

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

August 6, 2024

9:30 A.M.

**Charley E. Johns Conference Center
1610 N. Temple Avenue
Starke, Florida 32091**

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner District 1 – Chair Carolyn Spooner
Commissioner District 4 – Vice-Chair Danny Riddick
Commissioner District 2 – Kenny Thompson
Commissioner District 3 – Joseph C. Dougherty
Commissioner District 5 – Diane Andrews

PRESS PRESENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager Scott Kornegay; Executive Assistant Amanda Brown; County Attorney Rob Bradley; Clerk of Court Denny Thompson; Chief Deputy Clerk Rachel Rhoden; Finance Director Dana LaFollette; Zoning Director Randy Andrews; Public Works Director Jason Dodds; Community Development Director Kelly Canady; Sheriff Gordon Smith; Col. Brad Smith; Capt. Brad Witt; Tax Collector Teresa Phillips; Alachua County Extension Director Cindy Sanders; and Assistant Library Director Kimberly Crawford.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Spooner called the meeting to order at 9:39 A.M.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – RANDY ANDREWS, ZONING DIRECTOR

A. AN ORDINANCE (*Ordinance No. 2024-08*) OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF 50 OR LESS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, S240502A, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE, UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR CHANGING THE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION FROM AGRICULTURE-2 (LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO DWELLING 1 UNIT PER 5 ACRES, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED FOR IN POLICY I.2.2) TO COMMERCIAL OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Chair Spooner recognized Mr. Andrews, who read the ordinance title into the record. Chair Spooner opened the public hearing for public comments.

Public Comments:

- Vyunda Strong

After public comments, the public hearing was closed.

It was MOVED by Commissioner Andrews and SECONDED by Vice Chair Riddick to approve the ordinance.

Motion Carries 5-0

- B. AN ORDINANCE (*Ordinance No. 2024-09*) OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO THE REZONING OF TEN OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, Z 24-04, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE; PROVIDING FOR CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT FROM AGRICULTURAL-2 (A-2) TO COMMERCIAL, INTENSIVE (CI) OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Chair Spooner recognized Mr. Andrews, who read the ordinance title into the record. Chair Spooner opened the public hearing; there being no response, the public hearing was closed.

It was MOVED by Commissioner Dougherty and SECONDED by Commissioner Andrews to approve the ordinance.

Motion Carries 5-0

- C. AN ORDINANCE (*Ordinance No. 2024-10*) OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO AN AMENDMENT OF 50 OR LESS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, S240502B, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE, UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR CHANGING THE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION FROM AGRICULTURE-2 (LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO DWELLING 1 UNIT PER 5 ACRES, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED FOR IN POLICY I.2.2) TO COMMERCIAL OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Chair Spooner recognized Mr. Andrews, who read the ordinance title into the record. Chair Spooner opened the public hearing; there being no response, the public hearing was closed.

It was MOVED by Vice Chair Riddick and SECONDED by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the ordinance.

Motion Carries 5-0

- D. AN ORDINANCE (*Ordinance No. 2024-11*) OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, AS AMENDED; RELATING TO THE REZONING OF TEN OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION, Z 24-05, BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE;**

PROVIDING FOR CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT FROM AGRICULTURAL-2 (A-2) AND INDUSTRIAL (I) TO COMMERCIAL, INTENSIVE (CI) OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Chair Spooner recognized Mr. Andrews, who read the ordinance title into the record. Chair Spooner opened the public hearing; there being no response, the public hearing was closed.

It was MOVED by Commissioner Andrews and SECONDED by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the ordinance.

Motion Carries 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Carol Mosley
- Paul Still
- Bonnie Cannone
- Kate Ellison
- Marshall Clayton Rawson
- Brandon Elixson
- Vyunda Strong
- Nansee Markham

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. MEETING MINUTES FROM 06-20-2024.**
- B. MEETING MINUTES FROM 07-02-2024.**
- C. CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR SHIP REHAB FILE 2019-7-S, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,637.50.**
- D. DEVIATION FROM SHIP LHAP ON SHIP REHAB FILE 2019-7-S.**
- E. SHIP REHAB LOAN, NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000 FOR SHIP FILE 2020-6-S.**
- F. A RESOLUTION (*Resolution No. 2024-08 should be 2024-13 as corrected by the board on October 1, 2024*) OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AMENDMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF A SIGNATORY FOR SAID AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
- G. AVMED RATES FOR 2024-2025.**
- H. RFQ 2024-001 FOR CONTINUING CONTRACTS FOR ENGINEERING AND/OR SURVEY AND MAPPING SERVICES.**

Discussion:

- Clarification that item 4(G) adopts option 3 renewal.

