



Union County Board of County Commissioners
15 Northeast 1st Street, Lake Butler, FL 32054 • Phone: 386-496-4241 • Fax: 386-496-4810

**AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

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

1. Meeting Called to Order.....Chairman
2. Invocation and Pledge.....Commissioner Croft
3. Public Comments
4. Report/ discussion From Thomas Howell and Ferguson.....John Beall
5. Approval of Consent Agenda.....Chairman
 - Finance Report
 - Minutes:
 - Budget Amendment
6. Presentation by Special Land Use Attorney David A. Theriaque regarding Delbert Smith's RV Park Special Exception, followed by potential vote by the County Commission regarding what action, if any, to take regarding Mr. Smith's RV Park Special Exception.....David A. Theriaque
7. Request From Doug Cason, Springtown Saloon to Sell Alcohol on Sundays.....Doug Cason
8. Consideration of LSF Health Systems for DCF Transport for Baker/Marchman Acts.....David Dolyak
9. Consideration of Hardship Determinability for Judy Rodriquez.....Russ Wade
10. Discussion of Recreation Program.....Fred Sirmones, Jr
11. Consideration of Memorandum of Agreement State of Florida, Dept of Commerce.....Jimmy Williams
12. Consideration of Proclamation for National Hospice and Palliative Care Month.....Samantha Roper
13. Consideration of PCG Contract for Emergency Medical Transportation Program.....Toby Witt
14. Consideration of COPN Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for AmeriPro and Liberty.....Toby Witt
15. Consideration of Dedicating CR18 to Mr. HG Crawford.....Commissioner Tallman
16. Report from **County Coordinator, Jimmy Williams** and Department Heads
 - Kim Hayes, Solid Waste Director**
 - Shelton Arnold, Jr., Road Department**
 - Mary Brown, Public Library**
 - Toby Witt, EMS Director**
 - Jim DeValerio, Extension Director**
17. Report Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, Clerk of Courts and Comptroller..... Clerk Rhoades
18. Report from Russell A. Wade III, County Attorney.....Attorney Wade
19. Report from County Commissioners
 - Vacant, District 1**
 - Channing Dobbs, District 2**
 - Jimmy Tallman, District 3**
 - Mac Johns, District 4**
 - Willie Croft, District 5**
20. Adjournment

BOARD MEMBERS:

VACANT, District 1 • CHANNING DOBBS, District 2 • JIMMY TALLMAN, District 3 • MAC JOHNS District 4 • WILLIE CROFT, District 5

Dianne Hannon

From: James Williams
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:05 PM
To: Dianne Hannon
Subject: FW: Union County -- RV Park Special Exception

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

James Williams, CPM, CBC

Union County Coordinator
15 NE 1st Street
Lake Butler, Florida 32054
Office 386.496.0027
Cell 386-623-1316



"Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." – Marcus Aurelius

From: David Theriaque <dat@theriaquelaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 3:58 PM
To: James Williams <countycoord@unioncounty-fl.gov>
Cc: Russ Wade <wadelaw@gmail.com>; S. Brent Spain <sbs@theriaquelaw.com>; Benjamin Kelley <brk@theriaquelaw.com>
Subject: Union County -- RV Park Special Exception

Jimmy,

It was good to chat with you today (11/7).

I recommend that the following language be included in the Agenda for the BOCC's November 20 Agenda:

Presentation by Special Land Use Attorney David A. Theriaque regarding Delbert Smith's RV Park Special Exception, followed by potential vote by the County Commission regarding what action, if any, to take regarding Mr. Smith's RV Park Special Exception.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Thanks!

Dave

Dianne Hannon

From: Kellie Rhoades <rhoadesk@unionclerk.com>
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 11:10 AM
To: Ryan Perez; Dianne Hannon
Cc: amanda_brown@bradfordcounty.org; scott_koregay@bradfordcountyfl.gov; amanda_brown@bradfordcountyfl.gov
Subject: FW: Attention
Attachments: Baker, Bradford, Union TP.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

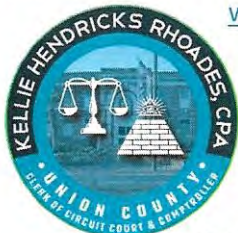
Hello,

I have forwarded your email to our Board Chairman and Secretary for their review for putting on the agenda. One of them will reach back out to you.

Kellie

Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, CPA
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller
Union County, Florida

55 W. Main Street, Room 103
Lake Butler, FL 32054
386.496.3711



www.unionclerk.com

Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from the Clerk's Office are public records available to anyone upon request. Your e-mail, including your e-mail address, may therefore, be subject to public disclosure.

From: David J. Dolyak <david.dolyak@lsfnet.org>
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 10:52 AM
To: amanda_brown@bradfordcounty.org; scott_koregay@bradfordcountyfl.gov; amanda_brown@bradfordcountyfl.gov; woddingtonp@unionclerk.com; Kellie Rhoades <rhoadesk@unionclerk.com>
Subject: Re: Attention

Hello to all included on this email. My name is David Dolyak with LSF Health Systems. We are the Managing Entity for NE Florida; a part of our responsibility for DCF (Department of Children and Families) is to maintain state contracts and plans for mental health and substance abuse services in our covered communities. I have attached (Transportation Plans) for Baker Act and Marchman Act transportation in your counties.

We have confirmed the information is accurate based on agency involvement in these particular services. We are required to have these plans reviewed by county government officials and to have them "signed off". Is it possible to have these placed on a county docket for review and approval for the county government?

Nov. 2, 2023

Board of Commissioner:

I'm Judy Rodriguez, I was
at The OCT public meeting,
I have a Block Grant since
July 2017, But I'm asking for
a Hardship on The Remaining 4 YRS.
my Husband passed on Dec 25, 2021
Christmas day, I also care for
my daughter Yasminda, who is
Handicap, for This reason I was
asking for a Reverse Mortgage Loan
But was having trouble with my
Block Grant, But there is a Clause
for hardship & I ~~felt~~ feel I qualified.

Per Mr. Wade, I'm asking you to
grant my Hardship ASAP.
Thank you J. Rodriguez

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ("MOA") is made and entered into by and between the State of Florida, Department of Commerce ("Commerce") and Union County ("County"). Commerce and the County are sometimes referred to herein individually as a "Party" and collectively as "the Parties".

I. Background and Purpose of MOA

- A. The purpose of this MOA is to document the terms and conditions of the implementation of the Rural Area of Opportunity (RAO).
- B. The Governor of Florida recognizes that successful rural communities are essential to the overall success of the State of Florida's economy and quality of life, yet many rural communities struggle to maintain, support or enhance job creation activities and to generate revenues for critical government services.
- C. Florida's Legislature also recognizes that rural communities continue to face extraordinary challenges in their efforts to significantly improve their economies, and as such, section 288.0656, Florida Statutes (F.S.), establishes the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) within Commerce and authorizes the participation of State and regional organizations in this initiative. Section 288.0656(7)(a), F.S., provides for the designation of up to three RAOs formerly Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs) under F.S., 1999-2013). RAOs include rural communities or a region composed of rural communities, including rural counties as identified in section 288.0656(2)(d)(e), F.S., that have been adversely affected by extraordinary economic events, severe or chronic distress, a natural disaster, or an event that presents a unique economic development opportunity of regional impact.
- D. Pursuant to section 288.0656(7), F.S., representatives of the State and regional agencies and organizations comprising the REDI met on **April 21, 2023**, and recommended the re-designation of the North Central region composed of the counties of Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union as an RAO. On **June 16, 2023**, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number **23-132**, which re-designated the North Central RAO for another five-year term with an expiration date of **June 11, 2028**.

