mowing of non-transportation related areas. Commissioner Moore then amended his motion to state that funds from gas tax revenue would be used to pay for mowing of transportation related areas and other mowing would be paid for from the general fund. Commissioner Kelley agreed with the amended motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) in favor of the amended motion. Mr. Thigpen also commented on the undermining issues related to the bridge on Little Cat Road over the Little Aucilla River. He stated that after their analysis, EGS determined that the undermining was not due to a sinkhole. EGS recommended grouting as a solution to the problem. After discussion, the board concluded that since there seemed to be no immediate emergency, they would look at issue during the next meeting.

Under Public Works Item #2, Animal Control/Mosquito Control Director Jamie Willoughby discussed the new scheduling of the workers in the department. The new scheduling provides a 5-day workweek. He said that it appears that the funding for mosquito control will be flat. However, he is participating in a monitoring program through Florida State University that will better prepare the county to fight mosquitoes.

Under New Business Item #1, Emergency Management Director Alan Whigham presented a request to enter into a 36-month contract with Centurylink for telephone service. He stated that this would not require additional funding. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Kelley seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the request.

Under New Business Item #2, Attorney Reeves presented and explained a management agreement between the board and the Chamber of Commerce concerning the management of the Agricultural Center. After discussion, the board decided that they would like to discuss other options available prior to approval of this one. Attorney Reeves stated that this item could be brought back at the next meeting with several options.

Under New Business Item #3, Commissioner Martin and Mr. Kauffman explained that the City of Madison was in the process of renaming a street (SW Scruggs Avenue).

The city approached the county about renaming the county's portion of SW Scruggs Avenue also. Commissioner Martin presented a motion to proceed with the renaming process. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to proceed with the renaming process.

Under New Business Item #4, Commissioner Kelley explained the need for a streetlight at the intersection of Colin Kelly Highway and NE Brickyard Pond Road. He stated that the light would cost approximately \$20 per month. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve the placement of the streetlight. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the placement of the streetlight.

For the good of the order:

Commissioner Davis thought that the clean-up Madison day went well. Mr. Kauffman explained that over 200 people participated in collecting 2 roll-off containers of roadside trash.

Commissioner Moore also expressed his thanks to the citizens for their participation in the clean-up Madison day. He also mentioned that he had attended a round table discussion with Rep. Al Lawson concerning farmers.

Mr. Kauffman announced that Sen. Bill Nelson would be at NFCC Monday, April 2nd from 4:30-5:30. He also informed the commissioners that DEP did not feel that the proceeds from the sale of land at the recreation park could be utilized to in the proposed Agricultural Center parking lot project. He stated that DEP was very complimentary towards the county's recreation park and suggested looking to spend the proceeds there. Mr. Kauffman presented previously prepared plans that depicted tennis courts Commissioner Martin also suggested looking into a swimming pool. County Parks and Recreation Director Tommy Garner said that he feels improvements should be another form of recreation, not just improving the existing baseball and softball fields. He feels that this would facilitate more citizens using the facilities. Commissioner Moore suggested the board do more brainstorming prior to making any concrete decision.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners
Madison County, Florida

By: _____
Wayne Vickers, Chairman

ATTEST:

William D. Washington,
Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners