

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD MAY 19, 2008.**

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a **Regular Meeting** on Monday, May 19, 2008, 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 Tommy Langford, Chairman
Commissioner Sharon A. Langford, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Randy Durden
Commissioner Kenrick Thomas

Commissioner D. Ray Harrison, Jr. (Absent)

Others in Attendance

Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk, Jacki Johnson, Finance Director, Patty McCagh, Board Secretary, John K. McPherson, County Attorney, Ron McQueen, County Administrator, John Ayers, Gilchrist County Journal, Diane Rondolet, Code Enforcement, Julee Brideson, Administrative Assistant, Justin Watson, Road Department, Chief Perez, Public Safety, Ron Mills, Emergency Management, Taylor Brown, County Planner, Pat Fisher, Solid Waste, Lee Mills, County Engineer, Tammy Moore, Building Department, Lynn Watson, Animal Control Official, Bob McNamara and Jim Frauen with Seminole Electric, Russ Augsburg, Our Santa Fe River, Kyle Stone, Executive Director Chamber of Commerce, Donna Creamer, Pure Water Wilderness, Ben Dawson, Central Florida Electric Coop., Lee Mills, Mills Engineering Co., Lynn Johnson, Animal Rescue Friends, Marion & Edgar Poitevint, Annette Long, Save Our Suwannee, Inc., Alan Mikell, Joyce Ferrante, Libby Webster, Pamela Metzler, Ted Burt, E.J. Bisch, and G. Piasecki.

Call to Order

Chairman Tommy Langford called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. County Administrator, Ron McQueen delivered the invocation and Commissioner Sharon Langford led the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Changes

- Mr. Gilliam, Clerk presented the following agenda changes:
 1. Omit: 4:15 pm Time Certain; David Still, Executive Director, SRWMD
 2. Addition: Add Exhibit "A" to Tourist Development Plan BE08-046

- Mr. McQueen, County Administrator presented the following agenda changes:
 3. Addition: Lee Mills, Award of CR 232 Widening/Resurfacing Contract
 4. Omit: 6:00pm Time Certain; Oak Tree Landing – Rescheduled for 6/2/08 at 6:00pm

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to accept the Agenda as presented with changes noted. Motion carried 4-0.

Consent Agenda

- Budget Entries
BE08-048, Fund 001, General Revenue..... \$36,104.00

- Approval of Minutes
Regular Meeting..... April 21, 2008

- Request for Payment Approval
Dixie County Inmate Housing
(March 2008 — \$1,302.00 and April 2008 — \$1,932.00).....\$3,234.00
GCSO Equipment Grant Expenditures..... \$2,399.00
Gilchrist Soil and Water Conservation District.....\$8,895.33
(One-third of the Administrative Assistant I Salary for 10-01-07 to 9-30-08)
Mills Engineering Company
Invoice 2007104, Widening and Resurfacing GC Road 313..... \$4,174.50
Invoice 2006051, Widening and Resurfacing GC Road 232..... \$3,333.00
Invoice 2005063, Hazard Mitigation Grant Application for GC Jail.....\$2,287.50

Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

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.

Parks & Recreation

Log Landing

- Florida Boating Improvement Fund: Mr. McQueen addressed the issue of the boat ramp at Log Landing in need of repair from floods and high water during the past twenty years. A resolution was drafted requesting that a grant be submitted for building a new boat ramp to launch one boat at a time with sufficient ramp length to accommodate both high and low river launches. He presented Resolution 2008-48 for Board approval and Chairman Langford read the short title as follows:

RESOLUTION 2008-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GILCHRIST COUNTY, FLORIDA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT A FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT GRANT FOR LOG LANDING.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Resolution 2008-48. Motion carried 4-0.

Hart Springs

- Ben Withers Change Order #1: Mr. McQueen presented Change Order #1, in the amount of \$13,167.50, from Ben Withers; purchase order #80000903, for labor and material to pour an additional 6" concrete road apron for entryway on the Hart Springs Boat Ramp Project.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve Change Order #1, in the amount of \$13,167.50 to Ben Withers for concrete road apron at Hart Springs Boat Ramp Project. Motion carried 4-0.

- Update on Tree Removal: Mr. McQueen updated the Board on the tree removal at Hart Springs. He stated that tree service has removed the trees and the maintenance department has constructed a sidewalk from the bathhouse to the pavilion.

Road Department Report

- Update on County Road 232: Mr. Lee Mills, County Engineer, updated the Board on the Contractors concern about a start date on the CR 232 project. Mr. McQueen stated that the wetlands issue has been settled and we received a water management permit for the uplands sections. He also stated that a letter has been submitted to DOT requesting contingency funding, in the amount of \$610,000.00 and a time extension from June 30, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve moving forward and awarding bid (to LOW Bidder), Art Walker Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$4,056,759.66, and have Finance determine funding source for any costs incurred over the DOT Contract amount; and that the widening and resurfacing of CR 232 is to accommodate growth, therefore justifying the use of impact fees. Motion carried 4-0.

