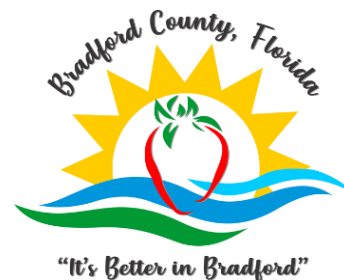


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

December 17, 2020  
County Commission Chambers  
945 N. Temple  
Starke, FL 32091

**IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC  
(Due to COVID-19)**



Regular Scheduled Meeting  
6:30 p.m.

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**PRESENT:** Commissioner District 3 - Chairman Chris Dougherty--ABSENT  
Commissioner District 4 - Vice-Chairman Danny Riddick  
Commissioner District 1 - Carolyn Spooner  
Commissioner District 2 - Kenny Thompson  
Commissioner District 5 - Diane Andrews

**ALSO PRESENT:** Rachel Rhoden, County Manager; Will Sexton, County Attorney; Alyssa Winston, Administrative Assistant; Dana LaFollette, Accountant, Finance Department; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Allen Parrish, Fire/Rescue Director; Jason Dodds, Public Works Director; Terry Vaughan, Supervisor of Elections; and Dylan Rodgers, Division Chief, EMS.

**CALL TO ORDER:** In the absence of Chairman Dougherty, Vice-Chair Riddick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**1. PRESENTATION – Plaque for Retiring Supervisor of Elections Terry Vaughan – Vice-Chairman Riddick:**

On behalf of the Commission, Vice-Chair Riddick presented the Honorable Terry L. Vaughan with a plaque recognizing him for his outstanding leadership and dedication to Bradford County.

Mr. Vaughan addressed the Commission and the public expressing his gratitude for the opportunity to serve; it has been the privilege of his life.

Vice-Chairman Riddick announced that items 2 and 3 have been removed from the agenda and will be addressed at the January 21 Regular Meeting.

- 2. PUBLIC HEARING – Adoption of Ordinance – Land Use Amendment Application No. S201118A (One Bradford County Starke Florida Trust) – Randy Andrews, Zoning Director:**
- 3. PUBLIC HEARING – Special Permit for Fill Borrow or Borrow Pit (Rayonier Forest Resources LP) – Randy Andrews, Zoning Director:**

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Vice-Chair Riddick recognized the following individuals who presented comments on the subject matter(s) noted:

**Carol Mosley** (Telephonic) ([Read Written Statement](#)):

- Expressed personal sentiments – Merry Christmas.

**Paul Still:**

- Urged the Commission to seek a written opinion from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council regarding the appeal process for Special Permits for Fill Borrow or Borrow Pits (Item #3 above) and a Special Permit for Mining.

**Tom Germano** ([Handout](#)):

- Presented comments regarding Item #3 above using the handout provided. Requested clarification to the acreage involved in the proposed sites.

Vice-Chairman Riddick stated that staff would look into the matter in an effort to have answers prior to the January 21 meeting.

**Mitchell Gunter:**

- Lack of lighting at the SR100 and SR16 interchanges on the bypass.
- CR21B and SR100 traffic signal.

**Tyler Orton** (President of Bradford County Sports, Inc., a youth/parent run organization):

- Presented comments advocating youth activities/recreation and requested a donation from the Commission to help with start-up fees.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Orton was asked to provide an itemized cost list for the Board's review and consideration.

Ms. Rhoden advised funding is available in the recreation budget. There is a Donation Request Form that would provide general information to justify the request. She will contact Mr. Orton to complete the form and possibly have it on the next agenda for the Board's consideration.

**5. APPROVAL AND/OR ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. PAYMENT OF BILLS – Reviewed by Commissioner Spooner** (The Distribution List is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)
- B. RESOLUTION – Confirming Proclamations of a Local State of Emergency** ([Resolution No. 2020-62](#))
- C. INVENTORY SURPLUS LIST**
- D. NOTIFICATION OF REDUCED EXCESS FEES**
- E. NOTICE OF EXCESS FEES PAID BACK**
- F. CONSIDER APPROVAL TO RESUME PRE COVID-19 COLLECTION EFFORTS AS NORMAL PRACTICES FOR DELINQUENT EMS ACCOUNTS**

Commissioner Thompson **MOVED to approve the [Consent Agenda](#)**. Commissioner Andrews **SECONDED the motion**.

Vice-Chairman Riddick conducted a roll-call vote:

Commissioner Spooner: Aye

Commissioner Thompson: Aye

Commissioner Andrews: Aye

Vice-Chairman Riddick: Aye

The **MOTION CARRIED 4-0**.

**6. COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS – Will Sexton: None.**

**7. COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS – Rachel Rhoden:**

- A. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) SOLICITATION OF TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) PROJECTS FOR FISCAL-YEAR 2027—Jason Dodds, Public Works Director:**

Ms. Rhoden reported that FDOT is soliciting [Transportation Alternative Program applications \(TAP\) for FY2027](#). There is a limit of two (2) applications and the deadline for submittal is January 15, 2021. The Board has been provided with a list of projects currently in TAP for FY2021-2026. Of the projects submitted during the last solicitation, a sidewalk on CR100A from Lincoln City Park to US301 was approved and is planned for 2026; a sidewalk on CR229 from Starke Elementary School to NW 177<sup>th</sup> Ave., including 177<sup>th</sup> Ave. to SR16 was not approved. The Board may resubmit the project that was not approved; and submit one additional project.

Hampton City Clerk Mary Lou Hildreth requests the Board consider submitting an application to pave the parking lot at Bobbie Sheppard Memorial Park at the Rails-to-Trails trailhead.