II. The Participating Community

- A. Pursuant to section 288.0656(7)(b), F.S., and Executive Order Number **23-132**, RAO designation shall be contingent upon the execution of a MOA between the Parties. Section 288.0656(7)(b), F.S., requires this MOA to specify the terms and conditions of the designation, including, but not limited to, the duties and responsibilities of the County and any participating municipalities to take actions designed to facilitate the retention and expansion of existing businesses in the area, as well as the recruitment of new businesses to the area.
- B. The County agrees that fulfillment of the following duties and responsibilities, as reasonably determined by REDI, are required for recommendation by REDI for continued designation as a RAO.
- C. The County shall:
 - 1. Designate a specific contact person from among County elected or appointed officials to serve as a point of contact in all matters and activities relating to the North Central RAO;
 - 2. Designate a specific person from a non-profit organization actively engaged in economic development within the County to serve as the single point of contact to represent and provide input on all economic development matters and activities relating to the North Central RAO; and
 - 3. Include contact information for designees on Exhibit A, attached hereto (these designees may be the same designee to serve as the representative to other similar organizations). The County shall inform Commerce in writing by either mail or email of any changes to the specified persons within ten (10) business days of the change.

III. Implementation and Duration

- A. Pursuant to Executive Order Number **23-132**, the designation of the North Central RAO affecting the counties of Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor and Union shall be in effect for five years and will expire on **June 11, 2028**.
- B. REDI may recommend the RAO designation and this MOA be terminated or continued based on performance under this MOA.
- C. This MOA shall take effect immediately upon full and proper execution by all Parties, and supersedes and replaces any and all previous Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and RAO agreement(s) between the Parties.

- D. This MOA shall expire on **June 11, 2028** unless terminated earlier.
- E. Both Parties shall review this MOA annually. If revisions are needed, notification shall be given to both Parties in writing of the specific changes desired with the proposed amendment language and the reasons for the revisions. With the mutual consent of both Parties, the proposed changes shall become effective when both Parties have duly executed an amendment to this MOA.
- F. The County may terminate this MOA at any time upon written notice to Commerce.
- G. Designation as an RAO is, by statute and Executive Order, contingent upon execution of a MOA between the Parties. REDI shall recommend the RAO designation be terminated if this MOA is not duly executed, or if this MOA is terminated and another MOA is not timely and duly executed in its place.

- The remainder of this page has been intentionally left blank. -

IV. EXECUTION

By affixing her or his signature herein below, each undersigned official represents and warrants that she or he has read the above MOA and the Exhibit A attached hereto and understands each section and paragraph.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, and in consideration of the mutual covenants set forth above and, in the Attachments and Exhibits hereto, the Parties have caused to be executed this MOA by their undersigned officials duly authorized.

UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

By _____
Signature

Ryan J. Perez
Title Chairman, Union County Board of
County Commissioners

Date _____

By _____
Signature

J. Alex Kelly
Title Secretary

Date _____

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency,
subject only to full and proper execution
by the Parties.

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

By: _____

Approved Date: _____

EXHIBIT A – DESIGNATED CONTACTS
County Name, Florida

Contact Information for an Elected or Appointed Official

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

**Contact Information for One Person from
a Non-Profit Organization Engaged in Economic Development**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please complete this page and return with the signed MOA. The County is required to inform Commerce of any changes to this information within ten (10) business days of a change.



National Hospice and Palliative Care Month – November 2023

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, for nearly 45 years, Haven Hospice has helped provide comfort and dignity to thousands of people in north Florida, allowing them to live their last months, weeks or days comfortably with the people they love;

WHEREAS, Haven utilizes an interdisciplinary, team-oriented approach to treatment, including expert medical care, quality symptom control, and comprehensive pain management as a foundation of care;

WHEREAS, beyond providing physical treatment, Haven attends to the patient's emotional, spiritual and family needs, and provides family services like respite care and bereavement counseling;

WHEREAS, Haven provides community-based palliative care, which delivers expertise to improve quality of life and relief from pain and can be provided at any time during an illness;

WHEREAS, in an increasingly fragmented and broken health care system, hospice is one of the few sectors that demonstrates how health care can – and should – work at its best for its patient;

WHEREAS, every year 1.5 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States, including Haven;

WHEREAS, Haven is an advocate and educator about Advance Care Planning that helps individuals make decisions about the care they want;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have pledged to put patients first in all of its programs – including hospice – ensuring a coordinated and patient-led approach to care, protecting patient choice and access to individualized services based on a patient's unique care needs and wishes.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that We, the Union County Board of County Commissioners, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as **National Hospice and Palliative Care Month** and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life, discuss their end of life wishes with their families, and observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of November, 2023 and caused this seal to be affixed.

