

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2025**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chairman James Dowdy, III, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center with Commissioners James Nance, Sam Farrow, Larry Felton and Mark Crenshaw in attendance. Others present were Interim County Administrator Mickey Dunnavant, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk Monica Irwin. Commissioner Nance gave the invocation and Interim County Administrator Mickey Dunnavant led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chairman Dowdy welcomed all in attendance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to adopt the agenda for the April 8, 2025 Commission Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, requested the Board's approval to make an amendment to the agenda, adding Resolution 2025-002 - Joint Crisp/Arabi/Cordele Comprehensive Plan  
**Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to amend agenda adding Resolution 2025-002, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2025 and the Called Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF REPORT**

Sheriff Hancock stated we are back in court season, current court man hours are 355 hours. Citations written so far is 579, and 9 cells have been refurbished in the jail. Total inmate count today is 200 in the jail with 4 of those being federal inmates. Last Friday morning a chase from Turner County that started in Cook County, came through Crisp County ending at post 107 ½, when the deputies approached the car the woman shot through the window hitting one of the Turner County deputies in the neck. The deputy is recovering from surgery. Crisp County deputies also performed road checks Friday night producing 3 DUI arrests and 1 arrest for possession of firearms, computers, and drugs. Saturday around lunch time, there was an accidental shooting in the community and ended Sunday morning with a high speed chase in to Turner County that led to recovering 7 pounds of marijuana, meth, and other items. This morning an abandoned vehicle was found in the middle of the road on Drayton that led to a person being arrested that had outstanding warrants. Sheriff Hancock stated, the past four days have been busy for the Crisp County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Hancock handed Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, a check for inmate housing totaling \$6000.00.

**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSIONERS**

Davontae L Hunt, Sr. was not present for meeting.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant, stated the Public Hearing is regarding a rezoning request from Mr. Jesse Andrew Smith. The request is for the purpose of rezoning 28 +/- acres from Residential Single Family to Rural Residential to enlarge an existing 4.5 +/- acre Borrow Pit to create a 10 acre pond. The property is currently zoned RS1 and consists of 28 acres that belongs to Mr. Smith and Laverne Miller. The property is located 2/10 of a mile north of Lakeshore Way on the West side of Coney Road South. **A decision will not be made today.** Mr. Smith addressed the Board explaining he and his grandmother would like to expand the pond to follow the regulations for the county and the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for the size and to further their backhoe business and keep it going. Mr. Dunnivant stated Mr. Smith applied for a license to expand the pond and EPD requires a letter of zoning stating it is allowed in the zoned area. A Special Use Permit will have to be acquired by Mr. Smith.

**No one spoke in opposition to Mr. Smith's request**

**Public Hearing Closed 9:23 am**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant, advised the Commissioners of several items under new business needing their consideration:

### **APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to appoint Mickey Dunnivant as Interim County Administrator, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL GRANT AWARD**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant, stated the grant award is for the District Attorney's office in the amount of \$133,000.00. This CJCC Grant W24-8-016 is under the Violence Against Women Act as set out in Title IV, of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Public Law 103-322. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to accept CJCC grant award W24-8-016, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

### **2025 LOCAL ROAD ASSISTANCE AWARD**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant, stated the road assistance award is an additional award given to the county for \$827,000.00. Public Works Director, Carl Gamble, has created a list of roads he would like to apply the money towards. Mr. Gamble also listed an option to include the remainder of Williford Crossing Road. Including Williford Crossing Road, the total will be \$1,437,000.00. The original list includes: Sharon Church Road (1.13 miles), Cannon Branch Road (1.38 miles), Ray Road (0.28 miles), Cedar Point Drive (0.28 miles), Amboy Road (repair base failure & pave), Old Coney Road (0.24 miles), Lake Drive (0.10 miles), and Little House Road (0.17 miles). The recommendation is to complete the original list with the option of Williford Crossing Road after July. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to accept and sign the local road assistance award to complete the original list of 8 roads without the option of completing Williford Crossing Road at a later date, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF ARABI FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated the intergovernmental agreement relating to E911 services for the city of Arabi is for calls taken and dispatched. The county and the Crisp County Sheriff are currently operating a county wide public safety answering point and enhanced 911 center with associated equipment and software that has interoperability among the county and all municipalities with the county. Crisp County, Crisp County Sheriff, and City of Arabi recognize it is in the best interest of all citizens to ensure the continual and efficient operations of the Crisp County E-911 Center inclusive of call making and dispatch services and radio maintenance. The City of Arabi will pay the county monthly installments, the average annual salary and benefits of one E-911 dispatcher as well as radio maintenance expenses on a per radio basis, annually. The agreement will be reviewed annually and updated as needed. Mr. Dunnavant read the agreement. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to adopt the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Arabi for dispatch services, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

