

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING 9:30 A.M.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in regular session on Monday, February 2, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. in the County Commission Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

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

Also present were: Brad Carter, County Manager; Sandra Harrell, Administrative Assistant; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford Deputy Clerk; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Winifred Holland, Health Department Director; Allen Parrish, Emergency Services Director; Angela Macey, Community Development Director; Mark Crawford, Press; Tim Wilson, CED; Paul Funderburk, Road Superintendent; Nora Thompson, Zoning Director; Sheriff Smith; Terry Brown; County Attorney; Robert Perone, Library Director; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; and D.Z. Griffis, Facility Maintenance Director.

(See Supplement File No. 02-02-09 for a copy of documentation presented at this meeting.)

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

PRESENTATION

Chairman Thomas yielded the floor to Mr. Tommy Tyer.

Mr. Tyer presented Commissioner Sellars with a plaque expressing appreciation for her years of service on the Bradford County Code Enforcement Board.

RESOLUTIONS

--EMERGENCY SERVICES ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – TERRY BROWN:

Mr. Brown read the title into the record:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING A UNIFORM POLICY FOR THE COLLECTION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ACCOUNTS PAYABLE; PROVIDING FOR THE WRITE-OFF OF UNCOLLECTABLE ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING FOR THE INITIATION OF COLLECTION ACTIONS FOR CERTAIN ACCOUNTS; RESCINDING RESOLUTION 96-10; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”

On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Chandler, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-02.](#))

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2008**
- B. MINUTES OF WORKSHOP AND REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2008**
- C. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2009**
- D. MINUTES OF EMERGENCY MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2009**

On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, the Board unanimously adopted the Consent Agenda in its entirety.

CONTRACT WITH “THE MANAGEMENT EXPERTS” FOR \$19,000.00 FROM HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – BRIAN JOHNS:

Mr. Johns presented the contract for approval. The contract is funded by the Homeland Security Grant, which can be spent only for planning/training exercises. The proposed contract has been approved by the state.

On Motion of Commissioner Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously approved [the contract](#) as presented.

DISCUSS RURAL HEALTH TOWN HALL MEETING – WINIFRED HOLLAND:

Ms. Holland announced that the [State Rural Health Plan](#) is being revised and in conjunction with that, they are conducting town hall meetings. One of the town hall meetings will be held in Starke, this Wednesday, February 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the library. Ms. Holland encouraged the Commission to stop by and provide some input. Invitations have been sent to all the surrounding counties. This is a great opportunity to have some visibility with the state.

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PAYMENT OF BILLS – COMMISSIONER SELLARS:

On Motion of Commissioner Sellars, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously approved payment of the bills as reviewed. (A list of the bills is located in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS – TERRY BROWN:

- In recent weeks, the Commission has discussed several ways to help the local economy, i.e. a moratorium on impact fees, reducing or imposing a moratorium on ad valorem taxes, and extensions for building permits. Whatever policies are established, they need to be consistent and uniform. It is his recommendation that the Commission direct the County Manager and the Building Department to formulate a liberal policy for granting requests for extensions on permits to complete construction.

Commissioner Lewis said that he would like to see those people who have constructed a new home or new business receive a one-year moratorium on their ad valorem taxes on the new construction only, not on the property that would already be on the tax roll.

Mr. Brown said that he is reviewing the legality of a moratorium on ad valorem taxes.

There was brief discussion concerning a proposed moratorium on ad valorem taxes.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding a liberal policy for granting requests for extensions on building permits.

Comm. Lewis MOVED to approve the Building Departments interpretation of being very liberal in granting permit extensions and to direct the Building Department and the County Manager to formulate these practices in a formal written policy. Comm. Chandler SECONDED the MOTION.

There was additional discussion, which was not limited to but included whether to make the policy retroactive or effective on the date approved.

Mr. Carter said although the Building Department has done an excellent job in trying to mediate and evaluate the individual situations as they have come in, there seems to be a significant amount of unnecessary interpretation or arbitrary discretion. Mr. Brown is suggesting, during this austere time, taking some of that discretion off the staff and making it more of an automatic process set forth in policy.

Mr. Brown recommended a uniform, consistent policy where everyone is treated equally.

There was additional discussion.

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Commissioner Chandler said that it is his understanding that the Building Department is going to work with the County Manager to create a policy, which will come back to the Board before it becomes official.

Mr. Brown said that if the motion passes, the Building Department and the County Manager would work together to formulate a policy and have it in writing. If the Commission wants the policy to come back for approval, which is the way policy is typically adopted, that would be appropriate. In so doing, it can be determined whether or not the policy should be retroactive and if so, for how long.

There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

Incited by a concern of Commissioner Hersey, Mr. Carter assured Commissioner Hersey that the policy would be brought to the Commission for final approval.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS – BRAD CARTER:

A. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AND BRADFORD COUNTY CONCERNING LAND USE, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES FOR THAT PORTION OF KEYSTONE AIRPARK LOCATED IN BRADFORD COUNTY

On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously approved the [agreement](#) as presented.

Mr. Carter said that approval of the agreement has cleared the way to begin meeting with Airpark personnel to establish an aggressive timeframe in assisting them with the construction of the road.

Mr. Canady said that all projects are running ahead of schedule. He will sit down with the County Manager to establish a timeframe. Weather permitting; it should only take about three weeks to complete. They have all the necessary funding and are ready to start. Mr. Canady expressed his appreciation to the Board for their support.

B. AWARD METAL PIPES BID SUBMITTED BY GULF ATLANTIC CULVERT CO.

Mr. Carter asked the Commission to accept the bid submitted by Gulf Atlantic Culvert Company.

On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, the Board unanimously awarded the [bid](#) as recommended.

CLERK REPORTS – RAY NORMAN: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Thomas said that at the Legislative Delegation held last week, Representative Adkins recommended that the Commission draft a letter expressing Bradford County's interest in the prison that was turned down by Alachua County.

There was brief discussion.

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On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously approved to draft the letter as recommended.

Commissioner Chandler:

--Since Bradford County does not have one, he would like permission to continue to look at Poverty Plans of surrounding counties. Although government is not the answer, with the economy how it is, more and more people are going to have dire needs and Bradford County should be ready to address those needs. He is not asking for money at this time, but whenever dollars can be put toward a plan or when the need arises, there will at least be a plan in place.

Commissioner Lewis commented on the following:

--Although he voted to assist the Airpark with the road, he does not want that project to interfere with any other current projects.

Mr. Carter said that the three roads that are currently under contract would have priority. They will insure that one will not detract from the other.

There was some discussion concerning the possibility of road crews working on the Airpark road on Fridays and how that would impact the budget as it relates to overtime.

Addressing the letter concerning Bradford County's interest in being selected for the site for the prison, Mr. Carter advised that Counsel is recommending a resolution to accompany the letter.

Mr. Brown briefly explained the manner in which he would draft the proposed resolution.

On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, the Board unanimously approved a resolution specifically requesting that the Governor and the Department of Corrections locate the new prison facility in the Bradford-Union County area, that the Chairman and the Clerk are to execute the resolution once in written form. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-03.](#))

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

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

DOYLE THOMAS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
RAY NORMAN, CLERK OF COURTS

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk