

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

*NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record for the proceedings and may need to insure that a verbatim record is made.*

**PRESIDING:** Karen Cossey, Chairwoman

**RECORDING:** Savannah Chastain, Finance Officer

**ATTENDING:** Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Woody Kitler; Commissioner Jimmy Tallman; Commissioner Tommy Nettles; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Kellie Connell, Clerk of Courts; Russ Wade, County Attorney

**PRESS:** None

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM by Chairwoman Cossey.

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Commissioner Tallman delivered the invocation and Chairwoman Cossey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Walt Nickel, Jones Edmunds and Associates, delivered an update of DOT projects to the Board. CR-231A is completed. CR-796A is not complete. There is a mitered culvert with cracks that the contractor is replacing. Tomorrow, Jones Edmunds will inspect the culvert to guarantee it has been corrected. A pre-construction meeting for CR-239 is December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM. The contractor has requested to postpone the start of construction until January 2017 because of heavy traffic and the inconvenience that will be caused in closing the road. Mr. Nickel sent a letter to the contractor clarifying the project must be completed on June 30, 2017 and the involved conditions. The contractor has delivered a schedule guaranteeing completion before the deadline. Design processing of CR-199 and 233 is in progress. There are continuing geotechnical issues with the bridge and Jones Edmunds and Associates is awaiting the results of the studies that will explain the cause of the settlement. The plans for 199 and 233 are approximately 50% complete. The budget satisfies some of the culverts. Mr. Nickel discussed a striping issue. These roads are less than 18 feet wide and need widening. A letter will be sent to DOT to suggest allocating additional monies to accommodate widening and striping.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Croft moved to approve the June 20, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes, September 22, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes, October 17, 2016 Board of Adjustments Minutes, and the October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes with an amendment to an incorrect title for Mr. David Fox. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **FINANCE REPORT**

Commissioner Tallman moved to approve the bills as presented. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Connell requested action by the Board for Budget Amendment 2016-06. The Amendment will lower the ending fund balance and increase expenditures for the Solid Waste fund. **Commissioner Kitler moved to approve Budget Amendment 2016-06. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

6. **BUILDING DEPARTMENT CLERK POSITION**

Chairwoman Cossey explained that four individuals applied for the Building Department Clerk position and after interviews, Mr. Whidden's preference is Kenzie Jones. She requested Board action and stated that Ms. Jones has been in the position for 6 months and offered the most experience. Commissioner Tallman questioned the starting salary in which Chairwoman Cossey stated that it is upon the Board to decide. Chairwoman Cossey stated she is currently making \$9.32. **Commissioner Tallman moved to hire Kenzie Jones for the Building Department Clerk position at \$9.32 an hour with a \$0.50 increase once she completed 6 months of probation. Commissioner Kitler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairwoman Cossey also explained that Mr. Whidden has requested Board action to move the Building Department to the Union County Board of County Commissioner's office. Mr. Whidden would no longer need a call-time person. Mrs. Hannon would become responsible for the call-time tasks. Commissioner Tallman discussed an uneasy feeling with transferring this department, leaving an empty building and it being an unnecessary expense to move. He requested some time to consider the move. **Commissioner Tallman moved to table the issue until the December Regular Meeting. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

7. **COURTHOUSE AIR CONDITIONER**

Chairwoman Cossey explained the Court House air conditioner is 17 years old and has been repaired to its limits, and the unit needs to be replaced. Chairwoman Cossey requested Board action. **Commissioner Tallman moved to go out for bids. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**

8. **REPORT FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Solid Waste Department – J. Beasley**  
Director Beasley was absent

**Road Department – S. Arnold, Jr.**

Director Arnold requested Board action to purchase a budgeted Lo-Boy trailer. **Chairman Tallman moved to permit Director Arnold to order Lo-Boy trailer. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**

**Public Library – M. Brown**

Director Brown requested Board approval for an invoice that was received after monthly bills were submitted. The invoice is for Maaco for \$1,565.32 that covers an expenditure to have the library van repainted with rust treatment and the library logo added to both sides. **Commissioner Croft moved to**



approve the invoice for Maaco for \$1,565.32. Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Director Brown wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**EMS & Volunteer Fire Department – M. Andrews**  
Director Andrews was absent.

**Emergency Management – J. Walker**  
Director Walker was absent.

**County Extension Office – D. Nistler**  
Mr. Nistler was absent.

**9. REPORT FROM KELLIE HENDRICKS CONNELL, CLERK OF COURTS**  
Clerk Connell had nothing to report at this time.

**10. REPORT FROM RUSSELL A. WADE III, COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
Attorney Wade had nothing to report at this time.

**11. REPORT FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**District 1 – Karen Cossey**  
Chairwoman Cossey wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**District 2 – Woody Kitler**  
Commissioner Kitler explained to the Board that he has recently discovered a piece of equipment, an Asphalt Zipper. It eliminates ripples and makes a milled road seem nearly paved. He requested the Board allow Director Arnold to partner with Bradford County in order to watch the equipment operate and see if it would be beneficial for Union County as a future investment.

**District 3 – Jimmy Tallman**  
Commissioner Tallman requested information regarding a tax deed sale for Mr. Whitehead. Clerk Connell explained the history of the issue. She clarified that the laws have not changed since the issue arose. Mr. Whitehead is requesting approximately \$4,000, which include the fees that were paid to the Tax Collector's office and interest.

Commissioner Tallman wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**District 4 – Thomas Nettles**  
Commissioner Nettles stated that he is honored and privileged to be a part of the Board. He is excited for the future and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

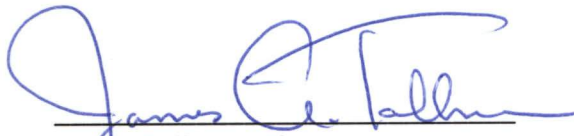
**District 5 – Willie Croft**  
Commissioner Croft wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

  
Jimmy Tallman, Chairman  
Kellie H. Connell, Clerk of Courts