Public Works Director Jason Dodds addressed the Commission and recommended the following projects for submittal:

- CR229 from Starke Elementary School to NW 177<sup>th</sup> Ave., to include 177<sup>th</sup> Ave., to SR16. This would be a great benefit to the Pleasant Grove community.
- The Hampton project would be a great project as well.

There was some discussion.

Ms. Rhoden explained that after the Board designates projects for submittal, staff will reach out to the consultant engineer to help create a cost estimate, put an application together and bring it to the Board for consideration.

For clarification purposes, Ms. Rhoden recited the proposed projects to be submitted as TAP projects:

- CR229 sidewalk project from Starke Elementary School to NW177th Ave., including 177<sup>th</sup> Ave. to SR16.
- Sidewalk application to pave the parking lot at Bobbie Sheppard Memorial Park where the Rails-to-Trails trailhead will be located.

Commissioner Thompson **MOVED to approve the projects.** Commissioner Spooner **SECONDED the motion.**

Responding to inquiry by Commissioner Spooner, Mr. Dodds explained that this solicitation is for TAP projects, i.e. sidewalks, bike trails, etc.; SCRAP, SCOP, etc. get submitted in February.

Commissioner Andrews inquired about sidewalks in Brooker. Ms. Rhoden advised that sidewalks in Brooker may be submitted and is certainly something that could be added to a needs assessment. The TAP application cycle is available every year.

There being no further discussion, Vice-Chairman Riddick conducted a roll-call vote:

Commissioner Spooner: Aye

Commissioner Thompson: Aye

Commissioner Andrews: Aye

Vice-Chairman Riddick: Aye

**The MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Responding to the public comment presented by Mr. Gunter, Mr. Dodds advised that he has been in contact with FDOT regarding the lighting on the truck route and he will not stop until there is adequate lighting.

There was brief discussion of solar lighting versus conventional lighting.

Ms. Rhoden presented comments regarding her resignation, effective December 31, 2020, stating that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Board for the past nine (9) years in the County Manager's Office and expressed her gratitude for the Board's support. Ms. Rhoden asked the Board to consider appointing Will Sexton as Interim County Manager, effective January 1, 2021.

Each Commissioner expressed their appreciation to Ms. Rhoden for the excellent job she performed in the County Manager's Office.

There was discussion regarding procedural steps for appointing Mr. Sexton as Interim County Manager as consideration for the appointment was not on the published agenda.

Commissioner Andrews **MOVED to declare an emergency to consider the item.** Commissioner Thompson **SECONDED the motion.**

Commissioner Spooner stated that the position of County Manager is critical to leadership and asked that the January 4 agenda include discussion regarding moving forward with advertisement to fill the position.

Vice-Chairman Riddick conducted a roll-call vote:

Commissioner Spooner: Aye  
Commissioner Thompson: Aye  
Commissioner Andrews: Aye  
Vice-Chairman Riddick: Aye  
The **MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Commissioner Thompson **MOVED to appoint Mr. Sexton as Interim County Manager, effective January 1, 2021.** Commissioner Spooner **SECONDED the motion.**

Vice-Chairman Riddick conducted a roll-call vote:

Commissioner Spooner: Aye  
Commissioner Thompson: Aye  
Commissioner Andrews: Aye  
Vice-Chairman Riddick: Aye  
The **MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Vice-Chairman Riddick stated that the County is in good hands with Mr. Sexton as Interim County Manager and with an outstanding group department heads. He does not wish to rush into hiring a County Manager.

Commissioner Spooner stated that the idea is not to rush into it, but to begin the process, which could take months to complete. Mr. Sexton is very competent, but he should not have to be managing the County and performing his duties as legal counsel.

**8. SHERIFF REPORTS—Sheriff Smith: None.**

**9. CLERK REPORTS—Clerk Norman:**

**A. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR CLERK TO SPEND MORE THAN 1/12<sup>th</sup> OF ANNUAL APPROVED BUDGET FOR DECEMBER 2020 – DUE TO SEPARATION PAYOUTS**

Ms. LaFollette presented the request for consideration. Pursuant to Florida statute, outside Board approval, a Clerk leaving office is only allowed to spend 1/12<sup>th</sup> of their annual approved budget per month. In December, there are three payrolls and there are several employees separating from service and whom will be paid out for the balance of their personal leave time. This will likely cause an overage of the 1/12<sup>th</sup> allowed for December 2020, which requires Board approval.

*Commissioner Spooner **MOVED to allow the Clerk to spend more than 1/12th of the annual approved budget.** Commissioners Andrews **SECONDED the motion.***

*Vice-Chairman Riddick conducted a roll-call vote:*

*Commissioner Spooner: Aye*

*Commissioner Thompson: Aye*

*Commissioner Andrews: Aye*

*Vice-Chairman Riddick: Aye*

*The **MOTION CARRIED 4-0.***

**10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Spooner:**

- Reported on recent Town Hall meetings in her district and her plans to conduct such meetings once a quarter.
- Mr. Dodds is following up on a couple of safety concerns in Lawtey on CR200B and Strawberry Acres.
- Reported on numerous recent and future community events.
- Chairman Dougherty did a nice job presenting the County's concerns at last evenings' Legislative Delegation meeting.
- Requested the Board to consider scheduling a workshop to begin strategic planning for the County and to solicit input from constituents, business partners and stake holders.
- Reiterated her request to agenda discussion regarding the future County Manager.

**Commissioner Thompson:**

- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

**Commissioner Andrews:**

- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- Expressed appreciation to Mr. Dodds for the work being done in her district.

(12-17-2020 Regular Meeting)

**Commissioner Riddick:**

- Presented personal sentiments regarding the true meaning of Christmas and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**11. CHAIRMAN COMMENTS—Chairman Dougherty:** Absent.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Minutes approved by BoCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting of January 21, 2021.