

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 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; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Kellie Connell, Clerk of Courts; Russ Wade, County Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 AM by Chairwoman Cossey.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Commissioner Tallman delivered the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

3. AG FACILITY LOCATION SITE

Chairwoman Cossey suggested a groundbreaking as well as advertising for plans. Mr. Wilson Whidden, Building Inspector, stated that two sets of plans are needed: site plans that show site, location and elevation as well as a building plan. Commissioner Tallman explained that requirements have been received from Union LaSteel. Mr. Whidden stated that the facility must meet all ADA requirements. Commissioner Tallman inquired if there would be any setback issues, in which Mr. Whidden stated he does not see setback requirements being an issue. Commissioner Tallman suggested using the open area of land for unloading and turnaround.

Commissioner Tallman inquired of Mr. David Nistler regarding his thoughts on the facility. Mr. Nistler questioned how many of the trees would be removed in which Commissioner Tallman responded he expects to remove three-quarters of the trees. Mr. Nistler suggested a one-way access road going behind the facility for unloading.

Chairwoman Cossey questioned the need of a retention pond, and Mr. Whidden clarified that this is a requirement. He stated that the County must contact Alachua County for details. **Commissioner Tallman moved to advertise for bids for civil engineered site plans and structural engineered floor plans. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairwoman Cossey questioned scheduling a groundbreaking. Mr. Nistler suggested a potential title for the facility of "Union County Education and Agriculture Center". He stated

the importance of the title in order to reflect potential activities. Mr. Nistler explained that the grant is very loose and not specific. The grantor is interested in seeing an impact being made with our grant money being used in every way possible. The Board discussed scheduling a groundbreaking on an upcoming Wednesday morning. Mrs. Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary, will inform everyone when a date is set.

4. DISCUSSION OF RECREATION BOARD APPLICANTS

Commissioner Tallman expressed gratefulness for the number of volunteers for the Recreation Board. Chairwoman Cossey questioned if two of the applicants, Dianna Mobley and Thomas Mobley, were husband and wife. Commissioner Tallman confirmed that they are and stated that he does not want to appoint Thomas Mobley, due to involvement in many other activities. He suggested Dianna Mobley because of her capabilities of handling disagreements with parents very well. He also suggested appointing Jason Staier due to his involvement with DOC.

The Board discussed the Interlocal Agreement with the City. Attorney Wade stated the importance of finding volunteers a place to help if they are offering their service and time. Attorney Wade discouraged the appointing of both Dianna Mobley and her husband, Thomas Mobley, due to other board members feeling uncomfortable when it comes to standing votes. Commissioner Kitler, as Vice Chair, stated there would be a 15 minute recess in the absence of Chairwoman Cossey.

The meeting reconvened at 9:27 AM. Attorney Wade welcomed Mrs. Sara Owen from the City of Lake Butler. Attorney Wade discussed the current interlocal agreement, stating that the County is responsible for appointing two board members, the City is responsible for appointing two board members, and the last member is appointed in agreement by the City and County. Mrs. Owen explained that she would speak with the City Commissioners to schedule a special meeting to consider amending this process. Commissioner Tallman stated that Denise Dukes has offered her expertise to the upcoming members. Mrs. Owen expressed that she does not feel like it matters where the volunteers live, as long as they are quality people willing to donate their service and time; however, since the City gives money toward the Recreation Board, she feels like they should still have a part in appointing members. Attorney Wade recommended the County amend the current process of appointing board members and select the applicants then send the selections to the City for final approval. Commissioner Tallman proposed having seven members with two alternates. **Commissioner Tallman moved for the County to select the seven applicants and two alternates then send the selection to the City for final approval. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**


Under the assumption that the City agrees with the amended process, Commissioner Tallman moved to appoint Jason Staier, Lynda Petitt, Lori Burke, Dianna Mobley, Demetrise Thomas, Lisa Johnson and Ebony Harvey with Chris Schaffer and Adrian Tucker as alternates. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Pam Woodington requested clarification from the Board, on behalf of Clerk Connell, regarding the cost of living adjustment of 3%. She questioned if the adjustment would be given to every employee or if the department heads would make the selection of employees to receive the adjustment. Mrs. Woodington requested for this adjustment to be effective on October 3, 2016 rather than October 1, 2016. **Commissioner Kitler moved for the adjustment to take effect on October 3, 2016. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Andrews moved for every employee to receive the cost of living adjustment of 3%. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

5. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kitler moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Croft seconded the motion, with no objection. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 AM.

APPROVED:



Karen Cossey, Chairwoman

ATTEST:



Kellie H. Connell, Clerk of Courts