

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
EMERGENCY MEETING
AUGUST 2, 2021

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 ensure that a verbatim record is made.

PRESIDING: James Tallman, Chair

RECORDING: Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, Clerk of Courts & Comptroller

ATTENDING: Commissioner Lacey Cannon; Commissioner Channing Dobbs; Commissioner Ryan Perez; James Williams, County Coordinator; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Russ Wade, County Attorney; Pamela Woodington, Finance Director

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Tallman called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Commissioner Perez offered the invocation and led Pledge of Allegiance.

Attorney Wade advised the Board that an emergency should be declared to conduct business due to the passing of Dr. Peter Gianas. **Commissioner Dobbs moved to declare an emergency, and Commissioner Cannon seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous consent.**

Attorney Wade advised that Florida Statutes requires that EMS operate under the license of a physician, and historically Union County has done that in conjunction with other counties. For the long-term, Mr. Williams will research and present options to the Board. For the interim period, Dr. Matthew Odom has offered to serve as the medical director for both Union and Bradford Counties.

Wayne Clemons, EMS Director, stated that in 2015, Dr. Gianas started a succession plan for Dr. Odom to be able to assume the position in the event that Dr. Gianas was no longer able to serve. He stated that Dr. Odom has been a road medic, has a private practice and is also an ER doctor. Mr. Clemons recommends Dr. Odom for the interim period. **Commissioner Dobbs moved to appoint Dr. Odom as the Interim Medical Director until further review by the Board. Commissioner Cannon seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.** Mr. Williams will provide an update at the August meeting.

Mr. Clemons indicated that the payment for this year's services to date should be mailed to the payment on file. Clerk Rhoades asked the pleasure of the Board regarding the amount of the budgeted \$15,000 payment. Commissioner Cannon expressed that he would like the County to pay the full amount, and that he recommends to interview three candidates, and shared his thoughts regarding the qualities that are needed. **Commissioner Cannon moved to pay \$15,000 to Dr. Gianas, and Commissioner Dobbs seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.** Clerk Rhoades inquired as to the correct payee on the check, and Mr. Clemons answered that he would ask and find out.

Commissioner Cannon asked Mr. Williams and Mr. Clemons to arrange a meeting with Mr. Odom and himself. Mr. Clemons added that he is asking Dr. Odom to come to his staff meeting and training on August 13 at 9:00 am.

Chair Tallman adjourned the meeting at 5:33 pm.

Adopted by vote of the Board of County Commissioners on August 16, 2021.