

**MINUTES OF  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
REGULAR MEETING      6:30 P.M.  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2009**

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The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in regular session on Thursday, November 19, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

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

Also present were: Brad Carter, County Manager; Sandra Harrell, Administrative Assistant; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Terry Brown, County Attorney; Nora Thompson, Zoning Director; Paul Funderburk, Road Superintendent; Allen Parrish, Emergency Services Director; Capt. Starling, Capt. Brad Smith; Sheriff Smith; Linda Carpenter, VA Officer; Robert Perone, Library Director; Jerome Kelley, County Engineer; and Mark Crawford, Press.

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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**INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**BOARD REORGANIZATION**

**A. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Commissioner Lewis **MOVED** to leave the Chair and Vice-Chair as is. The **MOTION DIED** for lack of a second.

Commissioner Chandler **MOVED** for the appointment of Commissioner Hersey as Chairman. Commissioner Lewis **SECONDED** the **MOTION** and the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0**.

Chairman Thomas turned the gavel over to newly elected Chairman Hersey.

**B. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

Chairman Hersey called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Sellars **NOMINATED** Ross Chandler.

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Commissioner Thomas **NOMINATED** Commissioner Lewis. Commissioner Chandler **SECONDED** the nomination. There being no further nominations, Chairman Hersey closed the nominations. The Board voted 5-0 for the appointment of Commissioner Lewis as Vice-Chair.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE**

**--LAND USE CLASSIFICATION AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. S091007A (GOWENS)—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record. She advised that the application received a favorable recommendation from the Planning Council and has been approved by the Zoning Board.

Chairman Hersey opened the public hearing. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

*On Motion of Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously adopted the Ordinance approving Land Use Classification Amendment Application No. S091007A. (The [Ordinance was assigned No. 09-16.](#))*

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**SAMPSON CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SITE PLAN APPROVAL—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson presented the site plan for approval. The plan has been reviewed and approved by the County Engineer and Suwannee River Water Management.

*On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved the site plan as presented.*

Commissioner Lewis commended Ms. Thompson for her professionalism at the recent meeting held at the library with Suwannee River Water Management concerning the County flood maps.

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2010**
- B. BOCC MEETINGS SCHEDULE FOR 2010**

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

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**YEAR-END BUDGET RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS—JIM FARRELL:**

Mr. Farrell read the title of each resolution into the record.

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A \$26,638.00 INCREASE IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE GENERAL FUND.”**

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-24.](#))*

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A \$53,577.00 INCREASE IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE FINE AND FORFEITURE FUND.”**

*Comm. Chandler **MOVED** to adopt the Resolution. Comm. Sellars **SECONDED** the MOTION.*

*After brief discussion, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-25.](#))*

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A \$52,500.00 INCREASE IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE FINE AND FORFEITURE FUND.”**

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-26.](#))*

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A \$202,667.00 INCREASE IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND.”**

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-27.](#))*

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A \$305,000.00 INCREASE IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND.”**

*On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Chandler, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-28.](#))*

Mr. Farrell presented budget amendments that move monies from one line item to another within the same fund. There are a few instances where monies are being moved from one department to another within the same fund.

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

**ANNUAL REPORT ON 2008-2009 BRADFORD COUNTY VETERAN'S BENEFITS—LINDA CARPENTER:**

Ms. Carpenter thanked each Commissioner for their support of the veterans and for adding eight hours to her department to work an additional day to better serve the veterans and their families.

Ms. Carpenter presented the [2008-2009 Annual Report](#).

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**EMS BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF OF \$230,258.63—ALLEN PARRISH:**

Mr. Parrish presented the write-offs for approval. These will be turned over to a collection agency.

*On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved [the write-offs](#) as presented.*

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**RESOLUTION:**

**--DEPT. OF HEALTH & REHABILITATIVE SERVICES GRANT (\$60,800.00)—ALLEN PARRISH:**

Mr. Parrish presented the resolution. The \$60,800.00 is a compilation of two years. When he came to the County in August of last year, the deadline had been missed to apply for the grant. Therefore, it rolled over to the next year.

Last year the Commission gave approval to submit a grant for automatic stretchers. With Commission approval, approximately \$40,000.00 of this money, which is a non-competitive guaranteed grant with no match, will be used to help achieve their goal of purchasing the automatic stretchers. Next month, he will be presenting the grant to the Commission for approval.

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 09-23.](#))*

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**RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (RC&D) SMALL CITIES WORKSHOP REPORT—CHRIS ETHERTON, TOM CUNILLIO:**

Mr. Chris Etherton, Chairman of the North Central Florida renewable RC&D Council addressed the Commission. It is RC&D's goal to move forward with renewable energy and conservation projects in the five-county area they represent: Union, Bradford, Alachua, Marion and Citrus. Mr. Etherton yielded the floor to Mr. Tom Cunillio, who will be giving an update on projects they are pushing forward.

Mr. Cunillio said that RC&D has been approved as a designated council applicant area, which means they are in line to be funded should the powers that be in Washington decide to approve funding for new councils. Mr. Cunillio distributed a [brochure](#) to the Commission. He reviewed some facts, statistics, goals and the five-year work plan of RC&D.

