

Liberty County, FL

Liberty County Board of County Commissioners

Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm

**AGENDAS ARE POSTED ON THE BOARD'S WEBSITE AT
WWW.LIBERTYCOUNTYFL.ORG; ATTACHMENTS ARE PROVIDED TO
THE BOARD MEMBERS ONLY AND ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC
UPON REQUEST.**

Meeting Location

Liberty County Courthouse - 10818 NW SR 20; Bristol, Florida 32321

Zoom link and Call in numbers

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89963805767?pwd=9KFSzDBmqRA7IJLZYGMLKxRsHU5BvW.1>

Meeting ID: 899 6380 5767

Passcode: 536211

Dial by phone: (305) 224-1968

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

- Chairwoman Hannah Causseaux called the meeting to order in person at 6:00 P.M, zoom was not available for special meeting. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Dewayne Branch, Jim Johnson, Doyle Brown, Scott Phillips, Attorney Jennefer Shuler, Clerk Daniel Stanley, HR Director Shaula Jerkins and Deputy Clerk Jessica Conyers.

2. Invocation

Minutes:

- Invocation led by Mark Bell.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Branch.

4. Audience Concerns

Minutes:

- Patsy Saint addressed the Board to discuss the Rock Bluff Community Center.

5. Awards and Recognitions

Minutes:

- There were no awards and recognitions.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Monthly Department Briefing

- Brian Eddins – Fire Control Coordinator
 - ** Brian was not in attendance.
- Marie Arick – Extension Director
 - ** Marie is on the agenda under item 17.
- Tommy Duggar Jr – Recreation Director
 - ** Tommy discussed replacing the lights on the walking trail at Veteran's Memorial Park.
- Melissa Peddie – Ambulance Director
 - ** Melissa was not in attendance.
- Cole Maloy – Solid Waste Director
 - ** Cole had no business to discuss.
- Boo Bryant – Road and Bridge Superintendent
 - ** Boo discussed quotes for striping and repainting. One bid is from Emerald Coast Striping LLC in the amount of \$75,419.29 and the other is from Guettler & Guettler Inc in the amount of \$79,762.10. Boo would like to go with Emerald Coast Striping LLC.
- Clerk Stanley advised that the Board could amend the agenda to vote on this.
- Monica Welles – Transit Director
 - ** Monica had no business to discuss.
- Katie Kellett – Housing Director
 - ** Katie had no business to discuss.
- Ben Guthrie – Emergency Management Director
 - ** Ben is on the agenda under item 23.
- Teresa Stossel – Grants and Special Projects Coordinator
 - ** Teresa is on the agenda under item 17.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Motion to Amend Agenda

Minutes:

- Clerk Stanley advised that Doug has a fee schedule and schematic design of Rock Bluff Community Center and park and needs the Board to amend the agenda to add this item.
- Motion to amend the agenda to add the Rock Bluff Community Center and Park and

Emerald Coast Stripping quote made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Branch, motion carried.

7. Adoption of the Agenda

Minutes:

- There was no motion to adopt the agenda.

8. Motion to Approve Board Minutes

Minutes:

- Motion to approve the Board minutes made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, motion carried.

9. Motion for the Clerk to pay the bills

Minutes:

- Motion for the Clerk to pay the bills made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Branch, motion carried.
- July 11, 2024 - August 06, 2024

Warrant List: Warrant Numbers: General 32771 - 32931 Ship No Disbursements HHRP - Account Closed Bank EFT Payments: July 11, 2024 - August 06, 2024

10. Next month meeting schedule

Minutes:

- The LCBOCC will have a budget workshop on August 22, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

11. Letters of Support

Minutes:

- There were no letters of support.

12. Board to consider approval of Resolution 2024-15 Budget Resolution #7

Minutes:

- Clerk Stanley advised that the Board had previously approved the payback from the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$58,533.40, they asked for the amount back and the Board approved to give the funds back to the Sheriff's Office last month. This Resolution gives the Sheriff budget authority to spend those funds this Fiscal Year increasing their total budget.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-15 made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

13. Human Resource Management

Minutes:

- Clerk Stanley addressed the Board to discuss Human Resources.
- There is one pay increase request for Perry Hostetter has completed his inmate certification, Cole would like to increase his pay to \$14.66 hourly and back pay to July 22, 2024.
- Motion to approve rate of pay increase and back pay made by Commissioner Brown,

seconded by Commissioner Branch, motion carried.

