

**MINUTES OF  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING      6:30 P.M.  
THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011**

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The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in regular session on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 6:30 p.m., in the County Commission Chambers at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Riddick, Commissioner Sellars and Commissioner Chandler.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Brad Carter, County Manager; Terry Brown, County Attorney; Sandra Harrell, Administrative Assistant; Rachel Rhoden, Administrative Assistant; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Terry Kite, Auditor; Nora Thompson, Zoning Director; Allen Parrish, Emergency Services Director; Angela Macey, Community Development Director; Mark Crawford, Press; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Sheriff Smith and Capt. Smith.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES**

**--LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. LDR 11-01 (BOCC)—  
NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

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

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving Land Development Regulations Amendment Application No. 11-01. ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-12.](#))*

**--LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. LDR 11-02 (BOCC)—  
NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

Chairman Lewis opened the public hearing.

Incited by public inquiry, Ms. Thompson gave a brief explanation of the intent of the proposed ordinance.

There being no further public input, the public hearing was closed.

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving LDR Amendment Application No. LDR 11-02. ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-13.](#))*

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**--LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. LDR 11-03 (BOCC)—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

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

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Chandler, and **carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving LDR Amendment Application No. 11-03.** ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-14.](#))*

**--LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. 11-04 (BOCC)—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

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

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving LDR Amendment Application No. 11-04.** ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-15.](#))*

**--LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. 11-05 (BOCC)—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

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

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and **carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving LDR Amendment Application No. 11-05.** ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-16.](#))*

**--LAND USE AMENDMENT APPLICATION NO. S 110401A (BOCC)—NORA THOMPSON:**

Ms. Thompson read the title into the record.

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

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and **carried 5-0 to adopt the Ordinance approving Land Use Amendment application No. S110401A.** ([The Ordinance was assigned No. 2011-17.](#))*

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**OVERVIEW OF GROWTH MANAGEMENT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES—NORA THOMPSON:**

Chairman Lewis recognized Ms. Thompson, who gave a brief overview of recent legislative changes (SB2156 & HB7207). ([Handout](#))

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(06-16-11 Regular Meeting)

**AUDITORS OVERVIEW OF 2009-2010 AUDIT—TERRY KITE:**

Chairman Lewis recognized Mr. Kite of Purvis Gray & Co., who gave a brief overview of the Audit Report for Fiscal-Year ending September 30, 2010. The County received an “Unqualified Opinion”, which is the best opinion you can receive.

Mr. Kite commended the Commission for its fiscally conservative approach and recommended continuing to remain conservative with expenditures.

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**--APPLICATION FOR E911 STATE GRANT FOR TWO (2) ADDITIONAL WORKSTATIONS—BRIAN JOHNS**

**--APPLICATION FOR E911 STATE GRANT FOR MAPPING—BRIAN JOHNS:**

Chairman Lewis recognized Mr. Johns, who reported that he has applied for two grants:

- A non-matching grant to fund the purchase of [two additional workstations](#) for the Command Post. (\$27,572.80)
- A non-matching grant to fund the purchase of a [GeoComm 911 Mapping System](#). (\$67,753.00)

--Mr. Johns corrected a statement from the June 6 meeting regarding the EMPA State (Base) Grant for \$105,806.00. In the June 6 meeting, he inadvertently stated that this was a non-matching grant when in fact it is a 75/25 matching grant.

--Mr. Johns said that there is a need to ratify the extension of the State of Local Emergency, which will need to be evaluated and handled in seven-day increments.

Mr. Brown advised that since this is not on the agenda, it is to be handled as an emergency item.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and **carried 5-0, to declare an emergency.***

Mr. Johns then read the title of the resolution into the record:

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA CONFIRMING THE EXTENSION OF A DECLARATION OF A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM WILDFIRE DAMAGE IN BRADFORD COUNTY.**

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented.** ([The Resolution was assigned No. 2011-10.](#))*

Mr. Johns advised that although they are working hard to get a Declaration of State of Emergency from the State to qualify to receive FEMA reimbursement funds, this has not happened. Only one County in the State has received a State declaration. Counties must reach the threshold of 10,000 acres or the loss of homes to qualify for FEMA reimbursement. Currently, a little over 6,000 acres have burned in Bradford County.

Mr. Johns reported on the status of the local fires.

For clarification purposes, Mr. Carter advised that the Resolution establishes the second seven-day cycle extension.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. INVENTORY SURPLUS LIST**

**B. APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO NFDGP BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CURRENT APPOINTEES—DOYLE THOMAS AND PAM WHITTLE)**

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0, to approve the [Consent Agenda](#) in its entirety.***

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**PAYMENT OF BILLS—COMMISSIONER RIDDICK:**

*Commissioner Riddick moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0, to approve payment of the bills as reviewed.*** (A list of the bills is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)

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**S.H.I.P. HOME REPAIR LOANS (SEVEN LOANS NOT TO EXCEED \$19,000 EACH)—ANGELA COOPER:**

Chairman Lewis recognized Ms. Cooper, who presented the loans for consideration.

*Commissioner Thomas moved, Seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0, to approve the [S.H.I.P. loans](#) as presented.***

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Linda K. Vogel, 4738 SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Keystone Heights—Commented on the following:**

(Ms. Vogel distributed a [packet](#) to the Commission.)

