

5:00 p.m.

The Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners met on the above date and time for a regular meeting and the following were present: Chairman Franklin White; Commissioner Don Hale; Commissioner Clyde Fleming; Commissioner Travis Land; and Commissioner Len Stapleton. Keith Gentry, Chief Finance Director; Logan Woods, Deputy Clerk; Randy Harris, County Administrator; and James W. Prevatt, Jr., County Attorney, were also present.

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked Commissioner Fleming to lead the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

MINUTES:

The first item on the agenda was to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Stapleton moved to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021 Regular meeting as written. Commissioner Land seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT:

Item four was pulled for discussion.

The second item on the agenda was to approve payment of \$2,781,972.14 in processed invoices.

The third item on the agenda was approval of an Economic Development Grant Agreement between Daryll Futch/Futch's Tractor Depot and Suwannee County. **(Agreement No. 2022-11)**

The fourth item on the agenda was approval of Agreement No. 440059 (PTGA) with the Florida Department of Transportation to design and construct a new hangar at the Suwannee County Airport, authorization for staff to sign all related documents, and adoption of an enabling resolution.

This item was pulled for discussion.

The fifth item on the agenda was approval of the Suwannee River Regional Library FY 2021-2022 Annual Plan of Operation.

The sixth item on the agenda was approval of a Subordination Agreement for Mandy Musgrove, State Housing Initiatives Partnership client. **(Agreement No. 2022-12)**

The seventh item on the agenda was approval of a Release of Lien for Aaron Thomas, State Housing Initiatives Partnership client. **(Agreement No. 2022-13)**

The eighth item on the agenda was approval of a Subterranean Termite Control Contract and Limited Warranty with Live Oak Pest Control, Inc. for Fire Station No. 43B located at 27600 CR 49, Branford. **(Agreement No. 2022-14)**

The ninth item on the agenda was adoption of a Joint Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Suwannee County, Florida and the City of Live Oak, Florida distributing and donating the assets of the dissolved Suwannee County Museum Association to the Suwannee County Historical Commission. **(Resolution No. 2022-10)**

The tenth item on the agenda was approval of a First Amendment to Donated Space Agreement with Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. for alterations made to the donated space building located at 920 Nobles Road, Live Oak. **(Agreement No. 2022-02-01)**

The eleventh item on the agenda was approval of Amendment No. 1 to the FDEP/DWSRF Loan Grant Agreement #DW610410 (State Revolving Fund) for construction of CR 136/I-75 water plant and transmission lines (time extension), pending County Attorney review. **(Agreement No. 2021-12-01)**

The twelfth item on the agenda was authorization to purchase a 2022 Toyota RAV4 from Alan Jay Sales in the amount of \$26,590 utilizing Sourcewell Contract #2022120716-NAF and 060920-NAF for the Board's IT network administration. Budgeted item.

The thirteenth item on the agenda was authorization to purchase a 2022 Ford F-150 from Alan Jay Sales in the amount of \$31,359 utilizing Sourcewell Contract #2022120716-NAF and 060920-NAF for the Building Department. Budgeted item.

The fourteenth item on the agenda was authorization to purchase a server from InSight in the amount of \$14,415.87 utilizing GSA Contract #47QTCA19D009G to store Road Department data. Budget impact: paid from Road Department line 140-4110-541-3100-50.

The fifteenth item on the agenda was authorization to bid the extension of water and sewer to I-10 from CR 136.

The sixteenth item on the agenda was reappointment of Don Allen and Jimmy Shepard to serve on the Suwannee County Historical Commission for three-year terms, retroactively to October 1, 2021.

Commissioner Land moved to approve consent items 2-3 and 5-16. Commissioner Hale seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The fourth item on the agenda was approval of Agreement No. 440059 (PTGA) with the Florida Department of Transportation to design and construct a new hangar at the Suwannee County Airport, authorization for staff to sign all related documents, and adoption of an enabling resolution.

Commissioner Stapleton wished for Greg Scott, Parks and Recreation Director to give clarification on the hangar construction and grant funding.