- Rolling Oaks SCRAP Project: Mr. Mills requested that the County Administrator and the County Engineer be authorized to approve all Change Requests, for repairs, on the Rolling Oaks SCRAP Project, within budget.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to authorize the County Engineer and County Administrator to approve Change Requests for repairs on the Rolling Oaks SCRAP Project. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Safety

- EOC Update: Chief Perez updated the Board on the progress of the construction at the new Emergency Operations Complex with a power point presentation.
- Animal Control: Mr. McQueen presented Mike Burnett's resignation as Animal Control Official.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to accept Mike Burnett's resignation as Animal Control Official. Motion carried 4-0.

- Request for Full-Time Position Advertisement: Mr. McQueen requested permission to move forward with advertising for the full-time position in the Animal Control Department.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve the request to advertise for full-time position, in the Animal Control Department. Motion carried 4-0.

Sheriff's Office

- A/C Repair in the Training Center: Mr. McQueen addressed the issue of repairing the outside air conditioning unit in the Training Center at the GCSO Firing Range. Michael Faught, Akins Heating & Air, was called to come down and inspect the unit and found that it is not repairable, although the inside handler system maybe repairable. He quoted the price of \$3,000.00 if handler system works, if not, total price \$5,700.00. It was suggested that the cost for repairs be funded out of Other Buildings.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve replacing the air conditioning unit in the Training Room at the Firing Range from Akins Heating & Air, in the amount of \$5,700.00; to be funded out of Other Buildings. Motion carried 4-0.

S.H.I.P.

- SHIP Loan Approvals: Mr. McQueen presented three (3) requests for Ship Loans, recommended by the SHIP Loan Review Committee for the following applicants:

1. Jace McConnell \$21,500.00

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve SHIP Loan for Jace McConnell, in the amount of \$21,500.00. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Connie Wheeler \$40,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve SHIP Loan for Connie Wheeler, in the amount of \$40,000.00. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Brittney Ridenour \$32,757.94

Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve SHIP Loan for Brittney Ridenour, in the amount of \$32,757.94. Motion carried 4-0.

LUCA Update: Mr. McQueen updated the Board on the results of the 911 address corrections that were submitted to the Census Bureau.

4:30 pm Time Certain

Road Department

- Monthly Limerock Report: Mr. Justin Watson, Road Department Superintendent, presented the monthly limerock report for the Townsend Pit as follows:

District 1	32	Loads	46	Loads paid for
District 2	23	Loads	02	Loads paid for
District 3	37	Loads	14	Loads paid for
District 4	06	Loads	02	Loads paid for
District 5	15	Loads	21	Loads paid for
Rolling Oaks	37	Loads		
Shop Stock Pile	<u>16</u>	<u>Loads</u>		
Monthly Total	166	Loads	85	Loads paid for

County Administrator's Report Continued...

Small County Coalition Meeting: Mr. McQueen addressed the upcoming Small County Coalition Meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 11th at the Governor's Club in Tallahassee. This is a one day event. All four (4) Commissioners and County Administrator will be attending. **Board approved same day travel.**

FDEP; Consolidated Solid Waste Grant Application: Mr. McQueen presented the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Solid Waste Grant Application. The grant is in the amount of \$277,316.00. He requested that the Board approve and allow the Chairman to sign.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve the FDEP Grant Application for Solid Waste and to allow the Chairman to sign. Motion carried 4-0.

Parrish Land Surveying; Survey Cost Proposal: Mr. McQueen addressed the issue of a land survey, for the donated land beginning on the South right of way line of CR 342, along CR NW 40th Avenue extending southward and terminating on the centerline of SW 10th Street. A

proposal from Parrish Land Surveying was presented in the amount of \$3,775.00. It was suggested that the cost for this proposal be funded out of Special Projects.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve Survey Proposal from Parrish Land Surveying, in the amount of \$3,775.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Gilchrist County Public Library: Mr. McQueen addressed the issue of an accident that had taken place in the parking lot at the library. The parking lot is not adequate for the patrons visiting the library. He recommended that the lot behind the library be considered for additional parking. The Board suggested that Justin Watson take a look at the vacant lot and bring back a recommendation.

Gilchrist County School Board; Support for FCT Grant Application: Mr. McQueen presented a letter from the School Board supporting the application for the Florida Communities Trust Grant for the Gilchrist Regional Sports Park and Preserve. The School Board pledges its support of this project with a commitment to provide a sidewalk in front of Bell Elementary School. *No Board action required.*

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Committee; Hart Springs Boat Ramp - Phase II: Mr. McQueen presented Amendment No. 1 (Contract No. 06076; FBIP, Hart Springs Boat Ramp Phase II) extending the project completion date until December 15, 2008 and extending the term of the agreement until December 15, 2028. He is requesting the Boards approval of the extension and for the Chairman to be allowed to sign the amendment.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve Amendment #1 and allow the Chairman to sign. Motion carried 4-0.

