



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

(850) 482-9633 www.jacksoncountyfl.gov 2864 Madison St. Marianna, Fl. 32446

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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December 13, 2022

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. - On December 13, 2022, at 8:00 am, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners held a Regular Meeting. This is a recap of some of the reports and requests included in that meeting.

RECOGNITION: Years of Service to Jackson County Plaque to Commissioners Pate/Hill

The Board recently welcomed new Commissioners to District 2 and District 4. At this meeting, the Board took time for presentation honoring former Commissioners from those Districts with a plaque in recognition of their years of service to the Board and Jackson County.

Chairman of the Board, District 3 Commissioner, Paul Donofro Jr., presented former D2 Commissioner, Clint Pate with a plaque and stated "Clint has served the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners for the last eight years as a Commissioner. The last two years that I have been on the Board, I've relied on your experience and knowledge that you brought to the table." The Chairman then read the plaque aloud. "In Recognition of Clint Pate for years of dedicated service to the citizens of Jackson County as District 2 County Commissioner from 2014 – 2022." "I want to say personally that I appreciate the dedication, hard work, and professionalism that you exhibited in your years of service to Jackson County. Jackson County is a better place to live and work as a result of your work and efforts. I appreciate it very much.

Commissioner Donofro then presented District 5 Commissioner, Jim Peacock with a plaque honoring his years of service as Chairman. He stated, "Jim Peacock, much like Commissioners Pate and Hill, has been a stalwart on the Commission, added tremendous leadership, dedication, and knowledge, and made it a better place to live and work. We appreciate everything that

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you've done. I know that your heart is always in the right place in doing what you thought was best for the County."

Former District 4 Commissioner Hill was not present.



REQUEST: Approval of FDOT SCOP Agreement/Holly Timber Road

Jackson County has received a SCOP (Small County Outreach Program) Agreement from FDOT. This project is for the design, construction and CEI services for CR 276 Holly Timber Road widening and resurfacing project. All necessary survey, design, and permitting will be performed for the preparation of the construction plans and specifications for resurfacing and widening of the existing 20' roadway to 24'. The existing roadway has 2-10' travel lanes, unpaved shoulders, and a 60' right of way. The project will be designed using the appropriate design standards and criteria, and appropriate design speed will be utilized for Holly Timber Rd. Pavement markings will be updated, including no passing zones. No additional right-of-way is needed. The total length of the project is 3.063 miles, and the estimated cost of the project is \$3,742,493.00. Director of Road & Bridge, Jeffrey Register, requested Board approval of the agreement and adoption of the accompanying resolution.



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REQUEST: Approval of FDOT SCOP Agreement/Holmes Creek Bridge

Jackson County has received a SCOP (Small County Outreach Program) Agreement from FDOT. This project is for repairs to Holmes Creek Bridge #534182 on CR 277 Reddick Mill Rd. The scope of this project will include removal and replacement of timber piles, removal of channel debris and adding riprap. All work will be completed within existing right of way. The project length is 0.037 miles, and the estimated cost is \$312,981.00. Director of Road & Bridge, Jeffrey Register, requested Board approval of the agreement and adoption of the accompanying resolution.



REQUEST: Approval of Fee Schedule/NextStep at Endeavor Academy New Course

NextStep at Endeavor Academy, the transition program for adults with autism, would like to offer a new course that will focus on building social skills. This course, Stepping Out with NextStep, will provide twice-monthly instruction and practice in community settings. This course is proposed in response to feedback from parents and autistic adults who would like the benefit of NextStep's teaching and coaching but are unable to enroll in NextStep's more intensive two-year Transition Academy program. On behalf of NextStep's Director, Tammy Dasher, County Administrator, Wilanne Daniels requested Board approval of a Fee Schedule for NextStep's new Course.



