

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD OCTOBER 15, 2007.**

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a **Regular Meeting** on Monday, October 15, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located at 210 South Main Street, Trenton, Florida, with the following members' present to-wit:

**Commissioner Randy Durden, Chairman**  
**Commissioner Tommy Langford, Vice Chairman**  
**Commissioner Kenrick Thomas**  
**Commissioner Sharon A. Langford**  
**Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr.**

**Others in Attendance**

Patricia Carter, Attorney, Jacki Johnson, Finance Director, Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk, Patty McCagh, Board Secretary, Ron McQueen, County Administrator, John Ayers, Gilchrist County Journal, Diane Rondolet, Code Enforcement, Julee Brideson, Justin Watson, Road Department Supervisor, Deputy Harvey Montgomery, GCSO, Sheriff Turner, Ron Mills, Emergency Management, H. Lee Mills, County Engineer, Taylor Brown, County Planner, Georgia Mills, Lee Schaltenbrand, Clement Lindsey, Brian MaGee and Lloyd Kelly, The Alexander Group, Mary Lou Rains, Gail Garrard, Joyce Ferrante, Fran Jones and Marianne Aderholt.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Randy Durden called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. with Commissioner Sharon Langford delivering the invocation and Commissioner Tommy Langford leading the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Durden introduced Attorney Patricia Carter, acting County Attorney, for John McPherson during his absence.

**Agenda Changes**

Mr. Gilliam, Clerk presented the following agenda changes:

1. Sheriff's Transfer Request for funds

Mr. McQueen, County Administrator presented the following agenda changes:

2. CDBG Complaint; Mary Lou Rain
3. Hart Springs Boat Ramp Bids
4. Lee Mills; Updates
5. Rolling Oaks Bids
6. DCA – CDBG Closeout

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Kenrick Thomas to accept the agenda as presented with changes noted. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Consent Agenda**

No Consent Agenda was presented.

## County Administrator's Report

CDBG; Complaint by Mary Lou Rain: Mr. McQueen presented a complaint by CDBG home rehabilitation recipient Mary Lou Rain. He stated that Ms. Rain was here to make a statement on the unsatisfactory work performed on her home.

Although Ms. Rain had signed off on the Certificate of Final Inspection, she had misinterpreted the word of the contractor stating that the work would have been completed to her satisfaction and that of the contract but he needed her sign off on the project in order to get more funds to complete the project.

Ms. Rain stated that the vinyl flooring that was put on her floor is not what she had picked out and of poor quality; the front door did not close as it should and the molding around the door was not stained; the windows that were ordered were too big and had to be cut down to fit.

Chairman Durden recommended that the Building Inspector and Mr. McQueen go out and look at the home to see if there are any problems that were signed off on that were not fixed and to see that the warranty items are fixed.

Commissioner Harrison stated that he would like to pursue with the recommendations made by Commissioner Durden and follow through with anything else that we can help Ms. Rain with. Board agreed.

## Road Department Report

Limerock Report for September 2007: Mr. Justin Watson, Road Department Supervisor presented the Limerock Report for the Townsend Pit for the month of September 2007 as follows:

• District 1	18	Loads
• District 2	45	Loads
• District 3	45	Loads
• District 4	26	Loads
• District 5	06	Loads
• CR 232	08	Loads
• Shop Stock Pile	53	Loads
• Solid Waste – 47	61	Loads
• EMS Station	<u>48</u>	<u>Loads</u>
	310	Total Loads

Brush Chipper: Mr. Watson asked the Board for permission to purchase a new Vermeer BC1000 Brush Chipper from Vermeer Southeast Sales & Service, Inc. in the amount of \$24,700.00, state contract.

***Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas Seconded by Commissioner Harrison to approve the purchase of a Brush Chipper from Vermeer Southeast Sales & Service, Inc. in the amount of \$24,700.00 on state contract, funded from Road Department budget. Motion carried unanimously.***

“Dangerous Intersection” signs: Mr. Watson addressed the issue of posting signs at the intersection of county roads 341 & 344. Mr. Lee Mills, County Engineer was present and he stated that if it is not in the standards for the signalization of an intersection, he does not recommend installing signs. Rumble strips have been installed. He stated this should be adequate.

*Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Harrison to rescind decision of the placement of “Dangerous Intersection” signs at the intersection of county roads 341 & 344 subject to recommendation of Lee Mills and Justin Watson; Acting County Attorney, Patricia Carter concurred. Motion carried unanimously.*

Lee Mills, County Engineers Report

Bids for Rolling Oaks 62<sup>nd</sup> Court & 67<sup>th</sup> Court: Mr. Mills presented the bid results for the paving of 62<sup>nd</sup> & 67<sup>th</sup> Courts at Rolling Oaks as follows:

- |                             |               |                  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| • Gerald’s Hauling & Paving | \$304,400.00  |                  |
| • Sanchez & Chesser         | \$355,790.90  |                  |
| • James Wilkerson           | \$248,580.00  |                  |
| • Anderson Columbia         | \$256,977.14  |                  |
| • Chris Little Enterprises  | \$216,960.00  |                  |
| • John C. Hipp Construction | \$202,310.00* | Apparent LOW Bid |

**BOCC requested that the Clerk’s Office and the County Administrator estimate the Cost per Parcel and Annual Pay Back for the paving of 62<sup>nd</sup> & 67<sup>th</sup> CT at Rolling Oaks with the LOW bid of \$202,310.00 from John C. Hipp Construction and bring back after meeting with Mr. Myers.**

CR 344 Update: Mr. Mills stated that there is one place along CR 344 where there is a “dip”. He stated that at this doesn’t seem to be a sink hole or the fault of the contractor. It’s not the way the road was at the time of paving and there seems to be some settlement. Mr. Mills stated that at this time he intends to hold the contract open.

**5:00 Time Certain**

Ordinance 07-19, Speed Limits: Chairman Durden read the short title as follows:

**ORDINANCE 07-19**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GILCHRIST COUNTY, FLORIDA; REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT ON ALL OR PORTIONS OF SOUTHEAST 97<sup>TH</sup> TRAIL, NORTHWEST 47<sup>TH</sup> PLACE, AND NORTHEAST 2<sup>ND</sup> COURT, FROM 55 MILES PER HOUR TO 30 MILES PER HOUR; MAKING FINDINGS IN SUPPORT OF REDUCED SPEED LIMITS; PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CODIFIER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Ordinance 07-19. Chairman Durden called for any Public Comments...none noted. Motion carried unanimously.*

## **County Administrator's Report**

### **Public Safety**

**Mitigation Grant for EOC:** Mr. McQueen presented the recommendation from Chief Carlos Perez, Public Safety Director to accept the offer from FEMA for the federal portion of the House Bill 7121 Grant in the amount of \$94,927.00.

Mr. McQueen stated that the State of Florida had committed to some numbers that they were not able to back up when it came to contract time. In order for this project to move forward they have sent these additional contracts down for the funds. He stated that if we accept the contract and sign today, the Alexander Group could move forward and we would have to make provisions for the shortfall in the amount of \$187,720.58.

Mr. McQueen stated that the State Florida and FEMA have scheduled a meeting for October 23<sup>rd</sup>, so we can submit an appeal.

Mr. McQueen stated that Mr. Perez is urging the Board to accept the offer so we can move forward. It is recommended that we go through the appeal process and put the burden on the State to assist us with the process. Our architect will insure that we have a better submittal that will satisfy FEMA's questions.

Mr. Joe Gilliam commented on determining the source for continuing to fund this project.

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to move forward project.***

Chairman Durden called for anymore questions or comments...

Discussion among the Board continued...

Commissioner Harrison called for question.

**Chairman Durden called for vote on question made by Commissioner Harrison.  
Motion failed 4-1, with Commissioner Harrison voting YES; discussion continued...**

The decision to place the project on hold until we find out if we won the appeal or to take out loan to proceed with the project has to be decided.

Mr. Lloyd Kelly with The Alexander Group, LLC, Construction Manager, for the EOC Project, addressed the Board. He reviewed changes that have already been made to the plans for the construction of the proposed EOC stating that he does not know what else can be compromised without cutting out office space.

Commissioner Tommy Langford stated that about three years ago, when this project was first brought to the drawing table, the estimate of \$1.2 million was proposed for the project; here it is three years later, when an actual design is drawn and numbers were put together the proposed estimate was \$1.6, with an increase of \$400,000.

Chairman Durden stated that it will not raise the special assessments for the citizens of Gilchrist County. He also stated that it would be awful to loose the \$500,000 that is already invested, to have to pay back the \$200,000 grant money that has already been received and spent, and loose the donated land.

Chairman Durden called for any further discussion and public comment...none noted; motion on the floor to move forward with appeal.

***Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Harrison voting NO.***

The Board agreed to accept the FEMA Grant, in the amount of \$94,927 with the Finance Department to bring back a recommendation on financing on where the funds would be budgeted from; and loan repayment of approximately \$188,000 (shortfall) needed to complete the project.

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to accept the new contract from DCA and to allow the Chairman to sign. Motion carried 4-0, with Commissioner Harrison voting NO.***

Update on Trenton Med Station: Mr. McQueen stated that med unit is in new quarters and is up and running.

#### Road Department

Monument in Right-of-Way: Mr. McQueen addressed the issue of a monument that has been placed in the county right-of-way. He stated that county attorney John McPherson has written a letter to the people who placed the monument asking them to remove it from the right-of-way. Code Enforcement, Diane Rondolet will work with the monument owners and the adjacent property owners.

#### Sheriff's Department

Jail Concerns: Mr. McQueen presented a request from the Sheriff in reference to renovations that need to be addressed at the jail. It was recommended that these short term renovations be addressed to the County Administrator and issues pertaining to such as population would be addressed at a Public Safety Coordinating Council meeting.

**The Board directed the Public Safety Committee to consider a long term action plan on housing alternatives and recommend plans on alternatives to incarceration.**

Radio Concerns: Mr. McQueen presented a request from the Sheriff to apply for the PSCI grant from Homeland Security grant approximately \$929,618 for Region 3. The Grant is an 80/20 grant and is being offered to the State of Florida to improve 700-800 MHz multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplined, public safety communications only.

***Motion made Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to move forward on Homeland Security Grant for communications (radios) with the match coming out of the Intergovernmental Communications Fund (\$12.50). Motion carried unanimously.***

**5:50 pm; Mr. McQueen was excused to attend the City of Trenton's meeting.**

#### Attorney's Report

Attorney Patricia Carter, acting County Attorney, presented the attorney's report on behalf of John McPherson during his absence.

Ordinance 07-17; Animal Control Regulation: Ms. Carter stated that Ordinance 07-17; Animal Control Regulations is noticed for adoption hearing at the first meeting in November.

Ordinance 07-19; Speed Limits: Ms. Carter stated that this ordinance was adopted earlier at this meeting.

Ordinance 07-20; Recreation MSTU Straw Vote: Ms. Carter stated that there is a draft of this ordinance in the packet for review and will be noticed for adoption hearing at the first meeting in November.

Resolution 07-45; Use of Motorized Vehicles in Hart Springs Park: Ms. Carter stated that consideration delayed in order to clarify the definition of “golf cart”.

New Jail: Ms. Carter stated that Mr. Rutherford had contacted ICE and that ICE says that Gilchrist County is not in the right place for ICE cells. There is not enough demand from the Gainesville Federal Courthouse and Gilchrist County is too far away from the interstate for transporting prisoners from other locations. Mr. Rutherford said he is exploring other options and John will report back on those options at the next meeting.

Saunders v. Gilchrist County: Ms. Carter stated that a draft stipulation of facts has been provided to Ms. Saunders’ attorney.

Claim against Gilchrist County by Matthew Wolf: Ms. Carter stated that a letter from our insurance carrier, PGCS has been received. She stated that the County would not be called upon to pay any medical bills because Mr. Wolf was a prisoner from Lancaster. It is the recommendation of Mr. McPherson that the Board agree to waive any right to go against Mr. Wolf for medical bills in order to allow settlement of this case.

### **Code Enforcement Report**

Lovelady Fine Assessments: Ms. Diane Rondolet addressed the issue of the property of Carol Lovelady. Ms. Lovelady finally brought her property into compliance and had written a letter to the Board asking that the fines that were imposed on her in the amount of \$22-23,000 be forgiven. Ms. Rondolet stated that Ms. Lovelady owns several parcels under the name of Southeastern. However, she also has ownership of the property right next door. Ms. Rondolet expressed that the fine not be considered to be forgiven in any manner until the other property is brought into compliance and that we at least recoup the costs expended by Code Enforcement, Hearing Officers, and the County Attorney.

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Harrison to deny the request of waiving or reducing the fines for code enforcement violations until ALL code violations are in compliance for Ms. Lovelady. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Clerks’ Report**

R.F.P. on Banking Services Recommendation: Mr. Gilliam stated that there were three bid proposals received. Once the bids were opened, Mr. Gilliam and Ms. Jacki Johnson reviewed the proposals, evaluated them then ranked them. Mr. Gilliam explained that normally on RFP’s, Staff reviews and ranks them (1-2-3), then they are set for a hearing before the Board and they present their case, then the Board will rank/score them.

**Board agreed to allow the three banks to come before them with an presentation on their RFP on Banking Services, 15 minute presentation at November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

Contract with Ted Burt on Land Purchase: Mr. Gilliam presented a contract with Ted Burt for the purchase of the property adjacent to the Courthouse parking area. Mr. McPherson has reviewed the contract and recommends entering into the contract. The survey and the appraisal are in the works.

*Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioners Tommy Langford to proceed with the Ted Burt land purchase and for Finance to bring back a finance package for the Boards consideration and allow the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.*

Dixie County Inmate Housing: Mr. Gilliam presented the invoice for inmate housing in Dixie County in the amount of \$8,050.79 for the month of September 2007. He stated that Attorney Patricia Carter pointed out that there was a discrepancy in the calculation of days. He recommended approving as is while he verifies days invoiced.

*Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Kenrick Thomas to approve the invoice for Dixie County Inmate Housing in the amount of \$8,050.79, subject to the clerk verifying the number of days invoiced. Motion carried unanimously.*

North Florida Economic Development Partnership request for member: Mr. Gilliam presented a request for member to represent the County from the North Florida Economic Development Partnership. Board agreed to consider.

**6:27 pm; Mr. McQueen has returned.**

Proclamation for Weatherization Day: Mr. Gilliam presented a request from the Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. asking the Board to consider a proclamation recognizing October 30, 2007 as "Weatherization Day". Chairman Durden read Proclamation 07-08.

#### **PROCLAMATION 07-08**

#### **A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 30, 2007 AS "WEATHERIZATION DAY"**

*Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Harrison to approve Proclamation 07-08. Motion carried unanimously.*

Proclamation "VFW" Appreciation Week: Mr. Gilliam presented a request from the Veteran's of Foreign Wars asking the Board to consider the week of November 11-17, 2007 as "Veteran's Appreciation Week". Chairman Durden read Proclamation 07-09.

#### **PROCLAMATION 07-09**

#### **A PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11-17, 2007 AS "VETERAN'S APPRECIATION WEEK"**

*Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Proclamation 07-09. Motion carried unanimously.*

Childhood Development Services, Inc.: Mr. Gilliam presented a request from the Childhood Development Services, Inc. asking the Board for matching funds of \$5,000.00 for the Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

**The Board had previously approved Early Learning Coalition \$5,000.00 in budget for FY07/08.**

Mills Engineering Invoices: Mr. Gilliam presented two (2) invoices from Mills Engineering as follows:

1. Evaluation of Gilchrist County Jail Facility \$11,650.00

***Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford to approve invoice to Mills Engineering on the evaluation of the Gilchrist County jail facility in the amount of \$11,650.00. Motion carried unanimously.***

2. Resurfacing GCR 344 from US129 to Suwannee River \$12,945.75

***Motion made Commissioner Harrison seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve invoice to Mills Engineering for the resurfacing of CR 344, in the amount of \$12,945.75. Motion carried unanimously.***

GCSO; Transfer of Funds: Mr. Gilliam presented a request from Sheriff Turner asking that the transfer of funds in the amount of \$5,113.48 **from** Law Enforcement Personal Services, \$14,171.61 **from** Judicial Personal Services, \$11,000.00 **from** Judicial Operating Expenses and \$5,000.00 **from** Communications Capital Outlay **to** Law Enforcement Operating Expenses.

He also requested \$2,363.24 **from** Corrections Personal Services and \$10,000.00 **from** Judicial Personal Services **to** Corrections Operating Expenses.

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve the transfer from the GCSO Budget as submitted in his letter to the Board dated October 12, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **County Administrator's Report**

#### **Monument Courtyard**

Quote from TR Engineering LLC: Mr. McQueen presented a proposal for the monument courtyard from TR Engineering LLC in the amount of \$3,000.00. He also stated that the City of Trenton would like partner with the County on this project and using CRA funds.

***Motion made by Commissioner Harrison seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve proposal from TR Engineering LLC in the amount of \$3,000.00 and move forward with the Gilchrist County monument courtyard. Motion carried unanimously.***

#### **Animal Control**

Monthly Report for September 2007: Mr. McQueen presented a new format that Animal Control will use to present their monthly report.

Florida Animal Control Association 2007 Conference: Mr. McQueen presented a request for travel and attendance for Lynn Watson and Mike Burnett to the 2007 Animal Control Educational Conference to be held November 16, 17 in Clearwater, Florida.

***Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Tommy Langford to approve the Animal Control Officers attending the Educational Conference November 16/17, in Clearwater. Motion carried unanimously.***

Transfer of Impact fee for Sandy Baker: Mr. McQueen requested that the impact fee (case-by-case) be transferred for Ms. Sandy Baker. Ms. Baker is a “renter” paying the impact initially, with the property owner has agreed for her to move.

***Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford to approve the transfer of the impact fee for Sandy Baker. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Commissioner Reports**

#### Commissioner Kenrick Thomas

Bell Basketball Program: Commissioner Thomas asked the Board if they would like to support the Bell Basketball Program by purchasing a full size ad. The Commissioners agreed to donate \$20.00 each as a personal contribution for a \$100.00 ad in the program.

#### Commissioner Tommy Langford

Canvassing Board: Commissioner Langford stated that he received a package from the Supervisor of Elections requesting that the Board appoint a member to serve on the Canvassing Board. He stated that there is a Canvassing Board Workshop on November 30, 2007, registration fee of \$125.00. The Board appointed Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr. to serve as member of the canvassing board.

***Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve paying for the room and registration for Commissioner Harrison to attend the Canvassing Board Workshop on November 30, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.***

Road Closure Request: Commissioner Langford presented a Road Closure request from Johnny Taylor. He would like to close the south end of northeast 90<sup>th</sup> way, from his mail box back, which would be the last 250'. Mr. Taylor is the only person that lives on the road, but not the only property owner and people come up there turn around and go back out. Mr. Taylor told Commissioner Langford that he would put up a gate and be responsible of locking the gate.

Commissioner Langford stated that he told Mr. Taylor that he would present his request to the Board and if the Board wanted him to proceed, that he would take him an application.

***Motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas, to proceed on the Road Closing of NE 90<sup>th</sup> Way, by the property owner. Motion carried unanimously.***

CR 337: Commissioner Langford stated that he has talked with the contractor From Anderson Columbia and that they have done everything we have asked them to do. Mr. Lee Mills has signed off on the project and asked the Board to sign off, as well as, releasing the invoice that was held.

*Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford to sign off on CR 337 and release the remaining funds. Motion carried unanimously.*

Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr.: None noted.

Commissioner Sharon Langford: None noted.

Commissioner Randy Durden: None noted.

Old Business: None noted.

New Business: None noted.

Public Participation: None noted.

Adjourn: With there being no further business there was a motion made by Commissioner Tommy Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to adjourn. Chairman Durden adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Approved:

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Randy Durden, Chairman

Attest:

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Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk