



MINUTES  
WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
**Thursday, January 16, 2025, 9:00 AM, Commission Board  
Room**  
**1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428**

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Ashlynn Marquez	David Pettis, Jr. Chairman	Joey Brock	Wesley Griffin	David Corbin Vice-Chairman

**1. PROCLAMATION**

- 1.1 Call to Order - Chairman Pettis
- 1.2 Invocation - Chairman Pettis
- 1.3 Pledge

**2. ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Addition - 7.7 - Renewal of the Florida Detroit Diesel Contracts for Generators

Agenda Approval

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* David Corbin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

**3. PUBLIC HEARING**

Request to change the land use for property located on Porter Pond Road from conservation to agriculture/silviculture. The property would be accessed from Strickland Road from Highway 20. All notification

requirements were met. Approval was recommended by the staff and planning commission separately.

Jason Jones, applicant spoke on this item.

- 3.1 Jones Small Scale Future Land Use Map Amendment-Dawn McDonald, Senior Planner

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Ashlynn Marquez

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

#### **4. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES**

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 4.1 Amendment for Board Meeting Held November 19, 2024

- 4.2 Board Meeting for December 19, 2024

#### **5. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition **before a Board or Commission.**”
  - a. The Washington County Board of County Commissioners has expanded this provision to allow members of the community to speak on a topic which is not currently before the Board/Agenda. To do so the community member should, prior to the start of the meeting, sign the public participation form provided at the door of commission room, and shall state their

name and the topic on which they wish to speak. During the Non-Agenda Audience portion of the meeting, the individual shall be given up to three (3) minutes to speak.

- b. Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak about a **proposition before the Board**. Prior to the time a meeting has been called to order, should an individual or group wish to address an item which is on the agenda for consideration, the individual or group shall obtain, from the Commission Secretary or Clerk, a public comment form and may write on the form their name and the agenda matter which they wish to address. The completed form(s) shall be returned to the Commission Secretary/Clerk, who shall provide the form(s) to the Chairperson. Should a particular group wish to address an item, they shall nominate a spokesperson to voice their ideas, comments, and concerns. In the event an individual wishes to speak on an item and has not signed up in advance, those who have signed shall be given priority.
- c. Any public comment before the board shall be directed to the Chairperson of the Board. It is not a question-and-answer period. Public comments concerning individual employees (other than those hired directly by the Board (County Administrator/County Attorney) shall not be entertained. Any comment, pro or con, regarding a county employee who does not report directly to the Board shall be addressed to the Human Relations Department or the County Administrator.

- Jordan Dominguez requested a Director's Approval Letter for the National Peanut Festival Board saying that she is the official director of the pageant.

Motion to add the approval letter requested above as agenda item 7.8.

*Moved by:* Joey Brock

*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 6.1 Approval of MOU with the Washington County Economic Development Committee for EDC Director
- 6.2 Approval of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for EDC Director
- 6.3 Approval of Handbook Revision Section 5.10 Regarding Overtime and Compensatory Time with Approval to Include Planning Commission Meeting Held January 6, 2025
- 6.4 Approval of Handbook Revision Section 3.06 Regarding Probationary Period
- 6.5 Approval for Public Works to Purchase HAMM HD 12 Series Asphalt Roller for a cost of \$56,900 from Cash Carry Forward
- 6.6 Approval for Public Works to Purchase Caterpillar HM210 Mulcher for a cost of \$26,212.51 from Cash Carry Forward
- 6.7 Approval to Open Sale of County Owned Property with Fee of 20% of Purchase Price

**7. AGENDA ITEMS**

- 7.1 Resolution Approving Application to the Florida Department of Transportation for TRIP Greenhead Road-Candace Thames, Grants/Procurement Specialists  
Approval to apply for Greenhead Road through the TRIP Program.

*Moved by:* David Corbin  
*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

- 7.2 Request for Approval of Handbook Revision Section 10.2  
Concealed Weapon Policy-Wendy White, Human Resources  
Director

The amendment/update is to stay in line with the Florida  
Statute update.

*Moved by:* David Corbin  
*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 7.3 Discussion Regarding 3525 Roche Avenue Property-Wesley  
Griffin, Commissioner, Dawn McDonald, Planner, and Mike  
Gerald, Building Official

Mike Gerald informed the board the property was permitted  
and inspected as a residential structure-enclosed pole barn.  
It was co'd as a residential accessory. The property is now a  
commercial enterprise. The applicant is taking steps to have  
it converted into a commercial building.

Dawn McDonald spoke regarding the process for the change  
in use. The final decision will be heard by the City of Vernon's  
City Council.

Tray Hawkins, a petitioner, spoke regarding the process as  
well as members of the board.

- 7.4 Blue Lake Road Overly Discussion - David Pettis, Chairman confirmed with the board that their wishes expressed in the workshop were to pave through the parking lot to the end to prevent issues with access to the back properties.

Ted Spangenberg, a citizen spoke on this item.

Motion for American Sand to pave Blue Lake Road with 1.5" asphalt cap on 800' long x 18' wide for \$41,400.00.

Note - The cost was discussed in a previous meeting to be split between Districts 2 and 4 maintenance funds.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* David Corbin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 7.5 Discussion Regarding Engineering Firm Selection - David Pettis, Jr., Chairman

County Attorney Fuqua suggested the Board complete a score sheet for each presenter. The procurement policy gives directions to the Board to make the final determination.

A special meeting will be held on January 23, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to address this item.

- 7.6 Public Participation Discussion - David Pettis, Jr., Chairman informed the Board that they have been provided with Option A and Option B. The options are regarding getting on the agenda as a standalone agenda item.

Commissioner Marquez offered a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Corbin to select Option B. The motion did not pass. A motion to table followed this motion, which was addressed first.

Benita Crittendon, a citizen, spoke.

Motion to table Item 7.6. until the next meeting.

*Moved by:* Joey Brock

*Seconded by:* David Corbin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 7.7 Renewal of Florida Detroit Diesel Contract for Generators -  
Randy Truette, EMS Director (not present)

Chairman Pettis informed the board there is an increase of \$256.00 for dispatch, EOC, and Mudhill. The renewal amount for the county annex is \$2,041.00 and \$929.00 for the jail.

Motion to renew the Florida Detroit Diesel contracts.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* David Corbin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

- 7.8 Approval of Miss Washington County Pageant Director,  
Jordan Dominguez - David Pettis, Jr., Chairman  
Approval of the Miss Washington County Pageant Director  
letter.

Larry Zezula, a citizen, spoke.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* Joey Brock

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

**8. FEMA COORDINATOR**

Mason Garrett updated the Board regarding ongoing projects.

- Flood Risk Reduction Funds were applied for a couple of years ago for concrete ditches in the county. The benefit-cost analysis has come back unapproved. Does the Board want to continue? A letter will be needed if the Board chooses not to move forward.
- Ian and COVID Buyout - Ian's split is 75/25 and COVID's is 90/10. They want to move everything to COVID. County Administrator Massey recommended the Board does not accept the buyouts.

Motion to issue a letter stating that the Washington County Board of County Commissioners voted not to proceed with the Flood Reduction project.

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Ashlynn Marquez

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

Motion for a letter to be written to state that the Washington County Board of County Commissioners has voted not to proceed with the COVID BUYOUT project.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* Joey Brock

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**



**9. MSBU ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Steve Healis informed the Board that the Sunny Hills paving project could possibly be scaled back based on pricing.

**10. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**11. PARKS UPDATE**

**12. ENGINEERING PROJECTS UPDATE**

- Jason Crenshaw informed the board that CEI is needed for Dumajack Road.

Jake Mathis, Melvin Engineering requested approval of the following items.

- Approval of the close-out documents and the final invoice for the Ag Center Drainage Project.
- Approval of the final completion documents, pay request 6, the final/7 pay request, and a deduction change order for Worley Road.

Motion to approve the final documents, sixth and seventh pay request, and change order #2 to Worley Road.

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

Motion to approve the close-out documents and final pay request for the Ag Center Drainage Project.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* Joey Brock

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

Motion to assign the CEI for Dumajack Road project to Alday-Howell.

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Wesley Griffin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

### **13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

#### 13.1 Building Department Discussion

Jeff Massey addressed the board. During the time that Mike Gerald and Stephen Wright have been working contractually in the building department, the building official position has continued to be advertised as the Board wanted.

There is a current candidate for the position, however, it is the Board's decision whether to proceed.

Discussion was held, with revenues and expenses being topics of discussion. Also discussed was the process the prospective applicant would have to go through to obtain a provision license while testing to obtain an official license.

Benita Crittendon, a citizen, spoke on this.

Larry Zezula, a citizen, spoke on this.

Motion to move the building official discussion to the meeting next week and evaluate the numbers.

*Moved by:* Wesley Griffin

*Seconded by:* David Corbin

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

13.2 Pay Study Discussion

Motion to set aside the procurement policy to allow the county administrator to seek a firm for a pay study and fire services study.

Benita Crittendon, a citizen, spoke on this item.

Larry Zezula, citizen, spoke on this item.

*Moved by:* David Corbin

*Seconded by:* Joey Brock

**Aye** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin,  
Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

13.3 SCOP, SCRAP, BSCOP, and CIGP Discussion

Road submissions for the above grants are due in March. Suggestions should be submitted by the February meeting.

13.4 BROADBAND UPDATE

Broadband is progressing. The second round of funding consists of four phases.

**14. CLERK**

14.1 December Vouchers Totaling \$3,221,355.23

**15. LOAN UPDATE**

The balance is right below \$6.5 million. \$800,000.00 of the approved has been received this week.

**16. COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**17. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Regarding the FEMA appeals process/arbitration process - A DM memo is required to begin the process, which has not been received.
- There will be multiple Bicentennial Celebrations in Washington County this year. Updates will be provided.

**18. ADJOURN**

Summary of Minutes Prepared by Risha Brantley