

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD FEBRUARY 4, 2008.**

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a **Regular Meeting** on Monday, February 4, 2008, at 1:15 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 Tommy Langford, Chairman
Commissioner Sharon A. Langford, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Randy Durden
Commissioner Kenrick Thomas
Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr.

Others in Attendance

John McPherson, County 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, Administrative Assistant, Justin Watson and Billy Cannon, Road Department, Chief Perez, Public Safety, Ron Mills, Emergency Management, Lee Mills, County Engineer, Julie Harrison and Donna Creamer, Pure Water Wilderness, Russ Augsburg, Ron Pickel and Joyce Ferrante.

Call to Order

Chairman Tommy Langford called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. with Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr. delivering the invocation and Commissioner Randy Durden leading the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Changes

- Mr. Gilliam, Clerk presented the following agenda changes:
 1. Omit: Time Certain 1:45 pm, Chamber of Commerce (cancelled)
 2. Addition: Time Certain 1:45 pm, Pure Water Wilderness, Donna Creamer
 3. Addition: Bid results on financing for Rolling Oaks Special Assessment Project

- Mr. McQueen, County Administrator presented the following agenda changes:
 4. Addition: Ben Withers, Hart Springs Boat Ramp Project
 5. Addition: S.H.I.P.; David Reeves, Emergency Award and Janice Crawford, Subordination
 6. Addition: Building Department; Request to appoint Michael Faught to Construction Board
 7. Addition: Code Enforcement; ALERT Team
 8. Addition: Monument Update

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to accept the agenda as presented with changes noted. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Bills
Supplement to the Agenda Packet
- Budget Entries
BE08-015, Fund 001, General Fund.....\$7,929.00
BE08-017, Fund 001, General Fund.....\$ 615.00
BE08-018, Fund 140, Transportation.....\$2,148.14

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

County Administrator’s Report

Mr. Ron McQueen, County Administrator, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues, for the consideration of the Board.

Public Safety

- EOC Update: The progress of construction at the new Emergency Operations Complex was addressed as a power point presentation was shown by Chief Perez.
- Squad Truck: Chief Perez also addressed the issue of the bids for the new Squad Truck. The Board agreed that the bids for a new Squad Truck be reconsidered with new specifications and be put back out for bid.
- FY09 Budget for Fanning Springs and Trenton Fire Department: Discussion of funding Fanning Springs and Trenton Fire Departments took place. *No Board action*, at this time.
- Incident Management Team Position: The Division of Emergency Management will be establishing three teams to comply with generally accepted federal, state and local incident management team structures, and will serve as the core team to be augmented by other positions necessary based on the type, magnitude and length of the mission. At this time, the Board agreed **NOT** to provide a person to be part of the Incident Management Team.
- Animal Control: The monthly report for Animal Control was an additional handout for the Board’s information. Mr. McQueen stated that he was meeting with Mr. Jared Ottenwess, City Manager, to finalize the funding formula for the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Trenton.

Time Certain 1:30

- Ordinance 08-01; English as Official Language: Chairman Langford read the Short title as follows:

ORDINANCE 08-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GILCHRIST COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion made by Commissioners Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve Ordinance 08-01. Motion carried unanimously.

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Ron McQueen, County Administrator, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues, for the consideration of the Board.

S.H.I.P.

- **Approval of David Reeves Emergency Request:** The request for roof repairs for David Reeves was requested by the SHIP Administrator. Two bids were received, both exceeding the limit of the SHIP award, in the amount of \$5,000. The applicant is aware that the family will be responsible for the extra expense that will be incurred.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Harrison to approve the emergency award of roof repairs for David Reeves, in the amount of \$5,000. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Approval of Subordination for Janice Crawford:** Request for subordination for Janice Crawford. This loan will replace the variable rate loan with a fixed rate loan and allow her to make improvements. The homeowner will be including an extra 1.5 acres to first mortgage and only has three years left on SHIP pending current appraisal.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Subordination for Janice Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.