Mr. Scott discussed in detail the hangars and grant funding from the State.

Commissioner Hale asked if there would be future additional grants for further hangar construction. Mr. Scott replied that there were future grants and that hangars were funded by the State on a cycle, but that the County had to show there was a need for additional hangars.

Discussion ensued on hangar funding and future airport planning.

After questioning by Commissioner Land, Mr. Scott further clarified the two-year funding timeline of the hangar construction project.

Discussion ensued on need for runway extensions and additional hangars, and that the County's airport was limited in expansion due to the existing footprint.

Bill Prange, AECOM, clarified the multi-year funding dictated by the FDOT, timing of the grants, and design process.

Much discussion ensued on the construction process of the hangars, aviation projects, FDOT funding priorities for airport improvements, how well-run the County's airport was, the limited runway length, the need for additional hangars, and other airport projects.

Commissioner Hale moved to approve Agreement No. 440059 (PTGA) with the Florida Department of Transportation to design and construct a new hangar at the Suwannee County Airport, authorize staff to sign all related documents, and adopt an enabling resolution. Commissioner Land seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. (Agreement No. 2022-15 and Resolution No. 2022-11)

TIME-SPECIFIC ITEMS:

The seventeenth item on the agenda was at 5:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard, to hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution pertaining to Special Permit for Temporary Use Request No. SPTU-21-10-01 by American Promotional Events DBA TNT Fireworks, to be granted a special permit for temporary use under Section 14.10 of the Suwannee County Land Development Regulations for a Fireworks Tent Sale, to be held starting December 26, 2021 through January 1, 2022 on property zoned Commercial Intensive (CI).

Chairman White opened the public hearings.

County Attorney Prevatt swore in all those wishing to speak.

Planning and Zoning Director Ron Meeks briefly discussed the application, adding that there had never been any complaints with the tent sale. He then entered the file into the record, which County Attorney Prevatt accepted as Composite Exhibit No. 1.

Chairman White opened the floor to public comments. There being none, Chairman White closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Fleming moved to approve a resolution pertaining to Special Permit for Temporary Use Request No. SPTU-21-10-01 by American Promotional Events DBA TNT Fireworks, to be granted a special permit for temporary use under Section 14.10 of the Suwannee County Land Development Regulations for a Fireworks Tent Sale, to be held starting December 26, 2021 through January 1, 2022 on property zoned Commercial Intensive (CI). Commissioner Stapleton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. (Resolution No. 2022-12)

The eighteenth item on the agenda was at 5:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard, to hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution pertaining to Special Permit for Temporary Use Request No. SPTU-21-10-02 by Harriette Wells and Curtis Gefrey Humphries, to be granted a special permit for temporary use under Section 14.10 of the Suwannee County Land Development Regulations for a 5-day Earth Skills Educational Gathering on property zoned Agriculture-1 (A-1).

Mr. Meeks discussed the application, noting it was the third time the application had come before the Board for approval and that the previous event had not taken place due to COVID. He briefly discussed the five-day event and activities, adding that the gathering would be smaller than previous years and the Planning and Zoning Board had recommended the application for approval. Mr. Meeks entered the file into the record and County Attorney Prevatt accepted it as Composite Exhibit No. 1.

Chairman White opened the floor to public comments. There being none, Chairman White closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Stapleton moved to approve a resolution pertaining to Special Permit for Temporary Use Request No. SPTU-21-10-02 by Harriette Wells and Curtis Gefrey Humphries, to be granted a special permit for temporary use under Section 14.10 of the Suwannee County Land Development Regulations for a 5-day Earth Skills Educational Gathering on property zoned Agriculture-1 (A-1). Commissioner Fleming seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. (Resolution No. 2022-13)

Commissioner Land commended the Earth skills gathering and thanked those who ran the event.

The nineteenth item on the agenda was at 5:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard, to hold a public hearing to consider adoption of an ordinance pertaining to LDR 21-04, an application by Barbara Albright and Melinda Jones, to amend the Official Zoning Atlas of Suwannee County by changing the zoning designation on the following described property from AGRICULTURE-1 (A-1) to COMMERCIAL NEIGHBORHOOD (CN).

