

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES

September 2, 2021

Governor Charley E. Johns Conference Center

945 N. Temple Avenue

Starke, FL 32091

Scheduled Meeting

Meeting Time 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner District 3 – Chair Joseph C. Dougherty
Commissioner District 4 – Vice Chair Danny Riddick
Commissioner District 1 – Carolyn Spooner
Commissioner District 5 – Diane Andrews

NOT PRESENT: Commissioner District 2 – Kenny Thompson

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager/County Attorney Will Sexton; Executive Assistant Alyssa Winston; Clerk of Court & Comptroller Denny Thompson; Chief Deputy Clerk Rachel Rhoden; Finance Director Dana Lafollette; Fire Rescue Director Allen Parrish; Emergency Medical Services Division Chief Dylan Rodgers; Fire Division Chief Ben Carter; and Public Works Director Jason Dodds.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dougherty called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Kate Ellison.
- Sherry Norman.

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. **APPROVAL OF: A RESOLUTION ([RESOLUTION NO. 2021-25](#)) OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA CONFIRMING PROCLAMATIONS OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
- B. **[APPROVAL OF:](#) CONTRACT BETWEEN BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE OPERATION OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTRACT YEAR 2021-2022.**
- C. **[APPROVAL OF:](#) EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT TO THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRADFORD COUNTY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND WILLIAM F. HAMILTON, M.D. FOR DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICES, UNIVERSITY PHYSICIAN SUPPORT SERVICES, UNIVERSITY NON-PHYSICIAN SUPPORT SERVICES AND FACILITY USE.**
- D. **[APPROVAL OF:](#) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF BRADFORD COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION FACILITIES FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.**
- E. **[APPROVAL OF:](#) DUAL CERTIFICATION – REQUEST FROM TAX COLLECTOR.**

(September 2, 2021, BoCC Meeting)

F. APPROVAL OF: PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY FOR MISCELLANEOUS HEALTHCARE FACILITIES POLICY WITH GENERAL STAR INDEMNITY COMPANY.

MOTION TO: APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.

MOVED BY: Vice-Chair Riddick

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Andrews

DISCUSSION: No discussion.

Chair Dougherty Conducted A Roll-Call Vote:

Commissioner Spooner: Aye

Commissioner Andrews: Aye

Vice Chair Riddick: Aye

Chair Dougherty: Aye

THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Chair Dougherty deviated from the order of the agenda and recognized Clerk Thompson for comments pertaining to the Fiscal-Year 2021-2022 budget.

3. CLERK REPORTS – DENNY THOMPSON

Clerk Thompson recognized Finance Director Dana LaFollette to provide [information](#) on the estimated General Fund Revenue based on various millage rate calculations and the total budget for Fiscal-Year 2021-2022.

DISCUSSION:

- Questions regarding budget increases between FY 2021 and FY 2022.
- Process of preparing budgets and comparing actual money spent.
- Request made for a detailed budget breakdown of each Constitutional Officer's budget for FY 2021-2022.
- Concerns expressed over using nonrecurring money to balance budget and the need to have spending match recurring revenue.

4. COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS - WILL SEXTON

A. REPORT AND UPDATE ON PENDING MATTERS.

Mr. Sexton presented a [PowerPoint presentation](#) outlining general information concerning the Fire Rescue Department and its proposed budget for FY 2021-2022: Budget expenditures - \$6,628,694.00; Anticipated Revenue -\$3,118,000.00; Needed Board Contribution - \$3,510,694.00 (Overall increase of \$653,547.00 over FY 20-21 budget).

Mr. Sexton advised the Board on options to fund and staff a new fire station in the southwest region – Brooker, which is reported to be experiencing a delay in emergency response - at an additional cost of approximately \$408,000.00.

(September 2, 2021, BoCC Meeting)

Chair Dougherty recognized Director Allen Parrish to briefly highlight various budget options for the Fire Rescue Department in FY 21-22.

- Option 1 - The minimum service level budget recommended for Board consideration.
- Option 2 – The minimum service level budget and \$408,000.00 to fund a new fire station in Brooker.
- Option 3 – The minimum service level budget; \$408,000.00 to fund a new fire station; and costs associated with the CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement).
- Option 4 – Includes cuts to the current FY 20-21 budget and level of service.

DISCUSSION:

- CARES funding in the Fire Rescue Budget.
- Service level factors into negotiations between the County and North Florida Starke ER (HCA).
- Budget hearing dates to approve tentative and final millage rate and budget.

B. PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION.

Mr. Sexton provided a [PowerPoint presentation](#) outlining general guidelines and information of the redistricting process to take place in Bradford County.

DISCUSSION:

- Concerns expressed in using prison population data against redistricting data.
- Minority population in Bradford County.
- Issues that took place during the last redistricting process.

