






# JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 30, 2025

## Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

*Jackson County, FL. – On January 28, 2025, 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.*

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### **REQUEST: Approval of a Film and Motion Photography Special Use Permit**

The Board approved a Special Use Permit for Plum Pictures, Ltd., paving the way for Jackson County to be featured in a three-part documentary series for Hulu/Disney+. The production, set to film at Howell Boat Landing north of Sneads, will showcase the area's natural beauty and highlight the community's appeal as a filming destination.

Filming will involve a small crew of 7-8 people using minimal equipment, including drones, vehicles, and watercraft, to recreate a mock duck hunt scene. No weapons will be discharged during production. Filming is scheduled for one day between January 29 and February 5, 2025, from 5:30 AM to 1:00 PM, depending on production needs.

The permit was thoroughly reviewed by County departments, including Emergency Management, Fire Rescue, and the Sheriff's Office, with no objections raised. This project is another example of how Jackson County continues to support creative endeavors that bring positive exposure to the region.



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### **REQUEST: Approval of Contract 2425-01 Shangri La Elevated Boardwalk Construction with Monolith Construction, LLC**

At their January 14, 2025, regular meeting, the Board approved awarding the Shangri La Elevated Boardwalk Construction project to Monolith Construction, LLC. This exciting initiative, funded by a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grant, will feature an elevated boardwalk and viewing platform, enhancing public access to the picturesque Shangri La Spring.

Following a competitive bidding process with seven submissions, Monolith Construction was selected as the lowest responsive bidder at \$428,244, which includes a \$20,000 contingency. The project aligns

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fully with the grant budget, reflecting the County's commitment to enhancing recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

With the contract now approved, this project marks a significant step forward in creating new ways to experience the natural beauty of Jackson County.



**REQUEST: Approval of Contract RB-2425-04 Annual Culvert Pipe with J & G Culverts, Inc.**

At their January 14, 2025, meeting, the Board awarded the RB-2425-04 Culvert Pipe Annual Contract to J&G Culverts, Inc. Following a competitive bidding process that concluded on November 14, 2024, J&G Culverts, Inc. was recommended by staff based on their competitive pricing per foot.

The Board approved the contract for an initial one-year term, with the option to renew for two additional one-year periods. This agreement ensures a reliable and cost-effective supply of culvert pipes to support the County's infrastructure needs, reinforcing the Board's commitment to maintaining and improving local roads and drainage systems.



**REQUEST: Approval to Award the Interior Painting Project at Great Oaks to Paint King USA, LLC**

The Board awarded the interior painting project at Great Oaks to Paint King USA, LLC. Following a competitive quote process, Paint King USA, LLC was selected as the lowest qualified bidder with a project cost of \$12,000.

To maximize cost efficiency, the County will purchase the paint directly to take advantage of tax savings. This project is a step forward in maintaining and enhancing the Great Oaks facility, ensuring a refreshed and welcoming environment for all who visit.



**REQUEST: Discussion of February 25 Meeting Date**

To ensure staff participation in the Northwest Florida Economic Development Symposium on February 25-26 in Sandestin, the Board of County Commissioners has rescheduled their February 25 meeting. The meeting will now take place on Monday, February 24, at 6:00 p.m. This adjustment highlights the County's commitment to supporting regional economic development efforts while maintaining transparency and accessibility in governance.



**REQUEST: Approval of Gardner Bist Engagement Letter**

At the January 14, 2025, Regular Meeting, the Board approved retaining attorney Schef Wright to represent the County at the upcoming PSC/FPUC settlement meetings, along with Marianna City Council and the Jackson County School Board, reflecting a collaborative approach to addressing utility-related matters for all Jackson County citizens. The Board also signed an engagement letter, reinforcing its commitment to advocating for the best interests of residents and ensuring fair outcomes.



**REQUEST: Appointment to ARPC Board**

The Board addressed appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC). Commissioner Donofro, previously appointed as the BOCC's primary representative, will now be supported by an alternate County Commissioner, ensuring continued representation. Additionally, the Board is coordinating the appointment of a municipal elected official and an alternate to enhance regional collaboration. Kim Applewhite currently serves as the municipal representative, demonstrating the County's commitment to fostering strong partnerships and proactive planning for the region's future. The Board approved Commissioner Jamey Westbrook as Commissioner Donofro's alternate.



**REQUEST: Direction Regarding Culvert Installation Ordinance Update**

During the January 14, 2025, meeting, the Board voted to direct staff to bring back an updated ordinance dealing with culvert installation. Staff requested Board clarification on their preferences for the updated ordinance. The Board voted to table the proposed updated ordinance for further review.



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**LEGEND:**



**District 1**  
Dr. Willie Spires

**District 2**  
Edward Crutchfield

**District 3**  
Paul Donofro Jr.

**District 4**  
Donnie Branch

**District 5**  
Jamey Westbrook