

(05-21-15 Regular Meeting)

**MINUTES OF
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING 6:30 P.M.
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., in the County Commission Chambers at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

PRESENT: Chairman Chandler, Commissioner Sellars, Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Riddick.

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Carter, County Manager; Rachel Rhoden, Deputy County Manager; Will Sexton, County Attorney; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Benji Bennett, Emergency Management Planner; Paul Funderburk, Road Superintendent; Kelly Canady, Community Development Director; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Mark Crawford, Press; Chip Ware, Fire Marshal; Capt. Boatwright; and Sgt. Ray Shuford.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2014 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION--SCOTT KOONS, Executive Director of North Central Florida Regional Planning Council:

Chairman Chandler recognized Mr. Koons, who gave a [PowerPoint presentation](#) overview of the Fiscal Year 2014 CDBG application process.

Chairman Chandler asked for comments and/or questions from the Board.

Incited by inquiry of Commissioner Lewis, Mr. Koons advised that within the unincorporated area of Bradford County, 34% of the residents fall below the low to moderate income level (one out of three households).

Chairman Chandler opened the public hearing.

Ms. Katy Rowell requested ideas for projects that could be included on an application.

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Mr. Koons requested direction from the Board to assist staff in putting together an application. Preliminary discussions with staff have not identified any specific neighborhood or public facility-type projects that would meet the criteria. However, initial thinking is to pursue another housing grant.

He will back again next month for the second public hearing and to request authorization to submit the application. Applications are due June 22. Another grant cycle will open up in the fall.

Following brief discussion, and based on Bradford County statistics and demographics, there was a consensus for staff to pursue a housing application.

Commissioner Riddick thanked Mr. Koons for his assistance with the Tourism Task Force. He asked if there are other opportunities available to help promote activities within the County. Mr. Koons advised that such activities could be placed on the Visit Natural North Florida website. The Council is always looking for more activities, events, venues and attractions that would be of interest to tourists. The Task Force is undertaking a newly designed website in the coming year that is much more mobile friendly and interactive. The Task Force has entered into a partnership with VisitFlorida that has enabled them to attend six major out of state and one international travel and tourism shows. This will enhance exposure.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. PERMISSION TO REFER DELINQUENT EMS ACCOUNTS TO NATIONAL RECOVERY AGENCY FOR FURTHER COLLECTION EFFORTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,604.07**
- B. APPROVAL TO CHARGE OFF EMS ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000.00**
- C. INVENTORY SURPLUS LIST**

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety.

PAYMENT OF BILLS--COMMISSIONER SELLARS:

Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, 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 of Courts.)

PRESENTATION OF FEMA SAFER BUNKER GEAR PROGRAM AWARD TO SIX VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS--BRIAN JOHNS, Emergency Management Director:

- **Barbara Brown - Lawtey VFD**
- **Chris Adkins - Lawtey VFD**
- **Daniel Cook - Theresa VFD**
- **Mallary Perkinson - New River VFD**
- **Michael Brown - Lawtey VFD**
- **Shane Crawford - Heilbronn Springs VFD**

Chairman Chandler recognized Mr. Johns, who asked Chief Richard Darby to present the awards.

Chief Darby, explained the selection process and announced the recipients of the FEMA Safer Bunker Gear Program award as listed above. Each recipient receives a new set of bunker gear, valued at about \$1,900.00 each.

Mr. Johns thanked the volunteers for their service. On behalf of the County Commission, Chairman Chandler expressed appreciation to the volunteers and the Volunteer Fire Department.

ACORN CLINIC--PRESENTATION BY CANDICE KING, Executive Director:

Chairman Chandler recognized Ms. King, who distributed and reviewed [a handout](#) outlining the services and programs provided by ACORN Clinic. Ms. King expressed her appreciation to the County for their continued support.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS--WILL SEXTON:

A. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR SETTLEMENT OF PENDING CLAIM(S) IN THE MATTER OF MARK MARTIN VS. CENTURYLINK, BRADFORD COUNTY, et al (Bradford County Case No. 04-2014-CA-0052)

Mr. Sexton advised that the County's insurance carrier (Travelers) would like permission to settle this personal injury case. The City of Starke is also a defendant in the case and is also insured by Travelers. Travelers would like to settle the case for both Bradford County and the City of Starke for \$95,000. This amount would be split equally between the City and the County and is entirely covered by the policy. The year the claim was made, the County had a 0.00 deductible, so there are no out-of-pocket costs. Counsel that has been representing the County agrees that although they are confident they would reach a favorable resolve, they would spend more than \$95,000 defending the case further.

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and carried 5-0, to authorize a settlement in the matter of Mark Martin VS CenturyLink, Bradford County, et al, as presented by Mr. Sexton.

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SHERIFF REPORTS--GORDON SMITH: None.

CLERK REPORTS--RAY NORMAN: None.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS--BRAD CARTER:

Ms. Rhoden announced that May 18-24 is National EMS Week. This marks the 40th anniversary of National EMS Week. During this time, we are reminded of the commitment and dedication of EMT's and paramedics. Bradford County has some of the finest EMT's and paramedics, who regularly go above and beyond the call of duty to serve the citizens. Shands Hospital conducted a special luncheon today to recognize the paramedics and EMT's.

- A. REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR THE BROOKER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. GRANT TOTAL \$9,962.75/COUNTY MATCH OF \$4,981.75--BRIAN JOHNS, Emergency Management Director**

Mr. Johns submitted the request for consideration. The 50% county match requirement is in the budget.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to accept the [grant](#) as presented.

- B. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SHIP CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 ON FILE NO. 2014-09-S FOR AN INCREASE OF \$450; NEW CONTRACT TOTAL OF \$21,524.10--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director**

Ms. Canady presented the Change Order for consideration.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve [Change Order No. 1](#) on File No. 2014-09-S as presented.

- C. CONSIDER APPROVAL TO DEVIATE FROM THE \$19,000 LHAP MAXIMUM CONTRACT PRICE ON FILE NO. 2014-09-S--KELLY CANADY, Community Development Director**

Ms. Canady presented the LHAP maximum contract price deviation for consideration.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to approve a deviation from the LHAP maximum contract price on File No. 2014-09-S, as presented.

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COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Riddick commented on the following:

- Expressed appreciation to the paramedics, EMT's and volunteers.

Commissioner Sellars commented on the following:

- Expressed appreciation to the paramedics, EMT's and volunteers.
- As Ms. King (ACORN Clinic) mentioned in her presentation, the New River Health Department will begin offering mobile dental services to all the school children at the beginning of the new school year.

Commissioner Thompson commented on the following:

- Expressed appreciation to all County departments, staff and volunteers.

Commissioner Lewis commented on the following:

- Inquired about what procedures are in place to handle an accident involving a train carrying hazardous materials traveling through the county. Mr. Johns advised that first responders are HAZMAT trained at different levels. Bradford also has mutual aid agreements with Alachua, Duval and Clay County.
- Commissioner Lewis expressed his heartfelt appreciation to all the EMT's, paramedics and volunteers who cared for his daughter-in-law, who passed away. Everyone did an outstanding job. Bradford County has first responders who are second to none.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS--ROSS CHANDLER: None.

ADJOURN: *Commissioner Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sellars. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 a.m.*

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

ROSS CHANDLER, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
RAY NORMAN, CLERK TO THE BOARD

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved by BOCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting of _____.