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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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February 12, 2025

Jackson County BOCC Regular Meeting Highlights

Jackson County, FL. – On February 11, 2025, 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: Employee of the Month



The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners provides an Employee of the Month Award to a deserving employee who has exhibited exceptional performance, dedication, and commitment to serving the community. This recognition highlights the importance of acknowledging and appreciating the hard work and contributions of employees who go above and beyond in their duties.

In the recent meeting, Human Resources Director Sarah Sun proudly presented the Employee of the Month Award for February 2025 to Erik Gammons.

Since joining the County on January 3, 2024, Erik has consistently demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and a strong work ethic in his role as a Custodian for the Maintenance Department.

Erik's positive attitude and enthusiasm uplift his coworkers, fostering a supportive team environment. His reliability, punctuality, and adaptability make him a valued member of the Facilities team. Always solution-oriented, Erik goes above and beyond to ensure a well-maintained and efficient workplace. We are grateful for his hard work and commitment to Jackson County!

RECOGNITION: Employee Years of Service



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, District 5 Commissioner and Chairman, Jamey Westbrook, Human Resources Director Sarah Sun, Administrator Wilanne Daniels, along with Department Directors presented awards to the following employees:

• Brian Bullock

Brian Bullock currently serves as a Mechanic with the Road and Bridge Department. He is recognized for 5 years of continuous service.

• Shaun Saffold

Shaun Saffold currently serves as a Mechanic with the Road and Bridge Department. He is recognized for 5 years of continuous service.

• Kenny Deese

Kenny Deese currently serves as Battalion Chief/Paramedic with Fire Rescue. He is recognized for 20 years of continuous service.

Doug Mayo

Doug Mayo currently serves as Director for Extension Services. He is recognized for 25 years of continuous service.



REQUEST: Adoption of Resolution Honoring the Second West Missionary Baptist Association

The Board adopted a resolution honoring the Second West Missionary Baptist Association for 150 years of dedicated service to the community. Since its founding in 1874, the Association has been a steadfast source of spiritual enrichment, mentorship, and community service.

Over the years, the Second West Missionary Baptist Association has partnered with civic and community groups to improve the lives of residents through various projects and outreach efforts. Their leadership and commitment to service have positively influenced countless individuals and churches throughout the county.

The Board expressed its sincere appreciation for the Association's long-standing contributions and congratulated its members on this remarkable milestone. The resolution serves as a testament to their benevolence and unwavering dedication to the betterment of Jackson County.



REPORT: Pre-Legislative Briefing to the Board

Lobbyist Alan Suskey of Shumaker Advisors provided the Board with a pre-legislative session briefing, offering key updates on Jackson County's budget requests. This week, funding requests for fire station upgrades, road improvements, and infrastructure projects were officially filed. With legislative priorities expected to focus on recovery and long-term resiliency, Jackson County remains optimistic that its representatives and lobbyists will successfully advocate for critical investments that will enhance the community's future.

REQUEST: Approval to Provide a Favorable Response for Reappointment of District 14 Medical Examiner

The Board approved providing a favorable response for the reappointment of Dr. Jay Radtke as the District 14 Medical Examiner. Serving Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, and Washington counties, Dr. Radtke has been a trusted leader in forensic pathology and has provided invaluable service to the region.

The Board's support will be considered by the Medical Examiners Commission as they make a recommendation to the Governor for this critical role.





& BUDGETING

REQUEST: Approval to Award 2425-07 Water Filtration System to Jumeaux, Inc.

The Board awarded the 2425-07 Water Filtration System project to Jumeaux, Inc. to improve water quality at Malloy Plaza. After receiving four bids, Jumeaux, Inc. was selected with a project cost of \$578,300. While the original budgeted amount was \$400,000, the remaining \$178,300 will be funded through Utilities Reserves.

This investment reflects the County's commitment to maintaining and improving essential infrastructure, ensuring reliable and high-quality water service for the community.





REQUEST: Approval of Agreement RB-2324-16 Holley Timber Road Paving with Southeast Construction Company, LLC

The Board approved an agreement with Southeast Construction Company, LLC for the Holley Timber Road paving project. This project, which will enhance connectivity from US 231 to Kynesville Road, was awarded to Southwest Construction Company, LLC at \$2,062,870.65 following a competitive bidding process. Funded through the FDOT SCOP program, this investment underscores the County's commitment to improving infrastructure and ensuring safer, more reliable roadways for residents and travelers.





REQUEST: Approval of Project Bristol MOU

The Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Project Bristol, a new enterprise set to establish a water bottling plant at 3521 Russell Road in the Marianna Industrial Park. The project, which has been coordinated with the Economic Development Committee (EDC), City of Marianna, and legal representatives, marks a promising investment in local industry and job creation. The City of Marianna approved the MOU during its February 4 meeting, and the County's approval further solidifies support for this exciting economic development opportunity.





REQUEST: Appointment of Municipal Alternate to ARPC Board

During the January 28, 2025 meeting, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners approved additional appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) Board. Commissioner Jamey Westbrook was named as the alternate representative for the County, while Kim Applewhite will serve as the municipal representative. Additionally, the Board appointed Thomas Tyus (Ty) Daniels as the alternate for Ms. Applewhite. These appointments ensure continued collaboration and strong local representation in regional planning efforts.





REQUEST: Discussion of 9/24/24 Motion for Road and Bridge to Sell and Install Culverts

The Board revisited the process for driveway culvert installations. After thorough discussion, the Board voted to table the topic for further review.



Additionally, the Board rescinded a prior motion from September 24, 2024, opting to maintain the existing ordinance (44-57) until updates can be finalized. To ensure public input, the Board approved setting a public hearing for March 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to consider an updated ordinance.





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LEGEND:













District 1 Dr. Willie Spires

District 2 Edward Crutchfield Paul Donofro Jr.

District 3

District 4 Donnie Branch

District 5 Jamey Westbrook