Chairman of the Board



UNION COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



P. O. BOX 266
LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

PHONE (386) 496-3839
FAX (386) 496-2158

TO: Union County Board of County Commissioners

RE: Public Emergency Medical Transportation Program / Contract with PCG

Mr. Chairman:

Union County Fire Rescue would like to participate in the PEMT program. This program allows us to recoup a portion of our cost for Medicaid patients through a federal funding program. Because the process involves collecting and analyzing a large amount of data in a short amount of time most counties contract this out.

PCG is sole source contractor for this for two reasons, they are the only firm I am aware that does this work, and the firm chosen needs to have an established relationship with the company that does our billing because they have to have seamless access to our data. PCG does have an established contract and relationship with our billing company.

This program will not cost the county any funds upfront. PCG will collect small percentage of the revenue we recoup after we get paid. There are two phases to the program. The first year we will only be eligible for one of the phases but in year two we will be eligible for both.

I have had experience with this in my former role as Director for a similar sized County. We were able to recover \$20,000 in phase one and over \$100,000 once we were able to access the second phase. I expect Union County to have similar results. So while our returns won't be significant in first year they increase greatly in the future.

I am asking the Board to enter into this sole source contract pending legal review from the County Attorney. This the same contract that over 30 other Counties have signed with PGC.

Respectfully,

Toby Witt, Director
Union County Fire and Rescue



UNION COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES



P. O. BOX 266
LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

PHONE (386) 496-3839
FAX (386) 496-2158

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

WHEREAS, AmeriPro EMS, a licensed ALS service provider desires to provide emergency medical transportation to the citizens of Union County; and

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that there is a need for this ambulance service to operate in this county to provide essential services to the citizens and visitors of Union County; and

WHEREAS, RG AmeriPro EMS has indicated that it will comply with all requirements of Chapter 401, F.S., Emergency Telecommunication and Transportation Act, and Union County Ordinance No 20-07, the Board of County Commissioners of Union County hereby issues a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Century Ambulance Service, Inc.

In issuing this certificate, it is understood that AmeriPro EMS will meet all State and Local requirements and is limited to providing ALS and BLS service for non- emergency transportation, emergency transportation and mutual aid upon the request of Union County Emergency Services.

DATE ISSUED: November 20, 2023

EXPIRATION: November 20th, 2025

Chairman, Union County Board of County Commissioners



UNION COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



P. O. BOX 266
LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

PHONE (386) 496-3839
FAX (386) 496-2158

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

WHEREAS, Liberty Ambulance Service, a licensed ALS service provider desires to provide emergency medical transportation to the citizens of Union County; and

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that there is a need for this ambulance service to operate in this county to provide essential services to the citizens and visitors of Union County; and

WHEREAS, RG Ambulance Service Inc., DBA Century Ambulance Service has indicated that it will comply with all requirements of Chapter 401, F.S., Emergency Telecommunication and Transportation Act, and Union County Ordinance No 20-07, the Board of County Commissioners of Union County hereby issues a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Century Ambulance Service, Inc.

In issuing this certificate, it is understood that Liberty Ambulance Service will meet all State and Local requirements and is limited to providing ALS and BLS service for non-emergency transportation, emergency transportation and mutual aid upon the request of Union County Emergency Services.

DATE ISSUED: November 20, 2023

EXPIRATION: November 20th, 2025

Chairman, Union County Board of County Commissioners