- There is a request from the Road Supervisor to move Dan Faircloth from a general laborer to an inmate supervisor position with a rate of pay increase from \$14.00 hourly to \$15.66 hourly.
- Motion to approve promotion and rate of pay increase made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.
- Clerk Stanley asked Monica to address the Board. Monica has requested the Board to approve a rate of pay increase for Sterling Brown. There are three mechanics, James Clark at \$22.00 hourly, Sterling Brown at \$21.00 hourly, and Chris Peddie at \$21.00 hourly. Monica advised that last year the Board was wanting to keep the Mechanics at the same rate, there was an extra \$1.00 hour raise given to the Road Department and she is asking for Sterling to be brought to that same rate.
- Motion to approve rate of pay increase made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Phillips.
- Clerk Stanley asked for clarification on an effective date and if this is for all of the Mechanics or just Sterling.
- Motion to amend the motion to increase Sterling Brown and Chris Peddie to \$22.00 hourly with an effective date of August 12, 2024, made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, motion carried.
- Clerk Stanley advised that the Boards Holiday schedule for 2025 is in their packets per BOCC policy and this includes one personal Holiday and is asking for the Boards approval.
- Motion to approve the 2025 Holiday schedule made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Brown, motion carried.
- Chairwoman Causseaux advised that the Board needs a motion to approve the office closure on August 05, 2024, due to Hurricane Debby which will also include approving 8 hours of administrative leave to the full-time scheduled employees for closure.
- Motion to approve office closure and administrative leave made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

14. Board to consider approval of Resolution 2024-16 opposing Amendment 4

Minutes:

Lynda Bell with Florida Right to Life addressed the Board to discuss Resolution. Amendment 4 will limit government interference with abortion and would provide a constitutional right to abort throughout the entire pregnancy. She is asking for the Board to pass this Resolution that will oppose Amendment 4. There are other counties throughout the State of Florida passing a Resolution to oppose the Amendment as well.

- Carol Brennan addressed the Board to speak on Resolution and ask the Board to pass this Resolution.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-16 made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

15. Board to consider reappointment of Johnny Eubanks to CareerSource Chipola Board

Minutes:

- Mike Stewart was not in attendance. Rachel Bryant advised they are asking the Board to

reappoint Johnny Eubanks to CareerSource Chipola Board.

- Motion to reappoint Johnny Eubanks made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

16. Board to consider approval of Interlocal Agreement with Gadsden County

Minutes:

- Attorney Shuler addressed the Board to discuss agreement. This agreement is standard mutual aid agreement, and she is recommending that the Board approve this agreement.
- Motion to approve agreement made by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Brown, motion carried.

17. Board to consider Travel Requests

Minutes:

- Teresa addressed the Board to discuss travel request. She is asking that the Board approve for her and Katie to attend the 2nd Annual Broadband Summit in Orlando on September 11 - 13. The State Office of Broadband and Florida Commerce is covering the cost of Registration, hotels rooms, resort fees, and parking fees. They are only asking for travel reimbursement for mileage and meals that are not covered by the summit.
- Motion to approve travel request made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, motion carried.
- Marie addressed the Board to discuss travel requests. She has three travel requests, trip 1 is the Extension Professionals Association of Florida in Daytona Beach on August 26-30, she will give a presentation and receive an award, trip 2 is the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Services in Tuscon, Az on September 16-20 and she will be receiving an award, trip 3 is the National Food Challenge Competition in Dallas, TX the travel dates are not firm but they anticipate it to be September 26-October 2 and will be no cost to the county.
- Motion to approve travel requests made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Branch, motion carried.
- Commissioner Phillips discussed Civic Center Rentals.

18. Board to consider approval of vehicle purchases

Minutes:

- Tommy addressed the Board to discuss vehicle purchase. He advised that Ag-Pro had the cheapest price for a utility tractor in the amount of \$24,474.00 and he would like the Board to approve this.
- Motion to approve Ag-Pro quote in the amount of \$24,474.00 made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Brown, motion carried,
- Ben addressed the Board to discuss vehicle purchase. This will be for a 2024 Ford F-150 and is in the amount of \$69,481.00.
- Motion to approve purchase of the truck in the state contract price of \$69,481.00 made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, motion carried.

