

(09-07-04)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
EMERGENCY MEETING  
(ROAD PROBLEMS FROM HURRICANES)  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2004 11:15 A.M.

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners met September 7, 2004, to conduct an emergency meeting to address road problems caused by heavy rains from hurricanes. Attending the meeting was: Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Johnson, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Cooper, Clerk Norman, Marlene Stafford, Mark Crawford, Sheriff Milner, Herschel Waldron, Bill Dampier, Harry Hatcher, Randy Jones, Jimmy Alvarez, Al Coston, Nelson Green, Otha Miller, Louette Smith, Terry Vaughan, Teila Pearson and Capt. Pearson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnson at 11:22 a.m.

Chairman Johnson said that some roads throughout the County have already been closed and there is a possibility that others may need to be closed.

Mr. Waldron reported on the roads that have been closed and the condition of other roads throughout the County. Two teams are currently riding the County and reporting the condition of the roads. He should have a full report by 2:00 p.m.

Extensive discussion ensued which was not limited to but included the condition of the various roads both paved and dirt, needed equipment, and debris removal and drop site.

Capt. Pearson gave an update of roads that have been officially closed. Road conditions are updated and posted at the EOC.

Mr. Otha Miller, Director of Transportation for the School Board, addressed the Commission regarding the condition of the dirt roads as they relate to use by the school buses.

Commissioner Cooper suggested making a radio announcement encouraging people to stay off the dirt roads as much as possible. Capt. Pearson also suggested advising the public to slow down on all roads due to standing water, which is probably going to get worse.

There was some discussion concerning private roads.

(09-07-04)

Mr. Dampier reported on the possibility of reimbursement from FEMA for hurricane related expenses. Until further clarification is received, all expenses are the sole responsibility of the County.

Harry Hatcher reported that in light of the road situation, schools would probably be closed tomorrow.

Mr. Dampier said that another briefing would be held at EOC at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Johnson announced the workshop with the City of Starke concerning the Library that was scheduled for tonight has been canceled and will be rescheduled.

At 12:04 p.m., Chairman Johnson recessed the meeting and announced that it would resume at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting back to order at 3:04 p.m.

Attending the meeting was: Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Johnson, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Cooper, Clerk Norman, Marlene Stafford, Mark Crawford, Otha Miller, Jim Crawford, Herschel Waldron, Donald Frees, Bill Dampier, Jim Gill, Harry Hatcher, Randy Jones, Sheriff Milner, Nelson Green, Capt. Pearson and Percy Sullivan.

Chairman Johnson presented a proposal to hire Mr. Jim Crawford to coordinate FEMA recovery and reimbursement efforts.

Following discussion, **Comm. Thomas MOVED** to hire Jim Crawford as recommended, at an hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour, to be paid out of FEMA funds. **Comm. Cooper SECONDED** and the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

Mr. Waldron reported that if it does not rain, the seven roads that were closed could possibly be opened tomorrow afternoon. If we receive more rain, there will be more roads closed. He recommended placing "Local Traffic Only" signs on these roads in lieu of "Closed" signs.

Commissioner Thomas said that the City has agreed to let the County haul debris out to the spray field pit.

Discussion ensued, which was not limited to but included getting County and private roads back in shape, overtime, equipment and operators needed, hiring private contractors to assist with clean up and provide equipment, the possibility of assistance from the National Guard and the Department of Corrections, requirements for FEMA reimbursement and debris removal.

Commissioner Cooper said that all of the issues that have been discussed are ones that are resolved through the Emergency Management process, if it is working correctly. The area he sees lacking is the line of communication and sufficient communication between all of the departments. If that issue is resolved, then all of the questions will be answered and answered in a timely manner by the people who are assigned to do so.

(09-07-04)

Chairman Johnson recommended that a letter be sent to Florida Power & Light expressing the Board's displeasure with the service received. There was Board consensus to draft and send the letter.

There being no further business, the emergency meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

---

Doyle Thomas, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ray Norman, Clerk to the Board

These minutes typed by:

---

Marlene K. Stafford, Deputy Clerk