Mr. Meeks discussed the application in detail, noting that it was for Lot 1 and part of Lot 2 in Block 8 of the old plat of the Town of O'Brien where the old post office was located. The applicant had purchased the entirety of Block 8 and was in the process of various improvements on the properties. The applicant intended to use the lots in question for an ice cream/sandwich shop, which was only allowable under Commercial Neighborhood zoning. Mr. Meeks added that the Planning and Zoning Board had recommend the application for approval and then entered the file into the record. County Attorney Prevatt accepted the file as Composite Exhibit No. 1.

Chairman White opened the floor to public comments. There being none, Chairman White closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Stapleton moved to approve an ordinance pertaining to LDR 21-04, an application by Barbara Albright and Melinda Jones, to amend the Official Zoning Atlas of Suwannee

County by changing the zoning designation on the following described property from AGRICULTURE-1 (A-1) to COMMERCIAL NEIGHBORHOOD (CN). Commissioner Land seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. (Ordinance No. 2022-02)

Chairman White closed the public hearings.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

The twentieth item on the agenda was adoption of resolution proclaiming November 2021 as “National Hospice and Palliative Care Month” in Suwannee County.

The resolution was read into the record.

Commissioner Stapleton moved to approve a resolution proclaiming November 2021 as “National Hospice and Palliative Care Month” in Suwannee County. Commissioner Fleming seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. (Resolution No. 2022-14)

The Board thanked nurses and others in a similar line of work for their effort.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS:

There were none.

COUNTY ATTORNEY ITEMS:

There were none.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The twenty-first item on the agenda was 2022 Annual Committee Appointments.

The Board agreed by consensus to approve the 2022 Annual Committee Appointments (see attached appointments).

The twenty-second item on the agenda was to discuss, with possible Board action, bids and proposals for curbside pickup of solid waste.

County Administrator Harris stated that several companies were interested in offering a price for curbside pickup of solid waste in the County. While County staff and the Board continued to work on the issue, County Administrator Harris recommended bidding the curbside pickup to get an idea of costs, adding that the County was not obligated to enter any contracts with the companies that bid.

Discussion ensued on bidding and the potential benefits of curbside pickup and how it could offset other expenses in the solid waste budget.

The Board agreed by consensus to advertise for bids/proposals for curbside pickup.

Bo Hancock, 6135 Wiggins Road, questioned whether citizens would have to pay for both the curbside pickup costs and the higher solid waste assessment. County Administrator Harris replied that the County would pay for curbside pickup as a contract service from the provider and that the citizens would only pay the solid waste assessment, which the curbside costs would be included in but would offset other areas and potentially reduce the overall assessment.

Discussion ensued on costs to be paid by citizens and benefits of curbside pickup.

John Little, 9465 129th Road, Suwannee Valley Electric Director of Communications, thanked the County for their various services and presented a check for the SVEC 2020-2021 property tax payment.

The twenty-third item on the agenda was Additional Agenda Items.

There were none.

The twenty-fourth item on the agenda was public concerns and comments. [Filling Comment Card required and forwarded to Chairman or County Administrator. Individual speakers from audience allowed three (3) minutes and a single representative or spokesperson allowed seven (7) minutes to speak following recognition by Chairman and must speak from the podium – one (1) trip to podium].

Keith Flynn, 12838 155th Place, Live Oak, appreciated the discussion regarding the airport grant and hangar construction. He felt that the County was ill-prepared for the influx of people that would move to the area and the Board needed an overall plan for future development. Mr. Flynn discussed various improvements he thought would be beneficial to the County, such as a community garden and community center. He further discussed the need for planning and potential volunteer work. Mr. Flynn also requested copies of all the current and pending projects the County was working on and felt public input would be beneficial to help bring those projects to completion.

Jimmy Norris, Economic Development Director, updated the Board on various projects, including one that had been on hold for a while due to COVID that was now making some progress. He also updated the Board on various other facets of the County development and the different companies that had interest in doing business within Suwanee County.

