

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman, Pixie Harrod, called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were Commissioners Robert Griner, John Nugent and Jimmy Parker. Chairman Ronnie Gaskins was absent.

Invocation: Commissioner Jimmy Parker

Pledge: Commissioner Robert Griner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve the March 5, 2024 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: Vice Chairman Pixie Harrod asked for a motion to enter public hearing for a rezoning request from Nashton Properties, LLC. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to enter into public hearing at 6:02 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. Teresa Willis, Planning Commission, stated that Nashton Properties, LLC is requesting rezoning from AU to R1-A 1.322 acres. The property is located at 2750 Indian Camp Rd. Vice Chairman Harrod asked if there is anyone who opposes and no one opposed. Vice Chairman Harrod asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to move out of public hearing at 6:03 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. REZONING REQUEST – NASHTON PROPERTIES, LLC - Administration received a request to from the Planning Commission with an application for rezoning from Au to R1-A for 1.322 Acres located at 2750 Indian Camp Rd. The property had a home already on it when the land was purchased. It will be renovated and then sold. The Planning Commission is recommending approval. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

B. EQUIPMENT REPAIR – FIRE - Administration received a request from Marc Mathis, to paint a double cab chassis. The quote from GA Forestry is \$7,600.00. They will also have to mount and plumb a pump to tailboard of the used truck and the quote for that is \$2,600.00. The total for this project is \$ 10,200.00. The painting of the truck was previously quoted but the vendor only quoted the painting of the chassis. No one local wants to give a quote. Commissioner John Nugent made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

C. **PAVING PROJECT – AIRPORT** - Administration received a request from the Berrien County Airport Authority to pave the area around the FBO. This would be an additional Phase to the FBO TSPLOST Project. They provided two quotes.

<u>QUOTES:</u>	Milltown Paving Company, LLC	\$18,986.00
	Reames and Son Construction Company, Inc.	\$47,717.00

D. **NUTRITION CONTRACT - SENIOR CENTER** - Administration is requesting the board approve Contract #AAA-2025-18 to Provide Operation of a Senior Center with Congregate and Home Delivered Meals. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the Nutrition Contract, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

E. **TIRE PURCHASE – ROAD** - Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to purchase two motor grader tires from the Tire Store for \$1,700.00. No other quotes provided. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

F. **EQUIPMENT SERVICE – ROAD** - Administration received a request to purchase items for servicing equipment. There are four purchase requests all from Yancey for \$1,922.79 each for a total of \$7,691.16. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

G. **PROJECT AWARD – REHABILITATE/REPLACE AIRFIELD LIGHTING & SIGNAGE** - Administration received a recommendation from Passero Engineering Architecture on the Rehabilitate/Replace Airfield Lighting & Signage Project to award this contract to Trinity Electrical Services, Inc. for \$524,290.00. The total project cost will be \$775,815.00 with Federal Share being \$693,233.50, State Share being \$38,152.00 and local share of \$39,429.50. Along with this award is a Change Order needing approval for upgrades to the two PAPI units to LED fixtures. The intent is the LED will reduce long-term maintenance and operation costs. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to award the contract to Trinity Electrical Services, Inc. and approve the Change Order, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

H. **LRA PROJECT (LMIG) – ROAD** - Administration is requesting the board discuss the LRA Project. We were notified by GDOT of additional LMIG Funds which are called LRA that we can apply for. It is 100% funding and we will receive \$1,055,645.02. We need to apply for the as soon as possible. Roads that have been mentioned are Sirmans Rd., the rest of Possum Creek Rd. and Flat Creek Church Rd. County Administrator stated that we need to be looking at approximately 4.3 miles. Vice Chairman Harrod said that he would like to recommend N. Coffee Rd from the city limits to the end or as far as we can go. Due to time constraints on getting the application in, County Administrator asked for a motion to give the Chairman authority to approve once Ben Warren, Public Works Director, gets the mileage together. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to give the Chairman authority to approve and move forward with the application, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

I. BOARD APPOINTMENT -DFAC - Administration received a request from GA Department of Human Services to reappoint Mr. Michael Bennett to the board. His appointment expires June 30, 2024 and he is willing to continue serving on this board. His new term will expire June 30, 2029. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to reappoint Mr. Michael Bennett to the DFAC Board for a term ending June 30, 2029, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

J. RADIO SYSTEM GRANT APPLICATION - Administration received a request from Mary Alice McGee to submit for a federal grant for the radio system. They are requesting to purchase 15 phones now. Mary Alice McGee, Grant Writer, explained the grant for the radio system for communications. If funded it is 100% and no county match. The grant total is \$3,001,573.50. There are some issues with the fire department using this system so at this time we will not look at purchasing the phones. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve moving forward with applying for the grant, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

K. PIPE ACQUISITION – ROAD - Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to purchase pipe. One quote was provided from WinSupply in the amount of \$2,423.48. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

L. DRUG COURT SUPPLIES - Administration received a request from the Drug Court Administrator to purchase Drug Court testing supplies. The items are purchased on-line with only one quote provided from Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Web Shop in the amount of \$4,439.82. County Administrator stated that this is covered through the Drug Court Grant. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

M. SAFETY COORDINATOR RESOLUTION - Administration received a request from LGRMS to provide a resolution appointing a Safety Coordinator. Currently Teresa Hayes is the Safety Coordinator, and it is recommended she be appointed by this resolution. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion approve the Resolution and appoint Teresa Hayes as the Safety Coordinator, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

N. EQUIPMENT SERVICE ITEMS – ROAD - Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to purchase blades and bolts for the Mowers, Units 120 and 121. The request is to purchase from Bush-Whacker in the amount of \$2,068.64. No other quotes provided. Commissioner John Nugent made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

O. RATIFICATION ITEMS – Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

4 Star Freightliner	\$1952.90
Reynolds-Warren	\$1,218.10
All Star Garage Doors	\$4,945.00
Southeastern Commercial Tire	\$1,668.72
The Tire Store	\$1,783.64
Nashville Ford	\$1,270.00
The Scruggs Company – TSPLOST	\$194,286.49
Tax Assessor Contracts with Amanda Thacker and Temika Bell.	

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to ratify the items as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:

Sandy Mizell, E-911 Director/EMA Director – stated that they just received their GCIC Audit and they are 100% compliant. This is the first time ever that they received a 100%. The week of April 14th is National Telecommunications Week please take time to stop by and tell them they are doing a good job.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS:

Pixie Harrod – Stated that the paving on Pineland Estate Rd. and King Lane are completed and look great. Both of these roads were paid with TSPLOST Funds.

Robert Griner – Stated he picked up the plaques to be placed on the outside of the FBO at the Airport and Recreation Building. He will get them to maintenance to hang.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nick Lacey – He had some concerns with the operation of the county solid waste site which is run by Golden Environmental. He questions the hours of operation, it being closed due to weather and possibly putting gravel down. All items have been addressed with the contractor and Public Works is assessing the condition of the site as far as the gravel.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

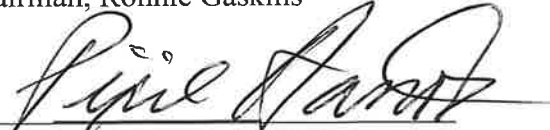
- There is a 1st Amendment Rights and 2nd Amendment Agitator Training Friday April 5th from 9:30 to 11:30 at Flat Creek Church. This is being hosted by Hall Booth Smith.
- Asked permission to apply for the GA Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security EMPG Grant. This is the grant that partially pays for the EMA Director Salary. The board gave the direction to move forward with the application.


ADJOURN

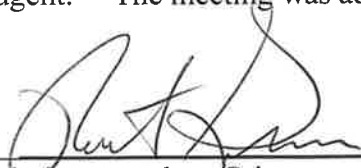
With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m..

ABSENT

Chairman, Ronnie Gaskins


Commissioner, Pixie Harrod


Commissioner, John Nugent


Commissioner, Robert Griner


Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

ATTEST: 
County Clerk