- Petition to Remedy Inadequacies of Drainage and Retention Pond
- Wasting tax dollars writing letter of harassment

Ms. Vogel asked the Commission to review her Petition and respond to the issues.

The following individuals addressed the Commission regarding the need for **grading and/or maintaining their roads (said roads being private roads):**

**Louis Griffis, 329 SE 34<sup>rd</sup> St., Keystone Heights**  
**Bonnie Griffis, 329 SE 34<sup>rd</sup> St., Keystone Heights**  
**Arlene Cooper, 9132 SE 51<sup>st</sup> Loop, Starke**

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Discussion ensued concerning private roads, the requirements/standards for County acceptance of a private road, and the MSBU process. During the discussion, Mr. Brown explained the laws prohibiting the County from grading and/or maintaining private roads (property) and elaborated on the MSBU process.

Chairman Lewis instructed the individuals to go through the County Manager's Office, if they are interested in initiating the MSBU process.

Commissioner Riddick said that he has been working with the citizens and with Mr. Bobby McCloud concerning these roads. They have discussed several options with varying costs for the County to do the work. Also, the citizens are aware that they may contact a private contractor to do the work instead of going through the County.

**Mr. Bobby McCloud, of SE 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue** said that he has been working with Commissioner Riddick trying to get the roads graded. He lacks 13 families to have enough funds to grade the road. Commissioner Riddick has been working hard to try to help.

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

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**SHERIFF REPORTS—GORDON SMITH:**

**A. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND BRADFORD COUNTY SHERIFF**

Sheriff Smith presented the Interlocal Agreement for consideration. The Interlocal Agreement transfers all 911/Communications to the Sheriff's Office.

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and **carried 5-0, to approve the [Interlocal Agreement](#) as presented.***

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**CLERK REPORTS—RAY NORMAN:** None.

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**COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS—BRAD CARTER:**

Mr. Carter provided the following informational items:

- Reminded everyone that due to the holiday, there is no meeting on July 4. The next regular meeting of the Commission is July 21.
- The Operational Manager for the City of Starke requested a date for a workshop to discuss recreation. Thursday, July 7 at 6:30 p.m., has been proposed and is acceptable.
- Supervisor of Elections, Terry Vaughan, has requested a workshop on July 21, beginning at 5:00 p.m., for the purpose of discussing redistricting.

There was Board consensus to approve both requests. Mr. Carter advised that his office will advertise the workshops.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Chandler commented on the following:**

- Addressed a recent incident involving a local contractor, Mr. Jason Lewis, who is of the opinion that he was treated unfairly. Although circumstances and policies cannot be changed to suit individuals, it should always be a policy to treat individuals with fairness and kindness.

Commissioner Chandler said that he believes Mr. Carter does a great job and the Commissioners are always fair. The County Commission and Mr. Carter keep the best interest of the taxpayers in mind in their decision making process.

Mr. Carter said that specifically at Commissioner Sellars' request, one of Mr. Lewis' suggestions was presented to the Clay County Building Official, David Connor. When dealing with small renovations and/or additions, (in Mr. Lewis' case, a pool enclosure), Mr. Connor has agreed to allow contractors, after having been processed in the Bradford Building Office, to bring their plans over to the Clay County Building Office where they would make every effort to review the plans while they wait. If the contractor does not want to take the plans to Clay County, Bradford County will continue to make daily shuttles.

[\(Memo\)](#)

As other contractors have expressed, Mr. Lewis would like to see the County have its own building official. He assured Mr. Lewis that it is his, as well as the Commission's intent to hire an official, just as soon as it can be determined that the County will generate adequate fees (on a long-term basis) to support an official. Clay County has been working well and has accommodated most every request. However, it is not like having our own official.

Chairman Lewis said that the County has been trying to be conservative in these hard economic times. The agreement with Clay County is a good idea. It would be best for everyone for the construction industry to increase, which would help boost the economy.

**Commissioner Sellars commented on the following:**

- Thanked Mr. Carter for following through with her request on Mr. Lewis' behalf. She has tried to contact Mr. Lewis to let him know that the County is trying to work with him, as well as other contractors.

**Commissioner Riddick commented on the following:**

- The Santa Fe Swamp fire has given him the chance to personally witness the dedication of the volunteer firefighters. He highly commended them for their unselfish acts and the excellent service they provide to Bradford County and all without compensation. The Division of Forestry, the Sheriff's Office, and Emergency Medical Services are also doing a great job.

**Commissioner Thomas commented on the following:**

- Echoed Commissioner Riddick regarding the volunteer firefighters and other agencies involved in the Santa Fe Swamp fire.
- Commended Mr. Carter for handling the situation with Mr. Lewis with professionalism, respect and courtesy.

**CHAIRMAN COMMENTS—EDDIE J. LEWIS:**

- Echoed Commissioner Thomas' sentiments concerning the situation with Mr. Lewis.
- Also commended the volunteer firefighters for their unselfish contribution to the County and the other agencies who work so hard to keep the County and the citizens safe.

Chairman Lewis recognized Sheriff Milner, who briefly explained the requirements and training it takes to become a volunteer firefighter.

Chairman Lewis commended the leadership within the County, who took the necessary steps to improve the quality of the equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department.

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**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.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