

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA

COURTHOUSE ANNEX

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019

9:00 A.M.

The Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Florida met this day in regular session with the following members present: Donnie Waldrep (District 2), Ronnie Moore (District 3), Alfred Martin (District 4), and Rick Davis (District 5). Also present were County Attorney George T. Reeves, County Coordinator Brian Kauffman and Clerk Billy Washington. Commissioner Kelley was not present due to family medical matters.

The acting Chairman, Honorable Donnie Waldrep, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and conducted roll call.

Commissioner Martin presented a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Commissioner Moore requested that Public Works Item #1 be deleted. After discussion, Commissioner Moore also requested that a Discussion Regarding Three Road Projects be added to the agenda as Public Works Item #1. Commissioners Martin and Davis consented to the changes and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to adopt the agenda.

Petitions From the Public:

1. Mike Holton presented a petition signed by ten citizens urging county leaders to act to revise the traffic flow of Old Valdosta Road. He also expressed the concerns of the petition participants.
2. City of Madison City Manager Jerome Wyche spoke to the board about city projects. Included projects were repaving of Range Street, sewer upgrades at Oak Estates and discussions concerning Greyhound stop in Madison.
3. Dessie King addressed the board with her concerns over the paving project at NW Flowers Road.

Commissioner Davis presented motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 12, 2018. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the minutes.

Constitutional Officers Report:

Sheriff Ben Stewart reported after one quarter with the contracted medical provider for the jail, his office has seen reduced inmate medical expenses. Sheriff Stewart also addressed concerns that the volunteer fire departments have expressed concerning their radios, related equipment and radio procedures. He also explained that after a meeting with the constitutional officers and the county manager a consensus was reached as to the door locking procedures for the courthouse and the courthouse annex.

Supervisor of Elections Tommy Hardee informed the board of an upcoming special election with a date still to be determined. He explained that in an effort to reduce costs for this election, he is considering recommending to the board a consolidation of voting precincts. He stated that he has made a request to the Secretary of State's office for this consolidation. Mr. Hardee stated that this would require a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners for approval. He was asking for permission from the board to allow his office to advertise the public hearing for their next meeting in anticipation of approval from the Secretary of State's office due to time constraints related to the publishing and distribution of sample ballots. The board agreed to allow the advertisement by consensus.

Commissioner Davis presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Consent Agenda. Items contained on the Consent Agenda were as follows:

1. Re-appointment of Calvin Malone and Dot Alexander to the Planning and Zoning Board.
2. Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding for Contract No.: HSMV-0749-16; Access to the Driver and Vehicle Information Database (DAVID).

Unfinished Business Item #1 – Rescind Offer to Certified Service Center. Mr. Kauffman explained to the board that Certified Service Center had rejected the board's offer for sale of property in the county industrial park. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to rescind the offer without prejudice. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the motion.

Public Works Item #1 – Discussion Regarding Three Road Projects. Mr. Kauffman explained due to the bid amounts coming in lower than the anticipated costs for the county road paving projects, there would be money available in the \$3.9 million dollar loan to do some other smaller projects. He and Attorney Reeves explained that the money to do these smaller projects was available presently without the loan through gas tax revenue. Mr. Kauffman explained that by utilizing the available tax revenues to do these projects it would allow for a reduction in the loan amount from \$3.9 million to \$3.5 million. The three projects were additional lime rock for SW Dupont Street, purchase of property for proposed roadway adjacent to the O'Neal's Restaurant, and the paving of an apron and drive from Olive Street to the Cherry Lake Volunteer Fire

Station. Attorney Reeves stated that he did not believe that these revenues could be utilized for the paving of a drive on the CLVFD station property. Costs for that project would have to be divided between work performed in the right of way and work performed on the CLVFD property. After some discussion, Commissioner Davis presented a motion to approve the SW Dupont Street project and a budget amendment to release up to \$60,000 of gas tax revenues for this project. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the motion. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve the project for the Cherry Lake Volunteer Fire Department apron and drive and a budget amendment to release up to \$10,500 from gas tax (for the portion lying within the right of way) and either fire board reserve (if available) or general fund reserve (for the portion lying on the CLVFD property) for this project. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the motion. Commissioner Davis presented a motion to approve the purchase and exercise the county's option on the property adjacent to the O'Neal's Restaurant and for a budget amendment to release up to \$60,000 of gas tax revenue for this project. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the motion.

Undersheriff Epp Richardson addressed the board concerning the replacing of lights on one of the county's communication towers. He explained that they would need to be replaced quickly and that the quotes that he received were approximately \$14,300. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to amend the agenda to include a Discussion About Replacing Lights on the County's Communication Tower as New Business Item #3. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to add this item to the agenda.

New Business Item #3 – Discussion About Replacing Lights on the County's Communication Tower. After discussion about the timing and the responsibility of costs associated with replacing lights, Commissioner Moore presented a motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$15,000 for the replacing and/or upgrading of bulbs on the county communication tower. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. During discussion on the motion Clerk Washington requested that the board allow him, Mr. Kauffman and Undersheriff Richardson to determine how costs would be shared between the users of the communication tower. The board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the motion.

New Business Item #2 – Request to Extend Option for Medical Marijuana Facility. Economic Development Consultant Crawford Powell explained that court actions concerning the licensing procedures at the state level have caused Synergy Farms, LLC to require this extension. Commissioner Moore presented a motion to grant a six month extension of the option to purchase. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the extension. Mr. Powell also presented the board with an update on the economic development activities within the county.

For the Good of the Order:

Commissioner Davis stated that the next River Task Force meeting would be held on January 24th at 4:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Regional Planning Council meeting.

Commissioner Moore reminded the board of the upcoming teacher of the year banquet on January 31st and the state delegation meeting on January 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the courthouse.

Commissioner Waldrep explained that the school district would be requesting permission to fence in a portion of the right of way of NE Empress Tree Avenue adjacent to the Pinetta Elementary School. Attorney Reeves explained that a license would have to be drafted allowing the school district to fence this area. The board agreed by consensus to allow Mr. Reeves to draft the necessary documents.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners
Madison County, Florida

By: _____
Alston Kelley, Chairman

ATTEST:

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