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**REPORT FROM BRADFORD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT—PAUL STLL:**

Mr. Still addressed the Suwannee River Water Management District 2010 Water Supply Plan. It is very likely that the Plan will have significant impacts on Bradford County with limits on consumptive use, well permits for agricultural, commercial and public utilities. As part of the process, public utilities may have to begin developing alternative water supply plans. He encouraged Commissioners and/or staff members to begin attending the Water Supply Plan meetings beginning in January.

When the Bradford Soil & Water Conservation District began reviewing the Water Supply Plan, they decided to begin the process of forming an Upper Santa Fe Resource Conservation and Development Council, the same type of structure Mr. Cunillio previously spoke of. They would primarily be focused on Alachua, Baker, Bradford and Union Counties, which form the Upper Santa Fe Basin and is the area that will be impacted by the 2010 Water Supply Plan.

They had attempted to work with the Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) but had some concerns about the governance of that organization, in particular, information contained in the application that was misleading. In fact, they voted to withdraw their support of that application.

Mr. Still asked the Commission to complete the draft of the [“Needs Assessment Survey”](#) provided to them and solicited comments or suggestions to improve the survey.

After the not-for-profit is formed and the needs assessment is completed, then application is made to USDA for funding. Although they realize that getting funding through USDA may be limited, they plan to proceed with the formation of the council. Should funds become available in the new future, the council will receive funding for a coordinator, which helps the council move forward to procure grants to help address the water supply issues.

Mr. Still asked the Commission to consider drafting a letter indicating support of the formation of the Upper Santa Fe Resource Conservation and Development Council to be included in the information to be provided to USDA. At some future date, he will return with an actual application for the Commission’s approval, which would be submitted to USDA.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Carter said that he would be happy to consult with Suwannee River Water Management District and seek additional information and perhaps request a workshop at a time they deem appropriate to help guide the Commission on this issue. (Board consensus.)

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**PAYMENT OF BILLS—COMMISSIONER HERSEY:**

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

*On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved payment of the bills. (A list of the bills is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)*

(11-19-09 Regular Scheduled Meeting)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Joyce Mitchell and Harold Mitchell of Hampton – Road and Ditch Maintenance:**

--The ditches need to be pulled and roads properly maintained at SE 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 101<sup>st</sup> Street off of CR18 in Hampton. There is also a problem with exceeding the 45mph speed limit on CR18.

Sheriff Smith said that he is aware of the speeding problem. An officer who lives in that general area has been working on it.

Commissioner Chandler said that the ditches are a problem, especially on SE 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Road Department has indicated that there was never a ditch there. However, ditches were there and they need to be dug out. Florida Power & Light has placed poles in the County ditches on one side and it is obvious that it was a County ditch when the poles were set.

Chairman Hersey said that he would get with Mr. Funderburk and revisit the area and see what can be done.

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**COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS—TERRY BROWN: None.**

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**COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS—BRAD CARTER:**

**A. REQUEST TO WAIVE PERMITTING FEES FOR BUILDING BAYS AT SAMPSON CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

*On Motion of Commissioner Lewis, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board voted unanimously to waive the permit fees as requested.*

Mr. Carter requested declaration of an emergency to consider approval of Change Order No. 1 to a SHIP contract with Ford Design Group, LLC.

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis, the Board unanimously declared an emergency.*

Mr. Carter explained the need for the change order, which will modify the original contract amount of \$8,900.00, to a new contract amount of \$11,500.00, an increase of \$2,600.00.

*On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved [Change Order No. 1](#) as presented.*

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**SHERIFF REPORTS—GORDON SMITH:**

--On behalf of jail staff, Sheriff Smith took time to set the record straight regarding false accusations, innuendo and slander against jail employees involving a tragic incident that took place back in July. He gave a detailed timeline of the events as they occurred and defended the actions taken by jail staff.

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**(SHERIFF REPORTS CONTINUED)**

--The Starke Golf and Country Club would like to have a meeting December 8 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss establishing a golf cart community and speed bumps (traffic calming devices).

--The SmartCop records management program went live at the jail today.

--Has negotiated a new contract for an inmate phone system. The new system should be in place in 30-45 days.

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**CLERK REPORTS—RAY NORMAN:** None.

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**COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Chandler commented on the following:**

--The Alachua/Bradford Workforce Board has been honored nationally as the top workforce board in the nation for innovation. The Board has also been named one of the most innovative workforce boards in the State of Florida. This workforce board is the only one in the entire state, and maybe even the nation, made up of only two counties.

The partnership between the county, workforce, North Florida Chamber and the business sector in Alachua County is outstanding. Bradford County could improve and increase its chances of receiving funding with the School Board, the Chamber of Commerce and the County Manager getting more involved.

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**CHAIRMAN COMMENTS—JOHN WAYNE HERSEY:**

--As the County continues to face budgetary constraints, there will be things coming up through the year that the Commission will need to be involved in and everyone will need to learn how to work harder with less. In his opinion, Bradford County has some of the best employees/staff in the state, which makes the Commission’s job easier.

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**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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

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**JOHN WAYNE HERSEY, CHAIRMAN**

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