Discussion ensued on different companies' interests in the area.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Norris for his work.

Jennifer Brown, 16586 76th Street, reminded the Board that she would be glad to offer any assistance to the Commissioners or County staff regarding the solid waste issues and avenues to save money, as she had a great deal of knowledge and expertise in the area. She also discussed safety issues at the Houston Avenue/US 90 intersection and wished to bring it to the Board's attention in the hope that something could be done to improve safety.

Discussion ensued on contacting the City of Live Oak and/or FDOT to look into the issue.

Ellen Meyers, 21177 174th Street, Florida Wildflower Foundation, asked the Board to consider at the next meeting adoption of a resolution for a project that would enhance wildflowers along the roadway. She discussed all that would be involved in implementation of the project and its benefits, noting it would reduce the frequency and extent of roadside mowing, thus saving taxpayers money. Ms. Meyers

discussed other counties that had already adopted the resolution, as well as the process that would occur after the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Little added that SVEC had released a newsletter that discussed the wildflower project, noting it was very beneficial to farmers.

The twenty-fifth item on the agenda was Administrator's comments and information.

County Administrator Harris encouraged people to be safe in holiday traffic over the upcoming months.

The twenty-sixth item on the agenda was Board Members' inquiries, requests, and comments.

Commissioner Fleming commended Chairman White on his first meeting as Chairman.

Commissioner Stapleton thanked those who participated in the Veteran's parade.

Commissioner Land echoed other Commissioners' comments and thanked veterans.

Commissioner Stapleton noted the First Federal Sportsplex Splash Pad ribbon cutting.

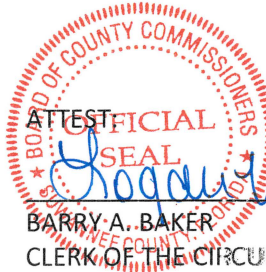
Mr. Scott thanked the Rotary Club for their contribution to the splash pad project.

Commissioner Hale commented on the Veteran's parade and thanked the community.

Chairman White thanked veterans and the Board for their comments.

Commissioner Stapleton moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Land seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.


 ATTEST: Barry A. Baker, DC
 BARRY A. BAKER
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT


 FRANKLIN WHITE, CHAIRMAN
 SUWANNEE COUNTY BOARD OF
 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2022 Committee Appointments

Appointed by Chairman on November 15, 2021

Airport

Clyde Fleming
Randy Harris
Greg Scott
Experimental Aircraft Rep.
Allen Rice
P.O. Box 653
Steinhatchee, FL. 32359

Development Authority Liaison

Don Hale
Franklin White – Alternate

Extension (Ag.) Advisory

Len Stapleton

Fair Board

Len Stapleton
Greg Scott

Insurance/Group/Health/Casualty

Franklin White – Non-voting member
(Can vote in the case of a tie)
Sheriff Elect Sam St. John
Randy Harris
Paula Pennington – Non-voting Member
Betty Lawrence
Greg Scott

Library

Travis Land
Friends of the Library Rep.
Randy Harris
Betty Lawrence

Municipal Relations Standing Committee

(BOCC Chm. & Vc. Chm.)
Franklin White
Len Stapleton

North Central Florida Regional

Planning Council

Travis Land

North Florida Economic Development Partnership

Don Hale

Recreation & Parks

Len Stapleton
Greg Scott

Small County Coalition

Clyde Fleming
Franklin White
Randy Harris

Solid Waste

Clyde Fleming
Randy Harris, County Administrator
Solid Waste Manager
Dennis Rafferty

Suwannee River Economic Council

(Revolving Appt. between member Ctys., SREC will advise)
Franklin White

Suwannee River Task Force

Don Hale

Suwannee Valley Transit Authority

(2 Commissioners per county)
Don Hale
Travis Land

Transportation Disadvantage

Coordinating Board

Travis Land

Tourist Development Council

(BOCC Chm. must serve)
Franklin White
Len Stapleton – Alternate Vc. Chr.

Workforce Development

Clyde Fleming