It was **MOVED** by Commissioner Thompson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Andrews to approve the consent agenda.

Motion Carries 5-0

- 5. A RESOLUTION (*Resolution No. 2024-09 – removed by the board as a correction on October 1, 2024*) OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE ANNUAL PROVISION AND FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND FACILITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT AND THE IMPOSITION OF FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS THEREIN; ESTIMATING THE TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF ASSESSING REAL PROPERTY SPECIALLY BENEFITED BY THE COUNTY'S PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND FACILITIES; DESIGNATING THE COUNTY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE THEREOF AS ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR TO PREPARE A PRELIMINARY FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT ROLL; ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER IMPOSITION OF THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Chair Spooner recognized County Attorney Rob Bradley who read the resolution title into the record.

Discussion:

- Comments in favor of levying the fire assessment tax in fiscal year (FY) 24-25.
- Comments in favor of levying the fire assessment tax in FY 25-26.
- Comments not in favor of levying any new taxes in the current economic state.
- Comments confirming that the board can levy the fire assessment tax at any time after adoption of resolution.
- Comments in favor of holding workshops to discuss the fire assessment and fire rescue operations.
- Comments expressing thanks to Chief Carter and County Manager Kornegay on addressing questions about the fire assessment.
- Comments in favor of funding the fire operations at the 50% assessment rate.

It was **MOVED** by Vice Chair Riddick and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the resolution.

Motion Fails 4-1 (Vice Chair Riddick assenting vote)

- 6. A RESOLUTION (*Res. No. 2024-10*) OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA OPPOSING THE PRO-ABORTION AMENDMENT TO FLORIDA CONSTITUTION.**

It was **MOVED** by Vice Chair Riddick and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Dougherty to adopt the resolution.

Motion Carries 4-1 (Chair Spooner dissenting vote)

- 7. CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH ROADWAY MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES (RMT) FOR HARDWARE/SOFTWARE TO PROACTIVELY PROVIDE THE LEVEL OF ROADWAY DETERIORATION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY - \$50,000 ANNUALLY – JASON DODDS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR.**

Discussion:

- Service will be paid for from gas tax revenue.

It was **MOVED** by Commissioner Dougherty and **SECONDED** by Vice Chair Riddick to approve item 7.

Motion Carries 5-0

- 8. PERMISSION TO EXTEND LEASE AND PURCHASE EQUIPMENT – JASON DODDS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR.**
 - A. EXTEND AN EXPIRED LEASE ON 644 JOHN DEERE LOADER (SERIAL NUMBER 1DW644KZTKF696199) FOR 2 YEARS AT A COST OF \$20,625.92 PER YEAR, WITH A BUYOUT OPTION OF \$133,929.56 AT THE END OF THE 2-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT.**
 - B. RETURN EXPIRED LEASE EQUIPMENT – 644 JOHN DEERE LOADER (SERIAL NUMBER 1DW644KZCKF696234).**
 - C. PURCHASE A 2022 JOHN DEERE 2441 COMPACT WHEEL LOADER FOR A COST OF \$93,700.**

Discussion -none

It was **MOVED** by Commissioner Thompson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Dougherty to approve item 8 A-C.

Motion Carries 5-0

Mr. Dodds thanked the sheriff's office, fire rescue, FPL, Clay Electric, and the community with assisting in storm recovery efforts.

- 9. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA, BRADFORD, COLUMBIA, DIXIE, GILCHRIST, AND UNION REGARDING LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA 26.**

Chair Spooner recognized Phillis Marty, Chief Executive Officer of CareerSource North Central Florida to present an interlocal agreement for local workforce development – area 26, for board consideration.

Discussion:

- One representative represents the interests of each county mentioned in the interlocal agreement.
- Remarks highlighting the necessity of ensuring the availability of resources at the local HUBS and the local office.
- CareerSource partnership with Communities in Schools (CIS) in Bradford County.
- In the prior year, Bradford County reimbursed the state for disallowable costs with CareerSource. Moving forward, liability insurance will be in place to reduce the risk of disallowed expenses.

Chair Spooner recognized Cindy DeValerio, executive director for Bradford County CIS to present the following highlights of the CIS program:

- Served 110 students, grades 6th through 12th.
- Offer scholarships: three partial scholarships; five two-year scholarships; and added six new scholarships.
- Program has 5 part-time employees.
- Fundraising activities, such as monthly bingo games and an annual golf tournament.
- Life Spring Church provided Christmas support to 21 underprivileged students.
- Backpack Weekend program benefited 117 students in the district, with 18 of those students coming from Bradford County
- The school district provides in-kind services, such as office space, phones, computers, and internet.
- The Hanger: a resource room for clothes, work materials, school supplies, shoes, and other items.
- Partnered with Achievers for Life Club to implement a tobacco-free initiative.
- All enrolled students received 100% of their diplomas.
- CIS is able to work with students in a summer youth employment program because of funding provided by CareerSource.

