






JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 11, 2024

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On June 11, 2024, 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.

REQUEST: Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Execution of HHRP Rental Agreement

Kim Cole Sweazy from Community Development requested the Board's adoption of a resolution authorizing the execution of the HHRP Rental Agreement between the County and Endeavor Forward, Inc. This agreement involves a Hurricane Housing Recovery Program loan of \$144,000 from the 2020-2021 funding. The resolution also empowers County staff to take all necessary actions to facilitate the transactions outlined in the agreement. The Board adopted the resolution.



REQUEST: Adoption of Ordinance for ½ Cent School Sales Tax Referendum

Jackson County Schools Superintendent Steve Benton requested approval of the adoption of an ordinance that would place a referendum on the November General Election ballot. This referendum concerns the renewal of the 1/2-cent sales tax levied by the School Board, which is set to expire. The continuation of this sales tax is crucial for funding essential educational programs and infrastructure improvements within Jackson County schools. The Board adopted the ordinance.



REQUEST: Approval for Modifications to the Development Agreement for Project Bobo

The Board of County Commissioners approved the modification to the language of the Development Agreement for Project Bobo. This follows the Board's approval of a General Development Order for the project on March 26, 2024, for the construction of a 1,316 square foot oil change facility and 32,089 square feet of impervious surface, which includes sidewalks and a vehicular use area. The project is slated to be located at 2193 Hwy 71 South in unincorporated Jackson County. The Board

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looks forward to the successful advancement of Project Bobo, which promises to enhance local services and contribute to the county's economic development.



REQUEST: Approval of a Small-Scale Amendment

In a move to support local land use planning, the Board of County Commissioners approved a Small-Scale Amendment, changing 8.43 acres of one parcel from Agriculture 1 (AG1) to Agriculture 2 (AG2). This property is located on the east side of Highway 73, about half a mile south of Hasty Pond Road in unincorporated Jackson County.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of this amendment at their May 20, 2024, meeting. This change is intended to better align land use with the evolving needs of the community, promoting sustainable growth and development.



REQUEST: Approval and Appointment of the 2024 Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC)

The Board approved the appointment of the 2024 Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC), a key component of the Statewide Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program. The AHAC is responsible for reviewing county policies, procedures, ordinances, land development regulations, and the Comprehensive Plan to ensure compliance with affordable housing policies.

Established under F.S. 420-9076 and the County Code of Ordinances Chapter 28, Article II, the AHAC makes triennial recommendations for the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP). Additionally, the committee submits an annual report and recommendations for the LHAP to the Board of County Commissioners for certification and forwarding to the housing grants oversight agency. This approval underscores the county's commitment to promoting affordable housing and sustainable community development.



REQUEST: Variance from Section 42-455(7) Jackson County Code of Ordinances

On May 7, 2024, staff received a request from Donald and Polly Jenkins for approval of a variance from the Jackson County Code of Ordinances Section 42-455(7), in order to allow a manufactured home to be placed on Lot 9, Blk 105, Unit 4 (3221 Yvette Drive) within the Compass Lake in the Hills Subdivision, which does not allow mobile homes.

The Planning Commission, at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 3, 2024, recommended approval of the request for a variance from Sec. 42-455(7) of the Jackson County Code of Ordinances. The Board approved the variance request with a majority vote of 4-1.



REQUEST: Board Clarification of Compass Lake in the Hills Ordinance

During the May 28 Regular Meeting, the Board voted to set a public hearing to discuss an ordinance repealing the prohibition on mobile and manufactured homes within the Compass Lake in the Hills Municipal Services Taxing Unit. Staff sought clarification on whether the Board intended for the proposed ordinance to only address the prohibition on mobile and manufactured homes or to repeal the entirety of Section 42-455(7). The Board clarified that the ordinance's intent is to repeal only the prohibition on mobile and manufactured homes. The public hearing is scheduled for June 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

REQUEST: Approval to Utilize TDC Funds for Spring Creek Cleanup

The Board approved a request to use Tourist Development Council (TDC) reserve funds for the cleanup of Spring Creek, which was impacted by debris from the January tornadoes. Endorsed by the TDC board during its May meeting, this project is allocated up to \$40,000 in funding. The initiative aims to enhance the natural beauty and accessibility of Spring Creek, benefiting both residents and visitors. The cleanup and rebuild efforts will restore this valuable local resource, fostering outdoor recreation and environmental conservation. This approval highlights the county's commitment to preserving and improving its natural attractions, promoting tourism, and supporting the local community.



REQUEST: Approval of Filmore Drive (RB-2324-03) Change Order, Final Pay Request, and Closeout Documents

The County successfully secured a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) grant for the repair of the Filmore Drive box culvert, awarding the project to Anderson Columbia. All work has been completed and inspected, and the project is now ready for closeout. Additionally, a Change Order has been issued, reducing the contract amount by \$39,742.25 due to overruns and underruns, bringing the final contract total to \$373,572.75. The Board approved the request. This project exemplifies efficient project management and the county's commitment to maintaining and improving its infrastructure.



REQUEST: Approval of Milling Projects

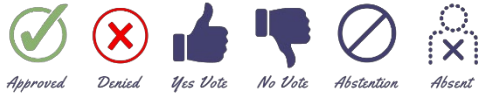
The Board approved the purchase of surplus milled asphalt from Anderson Columbia, sourced from local state roadway improvement projects. Funded through various bond and discretionary accounts, this investment will be used to enhance roads across the county, with some asphalt stockpiled for future use. Once the actual amount of milled asphalt is acquired and inventoried, targeted road improvements will be prioritized across districts.

This strategic initiative underscores the county’s commitment to improving infrastructure and enhancing the quality of life for its residents. By leveraging local resources and efficiently allocating funds, the Public Works department is ensuring the sustained development and maintenance of essential roadways.



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LEGEND:



COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT 1
ALEX B. MCKINNIE

DISTRICT 2
EDWARD CRUTCHFIELD

DISTRICT 3
PAUL DONOFRO JR.

DISTRICT 4
DONNIE BRANCH

DISTRICT 5
JIM PEACOCK