

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

June 22, 2020

Governor Charley E. Johns Conference Center
945 N. Temple Avenue
Starke, FL 32091

In-Person and Telephonic
DUE TO COVID-19
FY20-21 Budget Workshop
6:30 p.m.



PRESENT: Commissioner District 3 Chairman Chris Dougherty
Commissioner District 1 Commissioner Ross Chandler
Commissioner District 4 Commissioner Danny Riddick
Commissioner District 5 Commissioner Frank Durrance

Commissioner District 2 Vice-Chairman Kenny Thompson was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Rachel Rhoden, Interim County Manager; Will Sexton, County Attorney; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Lisa Hall, Finance Clerk; Allen Parrish, Emergency Medical Services Director; Terry Vaughan, Supervisor of Elections; Mark Crawford, Press; Ian Waters, I. T. Manager; Ben Riggs, Systems Administrator; D.K. Bennett, Fire Director; Sheriff Smith; Capt. Konkel; and Robert Perone, Library Director.

Interim County Manager Rachel Rhoden presented opening comments specific to the format of the workshop being held both in-person and telephonically, due to COVID-19.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Dougherty called the workshop to order at 6:32 p.m.

1. OPENING COMMENTS FROM INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER RACHEL RHODEN:

Ms. Rhoden stated that the purpose of this workshop is to discuss material presented at the June 17, 2020 Budget Workshop and to entertain any other budget information from other offices.

At the July 6 County Commission meeting recommendations for setting FY20-21 Board department budgets will be presented, and direction sought from the Commission on how to fund requests submitted by outside organizations.

Ms. Rhoden provided a brief update on CARES Act funding. The Florida Division of Emergency Management will distribute the funds beginning with an initial disbursement of 25% of each county's allocation, which is \$1,175,075.00 for Bradford County. The remaining 75% (\$3,525,225.00) is distributed on a reimbursement basis; for a total of \$4,700,300.00. There are several plans adopted by other counties that her office is reviewing to use as a template for Bradford County.

Typically, the funding is broken into three (3) major categories:

1. General Governmental Expenses
2. Individual Assistance Payments
3. Small Business Assistance Payments

It is her goal to present the Commission with a proposed plan sometime in July.

Chairman Dougherty recognized Mr. Vaughan, who addressed CARES Act funding allocated for the Supervisor of Elections; \$70,863.00 with a 20% county match requirement of \$14,173.00; for a total award of \$85,036. He will do everything in his power to return unspent funds, which would hopefully be more to cover the match dollars. Mr. Vaughan asked the Commission if they would like him to pursue the funding.

Responding to inquiry of Chairman Dougherty, Mr. Vaughan presented comments regarding COVID-19 safety measures that have already been put in place and what is planned for the upcoming election cycle.

Chairman Dougherty stated that the request will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

Mr. Vaughan congratulated Clerk Norman on his impending retirement. The Supervisor of Elections finances are handled through the Finance Department in the Clerk's Office, saving a lot of money by not having to hire an additional person. Mr. Vaughan expressed his appreciation to the Finance Department, who have been wonderful to work with.

Chairman Dougherty recognized Sheriff Smith who, reading from a [letter dated May 28, 2020](#), presented comments regarding his FY20-21 budget and accomplishments of his department.

In response to questions and comments presented by Commissioner Durrance, there was a lengthy dialogue between Sheriff Smith and members of the Commission. The matters addressed were not limited to but included:

- The amount the County pays for health and life insurance for the Sheriff's staff, in addition to the budget.
- Jail Set Aside Funds:
 - Allowing the Sheriff to keep all Jail Set Aside Funds (retaining \$1 million in savings) and offsetting that by reducing his budget by an amount to be determined at a later date. Any funds remaining at the end of the year to be given to the County.
 - Future Capital Outlay/Improvements for the Jail.
 - If 50% retained by the Sheriff, the Board to receive detailed invoices for all expenses.
- How the Sheriff gained the Fire Department.
- Fire Department, Volunteers and the Keystone Fire Station.
- Finding ways to trim the budget if at all possible.

2. OTHER COMMENTS BY COUNTY OFFICES: None.

3. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS: None.

(06-22-2020 Budget Workshop)

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

These Minutes approved by BoCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting of 08-03-2020.