Discussion:

- Positive comments on fundraising events such as Bingo.

It was MOVED by Commissioner Dougherty and SECONDED by Commissioner Andrews to approve the agreement as presented.

Motion Carries 5-0

10. CONSIDER FUNDING \$8,000 OF AN ESTIMATED \$10,000 FOR AQUATIC PLANT SHREDDING FOR THE OVERGROWTH IN LAKE SAMPSON WHERE WATER FLOWS FROM THE LAKE INTO THE SAMPSON RIVER CANAL. BSWCD (BRADFORD SOIL WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT) APPROVED TO FUND \$2,000 TOWARDS THE ESTIMATED COST.

Chair Spooner recognized Commissioner Andrews who recommended that agenda item 10 be tabled once an actual quote is submitted. The board was in consensus to table the agenda item 10.

11. OPIOID ABATEMENT FUNDING ALLOCATION – USE OF UNSPENT FUNDS - \$87,271.84

Chair Spooner opened discussion from the board on use of unspent opioid abatement funds.

Discussion:

- Interest expressed in allocating the unspent opioid abatement funds to Meridian for opioid treatment.
- Interest expressed to partner with the jail to help inmates and their families who are affected by substance abuse.

12. CLERK REPORTS – DENNY THOMPSON

A. PRESENTATION OF TENTATIVE FISCAL-YEAR (FY) 2024-2025 BUDGET SUMMARY.

Clerk Thompson recognized Finance Director Dana LaFollette who presented the board with a tentative budget summary for FY 2024-2025, totaling \$75,532,884.00 (not including Florida Department of Transportation grants). Ms. LaFollette advised that there is enough money in the unrestricted general fund balance of \$13,885,812 to handle two months' worth of emergency recurring expenses.

Clerk Thompson cautioned the board on county spending.

Discussion -none

13. SHERIFF REPORTS – GORDON SMITH

Sheriff Smith recognized Captain Brad Witt who gave a brief report on impacts to Bradford County from Hurricane Debby and efforts made by multiple agencies to respond to said hurricane.

Discussion:

- Comments expressing gratitude of all agencies responding to Hurricane Debby.

14. COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS – SCOTT KORNEGAY

A. COMMUNITY RESOURCE PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM UPDATE.

Mr. Kornegay recognized Lt. David Weeks who presented a PowerPoint presentation on the paramedicine program highlighting the following:

- Program statistics
- Expired drug intake program
- Memorandums of agreement with The Arc, Meridian, Answers, and Florida Health
- Community mobile support unit
- MAT (medicated aided treatment) planning process
- Future plans for the paramedicine program

Mr. Kornegay reported that the new county website is live and provided positive comments on agency response to Hurricane Debby.

Discussion – none

15. COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS – ROB BRADLEY

In response to a question made during public comments on how agricultural land is taxed, Mr. Bradley said that in order to receive the agricultural designation for assessment purposes, the property owner must apply to the property appraiser annually. The property appraiser's office will conduct an on-site inspection to ascertain whether the land is eligible for the agriculture designation.

16. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Andrews

- Mr. Bradley informed Ms. Andrews that the assessment process is the same for everyone in answer to her question about how taxes are calculated for property owners who reside on both public and private roads.
- In response to Ms. Andrews question about why the county cannot work on private roads when the property owners pay the same taxes as everyone else, Mr. Bradley explained that the concept is based on the fact that the developer did not invest much to develop the property; consequently, the property was sold at a reduced price compared to properties that are county maintained.

Commissioner Dougherty

- Remarks acknowledging Clerk Thompson's earlier recommendation that the county reject developments that do not adhere to specific conditions set by the county, or that the buyer of a piece of property needs to acknowledge that they are buying onto a private road.
- Comments on the need to addresses questions and concerns regarding emergency operations before imposing a new revenue source.

Vice Chair Riddick

- Read into the record the resolution adopted by the board opposing the pro-abortion amendment to the Florida Constitution.

17. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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



CAROLYN SPOONER, CHAIR

ATTEST:

August 6, 2024
BoCC Meeting Minutes



DENNY THOMPSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD

MINUTES PREPARED BY:



RACHEL RHODEN, CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

Minutes approved by the BOCC during a scheduled meeting on: 09-03-2024