Memorial Courtyard Update

- **TR Engineering, LLC; Gilchrist County Parking Improvements:** A proposal was submitted for the preparation of plans and permitting for parking improvements along SE 2nd Avenue, between US 129 and SE 1st Street, with the total engineering fee to not exceed \$6,800.00, from TR Engineering. The plans will detail the parking areas, roadway improvements and signage, and relocation of utility services. The design will be coordinated with the City of Trenton and the FDOT; permitting through the SRWMD will also be included. It was suggested that the upfront costs for Fees and Services be taken out of General Fund Reserve.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden that the \$6,800 engineering fees from TR Engineering LLC, be paid out of General Reserve for the preparation of plans and permitting of parking improvements along SE 2nd Avenue, between US 129 and SE 1st Street. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Letter to the Editor; re: Confederate Monument:** It was suggested that Mr. McQueen invite Mr. Ted Henley to attend Board meeting and express his concerns in reference to the Confederate Monument.

Code Enforcement

- **Monthly Report:** Ms. Diane Rondolet submitted the Code Enforcement Monthly Report for February 4, 2008, for the Boards' information.

- ALERT Team: The ALERT Team will be assisting in Gilchrist County with cleanup and minor repairs. Ms. Diane Rondolet requested that the Board provide dumpsters and waive the fee's to assist the Team in helping the citizens of Gilchrist County.

Motion made by Commissioner Harrison seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to assist the ALERT Team by providing dumpsters and waiving fees. Motion carried unanimously.

Time Certain 1:45pm

- Pure Water Wilderness: Ms. Donna Creamer, Executive Director of Pure Water Wilderness, presented to the Board an update on what the grant money had been used for, this included the costs for articles and advertisements promoting the region for 2008. She also informed the Board that PWW will be hosting the next *Original* Florida Meeting, February 21 at Wacassassa Plantation, extending an invitation to the Commissioners to meet with folks from other areas of tourism. On August 26th, the Third Annual Tourism Summit will be held at Pine Grove Baptist Church.

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Ron McQueen, County Administrator, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues, for the consideration of the Board.

Vehicle Maintenance Log: A copy of the Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners Vehicle Maintenance Log was presented for the Boards' review. The logs are being utilized at this time. Upon completion of a policy being prepared by Mr. McPherson, County Attorney, the daily logs will be utilized.

Building Department

- New Construction Board Member: The request from the Gilchrist County Construction Board was presented to the BOCC, for final approval of a newly chosen contractor to fill the vacancy of the resignation of Dick Edwards. At the last Construction Meeting, the Board chose Michael Faught, a Class A, Certified A/C Contractor, since March 2003, for that vacancy. Mr. Faught is the owner and operator of Akins Heating & A/C, Inc. and is a long-time county resident.

Motion made by Commissioner Harrison seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve the appointment of Michael Faught to serve as member on the Gilchrist County Construction Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Time Certain 2:00pm

- Hart Springs Boat Ramp: Contractor, Ben Withers, and County Engineer, Lee Mills addressed the Board with issues on the construction of the new boat ramp at Hart Springs.

Mr. Mills addressed the issue of the specification requirements that were not met for the columns that were installed by the contractor, Ben Withers.

There had also been a report from a resident at Hart Springs that when the contractor was pile driving, using a vibratory pile driver, that the vibrating was causing damage to the structure of her home.

Ben Withers, Contractor for the Hart Springs Boat Ramp project, addressed the Board explaining that the diameter of the pipe and the wall thickness noted on the plans spell out an ASTM 53, 10" pipe, with a term called "extra strong". He stated that this term is a wide open door, with pipe sizes ranging anywhere from less than ¼" up to ½". He stated that the ASTM 53 that is spelled out on the plan is exactly what he used on the project. Mr. Withers stated that there was a miscommunication between him and Mr. Chancey with Mills Engineering, making him aware of what he was using and time went by. Mr. Withers recommended to the engineering firm, and submitted to them, an option of going in and taking the existing piles, which are ASTM 53, 10" piles, adding rebar and fill them with concrete making them much stronger than as if he would have used the ½" steel, at no cost to the County.

Discussion continued...

Commissioner Durden directed a question to Mr. Mills, asking if he agrees with Mr. Withers synopsis that if he does what he is talking about doing, that it would be just as good if he had used ½" pipe. Mr. Mills stated that subject to him getting to review Mr. Withers engineers' information personally and for him to duplicate those calculations, it appears that it will, but subject to that being the case and him being convinced of the case that pulling them and re driving will open up more conversations about damaged, leading to one thing after another and giving exposure to the project.

Discussion continued...

Mr. Mills stated that he thinks this is a satisfactory fix and wants to reserve the right, at this point in time, to say "yes, its equivalent", or "no, its not", after reviewing it.

Chairman Durden stated that as long as Mr. Mills says its fine, he has no problem with it, but in addition he wants a letter from Mr. Withers stating that the specifications will be met. Mr. Withers stated that he has no problem with that.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to allow Mr. Withers to submit his alternate proposal and be allowed to move forward with the project per the approval Mr. Lee Mills, County Engineer; also requesting a letter from Mr. Withers supporting and backing up his engineering and calculations. Motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr. voting NO.

Legislation Day: Request for travel to allow two (2) Commissioners (Randy Durden and D. Ray Harrison) to attend Legislation Day and CCC Training, in Tallahassee, on March 26 & 27, 2008.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Harrison to approve travel request for two Commissioners to attend Legislation Day. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney's Report

Mr. John McPherson, County Attorney, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues, for the consideration of the Board.

Ordinance 08-01; English as Official Language: Adoption hearing was held scheduled at today's meeting, for a time certain at 1:30pm. Board approved.

Ordinance 08-03; Additional Homestead Exemption: To be noticed for adoption hearing at the February 18, 2008 meeting. Mr. McPherson stated that at the past legislative session, the Legislature added another \$25,000 to this potential exemption, to make it a total possible additional exemption of \$50,000. He stated that he drafted the ordinance title so that the Commission could go up to the statutory maximum, and not be limited to the \$25,000 mentioned at a previous meeting.

Ordinance 08-04; Creating of Rolling Oaks Special Assessment District: To be noticed for adoption hearing at the "Special Meeting" to be held on February 26.

Rolling Oaks Special Assessment District: As noted above, the ordinance creating the district will be noticed for adoption hearing at the February 26th meeting. The Property Appraiser and Tax Collector agreed to allow the hearing on whether to use the Uniform Method (tax bill) to collect the assessment. (Such agreement by the Property Appraiser and Tax Collector is required if the hearing is held between January 1 and March 1 rather than prior to January 1.) Notices for the Uniform Method hearing on February 26 will be published once per week for 4 weeks as required by statute.

Saunders v. Gilchrist County: Mr. McPherson stated that he is working on Reply Brief.

Gilchrist County v. Richard: Mr. McPherson stated that he is working on Motion for Summary Judgment.

Animal Control Interlocal Agreement: Ron McQueen is working with the cities to come up with a funding formula to put in the revised animal control agreement.

Clerk's Report

Mr. Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk of Court, presented the following documents, and/or addressed the following issues, for consideration of the Board.

Resolution 08-15 & BE08-014: Amending the annual budget for the Emergency Medical Services Fund (410) for FY07/08, with an increased amount of \$1,043.00, by the receipt of unanticipated funds, which represents the additional grant award for the EMS Grant Program from the Florida Department of Health. Chairman Langford read the short title as follows:

RESOLUTION 08-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AMENDING THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FUND BUDGET

Motion made by Commissioner Harrison seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Resolution 08-15 and BE08-014. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 08-16 & BE08-016: Amending the annual budget for the Transportation Trust Fund (140) for FY07/08, with an increased amount of \$22,457.00, by the receipt of unanticipated funds, which represents the proceeds from the sale of surplus equipment. Chairman Langford read the short title as follows:

RESOLUTION 08-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND BUDGET

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve Resolution 08-16 and BE08-016. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue Report (Hart Springs & Building Department) and Historical Report for Hart Springs: A recap was submitted for the Boards' information.

Payment Request: The Alexander Group, LLC submitted for payment, Pay Request #4, in the amount of \$142,809.06, for the Emergency Operations Complex. The request was reviewed and approved by the architect, The Rickman Partnership.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve Pay Request #4, in the amount of \$142,809.06, to the Alexander Group. Motion carried unanimously.

Change Order #6; Alexander Group: Change Order #6, from the Alexander Group, was presented in the amount of (\$85,729.88), for owner direct purchases for the EOC, from Jasper Thompson, Coreslab Structures and Overhead Door of Gainesville.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve Change Order #6, in the amount of (\$85,729.88) from the Alexander Group, for owner direct purchases. Motion carried unanimously.

Application for Payment in Lieu of Taxes: The Application for Payment in Lieu of Taxes Application, in the amount of \$17,817.96, was provided to the Board for informational purposes. No action was required.

Bid Results on Financing for the Rolling Oaks S.A.D. Paving Project: Three (3) bids were received for the financing of the Rolling Oaks Special Assessment District Paving Project. They are as follows:

	<u>10 Years</u>	<u>20 Years</u>	<u>25 Years</u>
1. Ameris Bank	3.96% Fixed	3.95%, Variable, Adjust Every 5 yrs; 25% < Prime Rate Wall Street Journal	NO Bid
2. Capital City		4.475% for 3 Years; Adjust To 65% of JP Morgan Prime	NO Bid
3. Drummond Community Bank		5.13% Fixed for 5 Years; Balloon and Re-Establish Loan	Same as 20yr

Discussion continued on determining the financing options for the Rolling Oaks project...

Board agreed for the Finance Department to secure a financing source, for the Rolling Oaks S.A.D. Paving Project, on a fixed rate for 15 and 20 year loan, in the amount of \$202,310.

Time Certain 4:30pm

Road Department Report

- **Timber Jack:** Mr. Justin Watson, Road Department Supervisor, presented a list of costs for repairs done to the #36 Timber Jack. As of mid-month January, 2008, the total cost & repairs for the timber Jack was \$10,004.34. Knowing that the Road Department can't afford a new piece of equipment, Mr. Watson presented the request for it to be repaired, once again. Mr. Watson invited Mr. Ron Pickles, Mechanic, to address the Board on the life expectancy of the Timber Jack.

Mr. Pickles explained that the life expectancy of this piece of equipment could be extended with the proper repairs. He feels he can perform these repairs, being one of the only mechanics with the experienced knowledge to do so and for as old as the Timber Jack is, parts are becoming obsolete and harder to order.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve repairs for the Timber Jack, not to exceed \$5,000; costs to be funded out of Maintenance and Repairs in the Road Departments Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Fuel Budget:** Mr. Watson presented a breakdown on the fuel used by the Road Department, comparing a four (4) day work week to a three (3) day work week for the operation of dump trucks and graders.

He stated that the estimated savings for running dump trucks and graders, on a three (3) day schedule, is \$2,796.00 per month; with eight (8) months left in the budget year, the total estimated savings will be \$22,376.00; also, when going to a three day schedule in grading, we will be losing sixty (60) miles per week, at twelve (12) miles per grader, per day.

He also stated that by going to a three (3) day schedule, for hauling rock, the estimated savings would be \$210.00 per week and an estimated savings of \$840.00 per month on materials; for the remainder of the year, the total estimated savings, for the cost of rock, will be \$6,720.00.

Mr. Watson asked for direction from the Board on which schedule to utilize, 3 or 4 day work week...

The Board agreed to back up whatever decision that Mr. Watson, as Road Department Supervisor, will choose to utilize for cutting costs. The Boards' agreement also included to help with taking phone calls (complaints), from the public, when the work performance/maintenance is cut back.

- **Welder Quotes:** Mr. Billy Cannon, Road Department Assistant Supervisor, presented two (2) quotes on a new welder for the shop at the Road Department.

He explained the reasons why it is so important to have a new welder. The quotes are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 1. Strate Welding Supply | \$2,027.00 |
| 2. Airgas, South | \$2,150.00 |

Discussion took place and a source for funding was determined; a transfer **from** Operating Expenses Rental & Leases **to** Capital Outlay will be made for the Road Department.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Randy Durden to approve the transfer, for the Road Department, from Rentals & Leases to Capital Outlay, to fund the cost for the purchase of a welder, in the amount of \$2,027.00, from Strate Welding Supply. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Kenrick Thomas: None noted.

Commissioner Randy Durden: None noted.

Commissioner Sharon Langford: None noted.

Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr: None noted.

Commissioner Tommy Langford: None noted.

Old Business: None noted.

New Business: None noted.

Public Participation: None noted.

Adjourn:

With there being no further business, Chairman Langford adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Board of County Commissioners
Gilchrist County, Florida

Tommy Langford, Chairman

Attest:

Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk