



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 14, 2023

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On June 13, 2023, at 9:00 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: NextStep at Endeavor Academy: 2023 NaCo Achievement Award



Recently, Administration's Business Manager, Mrs. Brigitte Rehberg, saw an opportunity to nominate NextStep at Endeavor Academy for an award through the National Association of Counties.

NextStep is the County's not-for-profit program which supports the development and operations of autism transition, employment, and residential programs as part of an inclusive community where the benefits of educating and employing individuals with autism are broadly understood, supported, and valued.

NextStep has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents. Each year, NACo's Achievement Awards are given in 18 categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and more. Launched in 1970, the program is designed to recognize innovation in county government. Each nominated program is judged on its own merits and not against other applications.

The Board recognized NextStep at the meeting, and presented the Award to Program Director, Mrs. Tammy Dasher.

For more information on NextStep at Endeavor Academy: <https://nextstepatendeavor.org/>



NO VOTE NEEDED

PRESENTATION: Regional Rural Transportation Plan (RRTP)

At this meeting, Apalachee Regional Planning Council member, Ben Chandler presented the Board with an update. He first recognized and thanked D5 Commissioner, Jim Peacock, for his service to the Council as Vice Chair.

He then introduced a project that the Council has recently initiated. The Apalachee Regional Planning Council is now under contract with FDOT-D3 Planning to develop a Regional Rural Transportation Plan (RRTP) for the 5 counties in our Region that are not under the umbrella of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA).

The counties that will be under this new RRTP are Jackson, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf and Liberty.

This will be a 2-year project to cover a 20-year planning horizon that identifies the transportation project needs of these 5 rural counties and their municipalities, both short and long-range, for consideration in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.



RECOGNITION: Years of Service Awards

The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners has recognized the dedicated service of its employees by awarding "Years of Service" awards to those who have shown commitment and loyalty to the county through their tenure. This acknowledgement of their hard work and dedication serves as a testament to their contributions towards the growth and success of Jackson County.



At this meeting, Human Resources Director, Judy Austin along with District 3 Commissioner and Chairman, Paul Donofro Jr., presented awards to the following employees:

Marilyn Searcy – 10 Years [Facilities/Maintenance], Liz Jackson – 5 Years [Ag Services], Brenda Sallas – 5 Years [Road & Bridge], John Wood – 20 Years [Road & Bridge], and Keith Curry – 5 Years [Parks & Recycling].



REQUEST: Adoption of Ordinance Amendment/Street Names Structure Numbers

On May 15, 2023, the Planning Commission recommended approval of this amendment. On May 16, 2023, the Board approved to set a public hearing at 9:00AM on June 13, 2023. At this meeting, the public hearing was opened to adopt an Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County, Florida amending Chapter 44, Article III of the County Code of Ordinances to provide for procedures and regulations regarding street names and the numbering of structures; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.



REQUEST: Set a Public Hearing/Oakdale Townhomes

This request was to set a public hearing for June 26, 2023 at 9:00 AM for Oakdale Townhomes. The request is for a General Development Order to construct 40-unit townhome development totaling 33,600 square feet and 50,078 square feet of sidewalks and concrete. This project will be located on Hope School Drive approximately 540 feet west of the intersection of Hwy 71 South and Hope School Drive in unincorporated Jackson County.

The Planning Commission met on Monday, June 5, 2013, and recommended approval.



REQUEST: Set a Public Hearing/Oakdale Townhomes

This request was for a variance to Section 42-61(c) to allow a recreational vehicle as permanent housing. The parcel associated with the request is Jackson County Parcel #18-3N-07-0313-00G0-0040 (1307 Pond Lane, Grand Ridge) lot 4,5,6,10,11 BLK G Ocheesee Lake Estates in unincorporated Jackson County. The request explanation was based on a hardship situation with an adult with disabilities.

The Planning Commission met on Monday, June 5, 2023 and recommended approval.



REQUEST: Review and Recommendations for an Ordinance Amendment/Building Codes

This request was for Board review and recommendations for an ordinance amending Chapter 10 of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Adoption of the State Building Code in Toto as the Jackson County Building Code.

On Monday, June 5, 2023 the Planning Commission met and recommended approval.



REQUEST: Review and Recommendations for a Noise Ordinance

This request was for Board review and recommendations for an ordinance establishing Article VI, Chapter 38, of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances to Regulate Unreasonably Loud Noise and Excessive Sound Levels. On Monday, June 5, 2023, the Planning Commission recommended approval. There is a public hearing set for June, 26, 2023, where the Board will have an opportunity to hear input from the public to gain a better understanding of the citizens' views on the matter.



REQUEST: Set a Public Hearing/Ordinance Amendment/Adoption of Magistrate Process

This request was for Board approval to set a public hearing for Monday, June 26, 2023 at 9:00AM for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Adoption of a Magistrate Hearing Process. The adoption of a Magistrate hearing process is intended to streamline and expedite the resolution of code violations. This can help to improve efficiency by relieving the burden on the traditional court system and providing a more specialized forum for addressing code enforcement issues. The magistrate hearing process may offer more flexible scheduling and a faster resolution, which in turn, can benefit the community by promptly addressing violations that may impact public health, safety, and welfare. Additionally, this specialized process could allow for more consistent and informed decision-making regarding county code violations, as the magistrates are likely to have a greater expertise in these specific issues compared to general court judges.



REQUEST: Review for Ordinance Amendment/Prohibit Simulated Gambling Devices

This request was for Board review and recommendations for an ordinance amending Chapter 12 of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances to enact Article IV, to Prohibit Simulated Gambling Devices and to set a public hearing for June 26, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

On Monday, June 5, 2023 the Planning Commission recommended approval.



REQUEST: Approval of Appointments to CareerSource Chipola Board of Directors

This request was for Board approval to appoint members to the CareerSource Chipola Board of Directors. There are currently two private sector positions that are open on the CareerSource Chipola Board of Directors. These positions must be filled by individuals who are in a substantial management position in a private, for-profit company. The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce nominated the following individuals and requested Board approval of their appointments to the Board of Directors:

- Jonathan Fuqua, Owner, Tommy's Glass - Representing Construction & Manufacturing.
- Kevin Buchanan, Senior Project Manager, Anderson Columbia - Representing Construction / Manufacturing / Distribution & Logistics.



REQUEST: Approval of Dewberry Task Work Oder/Vulnerability Assessment

The County received a grant from FDEP. They have given the County authorization to utilize the City of Marianna’s contract with Dewberry to complete a county-wide vulnerability assessment. This assessment is important to receive future FDEP funding for stormwater work.



REQUEST: Approval and Acceptance/FDEP Grant for Charm Road

Jackson County has been awarded \$380,500 by the FDEP Resilient Florida Program for Charm Road drainage improvements. The project will consist of finalizing the design and permitting and construction of the Charm Road Drainage Improvements project to stabilize the roadway with approximately 478 tons of asphalt with associated base and stabilization, replace a culvert crossing, clean and grade roadside ditches, and remove sediments within the existing wetland/pond to restore its natural system. The Project will provide adequate conveyance of stormwater to prevent erosion and reduce flood damage.

The total cost of construction for this project is \$385,776.18. The grant covers \$380,500 of this amount. At the March 28, 2023, regular meeting, the Board approved the construction overage cost in the amount of \$5,276.18 to come from Road Construction Funds.

CEI funds for this project in the amount of \$50,560 are being covered by Road Construction Funds as approved at the 04/11/2023 regular meeting.



LEGEND:



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