## EXPRESS DISPOSAL

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, introduced Mr. Clint Eudi and Mr. Keith Mack from Express Disposal. Both spoke on behalf of Express Disposal in reference to the services provided by the company. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to adopt the Solid Waste Contract between Crisp County and Express Disposal, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

## RESOLUTION 2025-002

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnavant, stated the resolution is for the 2024-2029 Joint Crisp-Arabi-Cordele Comprehensive Plan. Crisp County is currently entertaining the development of a data center in the community of HWY 257 and Cemetery Road. Under the Comprehensive Plan, the area is currently identified as Rural Residential and according to state requirements the county is to follow their Comprehensive Plan. The recommendation is to amend the Comprehensive Plan to allow the area to be zoned Industrial East and be in compliance the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Dunnavant read the resolution. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to adopt Resolution 2025-002 agreeing to amend the 2024-2029 Comprehensive Plan to rezone the area located on HWY 257 and Cemetery Road in order to remain in compliance the Comprehensive Plan, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

## FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Leverett's preliminary report and executive summary for the major funds of the County as of March 31, 2025. The financial report, which shows the monthly and YTD activity for the General & three major Special Revenue Funds combined, monthly activity for these funds brought YTD income down by -\$94,997 to \$2.4 million as of March 31<sup>st</sup>. This represents a 9% revenue over expenditure position as of this date. Net March activity in the Water Fund increased slightly to \$97,387 YTD. The County billed 1546 customers for a total usage of 4,919,000 gallons. The USDA Bonds are current at \$1,021,480. Including March activity, YTD net loss of -\$125,784 for the Landfill Fund. Total tonnage.... 4,989.44 for the month. The GEFA Loans are current at \$411,669. The cash on hand report, ended the month with \$18.6 in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined; \$12.2 million in the proprietary funds; and \$12.4 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds. SPLOST Report Summaries, Expenditures from the 2017 SPLOST Issue totaled

\$21.2 million as of this report. Distribution #14 under the 2023 Issue came in at \$498,174, which is up 3.8% from this same reporting period from one year ago. Issue to date collections have reached \$6.7 million while expenditures & encumbrances came at \$3.9 million. The final SPLOST Schedule includes a list of all expenditures for the month of March. Projects benefiting from Special Local Option Sales Tax penny for the month of March were the Airport, Public Works, Roads, Sanitation/Solid Waste, E911, the Sheriff's office and the cities of Arabi and Cordele. In summary, the County collected a total of \$2.4 million under the 2022 TSPLOST issue. Combining that with LMIG and GDOT Revenue the County has expended and/or obligated \$7.6 million in road maintenance and capital projects with the use of local TSPLOST Funds. Updated schedule on LOST receipt, this month's distribution represents a 3.8% increase over this same period twelve months ago. CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts ended the month of March with a total outstanding balance of \$1.4 million for all these accounts. The last report included is preliminary 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 at 75% or below. As of this report, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are at 72%; the Water Fund is at 68% and the Landfill finished the month at 62%.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant, stated the end of March was a busy month shadowing former County Administrator, Clark Harrell. Mr. Dunnivant attended several meetings, including River Valley Regional Commission Meeting and Crisp County Power Meeting. The Development of Regional Impact submitted on the Data Center was completed and no negative comments received after review from the State. We are now able to move forward with the rezoning and amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. The benefits from this new Data Center will impact the entire region. Mr. Dunnivant also stated he is continuing to fulfill his duties as the Planning & Zoning Director.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to go into executive session at 10:27 am for Personnel, motion seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to come out of executive session at 10:50 am, motion seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES' BOARD**


**Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to appoint Marissa Wedges to the DFACS Board, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to reappoint Jonathan Sinyard, Dr. Henry Young, and Barbara Smith to the Crisp County Board of Health, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURN MEETING**

**By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.**

  
James R Dowdy, III, Chairman  
Mickey Dunnavant, Interim County Administrator