C. PRESENTATION OF NEW ITEMS REQUESTED FOR FISCAL-YEAR.

Mr. Sexton provided a [PowerPoint presentation](#) outlining new items requested from the Public Works Department.

• 2 – Bush Hog, Inc. Batwing Mowers	\$36,000.00
• 1 – 2022 Mack GR64B Dump Truck	\$160,000.00
• 4 – 40 Cubic Yard, Standard Duty Roll Off Container – 22” Long	\$28,000.00
• 4 – 40 Cubic Yard, Standard Duty Octagon Receiver Container – 22” Long	\$36,000.00
• 4 - Weiler W330B Road Widener	<u>\$144,000.00</u>
Total New Items Requested	\$404,000.00

Mr. Dodds was recognized to provide a needs basis for each new item being requested.

DISCUSSION:

- Surplus of and selling used equipment to help generate revenue to cover some costs for new items requested.
- Projected productivity output from new items requested.
- Use of Weiler W330B Road widener machine.
- Use of gas tax funds.

(September 2, 2021, BoCC Meeting)

Mr. Sexton enquired of the Board if there was consensus to add the new items requested from Public Works into the tentative budget for adoption. There was no board response provided on adding new items requested into the tentative budget, there was only follow-up discussion of the following:

- Solid waste roll-off and receiver containers.
 - In response to the critical need of containers, Mr. Dodds advised that he could not recommend not replacing all four closed top containers, but that he could potentially get by with two open top containers. Mr. Dodds informed the Board that he is seeing a significant increase in solid waste at each collection site.
- Dump trucks
 - In response to the critical need of a dump truck, Mr. Dodds advised that he is needing to replace a dump truck that is being serviced weekly.

Mr. Sexton provided closing comments regarding past efforts to make budget cuts without cutting employees or services, and advised the Board that they are at the point of needing to make cuts that would ultimately impact services in order to address their budget concerns. Mr. Sexton stated that items requested by Mr. Dodds and Mr. Parrish are not fanciful wish list item, but are items needed to continue providing the current level of service.

Mr. Sexton reminded the Board of upcoming meetings scheduled on Thursday, September 16, 2021.

5. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – JASON DODDS. No reports.

6. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED [COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT \(CBA\) FOR FISCAL-YEARS 2021-2023 – IAFF LOCAL 4315](#)

CBA Presenters were Luke Polshek, IAFF 4315 President and Brian Dean, IAFF 4315 Vice President. Mr. Polshek stated that the purpose of coming before the Board was to continue CBA discussions.

DISCUSSIONS:

- Continue with CBA under current agreement until the County is in a better financial situation to negotiate.
- Concerns expressed in funding CBA increases.
- Concerns expressed in funding Fire Rescue without CBA increases given the County's financial situation.
- CBA 3% built in raises in respect to minimum wage standard.
- Retainage of current staff.

7. FIRE RESCUE REPORTS – ALLEN PARRISH. No reports.

Under Fire Rescue reports, Chair Dougherty requested that he be notified to participate in future CBA negotiations meeting.

8. SHERIFF REPORTS – GORDON SMITH. No reports.

9. CLERK REPORTS – DENNY THOMPSON. No reports.

Clerk Thompson provided comments in respect to taxes and available funding.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Riddick

- Comments pertaining to a Franchise Fee. Expressed interest in the County preparing its own letter to mail out to residents concerning a potential franchise fee.
- Stated that the Board needs to figure out a way to fund Fire Rescue.

Commissioner Andrews:

- Stated that the Board needs to figure out a way to fund Fire Rescue and consider a Franchise Fee.
- Comments regarding interest in accepting a private road within District 5.
- Potential inmate resources from Road prison, past airport in Gainesville.

Commissioner Spooner:

- Roadside mowing needed.
- Impacts on inmate labor due to prison closure.
- Requested detailed budgets from Constitutional Officers.
- COVID impact in Bradford County.
- Complete BoCC employee evaluations before the end of the year.

Before Chair Comments, Mr. Sexton informed the Board that the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) President has created a Select Committee on Broadband and is asking each County to designate one Commissioner to act as lead contact for their County. Chair Dougherty expressed interest in serving as lead contact but asked Mr. Sexton to look into whether he could serve since he serves on the FAC Board of Directors. With no objection from the Board, Mr. Sexton advised that he would submit Chair Dougherty's name as lead contact should there be no conflict of interest with him serving on the FAC Board of Directors.

11. CHAIR COMMENTS

- Comments pertaining to private roads and implementation of an MSTU (Municipal Service Taxing Unit).

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 P.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA




CHRIS DOUGHERTY, CHAIR

ATTEST: 

DENNY THOMPSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD

Minutes prepared by:

(September 2, 2021, BoCC Meeting)



Rachel Rhoden, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved by BoCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting on October 4, 2021.