



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 19, 2024

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On June 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM, 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: Board Discussion of American Legion Facilities

The Jackson County Ag Expo is in the process of dissolving and will disburse its assets, which include two buildings, land, and some cash. According to State Statute, these assets may be conveyed jointly to the City of Marianna and Jackson County or to the American Legion Smith Kelly Post. County staff have already toured the facilities with representatives from the American Legion, ensuring a smooth and responsible transfer. The Board voted to cede the County's interest in the American Legion/Jackson County Ag Expo property, with the condition that the American Legion preserves the County's right to use the grassy area on the southwest corner of the American Legion building for parking.



REQUEST: Adoption of Ordinance Repealing Prohibition on Mobile and Manufactured Homes within Compass Lake in the Hills MSTU

At a previous meeting, the Board instructed the County Attorney to draft an ordinance repealing the prohibition of mobile and manufactured homes within the Compass Lake in the Hills Municipal Services Taxing Unit. The proposed ordinance was presented at the current meeting and adopted by a majority vote.



CONTINUED

REQUEST: Approval to Award 2324-30 Rodeo Arena to JLT Performance Horses, LLC

The Board is pleased to announce the successful bid process for the purchase of new rodeo arena equipment. On May 23, 2024, an invitation to bid was released, and by June 6, 2024, three bids were received. After careful evaluation, the Board has awarded the project to the lowest qualified bidder, JLT Performance Horses, LLC, with a bid amount of \$35,842.80. This project is funded by up to \$40,000.00 from Tourist Development Council (TDC) funds, previously approved by the Board. This investment underscores our commitment to enhancing local amenities and supporting community events.



REQUEST: Approval of the Purchase Agreement for Bethune Cottage

In an inspiring collaboration to support individuals on the path to recovery, the New Orleans Mission (CHROME) has partnered with the County to purchase three cottages on the Endeavor property. The first of these, Bethune Cottage, is set to become a dedicated women's treatment facility for those recovering from addiction.

CHROME's dedication to providing a nurturing environment aligns perfectly with the County's mission to promote health and well-being in our community. The Board has approved the sale of Bethune Cottage for \$85,000, marking a significant step toward realizing this shared vision. Legal approval has been secured for the Purchase Agreement.

This collaboration underscores the County's commitment to enhancing community resources and fostering partnerships that make a positive impact on residents' lives.



REQUEST: Approval to Award 2324-27 TDC Strategic Plan to Kimley-Horn

At the forefront of strategic planning, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners has taken decisive steps to elevate the impact of its Tourism Department. Following a meticulous selection process, which commenced with a call for statements of qualifications from professional consulting firms, the Board embarked on a journey to develop and implement a comprehensive Strategic Plan tailored to the unique needs of the county's tourism sector.

After careful consideration of proposals received by May 23, 2024, the Board convened for a Special Meeting on June 11, 2024, to evaluate presentations from prospective consulting firms. This collaborative effort culminated in the completion of rankings by the dedicated ranking committee.

The Finance Department meticulously tabulated and verified the results, revealing Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. as the standout candidate. Drawing on their expertise and innovative approaches, Kimley-Horn emerged as the clear choice to spearhead the TDC Strategic Plan project.

The Board commends the diligent efforts of all participating firms and extends its sincere appreciation for their commitment to advancing the county's tourism initiatives. With Kimley-Horn at the helm, the Board eagerly anticipates the development and execution of a visionary Strategic Plan that will propel Jackson County's tourism sector to new heights of success and sustainability.



REQUEST: Approval of Legislative Appropriations “Thank You” Letters

The Board approved thank you letters to be signed by the chairman and sent to Governor DeSantis, Senator Jay Trumbull, and State Representative Shane Abbott for their steadfast support of Jackson County through the Legislative Appropriations passed by the Senate. As a fiscally constrained county, this state support is vital for realizing many crucial projects that enhance economic growth and safety for our residents.

The Board expressed their gratitude for the following project support:

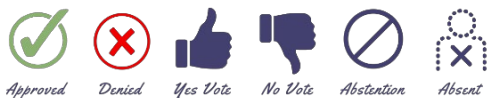
- Funding for the Endeavor Conference Center
- Additional funding for Correctional Officer salaries
- Funding to pave Pooser Road

Although the Pooser Road paving appropriation was ultimately removed from the budget, the Board deeply appreciates the representatives' support for the project. The approved projects will significantly improve the quality of life for Jackson County residents and help ensure the county's safety and economic well-being.



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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