

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
Regular Meeting &
Board Reorganization
November 17, 2009**

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Desloge presiding. Present were Commissioners Akinyemi, Thaell, Proctor, Rackleff, Dailey, and Sauls. Also present were County Administrator Parwez Alam, County Attorney Herb Thiele, and Board Secretary Rebecca Vause.

The Invocation was provided by Chairman Bryan Desloge who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Awards and Presentations:

- Commissioner Akinyemi presented a Resolution to the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in Recognition of its Donation of 150 Net Books to the LeRoy Collins Leon County Library
- Mike Pate, Knight Foundation Director, accepted the Resolution and stated that the Foundation has been working with the community for almost 50 years and approximately \$22 million have been returned to the community as a result of the Foundation's work.

Consent:

Commissioner Thaell moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Sauls, to approve the all items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

1. **Approval of Minutes: October 13, 2009 Joint City/County Commission Meeting to Approve Selection of Construction-Manager for the Public Safety Complex; October 13, 2009 Joint City/County 2009-2 Comp Plan Adoption Hearing/2010-1 Transmittal Public Hearing, and October 13, 2009 Regular Meeting.**

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of the October 13, 2009 Joint City/County Commission Meeting to Approve Selection of Construction-Manager for the Public Safety Complex; October 13, 2009 Joint City/County 2009-2 Comp Plan Adoption Hearing/2010-1 Transmittal public Hearing, and October 13, 2009 Regular Meeting.

2. **Approval to Issue a Notice of Contract Renewal for Enhanced 9-1-1 Services with Plant/CML/AK Associates**

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the issuance of a Notice of Contract Renewal for Enhanced 9-1-1 system services with Plant/CML/AK Associates.

3. **Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers Submitted for November 17, 2009, and Pre-Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers for the Period of November 18 through December 7, 2009: \$1,549,048**

The Board approved Option 1: Approve Payment of Bills and Vouchers Submitted for November 17, 2009, and Pre-Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers for the Period of November 18 through December 7, 2009: \$1,549,048

4. Approval of the Appropriation of Drug Court Fund Balance to Reconcile Final FY 2009 Adult Drug Court Expenses

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Resolution and Associated Budget Amendment Request to appropriate fund balance for the Adult Drug Court program final FY 2009 expenses.

5. Ratification of Actions Taken at the October 27, 2009 Workshop on Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment

The Board approved Option 1: Ratify the actions taken at the October 13, 2009 Workshop on the Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment.

6. Request to Schedule First and Only Public Hearing for Board Consideration of a Proposed Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Article I, Section 14-2.2 Entitled "Regulation of Open-Pit Mining and Construction and Demolition Debris Disposal Operations" of the Leon County Code of Laws for December 8, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board approved Option 1: Direct the County Attorney's Office to finalize the proposed ordinance amending chapter 14, Article I, Section 14-2.2 Entitled "Regulation of Open-Pit Mining and Construction and Demolition Debris Disposal Operations" and to schedule same for a public hearing to be held on December 8, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

General Business

7. Consideration of the FY 09/10 Board Retreat Process

County Administrator Alam provided that the Retreat is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Goodwood Conference Center. He noted that a proposed Retreat Agenda, along with a priority setting process, was provided in the Board's packet for approval.

Commissioner Thaell requested that the agenda include discussions on how to foster a positive economic climate through growth management processes.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to approve Options 1 & 2: 1) Approve the draft agenda and priority-setting process for the FY 09/10 Annual Board Retreat, and 2) Identify Commissioner-initiated Issues for Discussion at the Retreat

8. Approval to Renew FY 09/10 Primary Healthcare Program Contracts for Bond CHC, Bond Women and Children Services and Consideration to Modify the FAMU Pharmacy Contract to Allow Bond CHC to provide its own Pharmaceutical Services

County Administrator Alam explained that the item, in addition to approval of contract renewals, seeks Board consideration of a modification to the FAMU Pharmacy Contract to allow Bond Community Health Center (BCHC) to provide its own pharmaceutical services. He noted that this is an arrangement made between BCHC and FAMU Pharmacy and added that FAMU Pharmacy will continue to provide services to the Neighborhood Health Center.

Commissioner Thaell provided that this was discussed at the recent Healthcare Advisory Board (HAB) meeting and was unanimously endorsed.

Commissioner Thaeil moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dailey, to approve Options 1, 2, & 3: 1) Approve the renewal of the Primary Healthcare Program Contracts with Bond Community Health Center and Bond Women and Children's Services, and authorize the County Administrator to execute; 2) Approve the FAMU Pharmacy Agreement at a reduced funding level of \$266,250, and the reallocation of \$88,750 of FAMU's funding to Bond Community Health Center for the provision of pharmaceutical services, and authorize the County Administrator to execute, and 3) Approve the Bond Community Health Center Pharmacy Agreement in the amount of \$88,750 for the provision of pharmaceutical services at its new location, and authorize the County Administrator to execute.

Commissioner Rackleff requested that staff describe high points of the new contracts. Candice Wilson, Health & Human Services Director, shared that the new agreement between Bond and FAMU Pharmacy will allow Bond to administer to patients under their guidance and at their new facility. She added that this would be a continuation of current services; no new programs are proposed. It was noted by Chairman Desloge that the program provides in excess of \$1 million in prescriptions to the community.

The motion carried 7-0.

Chairman Desloge recommended that the County Administrator present the County's Annual Report at this time.

Presentation of the County's Annual Report

Parwez Alam, County Administrator, on behalf of County employees, thanked Chairman Desloge and the Commission for its support of employee issues. He acknowledged that the County was able to remain in good financial standing by prioritizing services and taking actions to limit costs to place the community in a position to weather the current economic conditions. He noted that during these difficult times, no County employee was laid off.

Mr. Alam highlighted accomplishments made throughout the year; such as, the successful merger of the City's Fire and County's EMS services, efforts to secure federal stimulus funds; expansion and construction of County libraries; continued efforts to secure the Public Safety Complex; establishment of a County Sustainability Office; overhaul of tourism efforts, and the establishment of a 2009/2010 balanced budget at a 7.6 reduction from FY 2008/2009. Mr. Alam pointed out that the Annual Report was a product of the County's Public Information Office and is available for viewing on the County's web site www.leoncountyfl.gov.

Commissioner Sauls moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, the Board's acceptance of the 2009 Annual Report. The motion carried 7-0.

Citizens to be Heard on Non-Agendaed Items

3-minute limit per speaker; there will not be any discussion by the Commission.

- Jay Reeve, 2634 Capital Circle NE, CEO of the Apalachee Center, acknowledged his appreciation for the County's partnership in funding of emergency psychiatric and detox beds. He, in response to some concerns expressed by Commissioners, offered Commissioners to call him or visit the facility at any time to discuss any concerns or to learn more about the facility and its services.

Commissioner Proctor indicated that the County would be scheduling a workshop to include Apalachee and other mental health providers in the community to take a comprehensive look at services being provided and how referrals are handled. He stated that the Board also was interested in receiving information on how the

County's funds were being utilized. Mr. Vince Long, Deputy County Administrator, shared that the referenced workshop would be scheduled in February.

Mr. Reeve shared that Apalachee was very amenable to participating in the workshop with full data disclosure. He commented that Apalachee operates 28 crisis stabilization unit beds which are used for mental health emergencies and 12 detoxification beds for substance abuse related emergencies. He estimated that Leon County every year contributes 62% to those beds and his review of numbers for last year showed that utilization by Leon County residents exceeded the proportion of County funding by two to three percent in each category. Mr. Reeve commented that he was in the process of gathering other relevant information that will be shared with the Board.

Commissioner Rackleff asked about the planned increased capacity. Mr. Reeve shared that plans include the doubling of bed capacity for the private psychiatric hospital they operate from 24 to 46 private psychiatric beds.

- Washington Sanchez, 2229 Gates Dr., spoke on behalf of the Purple Heart Organization to express disappointment on the cancellation of the Veterans Days Parade. He opined that it was inappropriate and understood that the other veteran organizations were upset that they were not provided input into that decision. He shared that monies were spent preparing for the parade, such as the purchase of flag lapel pins, etc. He recommended that the Veterans Day Parade be placed on the December 8, 2009 Agenda and that other organizations be given an opportunity to voice their concerns.

Commissioner Rackleff thanked Mr. Sanchez for his service and affirmed the County's commitment to veterans programs. He commented that a clear protocol was needed to ensure that decision like this are made based on established criteria. Commissioner Rackleff mentioned that efforts are being made to move the parade back to Monroe Street.

County Administrator Alam advised that a Parade Committee would be established that will involve veteran groups. He announced that it is the County's intent to make Veterans the main theme of this year's Christmas Parade.

The Board now entered into Discussion Items by Commissioners.

Discussion Items by Commissioners:

Commissioner Proctor

- Voiced his appreciation to Commissioner Desloge for his leadership and noted his extraordinary efforts during the past year.

Commissioner Thaeil

- Expressed gratification to Commissioner Desloge for leading the Board to a more civil and collegial approach in dealing with challenges; which enabled the Board to come up with the best and most consensus oriented solutions.
- Requested a Resolution recognizing the contributions of Roosevelt Wilson who has announced his retirement as the Publisher of Capital Outlook.

Commissioner Sauls

- Added her congratulations for a great year and voiced appreciation to be able to serve with fellow commissioners.

- Wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and holidays.

Commissioner Akinyemi

- Commended Commissioner Desloge on his leadership and encouraged him to continue pursuing his goals.

Commissioner Dailey

- Thanked Commissioner Desloge on the excellent manner in which he led the Board.
- Wished Commissioner Desloge a happy 50th Birthday.

Commissioner Rackleff

- Expressed appreciation to Commissioner Desloge for his hard work and stated that the Board has made a lot of accomplishments under his leadership.
- Wished a happy and healthy Thanksgiving to all.

Commissioner Desloge

- Commented that it had been an honor to serve and that the hard work that has been done has placed the County in a great position (as compared to other counties).

Chairman Desloge adjourned the Board at 3:55 p.m. and announced that it would reconvene at 4:00 for the Reorganization Ceremony.

Chairman Desloge reconvened the Board at 4:00 p.m. and announced the Board Reorganization Ceremony

Board Reorganization

The invocation was provided by Father Michael Foley, Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Chairman Desloge recognized Clerk of Circuit Court Bob Inzer for the Reorganization of the Board ceremony. The gavel was passed to the Clerk to preside over the Reorganization Ceremony.

Remarks and Presentation

The Honorable Bob Inzer, Clerk of Court, presided over the Reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida. He provided introductory remarks and introduced distinguished guests attending the Ceremony and current Commissioners.

▪ **Remarks by Outgoing Chairman Bryan Desloge**

Chairman Desloge expressed appreciation for the honor of serving as the Board's Chairman and thanked the Commission for its patience, confidence and trust. He expressed pride in the manner in which the Board has conducted its business and the sharing of ideas. He referenced three areas that he wanted to address when he became Chairman and provided an update on these issues:

1) Improve General Perception of County:

- Budget over the past three years has been reduced in excess of \$1 million a month, but continues to deliver the same level of service with less money;
- Number of take home vehicles reduced;
- Leon County is one of the most efficient counties in the state, based on per capital comparable counties;
- Elimination of Business License Tax, and
- \$20 million reduced budget and elimination of 33 positions.
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- 2) Stepped Up Economic Development Effort:
 - Collaborated with four county governments, higher education, and school board in a joint proposal to better position the region to receive stimulus funds;
 - \$200 million in capital projects in the last 12 months, and
 - Appointment of new Tourist Development Council Director with a new direction and vision.
- 3) Better Intergovernmental Coordination:
 - Merging of Fire/EMS Departments, Joint Dispatch, and pending merger of Growth Management;
 - Coordination of stimulus efforts;
 - Formalized the use of school facilities during off hours for recreational purposes;
 - Charter Review underway, and
 - Better steward of taxpayer monies.

▪ **Presentation to Outgoing Chairman Desloge**

Vice Chairman Rackleff, on behalf of the Board, presented Chairman Desloge with a plaque recognizing his service as Chair for the past year.

Clerk Inzer called for nominations for Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners for the upcoming year.

- *Commissioner Thaell nominated Commissioner Rackleff as Chairman of the County Commission. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Dailey. The motion to nominate Commissioner Rackleff as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners carried unanimously 7-0.*

Clerk Inzer called for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commissioner for the upcoming year.

- *Commissioner Desloge nominated Commissioner Dailey as Vice Chairman of the County Commission. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Thaell. The motion to nominate Commissioner Dailey as Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commission carried unanimously 7-0.*

Clerk Inzer administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Chairman Rackleff and he was presented with the gavel.

Incoming Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Rackleff thanked his colleagues for their confidence. He congratulated Commissioner Dailey on his appointment as Vice-Chairman and thanked Commissioner Desloge for his leadership and guidance. He also expressed thanks to his wife Ester.

Chairman Rackleff stated that meetings will be conducted in a congenial manner and intends for all voices to be heard in an atmosphere of civility and inclusion. He also mentioned that he would like for the Board to discuss at their upcoming Retreat policies to help keep meetings on track and timely.

Chairman Rackleff voiced several areas of concern, such as: Florida declining population (for the second year in a row), the State's fiscal crisis and legislative mandates to local governments. He offered that the County will need to tighten its belt and search for better ways to provide essential services. He also mentioned oversight of the Educational Facilities Authority and expressed concern over its financial situation.

Chairman Rackleff conveyed that economic development efforts should be concentrated on growing and expanding local businesses and that the development of a comprehensive energy strategy was essential. He noted primary health care, human rights, implementation of Southern Strategy, cleaning up of Wakulla Springs, and the expansion of joint programs with the City of Tallahassee as challenges that will continue to face the County. He concluded by acknowledging that these challenges can only be met by the combined efforts of the Board.

At this time, Chairman Rackleff introduced Mary Jane Ryals, Big Bend Poet Laureate, and her students from Sail High School who shared a reading of poetry.

The closing prayer and benediction was provided by Rabbi Jack Romberg, Temple Israel.

Chairman Rackleff announced that a small reception would be held in the 5th floor reception area and invited all to attend. He stated that the Board would reconvene at 6:00 p.m. to continue the regularly scheduled meeting.

A motion to recess the meeting was made by Commissioner Dailey and duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge. The motion carried 7-0.

Chairman Rackleff called the meeting back to order at 6:00 p.m. He announced that the Board has concluded its Regular Business Agenda.

Chairman Rackleff acknowledged Mr. Chris Miller, Orchestra Director of Chiles High School, who introduced the all-star string players who provided music for the Board's reception.

Citizens to be Heard on Non-Agendaed Items:

3-minute limit per speaker; Commission may discuss issues that are brought forth by speakers.

Speakers:

- Charles LeCroy, 229 Lake Ella Drive, stated that there were a lot of disappointed people in and around Leon County by the County's decision to cancel the Veterans Day Parade. He remarked that a committee of veterans was being organized to work with the County's Veterans Affairs.
- Joe West, Vietnam Veterans of America, addressed the manner in which the Veterans Day parade was handled. As a member of many veteran organizations he was very disappointed with the decision to cancel the only event held in the State Capital that honors living veterans and that no veteran organization was consulted prior to the decision to cancel. He advised that a non-profit organization is being formed that will take responsibility for planning and executing the 2010 Parade and to work with the County on veteran activities.

Chairman Rackleff expressed a desire to continue the Parade and to work with the veteran community in any way possible and appropriate. He indicated that the Board has heard "loud and clear" the concerns about the manner in which the parade was cancelled and reiterated the need for a well thought out protocol with specific criteria about when and where to make these type decisions.

Mr. LeCroy advised that there were more issues concerning veterans to be addressed.

Commissioner Thaeil moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dailey, to place this issue on the Board's December 8, 2009 Agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

Additional Commissioner Discussion Items:

- Commissioner Thaeil voiced concern about geo-mat ground cover that had washed into Lake Munson and asked that staff be directed to work with the contractor to assist in the removal of the matting. This action was approved by the Board.
- *Commissioner Desloge moved, duly seconded by Commissioner, to request staff bring back an agenda item to look at ways to "hook" the NE library to the adjoining shopping center. The motion carried 7-0.*

Receipt and File:

- None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Bob Rackleff, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

BY: _____
Bob Inzer, Clerk of the Court
Leon County, Florida