4:45 pm Time Certain

Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc.: Mr. Bob McNamara, Director of Engineering and Jim Frauen, Director of Project Engineering with Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. presented to the Board a 30-minute information power point presentation consisting of the following:

- Introduction of Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Power Plant 101
- Seminole's Gilchrist County Property Location
- Seminole's Potential Development Plans
- Summary and Next Steps

No Board action required at this time.

Attorney's Report

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

Political Activity by County Employees: Mr. McPherson was asked to bring back any policy/law stating that a County Employee can support a candidate by wearing/displaying

campaign advertisements. He stated that the law is basically this: the County has sufficient interest in preserving a peaceful and efficient workplace to limit political activity while employees are “on duty.” It does not have sufficient interest to limit protected political expression when employees are “off duty.” He stated that he will continue to find guidance on what should be considered “on duty” and “off duty” and that the County should come up with its own (reasonable) guidelines. He will continue to work with the Clerk and County Administrator to come up with some proposed language for our policy manual.

Saunders v. Gilchrist County: Mr. McPherson stated that without a hearing, the Court granted Ms. Saunders more time to file her already late reply brief. Her attorney argued that he needed more time to get a transcript of the code enforcement hearing. The attorney has ordered tapes of the meeting and they have been provided to him.

Gilchrist County v. Richard: Mr. McPherson stated that he will be monitoring Ms Richards’ compliance with the court order.

Value Adjustment Board Legislation: Mr. McPherson addressed the issue of the Legislature changing the law relating to the establishment and operation of value adjustment boards. It could have been worse for small counties like Gilchrist: the rumor was that the original version requiring small counties, like large counties, to hire special magistrates to make the initial factual findings had passed. But that did not occur; the bill that passed does not extend this requirement to small counties. What the bill does do, however, is change the composition of the VAB, require that outside counsel be hired to represent to VAB, and require training of the new VAB members and/or the new outside counsel.

Thus, the following needs to be done:

1. A meeting of the existing VAB needs to be noticed and held soon; the Board of County Commission needs to go ahead and propose some possible meeting times to the School Board.
2. The VAB should issue an RFQ for outside counsel. I have received a form for this and can have a draft RFQ ready for the VAB meeting.
3. The VAB will need to meet again to select outside counsel.
4. The County Commission and the School Board will need to select the members of the newly constituted VAB.
5. Outside counsel and/or the new VAB members will need to attend the training for special magistrates to be provided by the Department of Revenue.
6. The newly constituted VAB will need to hold an organizational meeting after September 1.

The Board agreed that a meeting of the current VAB members needs to be held to set up procedures and establish a policy on the changes relating to the VAB Laws.

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.

Audit Proposal Recommendation: Mr. Gilliam presented the following results from the oral presentations for audit services for FY2008. The results are as follows:

Committee Member	Davis Monk		Purvis Gray		Powell & Jones	
	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank
#1	96	(1)	92	(2)	83	(3)
#2	97	(1)	95	(2)	81	(3)
#3	86	(2)	90	(1)	81	(3)
#4	96	(2)	94	(3)	97	(1)
#5	76	(1)	69	(2)	67	(3)
Total	451	(7)	440	(10)	409	(13)

Mr. Gilliam’s recommendation was to retain Davis, Monk & Company for auditing services, in the amount of \$69,000.00 for FY 2008.

Motion made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve the proposal, in the amount of \$69,000.00, from Davis, Monk & Company for FY2008 Auditing Services. Motion carried 4-0.

BE08-046; Tourist Development Council: Mr. Gilliam presented a budget adjustment from General Revenue to provide budget for the Tourist Development Council; funded by the Tourist Development Tax, in the amount of \$21,020.00. Mr. McQueen presented and reviewed Exhibit “A” requesting to amend the budget with the title as follows:

**Exhibit “A”
Gilchrist County Tourist Development Council
Tourist Development Revised Plan and Budget
2007-2008 Budget**

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve BE08-046 and the Tourist Development Council Exhibit “A”, FY2007-2008 amended budget, in the amount of \$21,020.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 08-49 & BE08-47; Transportation Trust Fund: Mr. Gilliam presented Resolution 08-49, amending the Transportation Trust Fund budget with an increase of unanticipated funds, in the amount of \$5,353.60, which represents the reimbursement of salaries, benefits, lime rock and fuel used to provide site preparation at the Public Safety Complex.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharon Langford seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve Resolution 08-49 & BE08-47, in the amount of \$5,353.60. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Reports

None noted at this time.

Old Business: None noted.

New Business: None noted.

Public Participation: None noted.

Adjourn:

With there being no further business, Chairman Langford adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Board of County Commissioners
Gilchrist County, Florida

Tommy Langford, Chairman

Attest:

Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk