

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2016**

OPENING CEREMONIES

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Clark Henderson in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center. Commissioners present were Authur James Nance, Wallace Mathis, Sam Farrow, and Larry Felton. Others present were County Administrator Tom Patton, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett, and Clerk Linda Finch. Carl Gamble gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. This is the last meeting for Chairman Henderson and he stated that it has been his pleasure to serve the citizens of this county for the past six year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 8, 2016, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT THE AMENDED SOIL AND EROSION SEDIMENTATION CONTROL ORDINANCE

Connie Youngblood, Planning Director, reported that we have sent the amended draft of the Soil and Erosion Sedimentation Control Ordinance to the state for their approval and it has been accepted by EPD. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to adopt the amended Soil and Erosion Sedimentation Control Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF A FLASHING BEACON AT SR 30/US 280 & CANNON ROAD

Administrator Patton reported that over the years the county has made repeated requests to do something about the dangerous intersection at SR 30/US 280 and Cannon Road. Since he has been here there has been two fatalities, and the state will not lower the speed limit in this area but they have finally approved a flashing beacon at this intersection. The county is required to pay for the electricity on this light, but it is definitely needed. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the flashing beacon at SR 30/US 280 Hwy. and Cannon Road, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT GRANT (LMIG)

Carl Gamble, Public Works Director, reported that they have come up with a list of about twenty roads this year to send to the Department of Transportation in anticipation of the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant to be awarded; the money received will only pay for portions of six roads. These roads include Abbey Road from Wildwood Drive to just past Penny Lane, Cork Ferry Road from Ray Road to Wolf's Thick Road, Eastwood Lake Road from Dorough Road to the end of the paving, Lake Park Road from the Fish Hatchery to Williams Lake Road, Raines Station Road from GA Hwy. 300 to Arabi-Warwick Road, Wildwood Road from Crane Road to the cul-de-sac, and various patches on Dockweiler and Brock Roads. He advised that this come to 6.52 miles and estimated cost of the project will be \$1,293,725.00; we will receive from LMIG \$538,162.68 and the county's match from SPLOST funds will be \$755,562.32. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG)**

projects of 6.52 miles with county's cost of \$755,462.32 coming from SPLOST funds, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SLADE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Administrator Patton reported that Slade Bridge is over a dirt road off of Coney Road, and the Department of Transportation has declared it unsafe and closed the bridge. Mr. Gamble has an estimate of \$45,000 just to repair the bridge of what is wrong with it today, and the cost to replace the bridge would be about \$590,000. He thinks the families that live in this area's desire is to do what we can do to get it repaired so they can start using it again. Chairman Henderson advised that the state will commit up to \$200,000 or 90% to repair the bridge and if we put up to \$175,000 and do more than the minimum to repair and improve the bridge this will give it more longevity. Mr. Gamble reported that to replace the bridge would cost around \$590,000 and we would receive about \$200,000 for the replacement of the bridge, which would leave us paying roughly \$390,000. He also advised that if they come in and inspect the bridge and another span should fail or the foundation has shifted, we are back to where we are now if we just repair the bridge. Mr. Farrow asked Mr. Gamble if we do a better fix for \$150,000 - \$175,000 more than just patching to get more time out of the bridge what would the state pay, and Mr. Gamble stated that the state will commit up to \$200,000 of the cost of the replacement of the bridge, not repair; to repair the bridge would take about five to six months and to replace it would be about the same time limit. Mr. Mathis stated that if we replace the bridge we are looking at another eighty or so year's life span of the bridge and then we don't have to worry about this bridge and the state will help pay for it. Greg Slade advised that there are five families that live on that road and there are many people that use that road when it is open, and he thinks the county would benefit from the bridge being replaced. Administrator Patton advised that we do have the funding to replace the bridge. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to give Mr. Gamble permission to go ahead and proceed to advertise, get bids and issue a contract to replace the Slade Bridge as soon as possible, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

UPDATE ON COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS

Mr. Gamble reported that Arabi Warwick Road has the widening and leveling on it from Raines Station Road to Hwy. 33; Plantation Subdivision has the leveling on it; Hurt and Sills Drives also have the leveling on these; and they are widening Drayton Road, which is to be completed by the end of the month. He advised that our county has been very fortunate with LMIG from the Department of Transportation as we have received \$165,000 to do Drayton Road plus \$200,000 to replace the Primrose Bridge and they have allocated another \$200,000 to replace Slade Bridge Road Bridge. Also, they have completed the clearing work at the ballfields.

ADOPT PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MOTHER NELLIE OUTLAW

Mr. Nance advised that he has a proclamation celebrating Mother Nellie Outlaw who will be 103 years old on Saturday. He read the proclamation proclaiming today, December 13, 2016, a Celebration of Life in Honor of Mother Nellie Outlaw. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Proclamation Celebrating the Life of Mother Nellie Outlaw, 103 Years, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.** Jerome Outlaw was present to accept the Proclamation on behalf of his grandmother. He stated that the family appreciates the county honoring his grandmother as she could not be here today because of health issues.

DENISE YOUNGBLOOD AS NEW CHIEF DEPUTY

Administrator Patton introduced Denise Youngblood as the new Chief Deputy of Crisp County, an appointment the Sheriff made last week. Commissioners congratulated Mrs. Youngblood on her appointment. Mrs. Youngblood brought copies of the November reports from the sheriff's department. She advised that the only other thing she has today is to approve the food service contract for the detention facility, there will be no change in cost just changing vendors. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to approve the food service contract for food service at the Crisp County Detention Facility, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

UPDATE FROM IDC DIRECTOR

Grant Buckley, Director of Cordele/Crisp Industrial Development Commission, stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Commissioner Henderson and the commissioners since he has been in Crisp County. He invited all commissioners to the advisory council year-end review meeting tomorrow; our unemployment rate has crept up a little this year and he does not really know why as most of the buildings in the east Industrial Park where the Inland Port is located are filled; they have three advanced staged pending projects, one is an existing industry that is moving from a 20,000 square foot facility into a 40,000 square foot facility, one is an Irish Company that is renovating a building now and the third one is a Chinese Company the IDC is working with but have not closed yet, and hopefully all these contracts will close next year and we can move forward with them; and Helena Chemical has expanded this year.

REAPPOINT BOARD MEMBER TO IDA BOARD

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to reappoint Ritch McCutchen to the Industrial Development Authority term ending December 31, 2019, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY PERSONAL PROPERTY AUDIT SERVICES CONTRACT WITH TAX MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

Mrs. Leverett reported that the Board of Assessors is requesting final approval for a personal property audit services contract with Tax Management Associates, Inc. for the outsourcing of the personal property audits. This is a different vendor from the one they have been using, the prices did not change and it is a month to month contract, which they like. This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Assessors for final approval. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to ratify the personal property audit services contract with Tax Management Associates, Inc., seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE "REVISED" IGA WITH CCPC FOR PROVISION OF P25 COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ACCESS

Mrs. Leverett reported that after the county approved contracts for each of the agencies participating in our new P25 radio communications project and sent each one a separate agreement, the Power Commission had their attorney look at the contract and wanted to remove the indemnification section as they think that conflicts with their sovereign immunity rights. They have changed it, sent the contract back to us removing that section; the rest of the contract remains as it was originally. She advised that on the advice of our attorney after he reviewed it and was ok with the change, since they did change the intergovernmental agreement that commissioners approve the amended agreement. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to approve the "revised" Intergovernmental Agreement with Crisp County Power**

Commission for the provision of P25 Communications System Access, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY AIRPORT 5-YEAR CIP PLAN FUNDING REQUEST/APPLICATION (2018-2022)

Mrs. Leverett reported that this is the application of the 5-year CIP for the airport, which covers years 2018-2022. We had to have the plan in by November 30, and we didn't get it until after the November meeting. She and Mr. Patton have worked on it along with the Mr. Cooper and the engineers, and they came up with six project costs over the five years and, if approved as submitted, would be almost \$4.9 million with the county's cost \$322,000, and the rest would come from FAA and DOT. She went over the projects. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to ratify the airport 5-year CIP Plan funding request/application (2018-2022), seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that the financial report section of the packet is a preliminary report for the period of July through November, 2016. In the report of revenues and expenditures for the County's General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined, these funds are reporting YTD revenues received of \$5.4 million and YTD expenditures at \$7.1 million leaving us with a -10% net shortfall after the first five months of the fiscal year of just under -\$1.7 million. The 2016 Ad Valorem Tax payments have started to trickle in; to date we have received about 14% of those revenue projections. With \$302,799 in YTD revenue and \$246,487 in YTD expenses, the Water Fund ended the period with a net profit of \$106,657. Water consumption billed for the month was 6,394,000 gallons and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.4 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting accrued YTD revenue of \$694,875 and YTD expenses at \$593,223 leaving this fund with a net income of \$101,653. The total tonnage received for the month of November was 4,226.96. The principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$3.4 million. In the Cash Report, the General and special revenue funds combined ended the month with \$8.6 million, the proprietary funds at \$3.7 million and the SPLOST funds at \$7.6 million bringing our County wide total to just over \$20.0 million. We have just under \$114,000 left to spend on projects included in the 2000 SPLOST Issue and just over \$3 million available for remaining items included in the 2005 SPLOST Issue budget. Distribution no. 58 of the 2011 SPLOST Issue in the amount of \$303,034 is down only ½% point from the November 2015 distribution. It brings issue to date collections to \$18.8 million but drops our monthly average slightly, down to \$323,936. After the recent budget adjustments and with the use of contingency, we are within budget by only \$60,392. We spent \$224,640 in Special Local Option Sales Tax dollars during the month of November. Projects benefiting were Crisp County Buildings, Crisp County Airport, Sanitation and Solid Waste, Public Works, County Fire Department, Darton College and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. This month's distribution of \$145,448 in LOST is also down, slightly just over 1/2 percentage point from this same period last year. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we remain at nine outstanding loans with a total balance due of \$2.3 million. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. The summary report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. Expenditures should be below 42%. As of this report, the General & Special Revenue Funds Combined are at 43%, the Water Fund is at 32% and the Landfill Fund at 35%.

CHAIRMAN HENDERSON'S REMARKS

Chairman Henderson stated that it has been his pleasure to serve on the County Commissioner's Board and work with all the county employees; the citizens are fortunate to have the commissioners on this board and the employees as they really care about what happens in this community. Mr. Nance stated that the Commissioners appreciate the leadership and guidance Chairman Henderson has provided for the county, not only as a commissioner but also on the Solid Waste Board before he became a county commissioner. All commissioners wished Chairman Henderson best wishes.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, personnel, and property, seconded by Mr. Farrow with all commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

SET SALARY FOR NEW PROBATE JUDGE AND TAX COMMISSIONER

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to set the salary for the new Probate Judge for 2017 with supplements at \$70,000, and set the salary for the new Tax Commissioner for 2017 with supplements at \$65,000, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m., seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Clark Henderson

Administrator Tom Patton