To register, contact: rburke@nextstep@endeavor.org



REQUEST: Discussion of Fire Rescue Scheduling

Jackson County Fire Rescue Chief, Charlie Brunner, requested Board Discussion on amending the work schedule for Fire Rescue Shift personnel from 24 hours on/48 hours off to 48 hours on/96 hours off. Chief Brunner informed the Board that "This is a very favorable schedule that has started throughout the United States and locally with many of our neighboring Departments going to this schedule."

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The Collective Bargaining Agreement for Firefighter's Union voted on this under Article 22 as it spells out the 24hrs on/48hrs off. It passed with overwhelming majority support. Chief Brunner requested that this schedule be implemented in January of 2023. This change would require an amendment to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Research has shown that this will have no fiscal impact to the current budget.



The Chief stated, "While it is a larger amount of time spent on duty, the off time is what they're looking for. It offers a better work life balance for these employees. A lot of these employees have left because other agencies that work the same type of EMS and Fire combined offer that schedule." Chief Brunner believes it will aid in recruitment for our positions. "We've had a lot of people that have questioned myself and (Fire Rescue Operations Chief) Chief Maddox about... I would come, but do y'all have 48/96? ...No we don't. Well, you know that was kind of a deciding factor for a lot of the younger generation of employees entering the workforce."

"Chief Maddox deployed this 48/96 schedule of Gadsden County Emergency Services where they ran on average about 4,000 more calls annually, than we do. After a 6-month trial period, they were fully on board and said they would never get back to the 24/48 schedule. A lot of departments have found that there's a 30% reduction in sick leave usage." Commissioner Jim Peacock asked, "What about the efficiency?" Chief Brunner informed the Board that their research has shown no change in efficiency.

Chief Brunner also informed the Board that this schedule is used by multiple Fire Departments in Okaloosa County, Walton County, South Walton Fire District, Panama City Beach, City of Marianna, Gadsden County, Franklin County and Jefferson County.

"I do honestly think it's worth a try. At the end of the day, if it doesn't work, we would certainly bring it back to the board to say that we would need to revert back to what we were doing before." District 1 Commissioner Alex B. McKinnie asked about the trial timeframe. Chief Brunner

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said, "I think we can get a great evaluation in six months... but I can definitely bring an update back, just to see how the morale and everything's going." The Board approved the schedule with the 6-month evaluation.



REQUEST: Award RFP/Rushin Rd

Road & Bridge Director, Jeffrey Register, requested Board approval to award an RFP for Rushin Rd. The RFP was placed on October 20, 2022. Two sealed bids were received and opened on November 3, 2022. Staff recommended to award the project to the only asphalt bidder, Baxter's Asphalt.



REQUEST: Set Public Hearing/Spring Creek Litter Ordinance

Deputy County Administrator, Rett Daniels, requested Board approval to set a public hearing for Jan. 10, 2022 at 9:15 am to review and adopt a proposed Spring Creek Litter Ordinance. A dedicated Citizen Committee was established to discuss the terms of the ordinance. After several meetings, it was determined that there was no need to amend the original proposal.

Chairman Donofro informed the Board that the committee met with a number of interested parties and came to the consensus that the ordinance as originally written was satisfactory. Sheriff Edenfield was involved in several of the meetings and agreed that the ordinance could be enforced. The recommendation of the committee was to resubmit the original proposal.

After Board discussion over the details of the proposed ordinance, as well as input from County Attorney, Michelle Jordan, the Board decided to set the Public Hearing for the January meeting for discussion and decision.



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REQUEST: Approval of Jail Management Software Implementation Contract

On November 17, 2022, The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) awarded the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners a grant for State Financial Assistance in the amount of \$245,000.00 under the FY22-23 CJDT (Criminal Justice Data Transparency) Implementation Assistance Program.

This award was approved as a single non-recurring grant. Funding is allocated for the state fiscal year 2022-2023, with the grant period beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. In order to complete the project on time by the project end date, the County is recommending approval of the proposal/contract with SmartCOP, a Pensacola, FL-based company widely used in the State and recommended by FDLE as a trusted provider.

This proposed contract covers the purchase, training, implementation and support of a new Jail Management System (JMS) for the Jackson County Correctional Facility. These costs will be covered by the grant. However, if FDLE does not offer a time extension, the County may have to pay for a portion of the annual maintenance costs that fall outside of the June 2023 timeframe. Administrative Services Director, Hunter Potts, requested approval of the software contract and implementation. Corrections Chief, Jammie Jeter, stressed the needs and benefits of the software.



REQUEST: Approval of Capital Improvements Element/County Comp. Plan

§ 163.3177(3)(a)(5)(b), Fla. Stat. *The capital improvements element must be reviewed by the local government on an annual basis. Modifications to update the 5-year capital improvement schedule may be accomplished by ordinance and may not be deemed to be amendments to the local comprehensive plan.*

Director of Community Development, Wendy Schlesinger, requested board approval of the Capital Improvements Element of the Five-Year Schedule update to the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan for fiscal years 2022 through 2027 and adopt by ordinance. *There were no members of the public, in-person or online, who elected to speak for or against this item.*



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REQUEST: Review & Approval of General Development Order/Kirkland Borrow Pit

Senior Planner with Community Development, Amber Barnes, requested Board review and approval of a General Development Order for a 27.7 acre borrow pit to be known as Kirkland Borrow Pit #2. The proposed borrow pit is to be located on the corner of Wintergreen Road, Concord Road, and Tower Road in unincorporated Jackson County. This request also includes a variance to the Jackson County Code of Ordinances Sec. 42-67(d) to eliminate the required installation and maintenance of a visual landscape buffer.

On November 17, 2022, the Planning Commission recommended approval to the Board of County Commissioners. *There were no members of the public, in-person or online, who elected to speak for or against this item.*



REQUEST: Review & Approval of Spring Hill Mobile Home Park

Senior Planner with Community Development, Amber Barnes, requested Board review and approval for a new mobile home park to be known as Spring Hill Mobile Home Park. The request is to add 6 mobile homes to the existing 4 mobile homes for a total of 10 mobile homes on tech property. This development will be located on the north side of Hwy 273 approximately 1/2 mile northeast to the intersection of Spring Hill Road and Hwy 273 in unincorporated Jackson County. This request also includes a variance to Sec. 42-76(b) to eliminate the landscaped buffer along the west property line.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the petition at their regular meeting on November 21, 2022. *There were no members of the public, in-person or online, who elected to speak for or against this item.*



REQUEST: Approval of Petition Road Abandonment/Blount Road

Senior Planner with Community Development, Amber Barnes, requested Board approval to abandon a county right-of-way located on property currently owned by Emily Hale identified as

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a strip of land known as Blount Road approximately 690.19 feet in length, approximately 200 feet west of McLeod Street in unincorporated Jackson County.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the petition at their regular meeting on November 21, 2022. *There were no members of the public, in-person or online, who elected to speak for or against this item.*



REQUEST: Set a Public Hearing/Northside Storage

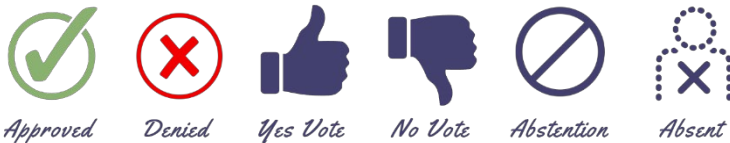
Senior Planner with Community Development, Amber Barnes, requested to set a public hearing for a storage facility to be known as Northside Storage. The development with improvements will be constructed in phases; Phase 1 construction consists of two buildings totaling 12,000 square feet and 31,150 square feet of impervious surface of asphalt and concrete. This project is located on the west side of Hwy 71 North approximately 570 feet south of the intersection of Hwy 71 North and Blue Springs Road in unincorporated Jackson County.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the General Development Order on December 5, 2022.



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LEGEND:



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