19. Board to consider property purchase in Sumatra

Minutes:

- Clerk Stanley called Brian for him to address the Board to discuss the property purchase. There have been an additional 5.33 acres added to the property offer to have another access to the side road. The total acreage for the property is 7.188 at \$15,000.00 per acre and the money will come out of the fire tax fund.
- Motion to approve property purchase in the amount of \$107,805.00, get an appraisal and survey made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried. Brian is asking the Board to get Dewberry to survey the property.

20. Board to consider Task Order to Dewberry for survey of property in Sumatra**Minutes:**

- Noah advised that the total cost for surveying the property will be around \$2,300.00.
- Motion to approve task order to Dewberry made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Branch, motion carried.

21. Board to consider Task Order to Dewberry for survey of Boykin Road**Minutes:**

- Noah addressed the Board to discuss task order. This is to claim ownership and designate the right-of-way of the road. The amount of the task order will be \$6,500.00.
- Motion to issue task order to Dewberry made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

22. Board to consider approval of Resolution 2024-17 and Grant Agreement with DOT for design of the CR 270 Widening and Resurfacing Project**Minutes:**

- Noah addressed the Board to discuss Resolution. This is for CR 270 and goes to the county line.
- Motion to approve Resolution 2024-17 and Grant agreement made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.

23. Board to Ratify Resolution 2024-18 Declaring a local state of emergency due to Invest 97L**Minutes:**

- Chairwoman Causseaux advised that the Board needs to ratify Resolution 2024-18 declaring a local state of Invest 97L.
- Motion to ratify Resolution made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried.
- Clerk Stanley asked Attorney Shuler what date needs to be on the Resolution. Attorney Shuler advised it will be the day Commissioner Johnson signed which would be August 02, 2024.
- Chairwoman Causseaux advised that the Board will now discuss the amended items on the agenda.
- The first item is the request from Boo to approve Emerald Coast Stripping bid in the amount of \$75,419.29.
- Motion to approve bid made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner

Phillips, motion carried.

- The last amended item is for the Board to consider approval of the Fee schedule and Schematic design of Rock Bluff Community Center and Park.
- Doug addressed the Board to explain design.
- Motion to approve fee schedule and schematic design in the amount of \$80,898.00 made by Commissioner Branch, seconded by Commissioner Brown, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

24. Dewayne Branch, Commissioner - District 1

Minutes:

- Commissioner Branch discussed the new road work on Highway 20 in front of the courthouse. He has been in contact with DOT and they are going to redo the striping on the road.

25. Hannah Causseaux, Chairwoman - District 2

Minutes:

- Chairwoman Causseaux discussed the rental fees and times for the Civic Center.

26. Jim Johnson, Vice Chairman - District 3

Minutes:

- Commissioner Johnson received some phone calls Friday regarding trees being down in the Florida River Community. He thanked Boo for getting the trees picked up.

27. Doyle Brown, Commissioner - District 4

Minutes:

- Commissioner Brown had no business to discuss.

28. Scott Phillips, Commissioner - District 5

Minutes:

- Commissioner Phillips had no business to discuss.

29. Jennifer Shuler, County Attorney

Minutes:

- Attorney Shuler had no business to discuss.

30. Daniel Stanley, Liberty County Clerk of Court and Clerk to the Board

Minutes:

- Clerk Stanley advised that the Board asked for him to look for some type of agreement regarding a CDL licensure and employee agreement. Shaula has reached out to the Krisner Group, and they have an example of what could be done. The Board has a sample agreement in their packets.
- Clerk Stanley advised that Tommy had spoken about mobile device policy and rules. The Board will want to have their IT vendor involved in the creation of this policy of having personal devices, different apps and access to those, and the reimbursement rate. This will be on the August 22, 2024, agenda.

31. Motion to Adjourn

32. Signature

Florida Statute 125.001 requires that due public notice be given of all regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners of a County in the State of Florida. Florida Statute 286.0105 requires that notices of any meeting or hearing, if a meeting or hearing is required, must include the following language, "if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."