

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY  
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2007  
9:30 A.M.**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in regular session on Monday, February 5, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in the County Commission Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

Present were: Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Cooper and Commissioner Chandler.

Also present were: Jim Crawford, County Manager; June Neats, Administrative Assistant; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Ron Lily, CEO Chamber of Commerce; Donny Wise, Solid Waste Director; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Percy Sullivan, Fire Chief; Angela Macey, Community Development Director; Alex Hinely, County Planner; Nelson Green, Emergency Services Director; Terry Brown, County Attorney; Mark Crawford, Press; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Sheriff Milner; and Nora Thompson, Zoning Director.

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(See Supplemental File No. 02-05-07 for a copy of documentation presented at this meeting.)

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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**INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Chandler offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2006**
- B. MINUTES OF FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPACT FEES-NOVEMBER 27, 2006**
- C. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2006**
- D. SATISFACTION OF S.H.I.P. MORTGAGE-PENNELL**

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved [the Consent Agenda](#) in its entirety.*

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**PROPOSAL FOR FIRE TRUCK FOR HEILBRONN SPRINGS—TERRY MCCARTHY / JIM CRAWFORD:**

Mr. Crawford said that Heilbronn Springs Volunteer Fire Department is requesting the County's support with a 50/50 match to purchase a new quick response fire truck. The department has collected \$35,000.00 to go toward the purchase of the truck. Three proposals have been submitted as follows: Fouts Bros. Fire Equipment for \$70,000.00, Hall-Mark Fire Apparatus for \$133,000.00 and W.S. Darley

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& Co. for \$118,500.00. The funds are available in the Fire Department budget to support the match requirement.

Incited by inquiry of Commissioner Cooper, Mr. Crawford said that the Fire Counsel has addressed the purchase and they unanimously agreed that this would be the appropriate way to use the money. If the truck is purchased it will be owned by Bradford County. He does not expect a reshuffling of equipment once the fire study is complete.

*On Motion of Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board unanimously approved to support the match as presented.*

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**BID RECOMMENDATION FOR S.H.I.P. REHAB WORK—ANGELA MACEY:**

Ms. Macey presented the [bid recommendations](#).

*On Motion of Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously approved the bid recommendations as presented.*

At the request of Commissioner Cooper, Ms. Macey provided an update of the Hurricane Housing Projects.

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**PRESENTATIONS:**

**--COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD—COMMISSIONER THOMAS:**

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Thomas presented Frank and Adel Mitchell with a Community Service Award for their efforts to keep the roads beautiful by picking up litter on SR16 while on their daily exercise walks.

Commissioner Thomas also presented the Mitchells with a \$50.00 gift certificate donated by Wal-Mart.

**--PAT FARNSWORTH WORKFORCE INVOLVEMENT AWARD**

Mr. Ron Lily said that at the Annual Chamber banquet, Commissioner Chandler was awarded the Pat Farnsworth Workforce Involvement Award. On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Lily presented Commissioner Chandler with a plaque.

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**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS—CHAIRMAN LEWIS**

Chairman Lewis said that he has reviewed the bills and recommends them for payment.

*On Motion of Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously approved payment of the bills. (A copy of the bills is located in the Finance Department of the Clerk's Office.)*

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Malcolm Hill: Additional Bed Tax**

--Mr. Hill asked how the additional funds are being used.

Commissioner Cooper explained that the funds go to the Tourist Development Council, as does all funds generated from the bed tax, under statute. There are restrictions as to how that money can be spent. It is his understanding that the additional two cents will not go to the Conference Center but instead will go toward other programs that are traditionally funded by TDC.

**Albert Mize, 339 Adams Lane, Orange Park: Grading of NW 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

--Expressed his displeasure with the recent grading and maintenance performed on NW 75th. (Mr. Mize shared photos of the road to assist with his comments.) He asked that the road be put back to its original state.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Mr. Brown recommended that Mr. Mize work with the County Manager for resolve.

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**COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS – TERRY BROWN:**

**A. BELLSOUTH UTILITY EASEMENT**

Mr. Brown said that at the request of Mr. Crawford, BellSouth added additional reversion language so that if they cease to use the easement, it will automatically revert back to the County. He approves the easement as to form.

*On Motion of Commissioner Cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved the [BellSouth Utility Easement](#) as presented.*

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**COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS—JIM CRAWFORD:**

**A. ROAD PAVING PROJECT UPDATES**

--Ellington Construction is currently working on SE 35th and SE 44<sup>th</sup>. He expects completion around the first week in March.

--NW 23rd Avenue is ready for pavement and as soon as Ellington is available, that project will begin.

--Luke Road and Starling Road projects should begin in April.

**B. APAC CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR CR 231**

Mr. Crawford presented the change order for an increase of \$102,688.00. The project is still within the State allocation.

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved the [Change Order](#) as presented.*

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Commissioner Chandler said that when the Board originally approved roads back in 2003, Luke Road and Marklee Starling Road were two roads that Commissioner Johnson had placed on the list for District I, and they were to be paved up to Luke Road for Marklee Starling. When this was approved again earlier last year, he mentioned that to the Board. To pave from Luke Road back to HWY 301, you will miss 75% of the residents on Marklee Starling Road. There are about 20 households that go beyond Luke Road on Marklee Starling. While the project is being done, he would like to go ahead and pave that road down to at least where those homes end, which is about one mile. No one resides on the last mile of the road.

Mr. Crawford said that the right-of-way is there, it is a limerock road and there are no major bridges. If he had to guess what it would cost, it would be close to \$400,000.00 to piggyback with Ellington Construction. If the Road Department prepared the road, his estimate would be about \$200,000.00. Mr. Kelley engineered the portion that he thought the Board approved, he was not aware of extending it down to Marklee Starling Road. He has listened to the minutes from several months ago where there was some discussion about extending the road. Both Commissioner Chandler and Commissioner Lewis did state that they hoped that it would go a good distance down and include some of the residents. He was not aware of the previous arrangements made by Commissioner Johnson.

Commissioner Cooper said he would love to pave every road in the county. When the Road Paving Plan was developed, part of the idea was to spread the money around. Wilson Road in his district was approved, but had to be cut in half. They did not go across CR230A and pave the other side even though there are residents along that road, simply because they were trying to spread the monies around. He would love to pave the extra mile, but \$400,000.00 is needed to do it and if his memory serves him right, the Board just authorized \$150,000.00 to finish some projects. He does not see where the money can come from, until the next budget cycle, assuming the Board continues to budget road paving projects.

Commissioner Thomas said that he would like to see it paved all the way down also, and even past that. That road joins DuPont property and if there were ever a train wreck at that location, you could go through the DuPont property and come out SR16. He realizes the Board would have to determine how to pay it back, but he would like the Commission to consider borrowing more money to improve roads.

Commissioner Chandler added that ultimately the Board makes the decision and he is just voicing his concern. It has been ten years since a road has been paved in District I with County funds, which is a long time. If the cost can be brought down, even if the County had to do the paving, he would like to see it done. It may be another seven to nine years before another road is done in District I.

Mr. Crawford said he would continue to work on and develop a firm estimate and report to the Commission. He will review the 2003 Road Paving Plan Resolution. There are two more roads in the plan that have not been paved, one in Commissioner Thomas' district and one in Chairman Lewis' district. The cost of paving has gone up considerably. He will work toward getting a cost to complete the list. At the current funding rate, the County is two years away from finishing the list.

(County Manager Reports Continued):

Mr. Crawford said that the [Medical Examiners Commission](#) has asked the Board to consider the reappointment of Dr. William F. Hamilton as the District 8 Medical Examiner.

*On Motion of Commissioner Cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved the reappointment of Dr. William F. Hamilton as the District 8 Medical Examiner.*

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In light of the recent tornadoes, Chairman Lewis asked Mr. Johns if there is anything Bradford County can do to assist Lake County. Mr. Johns said that they did call some of the larger counties; they did not contact Bradford for any assistance. There is a possibility that Ms. Spierer will be leaving today or tomorrow to assist the Red Cross.

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**CLERK REPORTS—RAY NORMAN:** None.

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**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Cooper:**

--Encouraged the Board to continue watching the property tax debate. If Governor Crist's proposals are adopted in full, it will mean close to a 20% hit to the County's general revenue budget. Bradford County cannot handle that kind of a hit. The Small County Coalition/Florida Association of Counties is doing what they can. He is going up Wednesday and Thursday to address the Tax and Finance Commission. They may be calling on the Commissioners during the course of the legislative session.

**Commissioner Hersey:**

--The Board may need to consider a workshop to discuss the property tax issues.

Mr. Crawford said that the Florida Association of Counties provides good information concerning the property tax issues. The Commission may consider adopting a resolution opposing the proposals.

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**CHAIRMAN COMMENTS—EDDIE LEWIS:** None.

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**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**EDDIE J. LEWIS, CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**RAY NORMAN, CLERK OF COURTS**

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk