

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 10, 2020

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, Chair

RECORDING: Kellie Hendricks Connell, Clerk of Courts & Comptroller

ATTENDING: Commissioner Lacey Cannon; Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Channing Dobbs; Commissioner Jimmy Tallman; James Williams, County Coordinator; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Russ Wade, County Attorney

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Cossey called the meeting to order. Commissioner Tallman offered the invocation and led Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Cossey welcomed the public and called for public comments, and none were presented.

REQUEST TO MEET BY ALACHUA

Mr. Williams told the commissioners that he has spoken with the Chair of the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners, and they would like to meet with the Board, and with the City Council for the City of Lake Butler. He gave three possible times of April 13 at 5 pm, April 23 at 2 pm and April 22 at 1 pm. The City has expressed that April 13 at 5pm is best, and that they will chair the meeting. They are considering the community center, but Chair Cossey suggested that the high school auditorium is better suited.

Commissioner Dobbs moved, and Commissioner Tallman seconded to offer the County's first choice of April 13 at 5 pm, and April 23 at 2pm as a second option. The motion passed unanimously.

Cindy North expressed that she has listened to the presentation from the scientists in Alachua County, and that it is very informative.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM FIRE DIRECTOR

Chair Cossey asked that Tim Allen accept the responsibilities. Mr. Allen answered that he was initially hesitant because he didn't know a lot about it, but after gathering information, he is willing to take it on, because he believes he can be beneficial for the County. Clerk Connell asked about the stipend, and Mr. Allen expressed that he would decline it to help the fire department's budget. **Commissioner Tallman moved, and Commissioner Croft seconded, to appoint Tim Allen the Volunteer Fire Chief. The motion passed without opposition.**

OPENING OF BIDS FOR MOBILE HOME

Chair Cossey announced that she had a single sealed bid submitted for the double wide mobile home, and opened it. The bid was submitted on March 5 for \$2,500. Commissioner Tallman asked if it was legal to accept a bid when only one was submitted, and Attorney Wade answered that it was. **Commissioner Tallman moved to accept the bid of \$2,500 and Commissioner Croft seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**

CONSIDERATION FOR UNION COUNTY TIRE AMNESTY DAY

Mr. Williams presented that the County has received up to \$25,000 from DEP to dispose of old tires. No commercial businesses can be included. **Commissioner Cannon moved and Commissioner Dobbs seconded to accept the amnesty funds. The motion passed without opposition.**

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There was one proposal from Global Tire to run the program, from Global Tire. **Commissioner Cannon moved to accept the proposal and Commissioner Tallman seconded the motion. It passed without opposition.**

Commissioner Tallman asked if they could set up at a collection site. Mr. Williams answered that the Solid Waste Department seems to be the most central location, and could possible move to the Providence Collection Site as well, to make it most convenient for the citizens. He noted that each trailer will hold approximately 1200 tires, and \$25,000 would be enough to disposal of about 17 trailers at \$1400 per load.

CONSIDERATION FOR COUNTY COORDINATION TO APPLY FOR UPCOMING GRANTS

A list of upcoming grants was presented, but Mr. Williams noted that dates are out, but processes to collect information to apply needs to be started to submit the best application possible. Chair Cossey asked which are matching grants, and Mr. Williams answered that we don't know for certain until they are posted, and some are waived because we are a REDI community. He also noted that often we can meet the matching requirement through in-kind labor or stretched over several years.

Commissioner Tallman asked about the grant for the Agriculture Education building. Pam Woodington answered that she met with the Department of Agriculture, and their representative was amazed at the building we built with the funds granted. She would be excited for us to apply for additional funds, and labor that the County used in this building could be considered a match for our next application. Commissioner Tallman expressed appreciation for the work that Robbie Worrell, Wilson Whidden, Ms. Woodington and Mr. Williams put into the building.

Chair Cossey called for Board action regarding upcoming grants. Commissioner Cannon expressed that the County Coordinator should not need Board action to apply for grants, as that is part of his job description. Chair Cossey stated that she was concerned about match requirements. Commissioner Tallman stated that grants have to be accepted by the Board, and agrees the Mr. Williams should pursue all grants available and bring to the Board for acceptance. Commissioner Dobbs said that deadlines to apply are sometimes a constraint. **Commissioner Dobbs moved to allow Mr. Williams to apply for all grants available. Commissioner Cannon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Cannon stated that he received an email from Kim Evans regarding a change order. He noted that in other counties, the County Coordinator or Manager has the authority to make change orders for day-to-day operations. Discussion ensued regarding the authority of Mr. Williams to make change orders. **Commissioner Cannon moved to allow Mr. Williams to make day-to-day operational changes, and authorize change orders for note plans, without changes to the County's monetary obligation. Commissioner Dobbs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.** Commissioner Dobbs expressed that the County Coordination being able to make these needed changes as they arise is a benefit to the County.

With no further business, Chair Cossey adjourned the meeting.

Adopted by vote of the Board of County Commissioners on March 16, 2020.